

FCIA  
**EDUCATION &  
COMMITTEE ACTION**  
CONFERENCE

*San Antonio  
May 12-15*





# WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

## PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams Sessions help Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors qualify for and maintain FM 4991 Approved or UL Qualified Firestop DRI status and Special Inspectors to prove competence to AHJ's or qualify for IAS AC 291 Special Inspection Agency responsible individual status.

## MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025

### MORRISON BOARDROOM

All times listed are in CDT

- 11:00 am - 5:00 pm      Conference Registration Open
- 12:00 pm - 12:45 pm      Lunch for Quality Management System and Firestop Exam Education Session Attendees  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 12:45 pm - 1:15 pm      FCIA: The Vision, The Mission, The Association  
*Bill McHugh, FCIA*
- 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm      FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams  
*Rich Walke, CTI*
- 2:45 pm - 3:00 pm      Break  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm      FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams, continued  
*Rich Walke, CTI*
- 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm      Quality Management System Manual Development Education  
*Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions | Rich Walke, CTI*

## TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

### MORRISON BOARDROOM

All times listed are in CDT

- 7:30 am - 3:30 pm      Conference Registration Open
- 8:00 am - 8:30 am      Continental Breakfast for FM & UL Firestop Exam Attendees  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 8:30 am - 11:30 am      FM & UL Firestop Exam for DRI Candidates & Inspection Personnel
- Note: The UL Firestop Exam is OPEN BOOK exams. UL Exam Participants MUST provide their own copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice. The ULC Addendum covers questions specific to Canada. The FM Firestop Exam DOES NOT allow use of the MOP during the exam.

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## PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

ECA '25 is your gateway to action and innovation in Firestopping and Passive Fire Protection. This is your moment to join the FCIA movement and rocket your journey towards expertise and impact in the world of Passive Fire Protection. ECA '25. Engage. Inspire. Activate.

## TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

### ANACACHO BALLROOM

All times listed are in CDT

7:30 am – 3:30 pm	Conference Registration Open
12:00 pm – 12:45 pm	Welcome Lunch <i>Sponsored by TBD</i>
12:45 pm - 1:15 pm	FCIA President's Welcome & Association Comments <i>Gus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President   Bill McHugh, FCIA</i>
1:15 pm - 1:30 pm	Meet the Committees - Round 1 <i>Canada Committee   Marketing Committee   Membership Committee   Standards Committee</i>
1:30 pm - 2:30 pm	Your Mentorship May Just Be More Important Than Your Leadership <i>Chaveso "Chevy" Cook, Facilitator</i>
2:30 pm - 2:45 pm	Break <i>Sponsored by TBD</i>
2:45 pm - 4:45 pm	FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 1 <i>(All FCIA Members welcome)</i>
2:45 pm - 3:45 pm	<b>MORRISON BOARDROOM - STANDARDS COMMITTEE</b>
2:45 pm - 4:45 pm	<b>THE CASCADE ROOM - MARKETING &amp; MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES</b>
3:45 pm - 4:45 pm	<b>MORRISON BOARDROOM - CANADA COMMITTEE</b>
4:45 pm - 5:15 pm	Partner Program Updates <i>Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals   Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions</i>
5:15 pm - 6:00 pm	<b>FCIA Contractor &amp; Inspection Agency Closed Session</b> Perimeter Fire Containment Solutions for Field Installations <i>Aaron Alterman, Specified Technologies Inc.</i>

### ST. A SKY TERRACE

6:15 pm - 7:15 pm	Welcome Reception <i>Sponsored by TBD</i>
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# WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025**

**ANACACHO BALLROOM**

All times listed are in CDT

- 7:30 am – 4:00 pm      **Conference Registration Open**
- 7:30 am – 8:00 am      **FCIA Continental Breakfast**  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 8:00 am – 8:45 am      **Oh! My Aching Back!: The Devil's Triangle - Understanding the Overlap Between the FMLA, ADA, and Worker's Compensation Laws**  
*Philip Siegel, Esq., Hendrick, Philips, Salzman & Siegel, P.C.*
- 8:45 am – 9:30 am      **Blaze Your Brand: Social Media Stragies for Business Success**  
*Corey Beckett, Beyond Thermal | Lori Nelson, Bartkowski Strategic Contracting | Zack Siepert, Central Utah Water Conservancy District*
- 9:30 am – 9:40 am      **Meet the Committees - Round 2**  
*Accreditation Committee | Code Committee | Education Committee | Inspection Committee | Program Committee*
- 9:40 am – 9:50 am      **Break**  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm      **FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 2**  
*(All FCIA Members welcome)*

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**THE CASCADE ROOM - INSPECTION COMMITTEE**

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**MORRISON BOARDROOM - EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

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- 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm      **Luncheon**  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 12:45 pm – 1:30 am      **The Impact of Tariffs on Construction**  
*Richard Branch, Free Agent Economist*
- 1:30 pm – 2:15 pm      **Cyber Security: Info You NEED**  
*Cathy Wendt, Syscon, Inc.*
- 2:15 pm – 2:30 pm      **Break**  
*Sponsored by TBD*
- 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm      **FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Closed Session**  
**Firestop Evolves for Aluminum Penetrations**  
*Matthew Winston, Hilti*

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# WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 3 <i>(All FCIA Members welcome)</i>
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	THE CASCADE ROOM - ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	MORRISON BOARDROOM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm	THE CASCADE ROOM - CODE COMMITTEE
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Members Only Session
<b>ST. A SKY TERRACE</b>	
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	FCIA Networking Reception <i>Sponsored by TBD</i>

## THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

### ANACACHO BALLROOM

All times listed are in CDT

7:30 am - 9:30 am	Conference Registration Open
7:30 am - 8:00 am	FCIA Continental Breakfast <i>Sponsored by TBD</i>
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Using OSHA Enforcement Statistics to Learn from Past Trends and Raise Awareness <i>Monica Camacho, U.S. DOL-OSHA</i>
9:00 am - 9:15 am	Break <i>Sponsored by TBD</i>
9:15 am - 10:15 am	Women in Construction Panel <i>Melleson Foster-Bangs, Alterman, Inc.   Angie Ogino, Owens Corning/Thermafiber   Samantha Peterson, 3M</i>
10:15 am - 11:15 am	The Code Development Cycle and Your Business <i>Bill McHugh, FCIA   Rich Walke, CTI</i>
11:15 am	Closing Remarks <i>Bill McHugh, FCIA   Gus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President</i>
11:30 am	FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference '25 Ends

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## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

**MONDAY, MAY 12, 2025**

**12:30 pm - 1:00 pm**

**FCIA: The Vision, The Mission, The Association**

*Bill McHugh, FCIA*

You've heard of FCIA, maybe you're even a new member, but what exactly does Firestop Contractors International Association do? In this session, you'll learn about the origins of the FCIA, what our mission and guiding principles are, and how we advocate and work to further the industry. But most importantly, you'll learn how you can do your part to grow the firestop and effective compartmentation industry.

**1:00 pm - 3:45 pm**

**FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exams**

*Rich Walke, CTI*

The FM & UL Firestop Exams are based on FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice (MOP), the FM & UL program guides, and systems selection and analysis. These exams are used for contractor personnel to become FM 4991 Approved Contractor and UL Qualified Contractor Program DRIs. For Special Inspectors, passing the exam proves firestopping competency to the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), required by the IBC's Chapter 17. Passing an exam is also a requirement in IAS AC 291 for the Inspector to become a Responsible Person.

The FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exam education sessions help

prepare individuals and support individual preparation for these rigorous exams, further strengthening and developing firestopping knowledge.

\*This program IS NO SUBSTITUTE for reading FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice and studying the FM & UL program guides and systems selection and analysis before the exams.

**3:45 pm - 5:00 pm**

**Quality Management System Manual Development Education**

*Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions | Rich Walke, CTI*

This session takes an in-depth look at the Quality Management System Manual requirements for the FM 4991 Approved, UL & ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor, and IAS AC 291 Accreditation programs. The session also provides tips and a framework for structuring and writing a comprehensive QMS Manual.





## TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

12:45 pm - 1:15 pm

### FCIA President's Welcome & Association Comments

*Gus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President | Bill McHugh, FCIA*

Hear from the 2025 Board President and FCIA Technical Director on all things exciting and new at FCIA this year, including the Association update and more.

1:15 pm - 1:30 pm

### Meet the Committees - Round 1

*Canada Committee | Marketing Committee | Membership Committee | Standards Committee*

Last year, the FCIA Board of Directors made the call to members to get involved to help shape the future of the passive fire protection industry, and many answered the call. This year, we are shooting for even more hand raising, even more Committee participation.

In this, the first of our 'Meet the Committees' sessions, we'll hear from the Canada, Marketing, Membership, and Standards Committee Chairs and get answers to your burning Committee questions, like which Committee gets really nifty name badges for their members or which Committee can you (finally) put that English degree to use on.

We're ready to see our future leaders rise up and lead the charge into tomorrow!

1:30 pm - 2:30 pm

### Your Mentorship May Just Be More Important Than Your Leadership *Dr. Chaveso "Chevy" Cook, MilitaryMentors*

How does one leave a lasting legacy on an organization? Most believe it is through leadership or managerial prowess, however, there's a lot of evidence to the contrary.

In this talk, Dr. Chaveso "Chevy" Cook will outline some key takeaways from both long-term research and his own lifelong practice of mentoring.

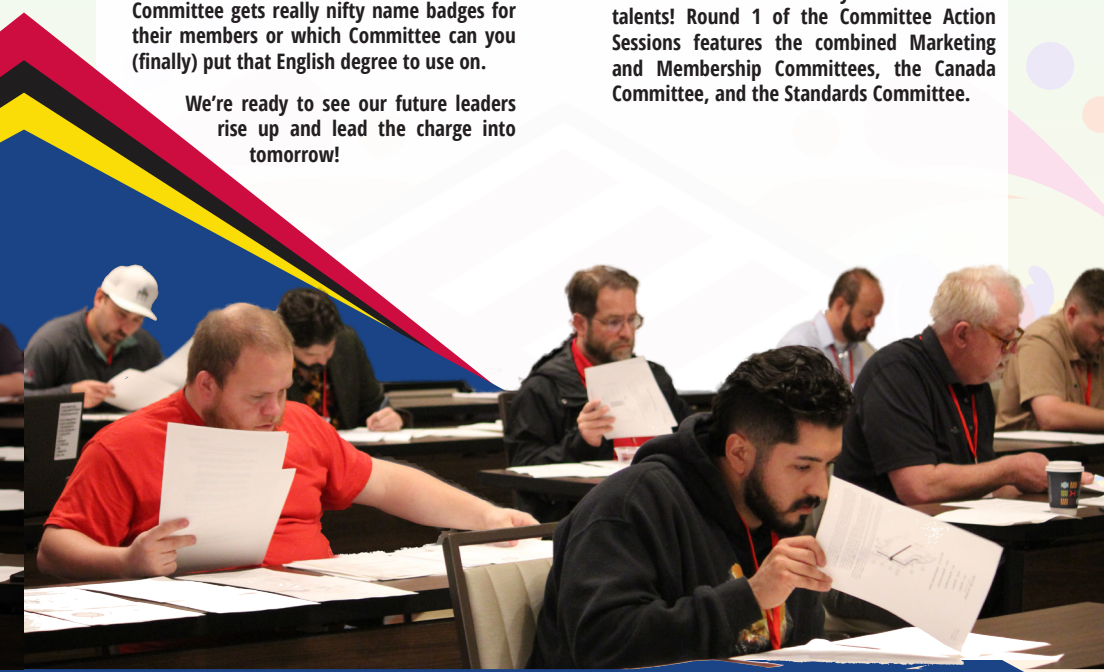
Participants will leave with three takeaways:

- the staying power of mentorship;
- the reality that mentoring may not be rewarded, evaluated, or measured;
- and an acknowledgment that there are almost no negative results of mentoring.

2:45 pm - 4:45 pm

### FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 1

Plan to attend the first of three interactive sessions of FCIA Committee Roundtable meetings, where you'll become active with future Committee work, and find the Committee that best suits your interests and talents! Round 1 of the Committee Action Sessions features the combined Marketing and Membership Committees, the Canada Committee, and the Standards Committee.





## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

4:45 pm - 5:15 pm

### Partnership Program Updates

- FM 4991 Approved Contractor Program | *Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals*
- UL Qualified Firestop Contractor Program | *Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions*

FCIA collaborated with FM & UL to develop both the FM 4991 Approved and the UL Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs, programs that result in an accredited Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor Company. This session looks at program updates for each.

5:15 pm - 6:00 pm

### FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Only Closed Session

#### Perimeter Fire Containment Solutions for Field Installations

*Aaron Alterman, Specified Technologies Inc.*

This presentation provides an update on the advancements Specified Technologies has made in PFCS for field installations.

With a deep dive into our patented Quick Clip field installation system, we will show FCIA members how they can increase

efficiency on the job and make more money in the process, while providing a tested and listed compliant life safety solution to their clients and customers.

**WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2025**

8:00 am - 8:45 am

### Oh! My Aching Back!: The Devil's Triangle - Understanding the Overlap Between the FMLA, ADA, and Worker's Compensation Laws

*Philip Siegel, Esq., Hendrick, Phillips, Salzman & Siegel, P.C.*

Most firestop contractors understand that when an employee suffers an injury at work, workers' compensation insurance will provide coverage for the claim. But when an employee suffers an injury at work (or outside of work) or is otherwise suffering from a medical condition and is unable to come back to work, other laws are implicated. A minefield presents itself when that employee presents with work restrictions. This presentation will provide an overview of, and guide through, the interplay between the Family Medical Leave Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and workers' compensation laws, all of which may come into play when an employee will need to miss work or is subject to work restrictions.



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## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

**8:45 am - 9:30 am**

**Blaze Your Brand: Social Media Strategies for Business Success**  
*Corey Beckett, Beyond Thermal | Lori Nelson, Bartkowski Strategic Contracting | Zack Seipert, Central Utah Water Conservancy District*

Ignite your business at the FCIA ECA '25 Social Media Session, where passive fire protection professionals learn to blaze a trail in today's digital landscape.

Zack Seipert, Corey Beckett, and Lori Nelson discuss and explore how to harness social media to boost brand visibility, credibility, and growth. Attendees will discover strategies for crafting compelling educational and branded content, setting achievable goals, and measuring success through data-driven metrics like followers, leads, and ROI. From navigating internet trolls to fostering community through user-generated content, the session addresses real-world challenges and opportunities. Engage in dynamic discussions on selecting platforms, aligning content with brand messaging, collaborating with influencers, and adapting to trends like AI-driven tools.

Whether you're sparking your first campaign or fanning the flames of an established presence, this session equips you to propel your business forward.

**9:30 am - 9:40 am**

**Meet the Committees - Round 2**  
*Accreditation Committee | Code Committee | Education Committee | Inspection Committee | Program Committee*

In the second installment of the 'Meet the Committees' session, we'll hear from the Accreditation, Code, Education, Inspection, and Program Committee Chairs.

**10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 2**

Attend Round 2 of the Committee Action Sessions with either the Education or the Inspection Committee.

**12:45 pm - 1:30 pm**

**The Impact of Tariffs on Construction**  
*Richard Branch*

Labor shortages, high material prices, elevated interest rates - the construction sector has been dealing with this trifecta of risks for some time. How will the administration's new tariffs impact construction spending in 2025? In this session Mr. Branch will outline where the U.S. economy is headed and which construction sectors will under and over perform.





## SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

1:30 pm - 2:15 pm

### Cyber Security: Info You NEED

*Catherine Wendt, Syscon, Inc.*

Cyber Security – what is it? Really? The most common thing we hear is, “Isn’t my company too small to worry about this?” Actually, you’re just what they’re looking for; it’s a numbers game.

This is a big topic, so we’ll focus on a few specific areas and their impact to your business. Topics include:

- How your computer hardware fits in;
- What Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) is and why insurance companies are making you use it;
- Where the weakest links and biggest security risks are, and how you can get in front of it;
- And, on-premise servers versus cloud hosting – pro’s and con’s when it comes to security.

The focus is on some practical questions you can bring back to your team to find out how you’re doing. We’ll have a few ‘next steps’ to consider, as well.

2:30 pm - 3:15 pm

### FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Only Closed Session

#### Firestop Evolves for Aluminum Penetrations

*Matt Winston, Hilti*

Aluminum conduit, EMT, and pipes have become more common on jobsites. The range of projects where we see aluminum penetrating items include hospitals, industrial facilities, and data centers.

Aluminum is a metal, but under fire conditions its lower melting point compared to other metallic materials, and its high thermal conductivity, give rise to challenges for firestops. In some cases, aluminum penetrating items behave like nonmetallic penetrating items, while in other cases aluminum exhibits behavior like steel penetrating items.

This discussion covers firestop testing that has revealed these truths. Systems for common applications will be presented along with a story of the fire testing journey so far.

3:30 pm - 5:30 pm

### FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 3

Attend Round 3 of the Committee Action Sessions with either the Accreditation, Code, or Program Committee and determine where you can do the most work.

5:15 pm - 6:30 pm

### FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Only Closed Session

Hear from your Board and provide input in the FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency **Members Only** session. Put this session to work for you.



## THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

8:00 am - 9:00 am

**Using OSHA Enforcement Statistics to Learn from Past Trends and Raise Awareness**

*Monica Camacho, U.S. DOL-OSHA*

OSHA is committed to becoming more data-driven with its dedicated webpage to provide useful tools, such as the new Severe Injury Dashboard and FY24 Top 10 Most Frequently Cited Hazards. Industry, establishment-specific, and inspection data are available to learn more about workplace safety and health. Resources are available to assist employers and employees in understanding their rights and responsibilities, along with guidance on enhancing safety and health programs.

9:15 am - 10:15 am

**A Panel Discussion on Supporting Women in Firestopping**

*Mellessen Foster-Bangs, Alterman, Inc. | Angela Ogino, Owens Corning/Thermafiber | Samantha Peterson, 3M*

The construction industry has evolved significantly in the past decade. More

women are joining the construction industry in a variety of roles. Join in this interactive panel discussion regarding women in firestopping.

10:15 am - 11:15 am

**The Code Development Hearings and You**

*Bill McHugh, FCIA | Rich Walke, CTI*

Fresh from the International Code Council Code Development Hearings, hear from Consultant to FCIA, Rich Walke, and Technical Director, Bill McHugh, on the 2027 ICC Family of Codes, changes in process, and changes made that will be debated in April '26, as well as proposals on the consent agenda.

Don't miss this program. We'll also touch on the NFPA Codes and National Building / Fire Code of Canada's process as well.





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