

FCIA
**EDUCATION &
COMMITTEE ACTION**
CONFERENCE

San Antonio
May 12-15



SHOW INFORMATION

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EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS

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Join us in thanking our Manufacturer Member Sponsors
for their generous support of this year's event.

PLATINUM



PLATINUM

GOLD



GOLD

SILVER



SILVER





2024 FCIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For the Association to thrive and grow, it needs good leaders, strong leadership. FCIA's Board of Directors is a very diverse and passionate group of Contractors. Each person has chosen to give back to the Association through serving on the Board, participating on Committee(s), and more.

PRESIDENT

Gus Mancini, DRI
Gleeson Powers
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VICE PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

Joe Wilkinson, DRI
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SECRETARY

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PAST PRESIDENT

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PAST PAST PRESIDENT

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DIRECTORS

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Ben Urcavich, DRI
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TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Bill McHugh
bill@FCIA.org



Welcome to ECA '25, the FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference.

As we embark on this new year, I am thrilled to share my enthusiasm and vision for the Firestop Contractor International Association (FCIA) and the exciting strides we are poised to make in 2025. Building upon our strong foundation and the collective dedication of our members, we are committed to further solidifying FCIA's position as the leading voice and resource for Specialty Firestop Contractors worldwide.

Specialty Inspection Advocacy and Standards Development

The FCIA recognizes the direct correlation between quality firestop inspections and Specialty Firestop Contractors. We also recognize that the current inspection standard may be overdue for some updates. To better address both of these concerns, we have revamped the Inspection Committee with a dual-focus on Advocacy AND Standards.

We believe educating AHJs on best practices for inspections will continue to be the most effective way to help raise the bar for professional firestop system installations, and we believe FCIA is best positioned to provide this education. Further, the two ASTM Standards (ASTM E2174 and E2393) have been around for some time now. The Inspection Committee is putting years of real-world experience towards a new initiative to update the Inspection Standards to modern construction practices.

Strengthening Industry Collaboration

Collaboration is the cornerstone of our success. FCIA and NFCA are dedicated to fostering stronger connections within the Passive Fire Protection community and beyond. Our initiatives in 2025 will focus on:

- **Strategic Partnerships:** We will forge new alliances with key organizations in the building and construction industry, including Contractors, Engineers, Inspectors, and like-minded Associations. Growing these relationships, we believe will benefit the entire Passive Life Safety Industry for years to come.
- **Manufacturers:** The FCIA felt more support than ever from our Manufacturer partners in 2024. They were a huge factor in bolstering our Conference programming with hands-on training and educating our members on products and systems. We look forward to working closely with them in 2025, especially as we advocate together on the upcoming Code and Standards cycles.

Growing Internationally

Abhishek Chhabra, the FCIA & NFCA Director, International Initiatives, has been seen at in-person and virtual events around the world and digital communities spreading the word of Passive Fire Protection. He has been working tirelessly to bring together key decision makers and influencers in the construction community. This year began with the FCIA-NFCA PasFiPro '25 Doha and Dubai events that were elevated in attendance and scope thanks to Abhi's tireless efforts to connect folks in the passive life safety world. Beyond the Gulf Region, the FCIA has started making inroads in Latin America, Australia, the UK, and more.

I am confident that 2025 will be a year of remarkable progress for FCIA and our members. With your continued support and active participation, we will elevate the Passive Fire Protection industry to new heights and make our buildings safer for all.



Augustus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President





FCIA COMMITTEES NEED YOU...(TO JOIN AND GET INVOLVED)

FCIA Committees are comprised of Member volunteers who work together on various pieces of Association business, from Codes and Standards development to Marketing outreach and more. This collaboration is how we gain industry consensus on issues related to the improvement of fire and life safety in buildings around the globe and how we create opportunities for the growth of our industry.

Consider volunteering your time and talents with one of the following Committees. Contact the Committee Chair(s) or lissettek@cmservices.com for additional information or to inquire about joining a Committee.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

Ben Urcavich, DRI - Chair
Performance Firestop, Inc.
ben@performance-firestop.com

Tyler Ferguson, DRI - Co-Vice Chair
National Firestopping Solutions
tylerf@nefirestop.com

Tracy Smith, DRI - Co-Vice Chair
Firestop Southwest, Inc.
tracys@firestopsouthwest.com

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ben Urcavich, DRI - Chair
Performance Firestop, Inc.
ben@performance-firestop.com

CANADA COMMITTEE

Corey Beckett, DRI
Beyond Thermal
corey.b@beyondgroup.ca

Arturs Gavrilovs - Vice Chair
Adler Firestopping, Ltd
a.gavrilovs@adlerservices.ca

CODE COMMITTEE

Gus Mancini, DRI - Chair
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
gus@gpi-firestop.com

Tracy Smith, DRI - Vice Chair
Firestop Southwest, Inc.
tracys@firestopsouthwest.com

EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Tyler Ferguson, DRI - Chair
National Firestopping Solutions
tylerf@nefirestop.com

Aideen Doneski - Vice Chair
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
aideen@gpi-firestop.com

EDUCATION TASK GROUP: FCIA MANUAL OF PRACTICE (MOP)

No Current Chair



FCIA COMMITTEES NEED YOU...(TO JOIN AND GET INVOLVED)



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Scott Rankin, DRI - Chair
American National Insulation, Inc. dba
Insulation Contractors
scott.rankin@truteam.com

Mark Dietz - Vice Chair
Superl, Inc.
mark@superl.net

Gus Mancini, DRI - Chair
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
gus@gpi-firestop.com

INSPECTION COMMITTEE

Gus Mancini, DRI - Chair
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
gus@gpi-firestop.com

Mark St. Onge - Vice Chair
UL Solutions
mark.st.onge@ul.com

INSPECTION TASK GROUP

Gus Mancini, DRI - Chair
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
gus@gpi-firestop.com

INTERNATIONAL TASK GROUP

Ben Urcavich, DRI - Chair
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Tyler Ferguson, DRI - Vice Chair
National Firestopping Solutions
tylerf@nefirestop.com

LIFE SAFETY DIGEST COMMITTEE

Joe Wilkinson, DRI - Chair
ARC Firestop Solutions
jwilkinson@arc-md.com





FCIA COMMITTEES NEED YOU...(TO JOIN AND GET INVOLVED)

MARKETING COMMITTEE

Aideen Doneski - Chair
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
aideen@gpi-firestop.com

Mike Pautsch, DRI - Vice Chair
Superl, Inc.
mike@superl.net

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Mark Dietz - Chair
Superl, Inc.
mark@superl.net

Jerry Dugan, Jr. - Vice Chair
Firestopping Specialist
jerryduganjr@gmail.com

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Alan Mcdurmon, DRI - Co-Chair
Performance Contracting, Inc.
alan.mcdurmon@pcg.com

Jerry Dugan, Jr. - Co-Vice Chair
Firestopping Specialist
jerryduganjr@gmail.com

Buddy Fishman - Co-Vice Chair
Energy Mechanical Insulation
bfishman@emilv.com

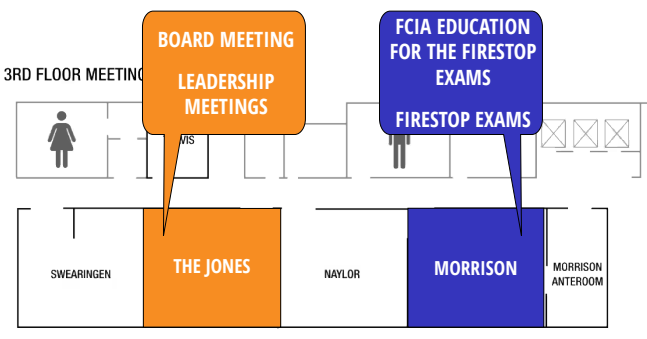
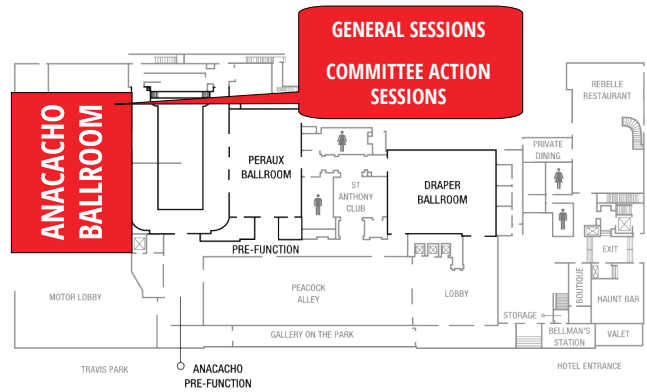
STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Jay McGuire, DRI - Chair
Fire Stop Technologies, Inc.
jay@thornburgh-stl.com

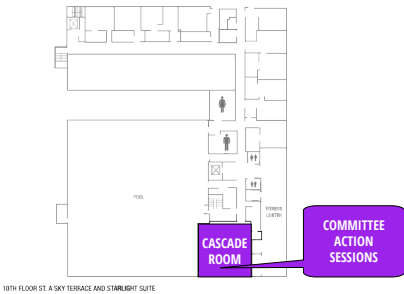
Tracy Smith, DRI - Vice Chair
Firestop Southwest, Inc.
tracys@firestopsouthwest.com



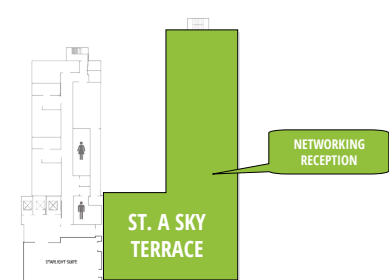
LOBBY LEVEL BALLROOMS



6TH FLOOR POOL AND POOL EVENT SPACE



10TH FLOOR ST. A SKY TERRACE AND STANLIGHT SUITE





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
<i>Sponsored by NGP</i> |
| 12:45 pm - 1:15 pm | FCIA: The Vision, The Mission, The Association
<i>Bill McHugh, FCIA</i> |
| 1:15 pm - 2:45 pm | FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams
<i>Rich Walke, CTI</i> |
| 2:45 pm - 3:00 pm | Break
<i>Sponsored by 3M</i> |
| 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm | FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams, continued
<i>Rich Walke, CTI</i> |
| 4:00 pm - 5:15 pm | Quality Management System Manual Development Education
<i>Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions Rich Walke, CTI</i> |

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
<i>Sponsored by Siderise</i> |
| 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
Sponsored by Hilti
- 12:45 pm – 1:15 pm FCIA President's Welcome & Association Comments
Gus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President | Bill McHugh, FCIA
- 1:15 pm – 1:30 pm Meet the Committees - Round 1
Canada Committee | Code Committee | Marketing Committee | Membership Committee | Standards Committee
- 1:30 pm – 2:30 pm Your Mentorship May Just Be More Important Than Your Leadership
Chaveso "Chevy" Cook, Center for Mentoring Excellence
- 2:30 pm – 2:45 pm Break
Sponsored by Construction Specialties
- 2:45 pm – 4:45 pm FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 1
(All FCIA Members welcome)

MORRISON BOARDROOM - CODES & STANDARDS COMMITTEES

THE CASCADE ROOM - MARKETING & MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEES

- 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm ANACACHO BALLROOM - CANADA COMMITTEE
-

- 4:45 pm – 5:15 pm Partner Program Updates
Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

- 5:15 pm – 6:00 pm **FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Closed Session**
Perimeter Fire Containment Solutions for Field Installations
Aaron Alterman, Specified Technologies Inc.

ST. A SKY TERRACE

- 6:15 pm – 7:15 pm Welcome Reception
Sponsored by Specified Technologies Inc.

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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 Balco
- 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 Seipert, Central Utah Water Conservancy District
- 9:30 am – 9:40 am **Meet the Committees - Round 2**
Accreditation Committee | Education Committee | Inspection Committee | Program Committee
- 9:40 am – 9:50 am **Break**
Sponsored by Rockwool
- 10:00 am – 12:00 pm **FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 2**
(All FCIA Members welcome)

THE CASCADE ROOM - INSPECTION COMMITTEE

MORRISON BOARDROOM - ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE

- 12:00 pm – 12:45 pm **Luncheon**
Sponsored by Specified Technologies Inc.
- 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 Inpro
- 2:30 pm – 3:15 pm **FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Closed Session**
Firestop Evolves for Aluminum Penetrations
Nate Crawford, Hilti

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WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?



3:30 pm – 5:30 pm

FCIA Committee Action Sessions - Round 3
(All FCIA Members welcome)

THE CASCADE ROOM - EDUCATION COMMITTEE

MORRISON BOARDROOM - PROGRAM COMMITTEE

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Members Only Session

ST. A SKY TERRACE

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm

FCIA Networking Reception
Sponsored by Hilti

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
Sponsored by Thermafiber

8:00 am – 9:00 am

Using OSHA Enforcement Statistics to Learn from Past Trends and Raise Awareness
Monica Camacho, U.S. DOL-OSHA

9:00 am – 9:15 am

Break
Sponsored by MM Systems

9:15 am – 10:15 am

A Panel Discussion on Supporting Women in Firestopping
Melleson Foster-Bangs, Alterman, Inc. | Angie Ogino, Owens Corning/Thermafiber | Samantha Peterson, 3M

10:15 am – 11:15 am

The Code Development Hearings and You
Bill McHugh, FCIA | Rich Walke, CTI

11:15 am

Closing Remarks
Bill McHugh, FCIA | Gus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President

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 | Code 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, Code, 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.

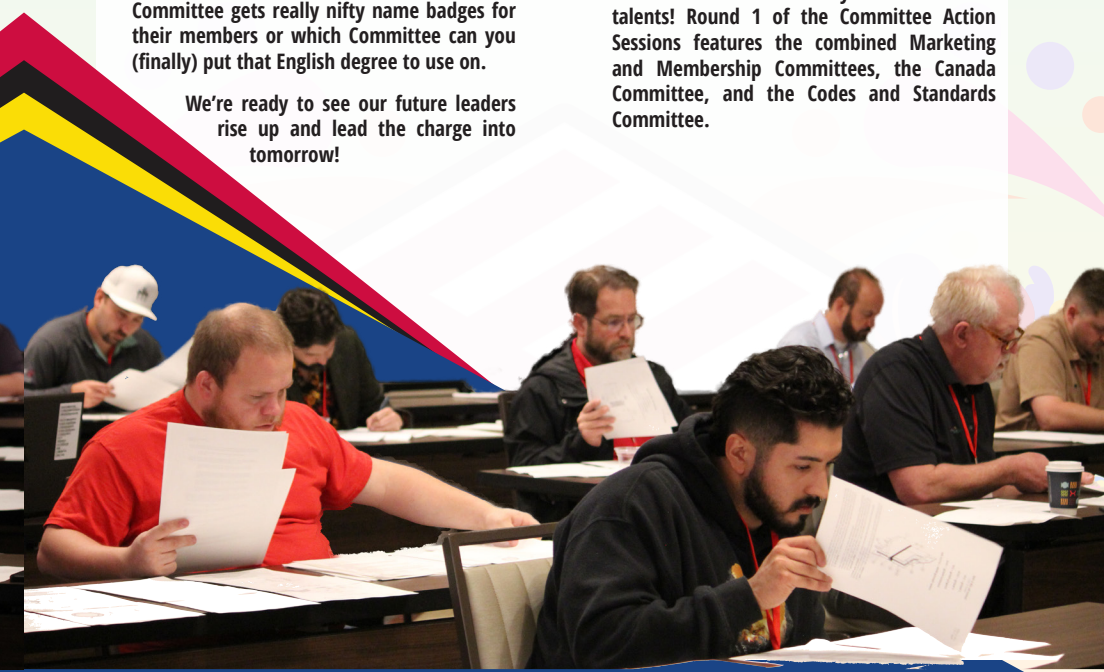
Participants will leave with three takeaways:

- 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 Codes and 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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IF YOU WANT TO LEAD, YOU'VE GOT TO
TURN IT UP!



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 Siepert, 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 | Education Committee | Inspection Committee | Program Committee

In the second installment of the 'Meet the Committees' session, we'll hear from the Accreditation, 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 Accreditation or the Inspection Committees.

12:45 pm - 1:30 pm

The Impact of Tariffs on Construction
Richard Branch, Economist

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

Nate Crawford, 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 Education 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.





MEET THE FACULTY

Aaron Alterman, Consultant Support Specialist - US & Canada



Aaron Alterman joined STI in 2015 as a Territory Manager in the Gulf South. In 2018, he was promoted to the Curtain and Facades Specialist role, working with glaziers, fabricators, curtain wall consultants, and perimeter fire containments contractors in the Midwest, Gulf Coast, Texas, and Central Canada. In 2024, Aaron became the Curtain Wall and Facades Consultant Support Specialist for North America, working with curtain wall consultants, architects, engineers, and code officials.

With over 30 years in a variety of fields in construction, Aaron has become a critical partner for many of the top CW Consultants in North America. With his knowledge and expertise of perimeter fire containment systems for all types of construction including Mass Timber, backpan or non-backpan glazing systems, precast, GFRC, and Steel Stud/EIFS assemblies, Aaron can assist from design conception to project close out while meeting critical life safety requirements for a better project outcome.

Originally from Detroit, Michigan, Aaron is now a proud resident of the great city of New Orleans.

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Corey Beckett, Senior Commercial Estimator/Firestop Manager



Corey Beckett, Sr. Commercial Estimator, Firestop Manager, and UL Firestop Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) at Beyond Thermal, has dedicated over 15 years to advancing passive fire protection in the Canadian market, with a focus on promoting education, awareness, and positive industry changes for a safer better future.

A passionate member of the Firestop Contractors International Association (FCIA), Corey serves as the Chair of the Canada Committee and contributes to multiple FCIA committees, driving industry progress.

Outside his professional endeavors, he embraces the lively challenges of life with his Fiance and raising his five daughters.

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MEET THE FACULTY

Richard Branch, Economist



Richard Branch is an economist with nearly 30 years experience in delivering data driven insights and guidance for organizations of all size. Most recently Rich was chief economist at Dodge Construction Network - the preeminent construction data and analytics company in the U.S. - where he spent a total of 14 year specializing in construction economics.

Rich holds an undergraduate degree in economics from the University of Ottawa in Canada and a Masters degree in economics from Boston College.

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Monica Camacho, Area Director



Monica Camacho has more than 16 years of experience with OSHA. She started her career as a bilingual industrial hygienist in the San Antonio and Austin Area Offices. In 2015, she was promoted to Assistant Area Director in the San Antonio Area Office. In March 2023, Monica was selected as the Area Director for the Austin Area Office. The office administers workplace safety and health enforcement and outreach activities in 34 counties in central Texas.

Born and raised in the inner city of San Antonio, Monica enjoys celebrating its vibrant and diverse culture. She is passionate about working with people and developing leaders in the community. Monica holds a B.A. in Biology and a M.S. in Organizational Leadership from Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, Texas. She is a 2016 Leadership Women Texas graduate.

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Nate Crawford, Lead Fire Protection Engineer



Nate Crawford is a Lead Fire Protection Engineer at Hilti North America. He leads a team of six FPEs covering all firestop applications and specializing in edge of slab, steel protection, T-Ratings, circuit protection, and fuel line protection applications. He takes pride in building relationships with both internal and external stakeholders and leans on his core values – integrity and consistency – to deliver the best possible service daily.

Nate has been in his current role since 2021 and has been with Hilti on the Fire Protection Engineering team since 2017.

Nate holds a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Oklahoma State University.

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MEET THE FACULTY

Chaveso “Chevy” Cook, Ph.D., Facilitator



Chaveso “Chevy” Cook is an active-duty Colonel in the U.S. Army currently working on the Joint Staff in the Pentagon.

His career started in the historic 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, NC. After selection and training for the Army special operations community, he transferred to Psychological Operations, continuing service at Fort Bragg.

During his military career he’s deployed during “The Surge”, the “Arab Spring”, and the fight against ISIS in roles working with a wide variety of American embassies, local leaders, and non-governmental organizations, in addition to assisting/training foreign militaries and serving multiple special operations task forces. He has led small, specialized teams and large formations with a variety of both civilians and military, as well as a multitude of specialties and demographics. Chevy was also fortunate enough to be a psychology instructor at the United States Military Academy (USMA). He recently commanded a battalion at Fort Meade, MD, the nation’s premier platform for information, cyber, and intelligence, and has also been the speechwriter for the Honorable Christine Wormuth, the 25th Secretary of the Army and the first female to hold the position.

Chevy’s civilian work and professional memberships, some of which include the American Psychological Association, the Council on Foreign Relations, the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs, the Center for Mentoring Excellence, and his non-profit role as Executive Director of MilitaryMentors, allow him to uniquely serve others outside of the uniform. He’s consulted for industry leading businesses as well as special mission units at the edge of high-risk leadership. Chevy has guest spoken and been widely published on topics of character, leadership, influence, organizational change, diversity/equity/inclusion, innovation, mentorship, and a multitude of other matters of personal and professional development.

Chevy’s education includes USMA (B.S. Psychology), the University of Texas-El Paso (M.A. Leadership Development), Columbia University (M.A. Organizational Psychology), and a Ph.D. from Tufts University (Honors Civicus and Presidential Award for Civic Life) where he focused his research on Human Development, particularly the formation of character. He has also earned a certificate in Community Leadership and Social Change and another in Multicultural Mentoring. Of his awards and instances of recognition, Chevy is most proud of his three Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medals for sustained community and organizational investment and the 2016 Secretary of the Army Diversity and Leadership Award, given to one Army leader yearly for commitment to equal opportunity, Army Values, and professional development.

Chevy and his wife Ashley are from Columbia, SC. She is his high-school sweetheart and works for UPenn’s Wharton School of Business. Their most important triumphs are being together for over a quarter century and their beautiful daughters London and Lola.

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Melleson Foster-Bangs, Installation and Planning Specialist



Melleson Foster-Bangs is an Installation and Planning Specialist at Alterman Inc., a role she stepped into in January 2025 following nearly a decade of hands-on experience in the electrical construction industry. She now focuses on aligning project planning with field execution, enhancing team coordination, and implementing prefabrication strategies that improve efficiency and streamline delivery.

Melleson has worked across commercial, industrial, and special projects, building a reputation for her precision, adaptability, and collaborative mindset. She is a licensed Journeyman Electrician and a graduate of Alterman's in-house Leadership Training Program, where she deepened her understanding of both technical execution and project-level strategy.

Her connection to construction began early—working in the field as a teenager and volunteering with Habitat for Humanity. These experiences sparked a lifelong commitment to building communities and creating impact through skilled trades.

Since becoming a member of the National Association of Women in Construction (NAWIC) in October 2023, Melleson has embraced the organization's mission to support and empower women at every level of the industry. She's passionate about fostering inclusive environments, promoting mentorship, and continuously improving processes that shape the built world.

Melleson's career is defined by hands-on experience, continuous growth, and a deep belief in the power of teamwork and innovation

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Scott MacGovern, Approvals Engineer



Scott MacGovern is an Approvals Engineer at FM Approvals. He has been a part of the Materials Group within FM Approvals for 2.5 years and has been working with firestop, Specialty Firestop Contractors, and the FCIA since joining in 2022.

Prior to joining FM Approvals, Scott worked for 5 years as a Project Manager at an HVAC contractor in the Boston area completing retrofit and design-build projects for various healthcare, educational, and pharmaceutical facilities.

Scott grew up in Rhode Island, spending summers on the water and winters on the slopes of Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine. He attended Roger Williams University where he obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering.

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MEET THE FACULTY



Bill McHugh, Technical Director

In his 43 years in the construction industry, **Bill McHugh** has been involved in Associations to help improve the reliability of various construction features. Prior to being FCIA & NFCA Technical Director, he was Executive Director of both FCIA and NFCA. He has worked at major construction products manufacturers, a specialist firestop distributor and contractor – even provided independent inspection – prior to being involved in FCIA and NFCA.

Bill participates in Building and Fire, Energy Code Development processes. He is active at: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), various International Code Council (ICC) Codes including International Building (IBC), Fire (IFC), Existing Building (IEBC), Energy (IECC), and Property Maintenance (IPMC), the National Building & Fire Code of Canada (NBCC, NFCC), the United Arab Emirates Fire and Life Safety Code of Practice, the State of Illinois and City of Chicago, and many other country Codes.

He has served on the ICC's 'Fire Safety' Code Development Committee and serves on the Fire Protection Features Committee at NFPA.

He served as organizer and moderator for the ASHE/TJC/FCIA/UL Passive Fire Protection Barrier Management Symposiums and has presented on passive fire protection and firestopping at many conferences, effectively educating thousands.

In addition to being a published author in many magazines, he also produces *Life Safety Digest*, The Magazine of Passive Fire Protection, including effective compartmentation.

He is a past Institute Director, Chapter President, and Region President at the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and member at Construction Specifications Canada (CSC), and is a past member of the International Accreditation Services (IAS) Board of Directors.

Bill holds a BA from North Central College and MBA from Western Illinois University.

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Lori Nelson, Lead Estimator



Lori Nelson has been with Bartkowski Strategic Contracting since 2023. In construction since 2011, Lori's leadership and wherewithal are an asset to the Bartkowski team. She is skilled in customer relations and accepts challenges head-on, having implemented many long-standing programs and processes. Working closely with the Sales Team has given Lori an in-depth understanding of how to go to market and generate interest in Bartkowski's construction services. Lori has been intimately involved in growing the social media presence and brand across several platforms, which have all generated positive ROIs from these efforts.

Lori lives in Portage, Indiana, with her husband and two Rhodesian Ridgeback babies, Savi and Cici. In her free time, she loves to read and relax with her family.

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Angela Ogino, Technical Services Leader



Angie Ogino is Thermafiber/Owens Corning's Technical Services Leader. She has over 25 years experience in the mineral wool and firestopping industry, providing engineering judgments and technical assistance on mineral wool product performance for Architects, Building Officials, and Contractors in the fire containment area.

Angie is the developer and coordinator of all perimeter fire containment testing for Thermafiber at Underwriters Laboratories, Southwest Research, and Intertek/Omega Point Laboratories. She is responsible for managing Thermafiber's UL and Intertek/OPL Follow-Up Service Quality Programs.

She is also the developer of Thermafiber's educational programs on perimeter fire containment and has presented perimeter fire containment programs at the AIA National Conventions, as well as the CSI (Construction Specifiers Institute), PCI (Precast Prestressed Concrete Institute), and major architectural and curtain wall manufacturing firms throughout North America.

Angie is Vice President of the International Firestop Council and is Task Group Chair of the IFC's Perimeter Fire Containment education. She is also Vice President of Fire Safe North America and is Chair of the North American Insulation Manufacturers (NAIMA) Rock and Slag Wool Steering Committee. She is a member of the Insulation Contractors Association of America where she Co-Chaired the Commercial Construction Committee for 5 years. She is also a member of the Firestop Contractors International Association and participates in code development for IBC, Chapter 7 (Fire and Smoke Protection Features).

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MEET THE FACULTY



Samantha Peterson, Application Engineering Specialist

Samantha Peterson is an Application Engineer Specialist with 3M supporting their full fire protection product portfolio.

In her role with 3M, Samantha provides technical information and guidance to end users, while also conducting certification testing, product training, and serving as an industry expert. She is also the ASTM E06.21 Subcommittee Chair on building serviceability. Samantha enjoys using her technical and problem solving skills to help customers resolve their real world challenges and build safer buildings.

Before 3M, Samantha did facility and safety management for ExxonMobil at multiple industrial and refinery locations. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Minnesota.

Outside of work, Samantha enjoys spending time with her husband (Ben) and four kids (Gus, Catherine, Charlotte, and Margaret) enjoying local adventures.

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Zack Seipert, Marketing & Communications Specialist

Zack Seipert is the Marketing & Communications Specialist for the Central Utah Water Conservancy District. Zack knows how to get important messages seen, heard, and understood in today's fast-paced world.

He has a bachelor's degree in Digital Marketing from Utah Valley University and currently serves as the President of the Government Social Media Association. Zack is also a co-author of *The Most Amazing Marketing Book Ever*.

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Philip J. Siegel, Esq., Partner



Philip Siegel, Esq., is a partner and shareholder with the firm of Hendrick, Phillips, Salzman & Siegel. Philip attended the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan graduating with distinction from the School of Business Administration where he earned his B.B.A. Mr. Siegel received his law degree from Emory University School of Law. He worked in the public accounting industry as a state and local tax consultant for two years prior to commencing his career as a construction litigation and labor/employment attorney.

Mr. Siegel's practice focuses primarily in the areas of labor/employment law, including defense of OSHA citations, immigration compliance assistance, Davis-Bacon Act consulting, contract consulting, and construction litigation, including representation of general contractors, subcontractors and suppliers, all on a national basis.

Mr. Siegel has written a number of articles concerning labor and employment issues affecting the construction industry. Mr. Siegel has also lectured on construction topics to a wide range of groups, including seminars sponsored by the Insulation Contractors Association of America, Independent Electrical Contractors Association, National Women in Construction (Dallas Chapter), Building Trades Employers Association, GAF, Firestop Contractors International Association, American Subcontractors Association, Construction Financial Management Association, and more.

Philip is a member of the Georgia Bar, the Atlanta Bar Association, and the American Bar Association and is admitted to practice in all State and Superior Courts in Georgia, as well as the United States District Court, Northern District of Georgia. Philip has also represented clients in the construction industry before the National Labor Relations Board, the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, the Department of Labor, and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Philip and his wife Debra have two children, Zoe, age 20, and Zackary, age 17.

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MEET THE FACULTY



Mark St. Onge, Senior Field Engineer, Fire Protection Specialist

Mark St. Onge has over 20 years of experience within the construction industry.

Mark served in the US Air Force building air bases across the world. Upon leaving the military, he continued to serve while joining the fire service in structural & wildland firefighting and as an EMT. Utilizing his knowledge of construction and fire, Mr. St. Onge expanded into the Special Inspection of building construction.

Mr. St. Onge is the Lead Field Engineer for the UL Firestop Special Inspection program. He is responsible for performing a variety of field inspections and for training new inspectors internally within UL.

Mr. St. Onge also provides education on firestop and fire rated construction to municipalities and code officials across the nation on behalf of UL.

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Rich Walke, Technical Director

Rich Walke is the Technical Director of Creative Technology Inc., providing consulting and training services for the fire protection and code enforcement communities, including National Fireproofing Contractors Association.

Previously, Rich had been employed by UL for 43 years, focusing on fire-resistance-rated construction and the protection of breaches in those assemblies. During that time, Rich was involved in testing, standards development, code development, and providing technical assistance and training to architects, engineers, contractors and code officials.

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Catherine Wendt, Testing and Approvals Engineer



Catherine Wendt brings her unique background and 35+ years of business IT experience as a trusted advisor to Construction businesses across the country. She is the co-owner and President of Syscon, and an active musician. Catherine is a member of the Construction Financial Managers Association (CFMA) Valley of the Sun chapter; C12 Orange County group member; ASA Chicago and ASA of Arizona; and a certified WBENC member.

Catherine grew up as the oldest of 11 children, raised four children, and has been married 40 years. After starting the company with her husband Larry in 1986, Catherine became President of Syscon in 2013. Previous roles included heading up the Network Department for five years, Controller, Sales and Marketing, and Project Management. Under her leadership, Syscon has expanded its Consulting, IT Support, and Cloud Hosting services to the Construction industry, introducing the company's first App focused on Field Time collection.

Catherine creates IT-related weekly video blogs with helpful tips on tech-related items. Her published articles, blog posts, and newsletters provide many opportunities to educate Syscon's clients and the construction industry at large. Catherine's educational articles have been published in several places, including local newspapers, TUG's Pulse newsletter, Construction Business Owner magazine, Construction Executive digital newsletter, Industry Tech Outlook, with regular contributes to the CFMA Connection Café blog. Catherine was featured in the Women In Tech profile of the June 2022 AOTMP Insights publication, and in a C12 video segment focused on Artificial Intelligence in May 2024. Also in 2024, Syscon was named to the Inc. 5000 Fastest Growing Companies list!

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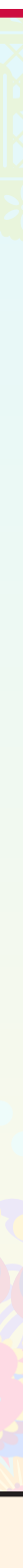
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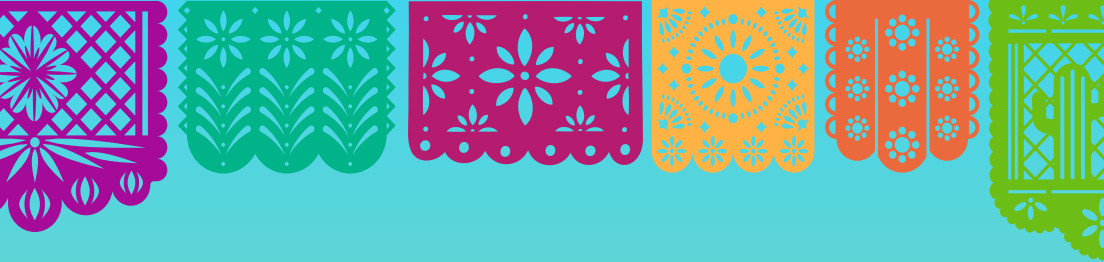




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