



THE ARIA RESORT
LAS VEGAS, NV

30 MARCH - 3 APRIL 2026

EDUCATION FOR THE IFRM & SFRM FIREPROOFING EXAMS

IFRM and SFRM Contractor Accreditation Programs prove Contractor knowledge, establish quality control processes, and ultimately improve the quality and accuracy of installed Intumescent Fire-Resistive Materials (IFRM) and Sprayed Fire-Resistive Materials (SFRM).

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2026 - IFRM FIREPROOFING EDUCATION

JOSHUA 1

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	PFPCON '26 Registration Open
7:30 am - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast for IFRM & SFRM Education Attendees
8:00 am - 8:15 am	The NFCA Contractor Accreditation Programs Gabby Peck, Ph.D., NFCA
8:15 am - 9:15 am	UL Product iQ Directory & IFRM Systems Selection Rich Walke, CTI
9:15 am - 9:45 am	Primers and NFCA Technical Bulletins Greg Becker, Isolatek
9:45 am - 10:00 am	Break
10:00 am - 10:30 am	Measuring Thickness of IFRM Applications Greg Becker, Isolatek
10:30 am - 10:45 am	IFRM Thickness Gauge Demo Greg Becker, Isolatek
10:45 am - 11:30 am	NFCA 300 Application Standard Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC
11:30 am - 12:00 pm	NFCA 400 Quality Control Standard Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC
12:00 pm - 12:45 pm	Luncheon for IFRM & SFRM Education Attendees

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2026 - IFRM & SFRM FIREPROOFING EDUCATION**JOSHUA 1**

All times listed are in PDT

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	NFCA & UL SFRM Accredited Contractor Program Overviews Bill McHugh, The McHugh Company Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Restrained Versus Unrestrained John Dalton, GCP
2:30 pm – 2:45 pm	Break
2:45 pm – 4:15 pm	ICC Building Code Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC Rich Walke, CTI

TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026 - SFRM FIREPROOFING EDUCATION & EXAMS**JOSHUA 1**

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	PPFCON '26 Registration Open
7:30 am – 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast for IFRM & SFRM Education Attendees
8:00 am – 9:00 am	UL Product iQ Directory & SFRM Systems Selection Dan Ehehalt, Isolatek
9:00 am – 9:30 am	Beam Substitution Procedures & Examples John Dalton, GCP
9:30 am – 10:00 am	Thickness Adjustment Procedures & Examples John Dalton, GCP
10:00 am – 10:15 am	Break
10:15 am – 11:15 am	UL Fire-Resistance Topics Rich Walke, CTI
11:15 am – 12:00 pm	NFCA 100 Application Standard Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC
12:00 pm – 12:30 pm	NFCA 200 Quality Control Standard Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC
12:30 pm – 1:15 pm	Luncheon for IFRM & SFRM Exam Attendees
1:30 pm – 6:30 pm	NFCA IFRM & SFRM Fireproofing Exams Note: The IFRM & SFRM Fireproofing Exams are online OPEN BOOK exams. Participants MUST provide their own copy of the NFCA Handbook of Accepted Fireproofing Knowledge (HAK) and handouts, as well as a laptop and charger.

By entering and your presence here, you consent to be photographed, filmed, and/or otherwise recorded. Your entry constitutes your consent to such photography, filming, and/or recording and allows Firestop Contractors International Association (FCIA) and/or National Fireproofing Contractors Association (NFCA), their licensees, assigns, successors in interest, and legal representatives the irrevocable right to any use, in any and all media throughout the universe in perpetuity, of your appearance, voice, and name for any purpose whatsoever in connection with the production of FCIA and NFCA events and programs.

EDUCATION FOR THE FM & UL FIRESTOP EXAMS

FCIA's Education for the Firestop Exams helps prepare Specialty Firestop Contractors and Special Inspectors to pass the FM or UL Firestop Exams. Passing the Firestop Exam(s) is required for Firestop Contractors pursuing FM 4991 Approved or UL Solutions Qualified Firestop status and for Firestop Inspectors to prove competence to AHJ's or International Accreditation Services IAS AC 291 Special Inspection Agency responsible individual status.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2026

JOSHUA 2

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	PFPCON '26 Registration Open	All times listed are in PDT
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm	FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exams Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA	
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Break	
2:15 pm - 3:30 pm	FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams (continued)	
3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Quality Management System Manual Development: A How-To Session Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions	

TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026

JOSHUA 2

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	PFPCON '26 Registration Open
7:30 am - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast for Firestop Exam Attendees
8:00 am - 12:00 pm	FM & UL Firestop Exams

Note: The UL Firestop Exam is OPEN BOOK exams. UL Exam Participants MUST provide their own copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice. The UL Canadian Supplement covers questions specific to Canada. The FM Firestop Exam DOES NOT allow use of the MOP during the exam.



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**TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026**

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am – 6:00 pm PFPCON '26 Registration Open

Registration Desk 2

10:00 am – 4:00 pm Exhibitor Move-In

Mariposa Ballroom

PFPCON '26 SPECIAL EVENT: HANDS-ON OFF-SITE DEMOS

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm Meet in Hotel Lobby and Board Busses

Hotel Lobby

12:30 pm Depart Hotel for TBD

1:00 pm - 3:30 pm Hands-On Off-Site Demos
TBD

3:30 pm - 3:45 pm Board Busses

3:45 pm – 4:15 pm Return to The Aria Resort & Casino

5:30 pm – 7:30 pm Welcome Reception with Exhibitors
Attendees, Spouses, Guests, and Speakers Welcome
Sponsored by TBD

Mariposa Ballroom

WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am - 5:00 pm PFPCON '26 Registration Open

Registration Desk 2

7:30 am – 6:30 pm PFPCON '26 Expo Floor Open

Mariposa Ballroom

7:30 am – 8:00 am Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors
Sponsored by TBD

Mariposa Ballroom

8:00 am – 8:15 am PFPCON '26 FCIA & NFCA Presidents' Welcome
Joe Wilkinson, 2026 FCIA Board President | Steve
Winston, 2025 NFCA Board President

Mariposa Ballroom

8:15 am – 8:45 am Passive Fire Protection: The Hero(es) You Never
See
Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA | Lindsey Dutkiewicz,
FCIA & NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA

Mariposa Ballroom

8:45 am – 9:15 am FCIA & NFCA Committee Introductions
FCIA Committees: Accreditation | Canada | Code |
Education | Inspection | Marketing | Membership |
Program | Standards
NFCA Committees: Accreditation | Canada | Education
| Finishes Task Group | Program | Project Management
Task Group | Safety | Technical Codes & Standards |
Women in Fireproofing

Mariposa Ballroom

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WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

9:15 am – 10:15 am	Unleash Your Curiosity Diana Kander, Speaker, Innovator, Entrepreneur	Mariposa Ballroom
10:15 am – 10:45 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
10:45 am – 11:45 am	FCIA Committee Action Sessions Standards Committee Accreditation Committee	Joshua 1 Joshua 2
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	NFCA Award of Excellence Nominees	Joshua 5 & 6
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Working Lunch Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch Session Software Demos TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	PPFCON '26 Exhibitor Updates	Mariposa Ballroom
1:45 pm – 2:30 pm	Codes and Compliance Pathways Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA	Mariposa Ballroom
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Firestop Education Session Specified Technologies Inc. <i>Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees</i>	Joshua 9 & 10
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Fireproofing Education Session - Laborer Education Programs TBD	Joshua 5 & 6
3:45 pm – 4:30 pm	NFCA Committee Action Sessions Accreditation & Education Committees Safety Committee	Joshua 3 Joshua 4
3:45 pm – 4:45 pm	FCIA & NFCA Joint Committee Action Session Canada Committees	Joshua 5 & 6
3:45 pm – 5:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Session Inspection Committee Marketing & Membership Committees	Joshua 9 & 10 Joshua 2

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WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

5:00 pm – 5:30 pm **NFCA Annual Business Meeting & Elections** Joshua 5 & 6
Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA | Paul Steele, NFCA Election Committee

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm **Networking Reception** Mariposa Ballroom

THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am - 5:00 pm **PFPCON '26 Registration Open** Registration Desk 2

7:30 am – 5:30 pm **PFPCON '26 Expo Floor Open** Mariposa Ballroom

7:30 am – 8:15 am **Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD** Mariposa Ballroom

8:15 am – 9:15 am **First Brood**
Dr. Anirban Basu, Sage Policy Group Mariposa Ballroom

9:15 am – 9:45 am **Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD** Mariposa Ballroom

9:45 am – 10:15 am **The Firestop Contractor Accreditation Programs: News You Can Use**
Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions Joshua 9 & 10

9:45 am – 10:30 am **NFCA Committee Action Sessions**
Marketing & Membership Committees
Program Committee
Manufacturer & Technical Codes & Standards Committees Joshua 3
Joshua 4
Joshua 5 & 6

10:15 am – 11:00 am **Perimeter Edge-of-Slab Firestopping: Common Challenges and Practical Considerations**
Jessica Starks, Hilti
Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees Joshua 9 & 10

10:30 am – 11:00 am **The Fireproofing Contractor Accreditation Programs: Updates and More**
Lindsey Dutkiewicz, NFCA | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions Joshua 5 & 6

11:00 am – 11:15 am **Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD** Mariposa Ballroom

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THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Bid Less, Win More Matt Verderamo, Well Built Consulting	Mariposa Ballroom
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm	Networking Lunch with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	What the Fire-Resistance Industries Need to Know About One Another Douglas Evans, PE, FSFPE Carl Fernald, PCI Tampa Gus Mancini, Gleeson Powers Alan McDurmon, PCI Atlanta	Mariposa Ballroom
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm	NFCA Committee Action Sessions Finishes Task Group Women in Fireproofing Committee Project Management Task Group	Joshua 3 Joshua 4 Joshua 5 & 6
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Session Code Committee	Joshua 1
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Sessions Education Committee Program Committee	Joshua 9 & 10 Joshua 2
3:15 pm – 4:00 pm	Use AI to Grow Business Girish Ramachandra, Lumber	Joshua 5 & 6
4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Fireproofing Education Session - TBD TBD	Joshua 5 & 6
4:30 pm – 5:30 pm	FCIA Association Report and Contractor and Inspection Agency Members Only Session Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA	Joshua 9 & 10
6:30 pm – 10:30 pm	PFPCON '26 Dinner & NFCA Annual Awards & Entertainment Sponsored by TBD	Primrose Ballroom

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FRIDAY, 3 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	PFPCON '26 Registration Open	Registration Desk 2
7:30 am - 11:00 am	PFPCON '26 Expo Floor Open	Mariposa Ballroom
7:30 am - 8:15 am	Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
8:15 am - 9:15 am	The Passive Fire Protection Code Report Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA Rich Walke, CTI	Mariposa Ballroom
9:15 am - 9:30 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
9:30 am - 10:30 am	Fireproofing Education Session - Legal TBD	Joshua 5 & 6
9:30 am - 10:30 am	How to Build Credibility and Gain Respect and Trust with Code Officials Brice Miller, Fire Containment Training Services LLC	Joshua 9 & 10
10:30 am - 10:45 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by TBD	Mariposa Ballroom
10:45 am - 11:45 am	Closing Plenary Session Building What's Next: The Global Future of Passive Fire Protection Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA	Mariposa Ballroom

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EDUCATION FOR THE IFRM & SFRM FIREPROOFING EXAMS

NFCA's Education for the IFRM and SFRM Fireproofing Exams helps prepare Fireproofing Contractor personnel to pass the NFCA IFRM and SFRM Fireproofing Exams. Passing the Fireproofing Exam(s) is required for Fireproofing Contractors pursuing the NFCA IFRM and SFRM and UL SFRM Contractor Accreditation Programs.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

8:00 am - 8:15 am

The NFCA Contractor Accreditation Programs

Gabby Peck, Ph.D., NFCA

What exactly does the National Fireproofing Contractors Association do, and what are the NFCA Contractor Accreditation Programs?

In this session, you'll hear about the mission of the NFCA and how we advocate and work to further the structural fire-resistance industry, like through the development and promotion of the NFCA IFRM and SFRM Contractor Accreditation Programs and why those programs are so important to fire and life safety in buildings around the world.

8:15 am - 9:15 am

UL Product iQ Directory & IFRM Systems Selection

Rich Walke, CTI

TBD

9:15 am - 9:45 am

Primers and NFCA Technical Bulletins

Greg Becker, Isolatek

TBD

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Measuring Thickness of IFRM Applications

Greg Becker, Isolatek





In this session, we review the process for measuring the thickness of applied Intumescent Fire-Resistive Materials (IFRMs).

10:30 am - 10:45 am

IFRM Thickness Gauge Demo

Greg Becker, Isoltek

Join us for this hands-on demo to learn how to use a Dry Film Thickness (DFT) gauge.

10:45 am - 11:30 am

NFCA 300 Application Standard

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

In this session, we dive into the ins and outs of the NFCA 300 Standard Practice for the Application of Intumescent Fire-Resistive Material.

11:30 am - 12:00 pm

NFCA 400 Quality Control Standard

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

Follow up your review of the NFCA 300 Application Standard with a look at the NFCA 400 Field Quality Assurance Procedure for the Application of Intumescent Fire-Resistive Material.

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

The NFCA & UL SFRM Accredited

Contractor Program Overviews

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

You've taken the first step to contractor accreditation, but what is it exactly? In this session, we look at the Contractor Accreditation Programs for fireproofing, including the requirements for and benefits of each program.

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Restrained Versus Unrestrained

John Dalton, GCP Saint-Gobain

Restrained versus Unrestrained, that is the question, and in this session, we'll figure out the answer.

2:45 pm - 4:15 pm

The ICC Building Code Requirements for Fireproofing

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Rich Walke, CTI

In this session, we analyze the design, installation, inspection, and maintenance requirements in the International Building Code for structural fire-resistance.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

8:00 am - 9:00 am

UL Product iQ Directory & SFRM

Systems Selection

Dan Ehehalt, Isoltek

TBD

TBD

9:00 am - 9:30 am

Beam Substitution Procedures & Examples

John Dalton, GCP Saint-Gobain

9:30 am - 10:00 am

Thickness Adjustment Procedures & Examples

John Dalton, GCP Saint-Gobain

TBD

10:15 am - 11:15 am

UL Fire-Resistance Topics





Rich Walke, CTI

TBD

11:15 am - 12:00 pm

NFCA 100 Application Standard

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

In this session, we dive into the ins and outs of the NFCA 100 Standard Practice for the Application of Sprayed Fire-Resistive Material.

12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

NFCA 200 Application Standard

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

Here we review the NFCA 200 Field Quality Assurance Procedure for the Application of Sprayed Applied Fire-Resistive Material.



EDUCATION FOR THE FM & UL FIRESTOP EXAMS

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PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exams

Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA

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.

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Quality Management System Manual Development: A How-To Session

Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

This session takes an in-depth look at the Quality Management System (QMS) Manual requirements for the FM 4991 Approved, UL 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, MARCH 31, 2026

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

FM & UL Firestop Exams

The UL Firestop Exam is an OPEN BOOK exam. UL Exam Participants MUST provide their own copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice. The UL Canadian Supplement covers questions specific to Canada. The FM Firestop Exam DOES NOT allow use of the MOP during the exam.



THE PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

PFPCON '26 combines the FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference and the NFCA Week of Learning and brings together the structural fire-resistance and effective compartmentation industries for a dynamic tradeshow, compelling industry education, high-energy networking events. Here you can immerse yourself in the experiences, connections, and opportunities that move the Passive Fire Protection industry forward - from professional development and accreditation to hands-on engagement and high-impact brand presence.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

12:00 pm - 4:15 pm

PFPCON '26 Group Outing

TBD

Join PFPCON '26 for an exciting group outing and hands-on demo sessions!

We'll be joined by some of the Passive Fire Protection industry's leading manufacturers and distributors as we test and inspect an array of fireproofing and firestopping systems and installations.

Transportation and refreshments will be provided.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

8:00 am - 8:15 am

PFPCon '26 FCIA & NFCA Presidents' Welcome

Joe Wilkinson, 2026 FCIA Board President | Steve Winston, 2025 NFCA Board President

PFPCon, the Passive Fire Protection Conference & Trade Show...the first-ever global event dedicated to the education, promotion, innovation, and collaboration of the global Passive Fire Protection industry. We're putting PFP on the global stage and shining a light on the important role PFP plays in building safety.

Bringing together FCIA's Education & Committee Action Conference (ECA) and NFCA's Week of Learning under one roof, PFPCon '26 is the industry's first step towards forging unity, education, and committee initiatives that will impact the global Passive Fire Protection industry for generations to come.

8:15 am - 8:45 am

Passive Fire Protection: The Hero(es) You Never See

Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA | Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA

Join us for the opening session of the Passive Fire Protection Conference & Trade Show, where we reflect on the core work of Passive Fire Protection to recognize and celebrate the critical (often overlooked) contributions the Passive Fire Protection industry makes every day.

Through real-world case studies that connect daily tasks of firestopping and fireproofing to real-life outcomes, this session reinforces why Passive Fire Protection matters: it saves lives, averts disasters, and safeguards buildings and communities.

This session provides a grounded reminder

of the practical impact of PFP in the world around us, emphasizing its importance in enhancing fire safety and resilience and setting the stage for a week focused on PFP.

8:45 am - 9:15 am

PFPConTalk: FCIA & NFCA Committees Unmasked

FCIA Committees: Accreditation | Canada | Code | Education | Inspection | Marketing Membership | Program | Standards

NFCA Committees: Accreditation | Canada | Education | Finishes Task Group | Program | Project Management Task Group | Safety | Technical Codes & Standards | Women in Fireproofing

Last year, the FCIA and NFCA Boards of Directors made the calls to members to help shape the future of the Passive Fire Protection industry through Committee and Association involvement. Many stood up and answered the call.

Picking up the mics once again, Lissette and Lindsey put FCIA and NFCA Committee Chairs on the hot seat to get answers to your burning Committee questions. We'll figure out what these Committees really do and how Committee work turns into guidance, education, and advocacy. We may even finally answer which Committee runs entirely on coffee and what "other duties as assigned" actually means.

This year, they are looking for even more hand raising, even more idea generating, even more Committee participation. The only way to get them to stop is to volunteer and get involved!



9:15 am - 10:15 am

Unleash Your Curiosity

Diana Kander, Speaker, Innovator, Entrepreneur

In today's ever-changing business climate, your attendees' roles have evolved far past their job descriptions. They face a volatile external environment - they encounter pressure to stay relevant to customers - they experience challenging workforce issues - and they are being asked to do a lot more with a lot less. All of this is asking them to be innovators. The big question is, are they doing it the hard way or the easy way.

Based on her book, *The Curiosity Muscle*, this keynote helps members of organizations who don't have innovation in their job description to embrace and identify as an innovator. Diana will share the key skills and habits that make innovation easier and a lot more fun. And she'll empower attendees to harness the power of curiosity to unlock new possibilities and drive business growth. Attendees will leave this keynote identifying as innovators and seeking opportunities to use their new skills.

During this session, attendees will learn:

- How to institutionalize curiosity, asking better questions to stay competitive and relevant to your customers
- How to determine blind spots within your organization and avoid falling into the "expert trap"
- How to create a more innovative culture that leads to results and drives growth

10:45 am - 12:00 pm

NFCA Award of Excellence Nominees

The projects are in. The stakes are high. Now it's time to hear directly from the 2026 NFCA Award of Excellence nominees.

Each team will pull back the curtain on the real-world challenges they faced - from safety and scheduling to logistics and execution - and how they delivered winning

solutions. You'll get a front-row seat to industry-leading work...and then **YOU** decide who takes home the honors with real-time voting.

12:30 pm - 1:00 pm

Lunch Session

Software Demos

Looking for a software solution for Change Orders? Bids? AI? Then make sure to attend this software demo session where software providers provide real-time demos, then make time to meet with them during the trade show.

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm

PFPCON '26 Exhibitor Updates

PFPCON '26 exhibitors take the stage to announce new products and company news!

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm

Codes and Compliance Pathways

Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA

Building Codes around the world continue to evolve regularly. This session touches on how they evolve, slightly differently from each other, but more importantly how similar they are in intent.

With that background, we explore the mechanics of compliance and various conformity assessment mechanisms which are used to enforce these building codes. As the construction industry evolves at different paces around the world, so are the approaches to construction and tracking building materials and workmanship. With an aim to understanding how repeatability of supply of materials, as well as workmanship, can be assessed, compliance pathways will shed light on the nooks and corners of what gets written into technical regulations, as well as procurement contracts that can help plug the gaps and enhance reliability by making liability and responsibility more quantifiable!



3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Firestop Education Session

TBD, Specified Technologies

TBD

Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Fireproofing Education Session

TBD, TBD

TBD

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

NFCA Annual Business Meeting & Elections

Lindsey Dutkiewicz, NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., NFCA | Paul Steele, NFCA Election Committee

Hear from the NFCA Executive and Technical Directors as they review all the exciting

things that happened at NFCA last year and everything there is to look forward to in 2025. Then, hear from your NFCA Election Committee Chair and elect your 2026 NFCA Board of Directors.

THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

8:15 am - 9:15 am

First Brood

Dr. Anirban Basu, Sage Policy Group

Everyone is speculating about what 2026 will bring. After an incredibly active 2025, can the U.S. economy maintain its momentum, or will lingering economic uncertainty translate into the next recession?

In this fast-paced, data-driven presentation, we will monitor the latest trends in employment, housing, commercial real estate, financial markets, and output. You can expect some surprises, perhaps an insight or two, and maybe even a few laughs as we characterize the present and predict the future.

9:45 am - 10:15 am

The Firestop Contractor Accreditation

Programs: News You Can Use

Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

This session looks at program and company updates for the FM 4991 Approved and UL Solutions Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs.

10:15 am -11:00 am

Perimeter Edge-of-Slab Firestopping: Common Challenges and Practical Considerations

Jessica Starks, Hilti

This technical presentation examines challenges associated with perimeter edge-of-slab firestopping, particularly at the interface with curtain wall systems.



The discussion focuses on constructability, system compatibility, code compliance, and coordination issues encountered in curtain wall design, with particular emphasis on modular construction.

After completing this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify common perimeter firestopping challenges associated with aluminum-framed curtain wall assemblies.
2. Reference and apply applicable codes and standards governing perimeter fire containment systems.
3. Distinguish between unitized and stick-built curtain wall construction and their implications for firestopping design and installation.
4. Evaluate firestopping considerations unique to modular construction methods.
5. Understand the role of construction sequencing in achieving compliant and effective perimeter firestopping installations.

Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees

10:30 am - 11:00 am

The Fireproofing Contractor Accreditation Programs: Updates and More

Lindsey Dutkiewicz, NFCA | Mark St. Onge,

UL Solutions

Half of NFCA's Contractor Members are accredited in NFCA's Contractor Accreditation Program (CAP), with hundreds of DRIs on staff.

UL's Qualified SFRM Contractor Program has new companies coming on board.

The NFCA CAP and UL SFRM QFCP Programs provide NFCA Contractor Members the ability to jump to the next level of professionalism and separate themselves from competitors. This session provides an overview of the programs' status and new developments worldwide.

11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Bid Less, Win More

Matt Verderamo, Well Built Consulting

TBD

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

What the Fire-Resistance Industries

Need to Know About One Another

Douglas Evans, PE, FSFPE | Carl Fernald, PCI Tampa | Gus Mancini, Gleeson Powers | Alan McDurmon, PCI Atlanta

Passive Fire Protection is a critical fire and life safety element for total building protection.



Tune in for this round table discussion where we explore both structural fire-resistance and effective compartmentation - the two essential pillars of Passive Fire Protection.

Although firestopping and fireproofing approach fire safety from different angles - one focused on containing fire and smoke through effective compartmentation, the other on protecting structural elements to prevent premature building collapse - both disciplines are interdependent and vital to comprehensive fire protection.

In this session, we'll break down the essential structural fire-resistance concepts that every firestopping professional should understand to ensure continuity of protection across the entire assembly: materials, methods, thickness requirements, inspection points, and the underlying fire test fundamentals.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn about what happens when a fire-resistance-rated beam becomes part of the same rated gypsum panel or concrete block wall assembly.
- Review when structural wood or steel building elements penetrate through a breach in a fire-resistance-rated wall assembly.
- Understand more about firestopping head of wall assemblies when the horizontal assembly is protected and not protected.
- Learn the differences between firestopping and fireproofing.
- Discuss whether bottom of wall joint protection is prudent.
- Analyze duct wrap protection.
- Explore thin film intumsecent protection for structural steel.

3:15 pm - 4:00 pm

Predictive AI for Fire Protection

Leaders: Quantifying and Reducing Compliance & Safety Risk
Girish Ramachandra, Lumber

For fire protection contractors, risk is not theoretical—it directly impacts margin, bonding capacity, insurance premiums,

and long-term enterprise value. Failed inspections, licensing gaps, prevailing wage violations, documentation errors, and safety incidents all carry financial consequences that extend far beyond the immediate project.

This session is designed specifically for risk leaders with a vested interest in passive fire protection. It explores how predictive AI can convert operational data — inspection logs, technician certifications, timecards, certified payroll, safety reports, and project cost data into forward-looking risk intelligence. Rather than relying on after-the-fact audits, firms can continuously detect exposure across licensing compliance, labor classification, and jobsite safety before it becomes a financial event.

Attendees will leave with a practical framework to quantify compliance risk, reduce rework and penalties, protect margins on public projects, and strengthen overall financial controls through AI-enabled monitoring.

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Education Session

TBD

TBD

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

FCIA Association Report and Contractor & Inspection Agency Members Only Session

Let your voice be heard in this FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Members Only session. Ask questions. Provide input. Address your Board and Leadership. Put this session to work for you.



FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026

8:15 am - 9:15 am

The Passive Fire Protection Code

Report

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC |
Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA | Rich
Walke, CTI

The Building and Fire Code Development Process at the International Code Council, NFPA, National Building / Fire Code of Canada, and other codes, is as dull as it gets. However, industries can appear or disappear by a code proposal eliminating the industry.

This session covers what we'll be discussing at the upcoming ICC Code Development Committee Action Hearings in October, Public Comment Hearing in April, 2026, summer NFPA Fire Protection Features Committee. Meeting in summer, 2026, Canada codes too. Don't miss it!

9:30 am - 10:30 am

Education Session

TBD

TBD

9:30 am - 10:30 am

How to Build Credibility and Gain Respect and Trust with Code Officials

Brice Miller, Fire Containment Training Services LLC

TBD

10:45 am - 11:45 am

Building What's Next: The Global Future of Passive Fire Protection

Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA | Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA

TBD



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NFCA 