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FCIA Education and Committee Action Conference (ECA) a Big Success

CIA recently completed FCIA's Education & Committee Action Conference - FCIA ECA 2017 - at The Chase Park Plaza in St. Louis, MO, May 2-5. FCIA members came together at this historic property for three and a half days of firestop education, the FM & UL/ULC Firestop Exams, events for networking and more.

the world, thereby saving lives.

FM & UL Firestop Exams

With 30+ attending the FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams

sessions and 20 who wrote the FM or UL/ ULC Firestop Exams, this engaged group represented the future of the industry. Not only is the firestopping industry attracting fresh, young talent, but they are digging into their field the right way - through participating in continuing education that focuses on

honing their knowledge to become experts firestopping.

Growing the third-party UL/ULC FM, accreditation programs with



Specialty Firestop Contracting firms who are dedicated to excellence in their craft elevates the quality of installed firestop systems and improves fire- and life-safety in buildings around



The event kicked off with Mark Dietz' FCIA President's Message, followed by an Association update on activities of the FCIA since November. Then the group heard from FM, UL and FCIA providing a briefing

on the FM 4991 Approved, UL/ULC Qualified Contractor & IAS AC 291 Accredited Special

Inspection Agency programs.

INFORM. ENGAGE. INSPIRE. **Active Committee Meetings**

The FCIA Accreditation, Code, Inspection/ Standards, Marketing, Membership, Program

and Technical Education & Apprenticeship Committees, as well as the Canada Task Group, were all well represented and enjoyed some dynamic and interesting conversation during committee table discussions. Committees left the meeting with clear visions of action lists and goals for the year. Thank you to all who participated in taking an active role in FCIA!

Education was Great

Thursday brought more dynamic programming to attendees.





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The day opened with Karl Houser (Intertek) introducing the group to Intertek and their fire-resistance testing process.

Luke Woods, Primary Development Engineer for Fire-Resistance at UL, looked at some of the top questions that UL hears about firestopping. He provided answers from the UL Guide information, available online, and in the front of the Fire-Resistance Directories. He also asked the group what UL should be looking at for the future to address what contractors are finding in the field that should be reflected in UL's Test Standards, like UL 1479, UL 2079.

The Joint Commission's (TJC) George Mills brought a fresh perspective to the TJC hospital facility audit process. He had a very practical take on the necessity of being aware of your surroundings when working in healthcare facilities. Sound, infection control, fire-resistance and the positive effect the Barrier Management Symposiums (BMS) have had on hospital compliance were all covered. George credits the FCIA, TJC, UL and ASHE Barrier Management Symposiums with helping to reduce the number of violations caused by barriers - doors and penetrations. Through BMS Education, ASHE Member Facility Directors are assembling Barrier Management Policies of their own to keep fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant construction, including firestopping, effective during the building life cycle.

Colonel Mark Johnson, a retired Colonel in the Green Berets, spoke to the importance of leading others through doing the right thing. It's always great to have some motivation to keep us committed to an industry that results in better life-safety – firestopping and barrier management.

And, FCIA's Contractor Only Session brought great discussion about the direction the association should take on many issues.

FCIA Announces New FCIA Insurance Program

FCIA announced a new program offering to the industry:

Professional Liability Insurance through the Norman Spencer Insurance Group.









The FCIA Professional Liability Insurance Program provides coverage for companies that are performing firestopping and working on existing buildings. This program is especially important to Special Inspection Agencies performing inspections – whether to ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Firestopping Inspection Standards or other methods. This new offering, using Lloyds of London as the insurance firm, is just another of the many benefits from FCIA. (see below for details)

More Education

Melanie Bisson (ROXUL) presented a program on the role of mineral wool in extending the fire-resistance of the horizontal (floor) assembly to the non-rated curtain wall assembly to an interested group. Her session was both technically sound and engaging, announcing a partnership between ROXUL and STI for the development of new curtain-wall firestop systems.

Friday Brought Blockbuster Sessions

Friday morning, the group enjoyed an informative technical session with Corey Zussman (Pepper Construction - GC) and Patrick Shaw (Cushman Wakefield - Owners Representative). The hour-long session took a look at what property managers and general contractors typically see in the field and how the specialty firestop contractor can help.

For a building owner and manager to maintain the fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant assemblies, they need a building that is code compliant from the start. This program showed how FCIA Members can work with building owners and managers and general contractors to provide education to these key groups about the importance of education, SYSTEMS and the FCIA Member, FM 4991 Approved / UL Qualified Firestop

Contractor and IAS AC 291 Accredited Firestop Inspection Agency.

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The conference wrapped up with Bill Koffel (Koffel Associates) presenting an executive summary on the recent code changes, with a highlight on what firestop contractors can expect to see in future code development cycles. Interesting to note was the point Mr. Koffel made about looking to the future. "What changes do you want to see in 10 years, because that's the development cycle we are currently in. These changes aren't implemented tomorrow...they are implemented in 10 years," stated Koffel.

Overall, the programs were well received and positive. From glowing reviews of the location and property, to follow-up chatter about various sessions that got attendees thinking and engaged, FCIA's ECA 2017 can be chalked up as a success.

Missed it? FCIA Members can view and download the presentations at the <u>Members Only</u> section of <u>www.FCIA.org</u>.

FIC 2017 Location Announced!

This November 7-10, FCIA will pack our bags and head to Palm Springs, CA and the Omni Rancho Las Palmas for the FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show (FIC). The four-day event will feature the FM & UL/ULC Firestop Exams, the Ray Usher Memorial Golf Outing which funds the FCIA Scholarship, engaging education sessions

and networking events, as well as the FCIA Annual Dinner.

Hotel reservations are available now.

Check back in the next few weeks for more information and registration info.



Bill Koffel Reports on NFPA Codes



CIA's Code Consultant Bill Koffel, President, Koffel Associates, reported on
 the upcoming NFPA Expo and Technical Meeting where voting will take place
 on several items, including expanded smoke compartment sizes in hospitals.

A Notice of Intent to Make a Motion (NITMAM) was submitted to reduce smoke compartments to 22,500SF from the current 40,000SF. Bill Koffel presented the facts below to FCIA's Attendees during the FCIA ECA Conference.

FCIA's Code Committee supports Bill Koffel's recommendation for FCIA to remain neutral on this NITMAM proposal for the following reasons.

1. The International Building Code already allows the 40,000SF smoke



- compartment.
- 2. Sleeping rooms are getting larger Patients now get 1 bed per room vs. shared rooms that were customary years ago. The smoke compartment space is larger at 40,000SF, but the number of patients in the space is the same. The big question is whether or not the designer can actually design to the 40,000SF compartment size based on travel distance limitations in the code.
- 3. The 200' Travel Distance to an exit limits the size of the smoke compartment. Geometry likely limits the compartment size to less than 40,000SF.

Watch FCIA.org for updates on NFPA's Code Development for NFPA 101/5000.



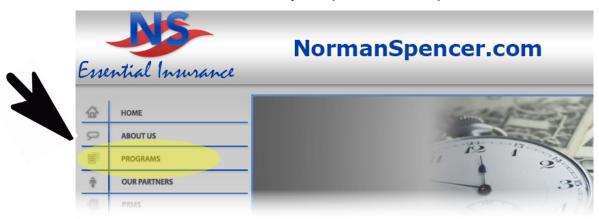


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FCIA's New Professional Liability Insurance Partnership

oes your firm provide surveys of new or existing buildings? Does your firm select firestop systems? Does your firm inspect firestopping? Did you know those are not covered by General Liability Insurance? General Liability (GL) insurance covers installations, auto and other items. GL insurance does not cover 'Design'. What insurance covers inspection, selection, surveys? The answer: Professional Liability Insurance.

Announcing the FCIA Professional Liability Insurance Program, offered through the Norman Spencer Insurance Group. This new strategic partnership offers a new benefit for both special inspection agencies and contractors – Professional Liability Insurance – to cover contractors working on new and existing buildings. It covers Special Inspection Agencies inspecting firestopping to ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Firestopping Inspection Standards or other inspection methods. The policies are underwritten by Lloyds of London – a first class carrier. Learn more today at http://www.normanspencer.com/fciainsurance.



FM & ULC Program Changes

hose companies participating in the FM 4991 Approved or ULC Qualified Contractor Programs need to be aware of some key program changes that have been rolled out in the last few months.

FM 4991 Approved CEU Updates

FM recently updated their CEU requirements for DRIs. Under the new requirements, DRIs are exempt from writing the FM Firestop Exam every three (3) years if they have accumulated nine (9) or more CEUs. Those individuals who have accumulated greater than six (6) but less than nine (9) CEUs within three (3) years, will be required to write the FM Re-Exam. Those individuals who have less than six (6) CEUs within the three (3) years will be required to write the original FM Firestop Exam. These requirements are an update from the previous requirement of six (6) CEUs every three (3) years to bypass writing the exam. For more information, visit the FM 4991 Approved Program

ULC Firestop Exam New Grading Format

UL also has made some updates to their ULC Firestop Exam. In the past, those Canadian firms seeking approval for the ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Program were required to write the core UL Firestop Exam, as well as a 25 question ULC Firestop Exam (Canadian Supplement). This additional section of Canada-specific questions was graded independently from the core UL Firestop Exam and could cause a person to fail the exam based on those 25 questions.

Based upon direct feedback from examinees, program participants, the FCIA Accreditation Committee and FCIA leadership, UL has started to grade the ULC Firestop Exam Supplement WITH the core UL Firestop Exam. This is to increase the pool of questions that are considered in the grading process, thereby increasing an individual's odds of passing the exam. To learn more about the UL and ULC Qualified Contractor Programs, visit "How to get and stay UL Qualified".





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FCIA Participating in FCAC Discussions

CIA's Code Consultant Bill Koffel and Executive Director Bill McHugh participate in the Fire Code Action Committee Meetings at the International Code Council (ICC) during weekly teleconferences.

One area of discussion is Section 715, Joints of the International

Building Code (IBC). Continued discussions also take place on when vertical openings can be allowed, how big they can be and many other topics.

Watch for more as summer and fall reveal more possible proposals.

FCIA at National Building Code of Canada

CIA submitted several proposals to the National Building Code of Canada (NBC) code development process. We understand they will be discussed by the Standing Committee on Fire Protection sometime in September.

Proposals included changing the word "Fire Stop" to "Firestop", adding requirements for FM 4991 or ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors and ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Inspection requirements to the NBC. We also inserted proposals to build language into the National Fire Code to maintain Fire Separation continuity.

FCIA Canada Members are involved in this effort and we're thankful for their volunteer talents. Watch Life Safety Digest and www.FCIA.org for info as the year progresses.

FCIA at Nova Scotia Building Officials Association



his April, FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, spoke to the **Nova Scotia Building Officials** Association (NSBOA) at their Annual Education Meeting. The presentation covered the key qualities that a firestop contractor and special inspection agency should possess, in addition to what to look for - the many violations

- in fire separations in new construction and existing buildings.

The opportunity to present was facilitated by FCIA members in the area, Trinity Maintenance Solutions. We were honored to speak.

FCIA at Ontario Building Officials Association

CIA members worked with FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, to develop and present a 4-hour program on the 'DIIM' - Design, Installation, Inspection and Maintenance – of ONTARIO BUILDING Firestopping in Fire Separations OFFICIALS ASSOCIATION in May to present to the Ontario Building Knowledge. **Building Officials Association Growing Communities.** (OBOA). Many thanks to FCIA

Members John Sharpe (Pro Firestop) and Jim Smiley, Sr. (Dew Point Insulation) for being there and assisting with the program.





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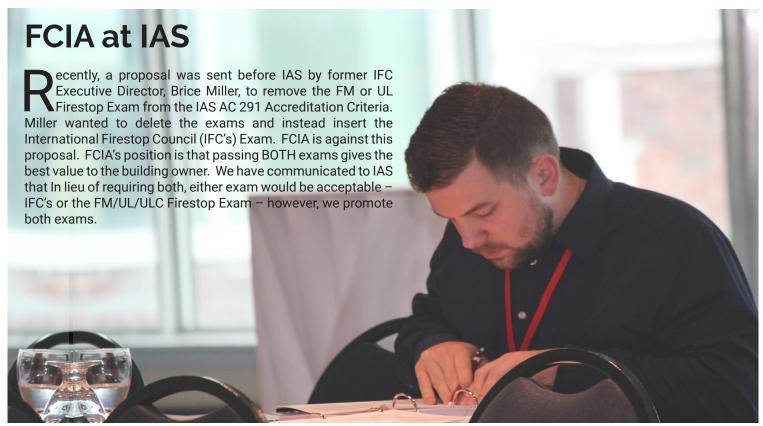
FCIA at ASTM

STM Meetings took place in Toronto, ON, Canada in early April. Topics covered included the ASTM E 2174 / E 2393 Inspection Standards, movement of penetrating items or the assemblies and how they should be fire-tested after movement, exposure to chemicals and the need for fire -testing after exposure. The meetings also looked at the qualifications of inspectors.

FCIA believes that the qualifications of the inspection-agency-employed inspectors on firestopping projects need to be equal to that of the contractor. We support education of inspectors, as well as utilizing the FM and UL/ULC Firestop Exams to establish competency of individual inspectors. We recognize that there are other exams, and we support inspection agencies that have inspectors take either the FM or UL/ULC Firestop Exam and the IFC Exam.

Why? Not only because knowledge is power, but also because being an expert in the field is critical for those who are inspecting installed firestop systems. If you don't know what you're looking at, how can you determine if it is correctly or incorrectly installed? Plus, we have heard that contractors have had to educate the inspectors about how to inspect – an unacceptable practice and disservice to the building owner who is paying for a knowledgeable firestop Special Inspection Agency.









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FCIA Educational Webinar Series June Program Announced





he <u>FCIA FREE Educational Webinar Series</u> announces the June installment in the monthly instructional webinar program. Register today for the Wednesday, June 14 course, 'Not Your Father's Glazing: Understanding the Fire-Rated Glazing of Today', which looks at all the various aspects of fire-rated glazing.

Fire-rated glazing is frequently specified for use as vision panels in fire door assemblies and for use in fire window assemblies. The exact glazing product required is dependent on the specific application in question. So it is imperative that designers, specifiers, contractors and code officials understand the requirements for glazing and how to identify the appropriate product for the application in question.

This program provides an in-depth look at applications for both fire-protection-rated glazing and fire-resistance-rated glazing, including detailed looks at: the 2015 International Building Code; code referenced standards; testing procedures; performance expectations; maintenance and inspection requirements of NFPA 80 and the International Fire Code; and more.

Registration is NOW OPEN. Register Today.



FCIA in the Middle East

CIA's Symposiums in the Middle East brought FCIA Members together to discuss the best ways to keep existing buildings safe. Wherever we are in the world, existing buildings need continuous survey to assure that the fire-resistance originally installed in the building is still there and intact –ideally present to the tested and listed system requirements.

Attendees learned about the complete Barrier Management System, including fire-resistance-rated walls, floors, fire dampers, fire doors, fire-rated glazing, and of course, firestopping – and how they might get involved in servicing fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant assemblies in existing buildings.

Several FCIA Members also attended the FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams and Quality Management System Manual education sessions in preparation of writing the FM or UL Firestop Exams. Both locations – Doha and Dubai – saw several companies represented by individuals writing the exam and working to establish competency. This further positions their FCIA Member Company as experts in the field.

This dedication to improving their knowledge and expertise proves that FCIA Members are best qualified to maintain fire-resistance and smoke-resistant properties of assemblies for the life of the building.







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FCIA Gets the Word Out

The Life Safety Digest is a great way for FCIA to promote the Firestopping, Effective Compartmentation and Structural Fire-Resistance industries, as well as FCIA Members. FCIA, through Marketing Committee and Staff, has worked hard to build relationships speaking, writing or being represented at various conferences to build awareness of FCIA's cutting edge programs.

IFMA Facility Fusion Brings Life Safety Digest to Facility Management Professionals in US and Canada

Life Safety Digest magazines were present at two IFMA Facility Fusion events this Spring – IFMA Facility Fusion US and IFMA Facility Fusion Canada. The US event, held in Las Vegas, provided attendees with strategies, tactics and solutions for every possible scenario facility managers and their personnel may encounter in the field. From the three keynote sessions to any of the breakout sessions, attendees received cutting-edge training. Copies of Life Safety Digest were available for free pick-up by interested attendees.

Then, this May saw the IFMA Facility Fusion program in Toronto, ON. The theme of the event, "The Changing Face of FM", brought together Facility Management professionals from across Canada. The event focused on sessions designed to address the complexities of Facility Management in Canada. Again, copies of Life Safety Digest were available for free pickup by interested delegate attendees.

FCIA and Life Safety Digest support the IFMA events annually to educate and encourage the 'M' in the 'DIIM' of Firestopping – the importance of Maintaining and Managing installed firestop systems as the final critical step in the continuity of fire- and life-safety systems in buildings worldwide.



Life Safety Digest and AIA Partner Again

This April, Life Safety Digest partnered again with AIA on their AIA Conference on Architecture 2017. The event, held in Orlando was one of their biggest yet. Headlined by Former First



Lady, Michelle Obama, the event featured more than 500 breakout sessions over 5 days covering all aspects of design, including Accessibility, Healthcare, Sustainability, Technology, Resilience and so much more.

This is the third year that *Life Safety Digest* has partnered with this groundbreaking event. Attendees were able to pick-up copies of the magazine on-site, and were exposed to the brand through conference promotions and partner listings on all signage and program materials.

FCIA and *Life Safety Digest* are proud to support this show, and we look forward to many more years partnering to support those in the design field. After all, improved fire- and life-safety systems in buildings begins with proper D-Design.

NFPA Conference & Expo Joins Forces with FCIA

Fire Marshals, Building Code Officials and industry representatives will come together in Boston this **June 4-7** for the **NFPA Conference & Expo**. FCIA and Life Safety Digest will be represented with an exhibit booth and Publication Bins, as well as listings as a conference partner on show promos, the program and on-site signage.

We anticipate that this show will be well-attended, as always. Conference traffic at this event is a great mix of attendees: both domestic and international delegates are represented from a variety of disciplines, including fire marshals, building code officials, contractors, inspectors and more.

FCIA is proud to support and participate in this show each year. We value this partnership and continue to look for ways to support fire professionals around the world. Learn more



FCIA and BOMA Bring Fire- and Life-Safety to Annual Conference & Expo

Building Owners and Managers come together this **June 24-27** in **Nashville, TN** for the **BOMA 2017 International Conference & Expo**. The event combines inspiring keynote sessions with important networking events and targeted education sessions offering practical direction and tactical strategies for building professionals around the globe.





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Life Safety Digest will be represented there in Publication Bins, program signage and partner mentions. We are happy to support this key event and continue to work towards bringing fire- and life-safety matters to the forefront with this key group of professionals. Learn more



ASHE Annual Conference

This **August 6-9**, Healthcare Engineering Professionals convene in **Indianapolis**, **IN** to hear from The Joint Commission, HFAP, DNV and many others about how the building can help deliver excellent healthcare services at **ASHE's 54th Annual Conference**.



Last year's event saw more than 3,800 professionals gathered onsite to learn more about healthcare compliance, codes and standards updates and emerging trends in the healthcare industry, like best practices for efficiency, sustainability, emergency preparedness and more.

FCIA will be on-site with our tradeshow booth, speaking to interested individuals about the importance of using FCIA

Members and Specialty Firestop Contractors, as well as educating about Barriers and the importance of implementing, executing and maintaining comprehensive Barrier Maintenance plans in their facilities. The more healthcare professionals that we can get to commit to this culture, the greater lifesafety compliance will be, thereby creating safer buildings for occupants. Learn more

CONSTRUCT Show & CSI Annual Convention

Specs set the stage for what happens during construction. Unclear or incorrect specifications create chaos on the project, suddenly opening things to "interpretation", making it hard to enforce compliance.

The Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) Members come together in **Providence**, **RI** at **CONSTRUCT2017** this **September 13-16** to find ways to produce better specifications that are a part of the construction documents. The annual conference offers 40+ different solutions-driven learning opportunities by industry experts, including a keynote presentation from Thom

Mayne, Pritzker Prizewinning architect.

C NSTRUCT

CSI was one of the first places FCIA went to present the FM 4991 and UL Qualified Firestop

Knowledge Today. Innovation Tomorrow.

Contractor Programs and ASTM E 2174/2393 Inspection, IAS AC 291 Accredited Firestop Firms. This year, we will support the event again and work to educate specifiers nationwide through exposure of the brand with the FCIA tradeshow booth and Publication Bins for *Life Safety Digest*.

Specifiers have given us great advice on how the programs can work in construction. We look forward to more great conversations with this group of talented individuals. Learn more

ICC Annual
Conference & Expo
Where can building
and design
professionals go
to learn about the
latest products and
services needed to
keep buildings safe



and code compliant? Where can professionals from the built environment, including tradesmen, architects, engineers and others, come together for a safer, more resilient world? The **Building Safety & Design Expo**, that's where!

This September 10-13, the ICC Annual Conference & Building Safety & Design Expo brings ICC Member Building Code Officials together with industry leaders to hear ICC's Annual Report from CEO Dominic Sims and catch education sessions to build knowledge of new technologies for their jurisdiction. This, and a lot more, are all part of the action in Columbus, OH.

Find FCIA and *Life Safety Digest* there with a tradeshow booth, Publication Bins, and recognition in various medias as an event sponsor. We are proud to partner with this integral event and look to the future and further development of the partnership. **Learn more**

SAVE THE DATE

for the

FCIA Firestop & Effective Compartmentation 'DIIM' Symposium Canada

Coming this Fall* to Toronto, ON!

*Tentative Dates: September 20-21





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FCIA Welcomes New Members

CIA works hard to spread the word of the 'DIIM' of Firestopping around the world, encouraging all interested Contractors,

Consultant Firms, Associates, Manufacturers, Manufacturer Rep Firms and more to become involved to grow the industry's call for better Fire and Life Safety.



When a connection is made, FCIA proudly welcomes new members, and we thank them for their support and commitment to the Firestop industry.

Thank you to all current members, as well, for helping to grow FCIA and the Specialty Firestop trade, resulting in improved Fire and Life Safety Systems.

FCIA New Contractor Members

- · Barber Firestop Systems, LLC Orange, CT
- · Commercial Fireproofing & Insulation Dallas, TX
- · DKB. Inc. Pasco. WA
- · DPR Austin, TX
- Firestop Commercial, LLC Las Vegas, NV
- · Firetek Pacific, LLC Pearl City, HI
- · Greater Metroplex Interiors Southlake, TX
- · J&M Keystone, Inc. Spring Valley, CA
- · JD Firestop Pros, Inc. Tracy, CA
- · Low Country Firestop Boca Raton, FL
- · Marek Brothers Systems Houston, TX
- · Massey's Plate Glass & Aluminum Branford, CT
- · Phoenix Insulation Company Houston, TX
- · Pipeline Services, Inc. Florence, SC
- · U.S. Firestop, LLC Waukee, IA
- US Spray NYC, Inc. Rockaway Park, NY
- · Wohl Diversified Services Port Chester, NY

FCIA New International Contractor Members

- · Al Bena for Electromechanical Works Doha, Qatar
- · Arab Builders Trading & Contracting Doha City, Qatar

- · National Protection Painting Co., WLL Abu Dhabi, UAE
- Pushesh Gostar Qeshm Shahrak Gharb, Tehran, Iran
- · Ultimate Trading & Contracting Co., WLL Doha, Qatar

FCIA New Contractor Branch Members

· Saudi United Waterproofing Company - Jeddah, KSA

FCIA New Associate Members

- · George Koper Associates Pensacola, FL
- HD Supply White Cap Construction & Industrial Houston, TX
- Pinchin Ltd. Winnipeg, MB

FCIA New Manufacturer Members

· Carboline - St. Louis, MO

FCIA Members: Do you have more than one Branch location? Make it easier to be found worldwide with a 'Branch Membership and Listing' at www.FCIA.org. Questions? Email cathy@fcia.org and we'll fill you in.











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Platinum Level Sponsor FCIA Manufacturer Members





Gold Level Sponsor FCIA Manufacturer Members





Silver Level Sponsor FCIA Manufacturer Members











Bronze Level Sponsor FCIA Manufacturer Members

International Carbine Technology Co., Ltd NUCO, Inc. Passive Fire Protection Partners

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