

## Upcoming Events

Jan 19	FCIA Webinar
Feb 1-2	FCIA Board Meeting
Feb 17	FCIA Webinar

# FCIA ANNOUNCES CAREER FIRESTOP EDUCATION PROGRAM

The Firestop Contractors International Association announces the all-new *FCIA Firestop Certificate of Achievement Program* for Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor personnel and Firestop Special Inspection Agency personnel who want to immerse themselves in the world of firestopping and fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant assemblies.

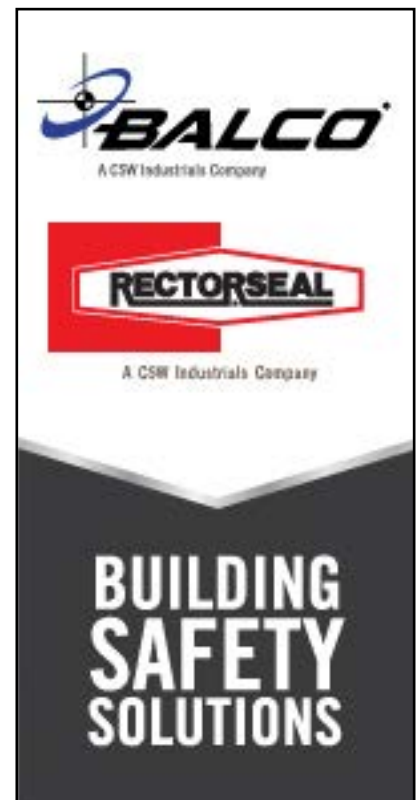
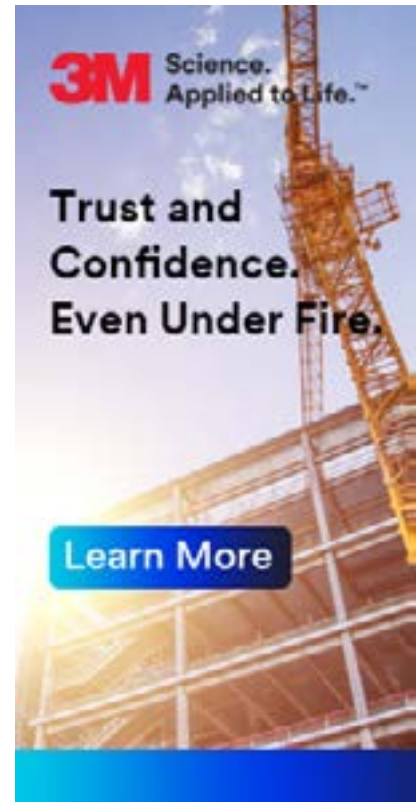
The program features four (4) levels of VIRTUAL and / or Face-to-Face education starting in 2021. Participants in the *FCIA Firestop Certificate of Achievement Program* take part in virtual education modules covering all aspects of the firestop industry, starting with the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#), continuing through Product and Systems Selection/Analysis, Estimating and Project Management, and ending with Preparation for the [FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#).

Each module culminates in a series of quizzes or exams. After passing the different level module assessments, participants are awarded a *FCIA Firestop Certificate of Achievement*.

**Firestop Level 1** is the entry-point module. Participants master content covering the elements of the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#) to lay the foundation for the next section.

The **Firestop Level 2** curriculum consists of 20+ modules on firestop products and tested and listed systems assemblies, plus product and systems selection and analysis, and more.

Covering key information for Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor Estimators and Project Managers and Firestop Special (cont'd page 2)



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## FCIA ANNOUNCES (cont'd)

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Inspection Agency personnel, **Firestop Level 3** programming provides an understanding about specifications, estimating considerations, systems analysis, installation processes, documentation, variances, and maintaining protection from start to finish.

Finally, the **Firestop Level 4** module brings key information to Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor personnel seeking DRI status and Firestop Special Inspection Agency inspectors who need to prove competence in firestopping to the AHJ.

After taking and passing the [FM or UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#), the person becomes a Level 4 *FCIA Firestop Certificate of Achievement* holder. When the Level 4 person is employed by a [FM 4991 Approved](#) or [UL-ULC Qualified](#) Specialty Firestop Installation Contractor, they can be appointed as a Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) by the firm. Inspectors can prove competence and be deemed Technically Competent by [IAS AC 291, Accreditation of Special Inspection Agency Companies](#).

FCIA's NEW *Firestop Certificate of Achievement Program* is built on decades of experience and [FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice \(MOP\)](#), the [Firestop Containment Worker Education Program \(FSCW\)](#), and [Life Safety Digest](#). The FCIA MOP has been the basis for the [FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#) from FM Approvals and UL-ULC since 2000 and 2006 for those seeking recognition worldwide.

Look for more information and program announcements at [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org).

## FCIA MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS UNDERWAY

FCIA has been passionately advocating for the firestop and fire-resistance industry, working to make it known that this industry is the best and safest option for the proper installation of fire and life safety firestopping.

As a result, membership renewals for '21 are running way ahead of past years – a sign that [FCIA Membership](#) has many benefits for members and is a great investment in the industry.

Membership renewals are due by January 31, 2021. If you have not renewed FCIA membership, contact Cathy at [cathy@FCIA.org](mailto:cathy@FCIA.org) now so you don't miss out on member benefits.



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## ECA '21 HEADING TO KANSAS CITY, MO AND A COMPUTER NEAR YOU

FCIA's [ECA '21](#), the [FCIA Education & Committee Action Hybrid Conference](#), heads to the [InterContinental Kansas City at the Plaza](#) this May 10-13, 2021. Featuring three-days of technical firestop and compartmentation education, the [FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#), the FCIA Contractor and Special Inspection Agency Members Only sessions, and networking opportunities means a great experience.

There is also an option to attend virtually for those who are unable to attend the event in-person.

The first in-person [Committee meetings](#) of the year also take place at FCI'S ECA. In light of continued concerns over COVID-19, discussions are taking place on the best way to host FCIA Committee meetings so that Committee members and other interested FCIA



**INFORM. ENGAGE. INSPIRE.**

members can participate in the discussions, regardless of how they attend [ECA '21](#). Look for more information in the coming weeks on how to participate in the [FCIA Committee](#) meetings.

Conference registration and hotel reservations will be opened soon. Stay tuned to your email and [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org) for updates.

**CALLING ALL  
FCIA MEMBERS!**

Do you have an Architect, Specifier, AHJ, or Facility Manager who you'd like to have a copy of the FCIA Firestop Manual of Practice?

**Contact us to find out how!**



**See article on page 5 for  
more information**

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## FM 4991 APPROVAL PROGRAM ANNOUNCES NEW CONTACTS

FCIA's [Accreditation Committee leadership](#) recently met with FM Approvals to discuss ways to continue to build value in the [FM 4991, Standard for the Approval of Firestop Contractors Accreditation Program](#). Among the topics of discussion were:

- The current status of the FM 4991 Approved Program;
  - Almost 100 Firms are now FM 4991 Approved. This is a big accomplishment - from zero Firms when the program started in 2000 to 100 FM 4991 Approved Contractor Firms in 2021.
- The current policy for FM 4991 Approved companies and DRIs whose status expired in 2020 or are set to expire in early 2021;
  - FM will be sending an announcement to DRI's

shortly with more information and some good news.

- Remote testing options;
  - A FM Online Firestop Exam is being researched.
- Future development of the program.
  - Future development of the program looks strong with new people filing in after Jeff Gould's retirement and the continuation of international discussions.

[FCIA's Accreditation Committee leaders](#) were pleased with the meeting and are looking forward to a great future.

FM Approvals also passed along the following new contact information for the FM 4991 Approved Contractor program.

For general and billing inquiries, contact [information@fmapprovals.com](mailto:information@fmapprovals.com).

For other more technical and FM 4991 program specific questions, contact Daniel Boardman at [daniel.boardman@fmapprovals.com](mailto:daniel.boardman@fmapprovals.com) or Joanna Blaney at [joanna.blaney@fmapprovals.com](mailto:joanna.blaney@fmapprovals.com).



'Firestopping & Standards - An In-Depth Look at the Multiple Ratings of Firestop Systems'

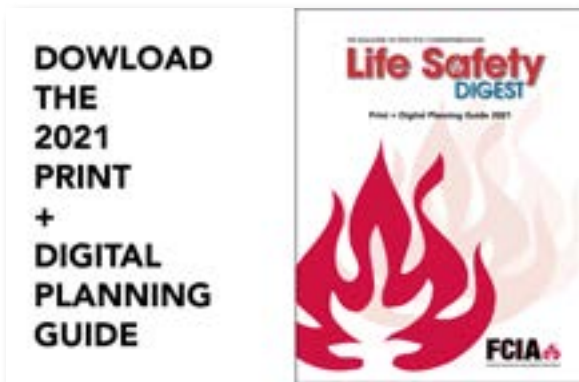
Tuesday, January 19  
10:00 am CST

[REGISTER TODAY](#)



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## NEW LIFE SAFETY DIGEST PRINT + DIGITAL PLANNING GUIDE COMING

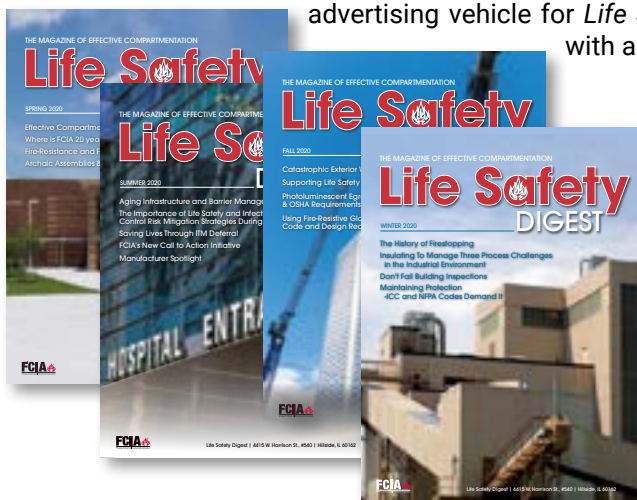


The 2021 [Life Safety Digest Print + Digital Planning Guide](#) is now available with all-new advertising opportunities in [Life Safety Digest](#) and at [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org).

Featuring a variety of advertising opportunities, including:

- Print advertising in *Life Safety Digest*
- Digital advertising in the online version of *Life Safety Digest*
- Digital advertising in the [FCIA E-Newsletter](#)
- Digital advertising at [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org)

*Life Safety Digest* has also moved to a new hosting platform for the online edition. This new format offers a much more engaging experience for *Life Safety Digest* readers and a more immersive advertising vehicle for *Life Safety Digest* advertisers. Support your product and company with an interactive ad to a captive and interested audience.



Thanks to the new [Life Safety Digest Print + Digital Planning Guide](#), there is an advertising option for every budget. Your ads will reach key target audiences through a focused distribution list that includes architects and specifiers, code officials and fire marshals, firestop & general contractors, and healthcare building owners, all hand-picked to get your message.

## FCIA CODE COMMITTEE ACTIVE

[FCIA's Code Committee](#) met to decide which code proposals to submit to the International Code Council's Code Development Process for the International Building Code.

FCIA's committee submitted proposals to 1) improve the firestop installation quality and 2) clarify joints and voids requirements to *'install in accordance with*

*the manufacturer's instructions and listing criteria'* (SYSTEMS). The Committee is also pursuing adding a requirement to identify the firestop system at the assembly.

Look for details as we get closer to [FCIA's ECA '21 Conference](#) in May.

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## FCIA MOP FREE FOR ARCHITECTS, SPECIFIERS, CODE OFFICIALS, FIRE MARSHALS, AND OTHERS

The [FCIA Firestop Manual of Practice \(MOP\)](#), currently in its 7th Edition, is the firestop industry's handbook of accepted firestop knowledge. It is used by Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors, Firestop Special Inspectors, Architects, Specifiers, Engineers, Fire Marshals, Code Officials, and others worldwide to learn about the industry. It's also a reference guide for firestop systems, firestop system selection, quality control, project management, inspection, and much more.

Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors and Special Inspection Agencies looking to pursue [third-party accreditation](#) purchase the [FCIA MOP](#) to prepare for the [FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#). Both assessment exams are based upon content in the [FCIA MOP](#), and the document is the recommended study guide.

As a service to the industry, FCIA offers the MOP FREE to:

- Architects and Specifiers with Design Firms
- Code Officials
- Fire Marshals
- Facility Directors at health care and educational facilities
- And others.

FCIA is happy to provide the resource guide to educate



those who are designing, specifying, inspecting, and maintaining protection of these critical fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant systems – so they understand what the rules are in firestopping.

**Do you know someone who should receive a FREE copy of the FCIA MOP that fits this description?** Email Cathy at [cathy@FCIA.org](mailto:cathy@FCIA.org) with contact info, and we'll get it out the door.

**CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS!**

FCIA is looking for firestop pictures.

Lots of good, bad, and yes, ugly.  
We are even looking for pictures of firestop activated on one side of the wall, protected, and the other side being a fire site.

Email to or contact [lindsey@FCIA.org](mailto:lindsey@FCIA.org) for more information about how to send multiple pictures.

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## FCIA '21 EDUCATIONAL WEBINAR SERIES SCHEDULE PUBLISHED

Since 2012, the [FCIA Educational Webinar Series](#) has provided free learning opportunities for thousands of people worldwide. Sessions in the series have covered topics like the 'DIIM' of Firestopping, Special Inspection for Firestopping, Barrier Management, Perimeter Fire-Containment, Firestopping & Standards, Fire-Dampers, Fire-Doors, and much more.

The monthly webinars are always FREE to attend. Attendees come away with an enhanced knowledge and understanding of the topics presented and can interact with experts during the Q&A session at the end of each program.

Last year, FCIA presented 12 free sessions to the public, as well as three (3) Contractor and Special Inspection

Agency Members Only sessions. Thousands of people have benefitted from these programs, and FCIA has even more planned for '21.

The first session in the [FCIA Educational Webinar Series '21](#) is Tuesday, January 19 at 10:00 am CST. The session, ['Firestopping & Standards – An In-Depth Look at the Multiple Ratings of Firestop Systems'](#), looks at the intricate details of firestop system ratings evaluated in accordance with ASTM E 814 and UL 1479, ASTM E 1966, UL 2079, ASTM E 2307, ASTM E 2837, and other standards.

To register for this session and to learn more, visit [www.fcia.org/fcia-educational-webinar-series/](http://www.fcia.org/fcia-educational-webinar-series/).

## FCIA WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

FCIA works hard to spread the word of the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#) around the world, encouraging all interested Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors, Special Inspection Agencies, Associates, Manufacturers, and more to become involved to grow the industry's call for better fire and life safety.

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

- D9 Contractors - Pasco, WA

### FCIA New Associate Branch Members

- Warrington Fire - Doha, Qatar

**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](http://www.FCIA.org). Questions? Email [cathy@fcia.org](mailto:cathy@fcia.org) and we'll fill you in.



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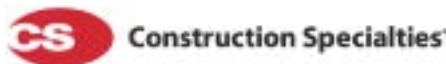
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