



## Upcoming Events

March 13-17	International Fire Operations Conference & Exhibition (IFOC)
March 15	FCIA Members Only Test Prep Webinar
March 16	FCIA Webinar
March 15-17	ABC Annual Convention
March 27- April 6	ICC Code Hearings
March 28-31	AGC Annual Convention

## FCIA'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FCIA's [2022 Board of Directors](#) met this January to look back at '21 and to plan for '22 and beyond. You are seeing their results – the new [FCIA Certificate of Achievement Education Program \(FCAEP\)](#), the eLearning System that supports it, and our productive international discussions too. And, we're happy to report that FCIA, as an Association, stayed healthy and grew through the pandemic, with an outlook for another great year.

In fact, FCIA's Boards – both past and current – have been integral to the development of the firestop industry.

Some of the things FCIA Boards have done to influence the industry:

- Development of the 'DIIM' of Firestopping philosophy;
- Collaborated with FM and UL to build the [FM 4991](#) and [UL-ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs](#);
- Conceptualized and assembled two Firestop inspection Standards, then was the proponent to add them to the IBC,

NFPA 1, NFPA 101/5000 Annex, and the International Fire Code. The addition of the Firestop Inspection Standards in the IFC communicates to building owners to maintain protection through the annual visual inspection and inventory requirements.

As a result of all this important work, Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors can be found providing services on projects now more than ever.

Thanks to FCIA's Boards for working as a team to develop the concepts and sticking to a strategy for the long haul. This perseverance has resulted in safer buildings around the world through properly 'D'esigned, 'I'nstalled, 'I'nspected, and 'M'aintained firestopping and effective compartmentation. When you see Board members – past and present – at FCIA's Conferences and Symposiums, thank them for their service. They all give back to the industry in countless ways.



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## FCIA FIRESTOP CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The [FCIA eLearning platform](#) is up and running with FCIA's [Firestop Level 1 and Level 2 Certificate Programs](#). Specialty Firestop Installation Contractors are using the FCIA Certificate of Achievement to train their staff – Field Supervisors, Project Managers, Estimators, Office Staff, and more. Special Inspection Agencies use it to prove competence and educate their Inspectors.

With a total of 35 hours of content through education, quizzes, and exams in the Firestop Levels 1 and Level 2 Programs combined, companies and individuals can use the FCIA Certificate of Achievement to set themselves apart in the industry.

Learn the FCIA's 'DIIM' in the 6.5-hour [Firestop Level 1 Program](#),

and receive a FCIA Level 1 Certificate of Achievement. Then, dive deep into every firestop product and the associated systems in the 28.5-hour [Firestop Level 2 Program](#).

Use the FCIA's FCAEP to set your company apart from the competition – by investing in people.

FCIA Members get a big discount with an UNLIMITED Annual Subscription to the Firestop FCAEP Package. Whether educating 3 or 300, each company location can buy an unlimited package and save.

Visit [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org) to buy the program today.

## FCIA AT ASTM

FCIA participates at ASTM's E06 Standards Development Process to bring the field input to ASTM.

This Spring, there will be discussion on a new ASTM Standard for Inspecting Boards and Wraps used for protecting ductwork, ASTM E2174, Standard Practice for the On-Site Inspection of Penetration Firestop Systems, and ASTM E2393, Standard Practice for the On-Site Inspection of Fire-Resistive Joint Systems and Perimeter Fire Barriers. Additionally, there is discussion on: ASTM Standards for Movement of penetrating items or the assembly it penetrates, or both; ASTM Standards for firestop exposure; and, a lot more.

FCIA Standards Committee Member Jay McGuire and Bill McHugh attend this important program.

## FCIA AT THE ICC CODE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The International Building Code Administrative and Structural Chapters are to be debated at ICC's Committee Action Hearings in Rochester, NY in late March/early April. At the Fire Code Action Committee, there have been some very interesting discussions dealing with alternative methods on the 104 Section of the Building Code. In fact, the whole section seems to be under edits, and a big debate will take place in Rochester. Stream it live from [www.ICCsafe.org](http://www.ICCsafe.org) March 27-April 6.



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## FIRESTOP & BARRIER MANAGEMENT SERVICES CONTRACTORS

Did you know FCIA's website has a section that provides the opportunity to showcase your other services – Firestopping, Annual Fire Door Inspections, Damper Testing, Surveys of Fire-Resistance-Rated and Smoke-Resistive Assemblies - aka Barrier Management Services in existing buildings? We get calls from building owners and managers all the time about this important service.

It's the [Barrier Management Services](#) section of the Member List at [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org). FCIA Member Firestop Contractors get listed in the [Firestop Systems Section](#) FREE. Add a listing for other services to your already valuable FCIA Membership and get exposure for ALL the services you provide.

## BARRIER MANAGEMENT SYMPOSIUM

The FCIA teamed up with ASHE, The Joint Commission, and UL to organize the [Barrier Management Symposium](#).

Looking to find a Symposium? Want to educate your staff about fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistive assemblies, fire test standards, fire doors, fire dampers, firestopping, fire-rated glazing, and how to maintain fire-resistance protection in new and existing buildings?

Check out the [Barrier Management Symposium Video Series](#) at [www.FCIA.org](http://www.FCIA.org). There's some great info for your company, for you to share with facility directors, and much more.

## FCIA'S LIFE SAFETY DIGEST



[Life Safety Digest, the Magazine of Effective Compartmentation](#), is a quarterly publication covering fire-resistance rated and smoke-resistive assemblies. The magazine provides a platform for the proper 'Design, Installation, Inspection, and Maintenance of protection of effective compartmentation and structural fire-resistance in all types buildings – both

new and existing.

The [Life Safety Digest](#) audience includes Specifiers, Architects, Engineers, Code Officials and Fire Marshals, General Contractors, Firestop Contractors, Health Care and other Facility Directors in the US, Canada, and worldwide. Our readers tell us that they circulate the magazine widely after reading it.

There are [Life Safety Digest](#) readers in your area that can buy your products or services. Consider an ad in [Life Safety Digest](#) to reach these potential customers. It's priced right and has a local, regional, national, and international reach. Check out the [Print + Digital Planning Guide](#), then contact [Cathy@FCIA.org](mailto:Cathy@FCIA.org) to secure your spot in the next issue.



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## FCIA'S ECA '22

Registration is open for [ECA '22](#), the [FCIA Education & Committee Action Hybrid Conference](#).

We're heading to Music City - **Nashville, TN** - this **May 17-20, 2022**, and we're pulling out all the stops. Here you'll find everything firestop - from the hybrid [FCIA Committee Action sessions](#) to the [FM & UL-ULC Firestop Exams](#), fun networking receptions to a [dynamite technical agenda](#). ECA '22 has it all.

- 'Motivating Today's Workforce' with Katerina Tate (Diversity Builder, Inc.) - **KEYNOTE SESSION**
- 'How Firestopping and Barriers in Existing Buildings Are Inspected - The Fire Marshal's Perspective' with the TN State Fire Marshal's Office
- 'Economic Update' with Mike Ribich (Merrill Lynch)
- 'Legal Bombs: Key Provisions in Contracts that Every

Contractor Needs to Understand' with C. Leanne Prybylski (HPSS)

- 'Fire Safety: It's Not Just for New Buildings Anymore' with Dennis Hall (Hall, AEC PA)
- 'Passive Fire Protection Requires an Active Role' with Dwayne Garriss
- 'Tennessee Healthcare Fire-Resistance & ASHE Update' with Shay Rankhorn (2022 ASHE President)
- 'Firestopping - An In-Depth Study of the UL 1479 & ASTM E814 'Ancillary' Standards' with Rich Walke (CTI)
- and more!

Registration is Now Open.

DON'T WASTE ANOTHER MINUTE.



[Sheraton Grand  
Nashville Downtown](#)

\$259 USD/night\*

[BOOK ONLINE](#) or call 615-259-2000 and mention 'FCIA' to get the FCIA group discount. Rooms will sell out fast. Make your reservation today!

## FCIA'S FIRESTOP MANUAL OF PRACTICE (MOP)

Did you know that [FCIA's MOP](#) is offered FREE to Code Officials, Fire Marshals, Specifiers with design firms or in independent practice? FCIA sends a FREE PDF copy of the MOP when requested.

Firestop Contractors, Special Inspection Agencies, Manufacturers, Associates: do you have someone that qualifies and you want to get a MOP for?

[Email us](#) their contact info, and we'll send them a free MOP, and mention you in the intro communication.



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## FREE CODES & STANDARDS

**W**ant to check out a standard and not have to buy it? The FCIA office regularly fields requests for copies of the Standards and/or Codes. Due to copyright restrictions, we cannot provide these publications to our Members, as we'd like to.

A new service has been introduced by ASTM, The International Code Council, and NFPA, who are offering codes FREE to the public on their websites.

For ICC, visit <https://codes.iccsafe.org/codes> and select the required Code. Choose the 'View as Basic' option to bring up a view-only copy of the Code.

For NFPA, find free access to the Standards at <https://www.nfpa.org/Codes-and-Standards/All-Codes-and-Standards/Free-access>. Click the Standard needed from the list of Standards, and select "Free Access" to view the document.

At ASTM, users can visit <https://www.astm.org/products-services/reading-room.html>, which provides an area to get to view and read ASTM Standards.

**NOTE:** In all cases, the documents are locked so that 'copy/paste' is not possible. Additionally, the available view-only Standard or Code might not be the most current. Most of the code publishers now have a monthly subscription that's very inexpensive and able to be cancelled at any time.

## ICC'S BUILDING SAFETY MONTH

**T**he theme for the [International Code Council's 42nd annual Building Safety Month](#) this May is "Safety for All: Building Codes in Action".

The weekly themes for Building Safety Month 2022 are:

- Week One (May 1-8): "Planning for a Safe & Sustainable

Tomorrow"

- Week Two (May 9-15): "Exploring Careers in Building Safety"
- Week Three (May 16-22) "Understanding Disaster Mitigation"
- Week Four (May 23-31) "Creating a Safe & Abundant Water Supply"



'Fire-Resistive Continuity Head-of-Wall Joint Systems'

Wednesday, March 16  
10:00 am - 11:00 am CDT

[REGISTER TODAY](#)





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## HIGH PROFILE FIRES IN '22 CAUSE CONCERN

**N**FPA reported in a [recent blog post](#) that fires continue to make headlines in January.

- Three firefighters were killed in West Baltimore, MD.
- Another firefighter in St. Louis was killed when a roof collapsed while they were fighting an interior fire.
- In Rancho Palos Verde, another entrapment and death.

Add to these numbers the recent apartment fire in Brooklyn, NY and the multifamily residence fire in Philadelphia, PA, and the effects on the many families and others who rely on buildings to keep them safe is incalculable.

There is no single answer, no one solution versus another, to solve the problem of how to make buildings safer for their occupants.

- Is it better design, installation, inspection, and maintenance of sprinklers? Yes.
- Quicker detection and alarms? Yes.
- Fire-resistance rated walls, horizontal assemblies including

firestopping, fire dampers, fire doors and fire-rated glazing? Yes.

- Occupant education through fire drills and other means? Yes.
- Obvious and intuitive egress systems? Yes.

All these things are required to work together to make buildings safe, to protect life and property. Remember that next time you read the news and someone states, 'But the building did not have a sprinkler system.' There is no ONE solution to safer buildings.

We at FCIA support the use of Fire Sprinkler Systems in buildings and believe that the combination of all the above makes for a safe building.

Read the NFPA blog post here: <https://www.nfpa.org/News-and-Research/Publications-and-media/Blogs-Landing-Page/NFPA-Today/Blog-Posts/2022/01/25/Not-even-four-weeks-into-the-new-year-number-of-high-profile-fires-and-firefighter-deaths>

## BATTERY STORAGE SYSTEMS STANDARD

**I**n 2020, [NFPA 855](#), *Standard for the Installation of Energy Storage Systems*, was introduced. Research is being conducted about battery storage in buildings. This research covers mass storage for commercial, industrial, or institutional purposes, as well as electric cars.

With their recent rise in popularity, more and more we see electric cars parked in residential garages – our homes – with a 1-hour rated wall (maybe) separating the house from the garage. Parking garages might have multiple electric vehicles parked in the garage.

What happens if one (or more) vehicles catches fire due to battery issue? Is this fire the same as a car fire? Certainly, the fuel package now has an added risk – batteries plus the car's normal fuel load. With all the plastics being used in cars today, that fuel load has increased over the years.

We know that research is ongoing at NFPA, UL and other organizations. It is something that needs further study...which we'll monitor. Watch for more on this topic in the future.



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## FCIA & LIFE SAFETY DIGEST MAKING ROUNDS

FCIA's [Marketing Committee](#) is back at it, working hard to put FCIA Members and *Life Safety Digest* in trade shows around the world. This gives FCIA an opportunity to spread the word of the 'DIIM' of [Firestopping](#) & Effective Compartmentation to interested professionals worldwide.

### IFMA Facility Fusion Returns & *Life Safety Digest* Will Be There

With sweeping changes in work and workplace, it's imperative for facility management professionals to lead their organizations to higher levels of performance and experience.

Hosted by the association that has provided training, knowledge sharing and support to FMs globally for more than 40 years, [IFMA's Facility Fusion](#) is about building future-ready leadership skills. It's about exploring what's



possible – for our facilities, industry and careers. It's about synthesizing ideas and industries for a new world of work. It's about fusing methods and mindsets from both within and outside of FM to find answers. It's about having the tools to adapt to rapid change.

Grab your copy of *Life Safety Digest* while there!

Learn more about IFMA Facility Fusion at [www.facilityfusion.ifma.org/](http://www.facilityfusion.ifma.org/).

And More...Look for FCIA and *Life Safety Digest* at these other industry events around the world: [International Fire Operations Conference & Exhibition \(IFOC\)](#), March 13-17, Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; [IFMA Facility Fusion](#), April 26-28, Austin, TX; [NFPA Annual Conference](#), June 6-9, Boston, MA; [AIA Conference on Architecture](#), June 23-25, Chicago, IL; [BOMA International Conference](#), June 26-28, Nashville, TN; [ASHE Annual Conference](#), July 17-20, Boston, MA; NASFM Fire Prevention & Safety Symposium, August 1-3, New Orleans, LA; ICC Building Safety & Design Expo, September 11-13, Louisville, KY; [CHES/IFHE Annual Conference](#), September 18-20, Toronto, ON; and IFMA World Workplace, September 28-30, Nashville, TN.

## 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 Branch Members

- Alpha Insulation & Waterproofing, Inc. - Denver, CO
- Alpha Insulation & Waterproofing, Inc. - Phoenix, AZ
- Alpha Insulation & Waterproofing, Inc. - San Antonio, TX

### FCIA New Associate Members

- WM Engineering Services, LLC - Hagatna, Guam

**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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