



FCIA e-News

Volume 17, Issue 3



5 Weeks to FCIA's Education and Committee Action Conference



INFORM. ENGAGE. INSPIRE.

So, have plans yet for May 5-8? No?

Well then, make your way to Dallas for [FCIA's Education and Committee Action Conference - ECA 2015!](#) Why?

- **INFORM** - Hear from the experts, great speakers, reporting on a variety of key topics of interest, such as:
 - ICC Code Hearings with Bill Koffel - Did Firestop Contractor Programs get into Code?;
 - Sealant Joint Design with Kami Farahmandpour - How does Joint Design work with Firestopping?;
 - Healthcare Organization Accreditation with Kelly Proctor from DNV Healthcare, one of North America's providers;
 - The National Association of State Fire Marshals initiatives with Executive Director, Jim Narva;
 - Special Inspection & Special Inspection Agency, Special Inspector Qualifications;
 - Bob Hasting & TEA Committee on what's next for Firestop Containment Workers;
 - Leadership with Jonathan Flannery;
 - And so much more!

- **ENGAGE** - Are you a difference-maker? Then take involvement in FCIA to the next level, and put your vision to the test - Join a Committee! Hear from the various Committees about



their initiatives and action plans, choose the one(s) best suited to your talents and then help to shape the future of the Firestopping and Effective Compartmentation industry! Be the difference you want to see made!

- **INSPIRE** - [Experience Downtown Dallas](#), a city that offers true Southern hospitality combined with four- and five-star/diamond hotels and restaurants, local flavor combined with big city sophistication, and a colorful history that includes the invention of the frozen margarita machine, the city where Bonnie met Clyde and the home to the tallest cowboy in Texas - Big Tex. Who wouldn't want to see all that and more?



FCIA EDUCATION AND COMMITTEE ACTION CONFERENCE 2015



ICC Code Proposals



On April 17, FCIA and Code Consultant, Bill Koffel, head to Memphis for [ICC's Code Development Hearings](#). There's a lot going on. *FCIA has submitted proposals for several topics: FM 4991 Approved or UL Qualified Firestop Contractors, Marking Systems (labelling), and much more.* Bill Koffel,

of Koffel Associates, always keeps a keen eye open to things that can happen during these hearings as well.

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While there, FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, will serve on the Fire Safety Committee at ICC as part of the Panel that judges the proposals as they are heard. Want to see it live? Stream it through [cdpACCESS](http://www.cdpACCESS.org) at www.ICCSAFE.org during the week of April 18-22.

Concurrent to this, we're getting ready for [NFPA's Code Development Cycle](#), which is set to kick off in July.

FCIA at ASTM



ASTM launches its Spring Committee Week in Anaheim, CA right after ICC's Code Hearings. FCIA's Standards Chair, Eric Keeton, along with Bill McHugh and others, participate in this one - a two day discussion of various standards such as [ASTM E 2174](#) and [ASTM E 2393](#), plus a look at the features of [ASTM E 814](#), for example movement, etc. More on this reported at the [FCIA's ECA 2015 Conference](#) and in the May/June Enewsletter.

So What's the Story About Special Inspection as Related to Firestopping?



Firestop Special Inspections were introduced to the [International Building Code \(IBC\)](#) by FCIA in the 2005 Code Development Cycle. Over three cycles, FCIA - assisted by our Code consultant, Koffel Associates - worked to get the [ASTM E2174](#) and [ASTM E2393](#) Standards into the IBC's Chapter 17. The FCIA Standards Committee worked with IAS to develop a section on firestopping at [IAS AC 291's Special Inspection Agency Accreditation Criteria](#) hearings in 2008.

The IBC's Chapter 17 requires that the Building Code Official, or Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), approve the special inspection company AND the special inspector. The AHJ can approve a special inspection agency company that is a sole proprietor, Sub S or C-Corporation, LLC, or other entity. Even if the inspection agency is a one person sole proprietor, it's still an entity that can be approved.

Then, the AHJ needs to verify that the special inspector has the competency, relevant knowledge and experience on similarly scoped projects before approving the individual



person as a special inspector. But how does the special inspector prove competency? One way is through taking - and **PASSING** - the [FM or UL/ULC Firestop Exam](#). It's the only 3rd party exam available today that is **NOT affiliated with a manufacturer or contractor association**. It compliments

what may come soon from ICC's Certification Dept.



As an AHJ, request that the special inspector pass the [FM or UL/ULC Firestop Exam](#) to be authorized to perform firestop special inspections. And, ask for an [IAS AC 291 Accredited Company](#) as the Special Inspection Agency. Though not required, it IS a best practice and provides the AHJ with quantifiable qualification that the Special Inspection Agency has the equipment, experience and expertise to supervise inspectors employed by the company.

2015 Educational Webinar Series April Webinar Announced



FCIA's April webinar, "[Special Inspection for Firestopping - Required By the International Building Code?](#)", will take a focused look at what is required by the International Building Code (IBC) for Special Inspection as it relates to Firestopping.

Attend this session **April 16, 10:00AM - 12:00PM CST** to learn what Special Inspection for Firestopping is comprised of, if it is required by the IBC, how to specify it and why it's important.

Two Weeks to Register for April Barrier Management Symposium



FCIA's partnership with the American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE), UL, and The Joint Commission (TJC) has resulted in successful [Barrier Management](#)

[Symposiums](#) in 4 different locations in 2014. The first

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program for 2015 will be held [April 14-15 in ASHE Region 6](#) at The Kahler Hotel in Rochester, MN.

Don't miss out on this chance to see how understanding the way that fire and smoke barriers are Designed, Installed, Inspected and Maintained -[the 'DIIM' of Firestopping](#) - results in safer healthcare structures and saves money for facilities.

Register Today!

FCIA Manual of Practice, 6th Edition Almost Ready for Release



The [FCIA Manual of Practice, 5th Edition \(MOP\)](#) is a living document. As the codes and standards change, as installation and technology changes, so too does the MOP.

2014 saw the massive update to the FCIA Firestop MOP Chapter 3. Existing content was rewritten and expanded from 50 pages to almost 600 pages. For 2015, more updates to the MOP are planned. With the release of the [MOP, 6th Edition](#), Chapters 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 - the appendix, have been updated. Look for distribution to start in mid-April for those who already have a hard copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice.

If you have an older MOP and did not receive your Chapter 3 update, OR if you would like to order a 6th Edition FCIA MOP, please contact lindsey@fcia.org.

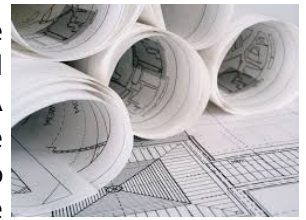


FREE MOP Gaining Traction Worldwide

Over the past year, FREE requests for PDF's of [FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice](#) have been sent near and far to interested, qualified parties like Building Code Officials, Fire Marshals, Architects and Specifiers. Places like the NY State Fire Academy, Abu Dhabi's Department of Municipal Affairs, major cities and jurisdictions large and small all have received the FREE pdf document as a service to the industry from all FCIA Members through the association.

Major architectural firms and AHJ's across North America

and the Middle East have used the MOP for Firestop technical and specification information. FCIA continues to spread the word of the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#) to those who design, specify and approve Firestop systems and those who inspect these systems.



[FCIA's main goal](#) is to build knowledge of the importance of this fire and life safety service, called Firestopping. We believe through education about what's required to install Firestopping to the tested and listed systems, that widespread acceptance of using Specialty Firestop Contractors and Special Inspectors employed by an accredited Special Inspection Agency will make a big difference in safety.

Firestop Containment Worker Education Programs Flying Off the Shelves

FCIA announced the release of their [Firestop Containment Worker Education Program](#) at the Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show in Naples, FL. The program consists of two elements: the Firestop Containment Worker Fieldworker Manual (FSCW-M) and the Firestop Containment Worker Instructor Edition (FSCW-IE).



If you've ever wanted to train your workforce from the ground up, to provide an ongoing company-wide education program covering the what - why - how of Firestopping, the [FCIA Firestop Containment Worker Education Program](#) is for you.

Sold on its own as the Fieldworker Manual, to date, the [FCIA Firestop Containment Worker Education Manual \(FSCW-M\)](#) has been a big success. We've already gone through the initial printing of manuals and have just replenished stock.

There has also been a great reception for the [FSCW-IE Instructor Program](#). This program is the complete set-up needed to establish and administer an in-house training program, **complete with a copy of the FSCW-M, an instructional video DVD with hours of step by step, generic videos showing firestop installations, 22 instruction guides, 22 PowerPoint presentations, 22 chapter quizzes, instructor notes...**there's a lot! Plus, as a living program,

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FCIA Member purchasers can look forward to receiving updates and any additional program tools as they are released. Office or field personnel, this program can be received by all audiences.

Didn't get manuals for your staff yet? [Contact FCIA's office](#) today to get the ball rolling.

FCIA Symposium Dates Confirmed

One of the [founding principles of FCIA](#) is a commitment to education. To that end, [FCIA hosts Conferences and Symposiums](#) all around the world for FCIA Members, AHJ's, Specifiers, Building Code Officials and others. These events always enjoy great support and participation from our following.

Keeping the commitment to education alive, FCIA will return to Ottawa, ON and the Middle East for a series of Symposiums later this year.

Join FCIA in **Ottawa, Ontario, September 9-11** for [FM and UL/ULC Firestop Exams](#), FCIA Education, Industry Education and a tour of the [National Research Council of Canada's \(NRC\) full-scale test Facility in Almonte, Ontario](#). *There are only two of these size facilities in the world: China and Almonte.* You don't want to miss this exciting opportunity to see this awe-inspiring operation.



Test being conducted in one of the facilities in the Burn Hall



FCIA will return to the **Middle East in October** as

well for two Symposiums (**Doha and Abu Dhabi**), another round of the [FM and UL/ULC Firestop Exams](#), FCIA Education and Industry Education and networking **during the weeks of October 11-15 and 18-22.**



Keep an eye on www.FCIA.org and your inbox for more details and announcements.

FCIA brings FM and UL Firestop Exams to UAE in April

FCIA returned to Abu Dhabi April 1-2 to bring the [FM and UL Firestop Exams](#) back to the region. During the short

trip to the UAE, FCIA provided a great education session for the [FM and UL Firestop Exams](#) at the Beach Rotana Hotel in Abu Dhabi.



APPROVED
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Underwriters
Laboratories

Qualified Firestop
Contractor Program



Underwriters'
Laboratories of Canada
Laboratoires des Assurances du Canada

Qualified Firestop
Contracting Program



ACCREDITED

The [FM 4991 Standard for the Approval of Firestop Contractors](#) and the [UL/ULC Qualified Contractor Programs](#) provide a 3rd party standard of qualification for Firestop Contractors worldwide. This designation allows accredited firms to stand out by demonstrating a thorough understanding of industry knowledge, a company-wide culture of high-quality installation processes that have been audit tested and a commitment to continued education for their company personnel, potential clients and AHJs. This third-party objectivity is what allows these programs to be sought-after and respected, and is one of the major reasons why specifications continue to grow for [FM 4991 & UL Qualified Firestop Contractors](#), in addition to ASTM E 2174/2393 Firestop Inspection by [IAS AC 291 Special Inspection Agency Companies](#) worldwide.

With 14 people taking the [FM or UL Firestop Exams](#) on April 2, FCIA continues to work with FM & UL to build a credible, 3rd party way for individuals and companies to set themselves apart.



FCIA at GCC Fire Safe Congress



FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, presented to Congress attendees at the [Gulf Coordinating Council's \(GCC\) Fire Safe Congress](#) March 30th in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates. The program, which focused on the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#), had all parts of the story represented (Design, Install, Inspect, Maintain/Manage) and was well-attended.

While at the conference, FCIA met with the Department of Civil Defense, the Department of Municipal Affairs and many other FCIA Members and Friends in the UAE.

We are always welcomed warmly to this very dynamic and growing region of the world.



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FCIA Welcomes New Members

FCIA welcomes new members, and we thank them for their support. Thank you to all current members, as well, for helping to build FCIA and the firestopping industry.

FCIA New Contractor Members

- Firestop Technologies, Inc. - Victor, NY

FCIA New Associate Members

- Certified Life Safety Services - Bolingbrook IL
- General Insulation Company - Medford, MA



Manufacturer members, there's a new benefit available. The [Member List](#) section of www.FCIA.org now contains your [corporate listing](#) with the USA Contacts listed.

To find local, worldwide contacts in Canada, Middle East, India and other parts of the world, website visitors only see the home office in the USA.

Make it easier to be found worldwide with a '[Branch Listing](#)' at www.FCIA.org. Questions? Email cathy@fcia.org and we'll fill you in.

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