



FCIA e-News

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FCIA Hosts Successful Education and Committee Action Conference



Fresh off the plane from Dallas, TX, FCIA is still riding the high from another [Education and Committee Action Conference - ECA 2015](#).

INFORM. ENGAGE. INSPIRE.

Held at The Adolphus Hotel in Dallas, TX., Conference attendees were able to take the [FM and/or UL/ULC Firestop Exams](#), as well as attend the FCIA Test Prep and Quality Management System education sessions. Registrants were also exposed to a dynamo lineup of engaging speakers covering a wide-range of topics, including:

- **Richard Branch**, Dodge Data and Analytics, covered the US and Canada construction economic conditions and a forecast;
- FCIA's 'How Codes Get Adopted Locally - It's Not As Easy As It Looks' panel, which was comprised of six **North Texas Council of Building Code Officials**, brought the view of implementing the code from their perspective, with a focus on ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Special Inspections;
- The National Association of State Fire Marshals Executive Director **Jim Narva** covered initiatives including the new Project Fail Safe, a research project that looks at full building fire tests to determine building resiliency;
- A Barrier Management Session on Fire and Smoke Dampers by Greenheck's **Marc Sorge**, covered the interface of dampers and firestopping in great detail;



- UL's **Luke Woods** challenged the group to look at testing and actual usage of firestop systems in the field for Membrane Penetrations;
- And, [FCIA's Program Committee](#) added two new Leadership sessions! **Jonathan Flannery**, ASHE's Director of Advocacy covered the 'Helotropic' Effect of Leadership while and **Jeff Colwell** of Dale Carnegie Institute brought a program on 'Generations'.



[FCIA Committees](#) also held their first Committee meetings of the year. The round-table format was especially



productive this year as the various Committees were able to welcome new members and hear ideas and inspirations from

all.

The room (and the halls) were definitely buzzing about what a comprehensive and stellar event this was! Plus, with private tastings with Deep Ellum Brewery and Tito's Vodka, and the best Spouse Tour offered yet, this Conference truly **HAD IT ALL!**

Curious about what you missed? Interested in the presentations you attended? **FCIA Members can check-out the presentations from ECA 2015 in the [Members Only](#) section at www.FCIA.org.**

Be sure to join FCIA **November 2-5** at [The Talking Stick Resort and Casino](#) in **Scottsdale, AZ** for the [Firestop](#)

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[Industry Conference & Trade Show - FIC 2015!](#) Look for Registration information to be released in the next few weeks.

FCIA at ICC Code Hearings



FCIA's Code Consultant, Bill Koffel, and FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, plus a host of industry friends, travelled to Memphis to participate at the [ICC's Committee Action Hearings \(CAH\)](#). The CAH span 9 days, and is filled with the various committees hearing proposals from 8am to 7 pm each

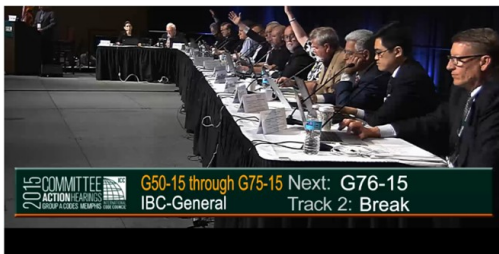
day. After the CAH, the results are posted and a round of Public Comments are sought on each proposed change that either was **APPROVED** or **DISAPPROVED** by a balanced Committee of both industry and governmental officials.

Then, in conjunction with the [ICC Annual Conference and Expo](#), the **ICC Public Comment Hearings (PCH)** are conducted. At this round of hearings, any public comments made to APPROVED or DISAPPROVED proposals are heard by an assembly of Building Code Officials and Fire Marshals. At this stage, only the governmental members vote.

If no public comment was submitted on an APPROVED or DISAPPROVED proposal, then the results of the committee vote stands and it becomes part of the consent agenda. Finally, the PCH Results are posted and the new edition of the [ICC Codes](#) are published.

Bill McHugh was appointed by [ICC's Board of Directors](#) to serve with 14 others on the **ICC's Fire Safety Committee** during the CAH process. The Committee heard 3 days of proposals and worked well as a group with many '13-0' scores.

Our hats are off to all those who volunteered on committees and the audience who participated as well.



FCIA Submits ICC Code Development Proposals

The FCIA had several proposals up for consideration at the CAH in Memphis, and the proposals fared well. FCIA's proposals to delete prescriptive language from the Joints section, 715, and add similar language in 715 Penetrations passed at the committee level; however, our proposal for requiring labeling on walls with the system number on it failed. We had great support from a large university who basically praised the [FM 4991 Approved](#) and [UL Qualified Firestop Contractors](#) that worked on their buildings and the importance of labels and proper labeling.



A proposal from **Anthony Apfelbeck**, a Building Code Official in FL, to expand the scope of [Special Inspection in Chapter 17 of the IBC](#) failed. The committee felt the expanded scope covered too many occupancies, but the nice thing to see about this was that a Building Code Official believed the scope should increase. There were quite a few other proposals of interest, including the inclusion of a requirement for contractors accredited by organizations who conform to ISO Standards.

Regarding other fire-related proposals, the International Firestop Council's (IFC) proposal was successful adding exterior fire exposure to the spandrel panel areas of buildings that require perimeter fire containment systems. Additionally, proposals to add the new ASTM E 2816 for duct wraps was defeated, as was the new standard for head of wall joint assemblies, ASTM E 2837.

While talking to friends at the hearings, we had a great compliment on the FCIA Magazine, [Life Safety Digest](#).

"We pass around the magazine in our jurisdiction to all the inspectors. It really is the passive fire protection journal with good educational articles worth reading."



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For a full report on the ICC Code Development Hearings, check out the presentation from Bill Koffel, Koffel Associates, from FCIA's ECA 2015 in the [Members Only](#) area and a special report in the upcoming issue of [Life Safety Digest](#).

FCIA Hosts Successful Barrier Management Symposium



April brought the successful [Barrier Management Symposium](#) to Rochester, MN.

The program, hosted by FCIA,

The Joint Commission, UL and ASHE had over 150 in attendance, with the bulk of attendees as Healthcare Facility Engineers. FCIA was represented by Don Murphy (Marketing Committee Chair), Gary Hamilton (President) and Mark Dietz (Treasurer) who were on-hand to help answer questions about the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#).

FCIA also welcomed the rest of the BMS Faculty including those from the Fire Rated Gypsum Wall industry, Fire and Smoke Dampers, Fire Rated Glazing, Fire Rated Swinging Doors and Builders Hardware along with Firestopping. The program also had great sessions from Anne Guglielmo, The Joint Commission, ASHE's Jonathan Flannery, Rich Walke from UL and Bill Koffel, Koffel Assoc., representing FCIA.



Barrier Management Symposium Coming to Indianapolis

After the April [Barrier Management Symposium](#) in Rochester, MN, FCIA's Bill McHugh and ASHE's Jonathan Flannery went to work confirming locations for two more BMS programs this year. This work has resulted in the



confirmation of the [Indianapolis Symposium](#), July 27-28, 2015, hosted by ISHE and ASHE Region 5.

Watch the [Barrier Management Symposium](#) page at www.FCIA.org for more information on the fall Symposium(s) as well.

FCIA, On the Road Again...



How does FCIA get the word out about building Firestopping to the tested and listed system so it works when called upon by fire? By being everywhere, present at every Conference and Expo educating for every stage of the design-build process.

Now that the [FCIA Education and Committee Action Conference - ECA 2015](#) - has wrapped up,

FCIA's [Marketing Committee](#) is hitting the road to bring the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#) to improve the reliability of installed Firestop Systems to **Architects in the US and Canada** this month.

For the first time ever, FCIA exhibited at the [AIA Convention](#) in Atlanta. This



Annual Convention allowed FCIA to speak directly to Architects, stressing the importance of requiring [FM 4991 Approved](#) and [UL Qualified Contractors](#), focusing on designing with the DIIM, including [ASTM E 2174](#) and [ASTM E 2393](#) in Specifications. FCIA also participated in the [Expo Chat](#) program, which brought people to the booth to learn about FCIA and Firestopping to earn Learning Units.



Next, FCIA will travel to Canada to present to the [Royal Architects Institute of Canada \(RAIC\)](#) and [Construction Specifications Canada \(CSC\)](#) Conventions. With



Presentations at RAIC and CSC, we get to communicate the [FM 4991 Approved & UL Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs](#), [ASTM E 2174](#) & [ASTM E 2393 Firestop Inspection Standards](#) - performed by [IAS AC 291 Accredited Special](#)

[Inspection Agencies](#) and Special Inspectors who have passed the [FM or UL Firestop Exams](#), as well as educate about the importance of Barrier Management.

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Then, in June FCIA will be represented at a booth and with Publication Bins for [Life Safety Digest](#) at the [NFPA Conference and Exposition](#) in Chicago, June 22-25.



July brings a visit to **Boston, MA** and the [ASHE Annual Conference & Technical Exhibition](#), July 12-15. FCIA will be exhibiting at the FCIA Trade Show booth, as well as presenting to the Healthcare Facility Management and Engineering professionals in attendance - along with The Joint Commission and ASHE - an abridged version of the Barrier Management Symposium Program.

Then, in the fall, it's off to [CONSTRUCT2015](#) in **St. Louis, MO**, September 30-October 3 and the [ICC Expo](#) in **Long Beach, CA**, September 27-October 7.

The calendar is starting to fill in nicely with all of the opportunities to spread the word!



Your assistance in recruiting new members helps FCIA grow and become an even stronger voice in the industry.

FCIA and the Campus for Fire Safety Partner to Educate Campus Facility Engineers Nationwide



FCIA's [DIIM Webinar Presentation](#) was presented to [The Center for Campus Fire](#)

[Safety](#) earlier this month. The program was well-received and well-attended by this important group of **Higher Education Facility Managers**.

FCIA is also presenting another [Webinar in June](#), plus FCIA will be speaking at their [Annual Conference](#) in October.

We are honored to have the opportunity to educate the individuals entrusted with ensuring the safety of the facilities on college campuses across the nation.

FCIA Makes Plans to Return to Canada

Mark your calendar now, because FCIA plans to return to Ottawa for another dynamite Symposium, **September 9-11**, with more engaging FCIA Education Sessions and the [FM & UL/ULC Firestop Exams](#), PLUS a tour of the [National Research Council of Canada's \(NRC\) Almonte Fire Test Facility](#). The Almonte facility is extremely unique, as it is one of two 10 story concrete full scale atrium fire test facilities in the world.



Check the [Events](#) page at www.FCIA.org often for Symposium details. Announcements and Registration information will be released in the next few weeks.

FCIA Welcomes New Members

FCIA works hard to spread the word of the ['DIIM' of Firestopping](#) around the world, encouraging interested

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FCIA Membership Renewal Rate Soars

FCIA's leadership has been working diligently to get the word out about the importance of the Specialty Firestop Contractor concept. This persistence has resulted in safer buildings due to correctly installed Firestop Systems right out of the gates. As a result of this and many other efforts, **FCIA Member renewals are at the highest we've seen since 2006**. And, FCIA held steady during the worst part of the recession!



With the construction economy improvements finally reaching the non-residential construction market, we're looking forward to another blockbuster year.

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Contractors, Associates, Manufacturers, Manufacturer Reps and more to become involved to grow the industry. 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

- Jersey Firestop - Piscataway, NJ
- Safe Hospital Services - Spring, TX
- X-Cell Insulation - Holtsville, NY
- TCM Waterproofing, LLC - Suwanee, GA
- Upper Fells Construction - Baltimore, MD



FCIA New International Contractor Members

- Qatar Company for Construction - Doha, Qatar
- Far Range Electromechanical Works - Dubai, UAE

FCIA New Contractor Branch Members

- Adler Firestopping - Calgary Branch

FCIA New Associate Members

- INTRON Consulting Engineers - Victoria, BC
- Kleinfelder, Inc. - Las Vegas, NV

FCIA New Manufacturer Members

- MM Systems Corporation - Pendergrass, GA
- Construction Specialties - Muncy, PA
- NUCO, Inc. - Guelph, ON

Contractors, Associates and Manufacturers: 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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