



FCIA e-News

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IAS Board of Directors Meets in DC

Worldwide demand for reliable, safe products and services makes accreditation a necessity. In fact, one could argue that accreditation is essential for any profession that has a direct impact on public safety and welfare.



The [International Accreditation Services \(IAS\)](#) is a nonprofit corporation that provides "objective evidence that an organization operates at the highest level of ethical, legal and technical standards" for all concerned with public safety and sustainability worldwide. The group's principle of "One Test, One Inspection, One Certification Worldwide" supports its mission to protect lives and property through accreditation of competent organizations providing services, products and oversight.

IAS Accreditation Criteria have been used worldwide to accredit curriculum developers and deliverers, special inspection agencies and others to improve the quality of construction through management systems processes.

Members of the [IAS Board of Directors](#) work together to ensure that the mission and vision of the organization remains the foremost focus of the groups' efforts. FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, currently serves on the IAS Board, which recently met in Washington, DC for their Board of Directors meeting. While there, ICC's Chief



Executive Officer, Dominic Simms, held a reception for various construction association leaders at ICC's Headquarters to celebrate the [International Code Council's \(ICC\) Building Safety Month](#), of which



FCIA was a proud sponsor.

FCIA appreciated the opportunity to meet with other association leaders to build and maintain relationships.

FCIA and BOMA International – Working Together?

Founded in 1907, the [Building Owners and Managers Association \(BOMA\)](#) represents the owners and managers of all commercial property types around the globe. The group is a primary source of information on building management and operations, development, building operating costs, local and national building codes, legislation and more for the



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industry. Their members are building owners, managers, developers, leasing professionals, corporate facility managers, asset managers and the providers of the products and services needed to operate commercial properties.

FCIA leadership has long been working to develop a working relationship with BOMA International to both promote FCIA membership, but also to further key code proposals that affect both organizations. Recently, FCIA leadership met with BOMA International leadership to learn how we can work together on the International Fire Code proposal for Maintenance of fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant barriers through Chapter 7, Fire and Smoke Protection Features. Included in the discussion were key issues from the FCIA Proposal, F115.

Watch for more info about the code cycle in [Life Safety Digest](#) about the ICC's Fire Code Development Process.

FCIA Meets with FM & UL

Exposure for the [FM 4991 Standard for the Approval of Firestop Contractors](#) and [UL/ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors Programs](#) has picked up speed in the industry in recent years. FCIA continues to partner with both Underwriters Laboratories and FM Approvals in the development of these critical programs.

FCIA's Accreditation Committee Chairs Aedan Gleeson and Don Murphy continue meetings and teleconferences with key personnel from UL to discuss the program and ways to increase its acceptance by the marketplace.

Similar meetings will be held with FM's leadership later this summer.



ASTM Brings Together Industry Professionals



FCIA's Standards Committee Chair Eric Keeton and Committee Member Jay McGuire, plus Executive Director Bill McHugh, met with other Firestop Industry Technical Personnel at ASTM to discuss changes to [ASTM E 2174](#). The task group at ASTM agreed to new language that describes the accreditation programs available to both contracting companies and special inspection agencies.

One of the items up for discussion was the definition of the word 'premises'. Although the task group was not able to get a definition directly added to the standard, it was determined that the [Merriam-Webster Dictionary definition of the word](#) provided a thorough enough explanation.

Also accomplished during the meeting was the removal of [ASTM E 699](#), Practice for Evaluation of Agencies Involved in Testing, Quality Assurance, and Evaluating of Building Components, from the standard. Because this particular standard refers to testing laboratories and not inspection agencies, it did not make sense to include it in the [ASTM E 2174/ASTM E 2393](#) Standards. The one voter opposed to the deletion of ASTM E 699 agreed to remove his objection after arguments were made in support of the proposal.

A task group participant, Michael Jaycox, suggested that there should be an annex referring to the International Building Code for special inspections. Under the purview of the existing task group, an annex was assigned. Mr. Jaycox will serve as the technical contact, and he will work with Pat Tesche and Bill McHugh, before presenting to the task group for approval before ballot. Many of the issues will be handled in this task group.

While there, there also was a proposal filed on "how to cut, where to measure" the thickness of installed firestop products in the annular space or joint that had some opposition. The International Firestop Council (IFC), an association of firestop manufacturers, recommends measuring the thickness at the bond line of the sealant to the floor or wall surface. This was balloted twice with opponents stating that in addition to measurements at the bond line, measurements also need to be taken in the middle of the sealant to the penetrating item and floor or wall.

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FCIA's concern is that there needs to be a better way to measure thicknesses to accurately reflect what was installed in the assembly in order to verify that it represents the listed firestop system and manufacturers' installation instructions. It was clear after reviewing the negatives with the task group that the item will need to be re-balloted.

CMS Requires Compliance with 2012 Edition of NFPA 101

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

is part of the Department of Health and Human Services and is tasked with strengthening and modernizing America's healthcare system while providing quality care at affordable prices. The organization is dedicated to improved access to coverage and improved health for all Americans.



Since 1970, hospitals, nursing homes, ambulatory surgical centers and related facilities have needed to demonstrate that their fire and life safety programs satisfied different editions of NFPA 101 in order to meet the requirements of the Conditions of Participation (COP), as defined by CMS. Health care providers that participate in federal reimbursement programs are required to meet the CMS COP expectations.



Until recently, CMS required healthcare facilities to comply with the 2000 edition of the NFPA 101®, Life Safety Code®, but in a change that was published and took effect on May 3, 2016, [Medicare and Medicaid Programs; Fire Safety Requirements for Certain Health Care Facilities](#), healthcare facilities

will now be required to meet requirements of the 2012 editions of [NFPA 101®](#), as well as mandates direct compliance with provisions of the 2012 edition of [NFPA 99®](#), Health Care Facilities Code, for the first time.

The new guidelines apply to:

- Hospitals;
- Long-term care facilities (LTC);
- Critical access hospitals (CAHs);
- Inpatient hospice facilities;
- Programs for all-inclusive care for the elderly

- (PACE);
- Religious non-medical healthcare institutions (RNHCI);
- Ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs);
- and Intermediate care facilities for individuals with intellectual disabilities (ICF-IID).

As part of the final rule for CMS adoption of the 2012 editions of NFPA 99 and 101, it was specified that all Tentative Interim Amendments (TIAs) issued from August 11, 2011 and prior to April 16, 2014, were being incorporated as part of the rule. These TIAs change the language of the code originally accepted and published in-between cycles. Users should make sure that they are aware of these changes to the code that may not be in their printed copies. For more information, [visit the NFPA CMS resource page](#).

Healthcare facilities are expected to update and comply with NFPA 99 and 101, respectively by July 5, 2016, unless otherwise specified in the final rule. [Read the full CMS news release](#).

FCIA's Education & Committee Action Conference Welcomed Members to Las Vegas

Earlier this month, the Monte Carlo Resort & Casino welcomed [ECA 2016](#), the [FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference](#). Event attendance was the strongest recorded for the Spring Conference, boasting attendees from a host of new Contractor Members, as well as existing members from around the globe.



Some highlights from the event included presentations from Alise Howlett, AIA, CFPE, CHFM (HFAP); Doug Evans, P.E., FSFPE; Luke Woods (UL); and Chad Banman (Sandler Training) among others.

FCIA Committees also met for their first face-to-face committee meetings of the year while there. Various groups met on Wednesday afternoon, and all reported excellent group participation. Look for more information from the assorted committees on



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action items that were discussed during the sessions.

Weren't able to attend ECA this year? That's ok! Make plans to join us at any of our other events this year:

- [Canadian Symposium \(Edmonton, AB\)](#) - September 20-21
- [Middle East Symposiums \(Doha, Qatar and Dubai, UAE\)](#) - October 4-6, October 11-13
- [FIC 2016, the FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show \(Isle of Palms, SC\)](#) - November 8-11

Look for registration information for each of these events in the coming weeks.



CHES Ontario Conference & Trade Show A Success

FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, and Canadian Committee member, Jim Smiley, Sr., traveled to Kitchener, ON earlier this week for the [Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society \(CHES\) Ontario Chapter Annual Conference & Trade Show](#).

This was the first year FCIA had a presence at the event with a tradeshow booth, Speaking slot and Publication Bin for *Life Safety Digest*, and it was an unqualified success! Delegates from all over Ontario were present and eager to learn about Firestopping and its requirements within their facilities.

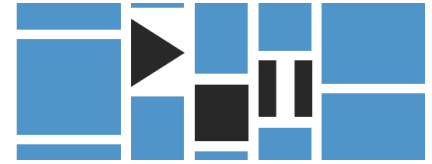
The FCIA educational session was well attended, and generated a great amount of interest from the CHES leadership. A large number of those in attendance during the session ended up stopping by the booth afterwards stating that the Fire Marshal had asked them to fix their fire separations because they "were like Swiss cheese".

FCIA enjoyed being a part of this wonderful event, and we look forward to partnering with the organization for many years moving forward.



June Webinar Next Week

EDUCATIONAL
WEBINAR
SERIES



Have you registered for the June session in the 2016 FCIA Free Educational Webinar Series, '[Special Inspection for Firestop Systems – The Ins and Outs You Need to Know?](#)'


Firestop systems are regulated by a set of standards, ASTM E 2174 and 2393, as well as have a set of Special Inspection for Firestop Systems requirements as specified in the 07-84-00 Specs. Though sometimes overlooked, Inspection is a critical part of the 'DIIM' of Firestopping.

This session will focus on what comprises Special Inspection for firestopping, the ASTM standards and IBC code requirements that refer to Special Inspection of installed Firestop Systems, how to specify it and why it is important.

[Register today for the session.](#)

When: Wednesday, June 8
Time: 10:00am CDT

[Register here](#)



RAIC Festival of Architecture Opening in Nanaimo, BC

Calling all architecture lovers! Celebrate architecture this June 8-11 with the [Royal Architectural Institute of Canada \(RAIC\)](#) at the [2016 Festival of Architecture](#) in Nanaimo, BC.



Be present for the expert plenary panel and other inspiring educational sessions. Look on as new Fellows are inducted for their contributions to the planning profession and Gov General's Awards are presented. Participate in any one of a myriad of networking opportunities and tours.

NANAIMO 2016

[Learn more today!](#)

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NFPA Conference & Expo Opens June 12

Emerging topics take center stage this year at the [NFPA Conference & Expo](#) during keynote presentations, training sessions and in the new Discovery District. Come explore everything fire safety related this **June 12-16** at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center in Las Vegas, NV when you attend one of the premier events for fire- and life-safety. The event combines an educational conference with an expo of more than 300 solution providers. There is no better opportunity to speak with experts, evaluate products, find solutions to your technical challenges and stay current with technological advances in your field.



[Register today!](#)

BOMA International's Annual Conference & Expo

The most successful property professionals are always in the middle of the action—and quite simply, that's why they always attend [BOMA International's Annual Conference & Expo](#) this **June 25 – 28** in Washington, DC. If you're ready to go all in on the success of your building—and your career—you've come to the right place. Here you'll immerse yourself in the expertise, insights and opportunities you need to stay ahead on industry trends, maximize your effectiveness and optimize the performance of your commercial assets.

Get in on the action – [register today!](#)



ASHE Annual Conference & Technical Exhibition Heading to Denver

This **July 10-13**, join more than 3,200 Health Care Facility Management and Engineering professionals for the [ASHE Annual Conference & Technical Exhibition](#) at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, CO. Looking for critical information on health care compliance, codes and standards updates, emerging trends, best practices and more? Then the ASHE Annual Conference & Expo is the answer! Connect with colleagues, find and identify new service providers and solutions and attend education sessions dedicated to a wide variety of industry related content.



[Find out more today!](#)

CONSTRUCT – Your Resource for Commercial Building



[CONSTRUCT](#) is the only national trade show and educational conference for the commercial building teams that spec and source building products. Held in conjunction with the [CSI Annual Convention](#), CONSTRUCT offers a relevant, accredited education program, an expansive exhibit hall floor filled with the latest services, products and technologies, as well as a myriad of networking opportunities.

[Plan now to attend this power-packed event.](#)

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Life Safety Digest Needs You!



[Life Safety Digest](#) is currently looking for interested individuals to consider writing for the publication. Submissions should be industry related, generic content, and should be between 1200-1500 words with supporting high-resolution images.

Think you've got what it takes? Email lindsey@FCIA.org for more information.

FCIA Welcomes New Members

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

- CS Prevention, Inc. -
Quebec, QC



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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STAY CONNECTED

