

# THE FIRESTOP

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## ECA '24 CONFERENCE REGISTRATION NEEDS YOU!

Registration is open for ECA '24, the FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference.

This year's event heads to the Omni Oklahoma City this April 30-May 3 and features the FM, UL, & ULC Firestop Exams, meaningful Committee Action sessions, technical education you can take home to use today, and networking.

And right now, the only thing missing is YOU!



Want to know what happened with FCIA's International Building Code proposals to add FM & UL Contractors to the IBC Code? Identification Systems (Labeling)? Improved language regarding fire-resistance-rated joint assemblies? Qualifications for firestop special inspectors? At ECA 24, we'll be fresh from the

International Building Code Development hearings, so you'll get the first scoop on what happened.

Registration discounts end March 31, so Register Today!

## THE 2027 INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

The International Code Council develops construction and public safety codes through a governmental consensus process. This system of code development has provided the highest level of safety in the world for more than 90 years.

FCIA has been active in the Code development process for the firestop and effective compartmentation industry since the group's inception, regularly submitting Code proposals and participating in both the Committee Action Hearings and Public Comment Hearings for the Group A Cycles.

The development cycle for the 2027 began earlier this year. Code proposals for the International Code Council's (ICC) family of codes, including the International Building Code (IBC) and the International Fire Code (IFC), were due on Jan. 7, 2024.

A consolidated monograph of the proposals will be published online in March.

Then, new for the 2027 Code Development Process Cycle is two Committee Action Hearings, one April 7-16 and another Oct. 23-31. Final Public Comments get heard April 19-28, 2026, and FCIA will be there leading the charge for the passive fire protection industry.

Don't miss FCIA's ECA '24 Conference to hear all about the results of this Committee Action Hearing.

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## FCIA PARTNERS WITH FIRE SAFE BUILD INDIA (FSBI)

Fire Safe Build India (FSBI) is "Asia's only tradeshow on passive fire protection." This program is unique to Passive Fire Protection – and a first for India. The show celebrated its inaugural event in 2023 in Mumbai, India. FCIA's Bill McHugh was featured on the schedule of events, and FCIA was represented at the event with a booth.

This February, FCIA was honored to be part of the 2024 edition of FSBI, again present in Mumbai to deliver programs on structural fire-resistance and firestopping and to participate on a panel, along with a shared tradeshow booth with NFCA. Participation in the "Light the Candle" ceremony to kick off the event was a real honor.



While in India, we were able to have great conversations about the proper 'D'esign (Listings and Specifications), 'I'nstallation (FCIA Member and FM 4991/UL Qualified Firestop Contractors), 'I'nspection (in accordance with ASTM E2174, ASTM E2393 Inspection Standards), and 'M'aintaining Protection (Fire Codes, fire-resistance-inventory) of all fire-resistance in buildings.

FCIA and Life Safety Digest coined the term 'DIIM' and it is an honor to see it used worldwide.

Also on the agenda was a presentation by FCIA Member Hilti India, who was also supportive with a booth.

FCIA Member Specified Technologies, Inc. was also present with a booth. Other booth/stands included fire doors, fire-rated glazing, ceramic fiber, the Indian Institute of Technology-Gandhinagar, firestop material manufacturers, and much more.

There has never been a program of this magnitude solely focused on passive fire protection anywhere else in the world...until now. And FCIA is proud to partner with FSBI for these events to educate Asia on the importance of properly 'D'esigned, 'I'nstalled, 'I'nspected, and 'M'aintained passive fire protection, aka FCIA's 'DIIM' of firestopping.

We were impressed by the outreach, and visits to our booth/stand by members and potential members at the Firestop Contractors International Association (FCIA) and National Fireproofing Contractors Association (NFCA).



# FIRE-RESISTANCE AND OCCUPIABLE ROOFS

Rooftops are becoming a way to add an amazing amenity to a high-rise or low-rise building. Outdoor space is at a premium, especially in cities, where tall buildings exist. The concept of "Occupiable Roofs" is a newer amenity that building owners are using to entice tenants.



This raises a multitude of questions. Should the roof become fire-resistance-rated? Should the penetrations, skylights, joints, and voids be protected? Would people need to have two ways out? Does there need to be detection and alarm systems? Standpipes?

The answer is a resounding, "Yes!" Fire and life safety in buildings should extend to every occupiable part of the building.

Look for discussion on this topic at ICC's Committee Action Hearing in April.

## SPILL THE T(-RATINGS)

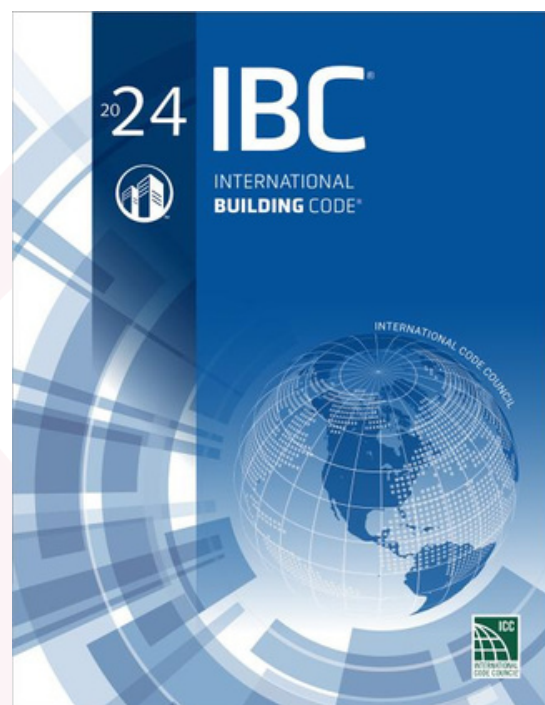
FCIA regularly receives questions regarding T-Ratings, specifically when are T-Ratings not required in the International Building Code (IBC).

To answer this questions, let's look at the 2024 IBC. This excerpt below is pulled directly from the 2024 IBC.

**714.5.1.2 Through-penetration firestop system.** *Through penetrations shall be protected by an approved through-penetration firestop system installed and tested in accordance with ASTM E814 or UL 1479, with a minimum positive pressure differential of 0.01 inch of water (2.49 Pa). The system shall have an F rating/T rating of not less than 1 hour but not less than the required rating of the floor penetrated.*

### Exceptions:

1. Floor penetrations contained and located within the cavity of a wall above the floor or below the floor do not require a *T rating*.
2. Floor penetrations by floor drains, tub drains or shower drains contained and located within the concealed space of a horizontal assembly do not require a *T rating*.
3. Floor penetrations of maximum 4-inch (102 mm) nominal diameter metal conduit or tubing penetrating directly into metal-enclosed electrical power switchgear do not require a *T rating*.
4. Penetrations in a single concrete floor by steel, ferrous or copper conduits, pipes, tubes or vents with a maximum 6-inch (152 mm) nominal diameter do not require a *T rating*. These penetrating items shall not be limited to the penetration of a single concrete floor, provided that the area of the opening through each floor does not exceed 144 square inches (92,900 mm<sup>2</sup>).



When in doubt, check the IBC. It is the definitive authority for all things Building Code-related!



## FIRE DOORS

The National Association of State Fire Marshals created a [checklist](#) for Classroom Door Security and Locking Hardware that also mentions fire-rated hardware. BOTH are critical to ensure protection in the event of a fire.

Fire doors are complex items that have to be continuously maintained to be effective. Rogue field modifications may compromise the fire-rating of the assembly, thereby rendering it ineffective at its most critical moment.

For more information on the effects of rogue field modifications of fire doors, look for registration information for the May 22 webinar, featuring guest speaker Laura Frye Weaver of the Door Opening Industry Training Group (Do-It).

Requirements for installation, inspection, and maintenance exist in [NFPA 80](#), Standard for Fire Doors and Other Opening Protectives.



### FIRE-RATED GLAZING

Recently, a new [document](#) was published by the National Glass Association on Fire-Rated Glazing. The paper covers the differences between fire-protective and fire-resistance-rated glazing, which is a common question that comes up about these products and assemblies.

Fire-Rated Glazing is also a part of NFPA 80.



## DETERMINING WALL FIRE-RESISTANCE-RATINGS

The National Concrete Masonry Association publishes a [TEK Resource](#) on fire walls and fire barriers. In addition to UL's Product iQ, this resource can be used to determine what fire-resistance-ratings are in an existing building and documentation is nowhere to be found. For gypsum panels, [www.UL.com/PiQ](http://www.UL.com/PiQ) and the Gypsum Association publishes listings in [GA-600](#) that can be used to identify fire-resistance-rated assemblies. This is in addition to UL's Product iQ website, where many fire-resistance-rated assemblies can be found.



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TEK**

# NEW MEMBER



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.

With no further ado, put your hands together for all the new FCIA Members!

## FCIA New Contractor Members

- 1604 Specialties, LLC – Chandler, AZ
- Construction Des Rivages – Levis, QC
- CR Insulation, Inc. – San Marcos, CA
- Envirotherm – Yoho, NB
- Geo V Hamilton Contracting LLC – McKees Rocks, PA
- Nor-West Firestop – Langley, BC
- SAM Construction GP LLC – Scottsdale, AZ

## FCIA New Associate Members

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

## Do you know a company that should be an FCIA member?

Send them our way at [cathy@fcia.org](mailto:cathy@fcia.org), and we'll follow up (and get you in the running for the Industry Development Award)!

## APRIL WEBINAR IS HERE!

['The Nitty Gritty of the 07 84 00 Firestop Spec'](#)

With Ron Geren,  
FCSI, AIA, CCS, CCCA,  
CDT, CSC, SCIP

April 24, 2024,  
10:00 am CDT



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