IAS and the Firestop Exams

During the International Accreditation Services (IAS) March Accreditation Committee 2017 Meeting, Brice Miller, consultant, proposed to remove the FM and UL Firestop Exams from Accreditation Criteria for Special Inspection Agencies, IAS AC 291, and replace it with the IFC Firestop Special Inspector Exam.

FCIA strongly disagreed with Mr. Miller. And, the IAS Accreditation Committee agreed with FCIA. FCIA believes that the FM or UL Firestop Exam AND the IFC Firestop Exam are great ways to show inspection agency employee inspector competence in Firestopping. The IAS Accreditation Committee allows, and FCIA supported, either the FM/UL Firestop Exam OR the IFC Firestop Exam.

IAS President - and FCIA Friend - Retires March 2018

IAS' President Chuck Ramani was recognized for 40+ years of service to IAS and ICC. Chuck and his team have grown IAS from a very small accrediting organization to an 800-1,000 client organization. That's impressive. ICC Sr. Michael Gardner presented a special award to Chuck.

Congrats and best wishes on your retirement. IAS and ICC will have big shoes to fill.

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FCIA at ICC’s Building Safety & Design Expo & Annual Meeting

FCIA’s booth at the ICC’s Building Safety & Design Expo in Columbus, OH was well attended by Building Code Officials, Fire Marshals and friends of FCIA. We spent time talking about the importance of both the Specialty Firestop Contractor and Special Inspection Agency having third-party accreditations. We also talked with many about the importance of comprehensive barrier management. ICC’s Annual Business Meeting and Expo were well-attended. The highlight was FCIA Friend and ICC President Dwayne Garriss’ farewell speech as his term is expiring. His vision, “Many Voices, One Purpose”, unified the group with a focus on fire- and life-safety. Congrats to Dwayne and your team on a great year for ICC. We’ll be back in Columbus, OH for the ICC Committee Action Hearings April 2018. Watch for more on this in early 2018.

FCIA at CSI/CONSTRUCT

FCIA’s Booth at the Construction Specifications Institute’s Annual Convention and CONSTRUCT Show had many specifiers - new and old friends - stop by for long conversations. Our chats covered the benefits of using a single 07-84-00 FIRESTOPPING Specification with FCIA Member - Tested and Listed Systems, FM 4991 Approved and UL Qualified Firestop Contractors and IAS AC 291 Accredited Inspection Agencies. Thanks to FCIA Member Gleeson-Powers’ staff Aedan Gleeson, Dana Arsenault and Matt Cole for working with us at the booth.

FCIA Travel Highlight

Sometimes, business travel has a bright side. Bill’s flight to Providence, RI for CONSTRUCT was delayed about 2 hours. While waiting, an Honor Flight of WWII and Korean War US Veterans landed. The Navy provided a column of sailors and officers to salute the vets as they exited the plane. It was worth getting sore hands clapping for each and every one of them as they walked or were pushed in wheelchairs. Respectfully, the vets saluted the sailors back.

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FCIA Mourns Loss of a Good Friend

FCIA participation in many of the conventions - CONSTRUCT, ICC, ASHE and others - had FCIA Marketing Chair, Don Murphy, manning the booth with FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh. The pair could be seen making friends for FCIA wherever the booth could be found.

On Sept. 11, Don passed away at his office in Indianapolis, IN. It was a fitting tribute to Don that many FCIA friends came to his wake and funeral. Don did a lot to support FCIA – from its inception in 1998 to now.

Rest in peace, dear friend.
Opening Soon - FCIA's FIC 2017

Less than a month remains until the opening of the FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show (FIC 2017) in Palm Springs, CA at the Omni Rancho Las Palmas.

This November 7-10, join FCIA and peers for four days of can’t miss programming, like:

• “Crash of the Fire and Energy Codes - High-Rise Facade Fires Worldwide” with Joe Lstiburek (Building Science, Inc.) which provides a detailed study of high-rise exterior assemblies and the crash of the fire and energy codes.

• “Top Questions from the Manufacturer Technical Departments”, an FCIA Manufacturer Member Technical Panel, looking at the top issues in the Firestop industry, as viewed from the Manufacturer’s Technical Staff point of view. This session will be an interactive discussion between the Firestop Contractor and the Firestop Manufacturer.

• “What Keeps Property Managers & General Contractors Awake at Night” with Patrick Shaw (Cushman Wakefield) and Corey Zussman (Pepper Construction) looks at the value of the Firestop Contractor to the Building Owner and GC. Hear first-hand what concerns Building Owners and GC’s have related to fire- and life-safety systems, and bring your questions for “on the spot” insight.

• Kevin Dougherty brings his upbeat and energetic session, “How to Find, Train, Motivate and Retain Employees”, to address proven recruiting methods, leadership skills and productivity and motivation techniques.

• Jill Norcott (FM Approvals) addresses the Maximum Fire Loss Walls. FCIA’s Code Consultant Bill Koffel and Andre LaRoche (NRC) bring new perspectives on the code development process in the US and Canada. Jonathan Flannery covers leadership from another perspective.

• Bring your questions. Hear from your FCIA Board and leadership and provide personal input to benefit your peers, the Association and the industry at the FCIA Contractor Members ONLY Session.

• and so much more!

Don’t miss the:

• FCIA Education for the FM & UL/ULC Firestop Exams;
• the FM and UL/ULC Firestop Exams;
• Technical and Business Development Education Sessions;
• The Firestop Industry Trade Show;
• the Ray Usher Memorial Golf Outing, benefitting the Bob LeClair Memorial Scholarship Fund;
• Networking and Social Events;
• And Much, Much More!

Registration is still OPEN. Make your hotel reservations.

**FCIA Board & Committees**

In between FCIA Conferences, FCIA Committees keep working. The FCIA Board of Directors met in Minneapolis this August. Teleconferences took place with the FCIA Apprenticeship and Program Committees, among all the emails that take place amongst committee leaders and staff. We are very fortunate to have dedicated members who volunteer time for FCIA.

Thanks to all those who have volunteered.

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**FCIA at Indianapolis Motor Speedway**

FCIA at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway? What?

Rich Walke, Distinguished Member of the UL Technical Staff, helped FCIA organize its first meeting at UL’s Headquarters and Fire Testing Facility. He’s been a friend of FCIA’s for many years and is currently a member of the Barrier Management Symposium faculty.

In his spare time, Rich also races a Mazda RX 7 at the Sports Car Club of America circuit. Aedan Gleeson and Bill McHugh headed to Indy to watch him race in prelims to the SCCA National Championships. Congrats, Rich, on a great amateur racing career.

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**New I-Codes**

The 2018 versions of the ICC Family of Codes was launched in September. Check them out for free using the viewer at https://codes.iccsafe.org/public/. Better yet, buy them and get the full benefits of the documents on your laptop, phone, etc., at www.ICCSafe.org.
FCIA’s Firestop and Effective Compartmentation ‘DIIM’ Symposium Canada

With over 70 people attending, the Symposium brought together speakers from the National Research Council of Canada (Cross-Laminated Timber Fire Testing), Ontario General Contractors Association (Safety – Certificate of Recognition), Falconer Engineering (Fire Testing Standards & Case Studies) and others bringing critical education to all in an action-packed day. FCIA Education for the ULC Firestop Exams took place the previous day with a nice crowd gathered as well.

Thanks to the many FCIA Members, Building Code Officials and Fire Marshals for attending.
FCIA Welcomes New Members

FCIA works hard to spread the word of the ‘DIIM’ of Firestopping around the world, encouraging all 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.

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
• Bombard Mechanical - Las Vegas, NV

FCIA New Friend of FCIA Members
• Oregon Health & Science University - Portland, OR

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.

Connect with Us!

Have you connected with FCIA on Facebook or LinkedIn yet? Did you know FCIA has a YouTube channel?

Like us. Follow us. Join the discussion. Subscribe to our channel.

We want to connect with you!

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