~FCIA Education and Committee Action Conference – Yes, the snow is starting to disappear in the north. Get ready for some real fun and great education too. FCIA’s Education and Committee Action Conference, April 26-30 will be here before we know it. The Hotel Montleone is convenient to Bourbon Street, Café DuMonde, St. Louis Cathedral, and great restaurants. Don’t forget, New Orleans JazzFest is Friday-Sunday. It’s a big deal, with lots of attendees, meaning the hotel will fill up. Make your reservations now! Call FCIA if you need help getting a room.

~FCIA at ASHE – FCIA’s Marketing Committee will be at the American Society of Healthcare Engineers Professional Development Conference March 12-14, in Tampa. FCIA appreciates the relationship we have with ASHE, and looks forward to continued conversations.

~FCIA at ASSE – The FCIA Apprenticeship and Standards Committees, plus Accreditation, have been working with the American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE) to keep the Standard for the Installation and Inspection of Firestop Systems around Piping a credible document for fire and life safety. Volunteers from the committees including; Mike Dominguez, Aedan Gleeson, Gary Hamilton, Bob Hasting, Eric Keeton, and Pat Tesche, along with Bill McHugh participated via Teleconference, while Pat Tesche and John Valiulis flew to Tucson for the meeting.

~FCIA at UL STP / ASTM – FCIA’s Standards Committee is also participating in discussions with UL and the FCIA and IFC Member manufacturers at the UL Standards Technical Panel (STP) regarding shrinkage, movement and exposure being incorporated into UL 1479. The FCIA Standards Committee participated in teleconference and meetings February 8. Pat Tesche and Gary Hamilton travelled in, with Eric Keeton, Randy Bosscawen, Tracy Smith participating via teleconference. There is also discussion taking place at ASTM in April about these issues.

~FCIA at ASTM - New standards are being worked on and published at ASTM. FCIA continues to chair the ASTM E 2174 & ASTM E 2393 Standards, and is attending the April ASTM E 06 Meetings. We’ll be discussing an update change to remove a non-mandatory language in one of the standards. Plus, we’ll be working with ASTM Members on an ‘installation guide’, a very short document that addresses proper design and installation of firestop systems.
~IFC heads to the Bahamas – The International Firestop Council meetings attendance typically consists of Fill, Void and Cavity (Firestop), Packing/Damming and Fire Wrap Materials Manufacturers and a few contractors. FCIA Leaders sometimes attend these meetings, and provide input from FCIA and the field installation viewpoint to these meetings. FCIA Board Member Scott Rankin is travelling (on his own dime) to this meeting representing FCIA.

~FCIA International Conferences – FCIA’s Middle East Conferences have brought successes to FCIA Members in the Middle East and beyond. FCIA Member, Hafeez Mohammed, commented, “FCIA Conferences brought awareness which has created a demand for FM 4991 Approved and / or UL Qualified Specialty Firestop Contractors.

We are grateful to the FCIA for coming and raising awareness of FCIA’s DIIM Process.”

When specs are held outside North America for FM 4991 Approved Firestop Contractors and/or UL Qualified Firestop Contractors, it helps everyone.

Look for more information about FCIA’s October Educational Seminar in the Middle East in the next few months.

~Life Safety Organization Meets – An idea that developed from the FCIA Board of Directors in 2006-2009, the Life Safety Organization held its first meeting Feb. 23-25 in Las Vegas. With a focus of “Education, Research, Advocacy”, the group refined the mission, set goals and objectives to accomplish that will build the awareness of the value of Total Fire Protection in buildings.

~IgCC – The International green Construction Code (IgCC) is coming. What does this have to do with Firestop Systems? It could have a lot. First, there’s a requirement for between 25-60 years performance of products as installed for sustainability. Second, there may be code proposals to increase fire resistance for sustainability. FCIA is attending the meetings this spring and fall to be sure fire and life safety are not missed as the “Green Movement” gets going.

~FCIA Life Safety Digest – Submit an article. You could be famous! Life Safety Digest is always looking for good generic articles on issues important to the Fire Resistance Rated Construction Industry, including fireproofing, firestopping, and effective compartmentation features. Send articles to bill@fcia.org.
~FCIA Welcomes Members!!

**NEW FCIA Contractor Members**
All Trades Firestop, TX  
ARC Construction Services, MA  
Beckerle Consultants, MO  
Canyon Insulation, CA  
Chamberlin Roofing & Waterproofing, TX  
Donely's Restoration Group, OH  
Durante Construction, OK  
F & M Caulking Ltd., Canada  
Fire Safety Services, Inc., LA  
Firestop, WA  
Firestop Insulation Technologies, WLL, UAE  
Firestop Systems Consultants, AZ  
L & C Insulation, WI  
MASCO - Sacramento Building Products, CA  
Monquart Enterprises Ltd., Canada  
PCI – Dallas, TX  
PCI – Houston  
Roberts Firestop Specialties, CA  
Superior Sealants, Canada

**NEW FCIA Manufacturer Members**  
Shield Industries, Inc., GA

~NEW FCIA Member FM 4991 Approved and UL/ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors -

**New FCIA FM 4991 Approved Contractors**  
BAF Specialty Inc., CA  
MTS Contracting Inc., MO  
Strickland Waterproofing Co., Inc., NC

**New UL / ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors**  
Firestop of Virginia, VA  
Nexlevel Construction, Canada
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Bill McHugh, FCIA Executive Director

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