



FCIA eNewsletter – December

As 2014 draws to a close, we take a moment to reflect on some of the work and progress that has been made this year, and we look to the future and the goals that we have.

Not only was it a milestone year for FCIA - which celebrated our 15th Anniversary this year - but it was also a year filled with education, advocacy, activity and promotion worldwide.

We recognize that none of this would be possible without the support of our active group of members and affiliates who spread the Firestopping and Effective Compartmentation word wherever they go. So, thank you for your continued support.

We look forward to an even more successful 2015! Happy Holidays!

FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show (FIC)

November has come and gone, and with it the 2014 FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show (FIC).

Amid the stunning locale of Naples, FL, perfectly sunny weather was plentiful and was sure to be conducive for a bang-up conference followed by a little fun. And what a conference it was! Record turnout, excellent speakers, great Awards Luncheon, and a celebration party for FCIA's 15th Anniversary.



Couldn't make it to this year's FIC? [Check out who was there.](#) *Presentations are posted in the [Members Only](#) section. If you need your login information, [request it here.](#)

Bill Koffel, *Koffel Associates*, FCIA's Code Consultant, presented FCIA's Code Committee strategies for the International Code Council's 2018 Code Development Cycle. Watch for a description of the code proposals as the committee, FCIA staff and Bill Koffel finish the submissions.



Anne Guglielmo, *The Joint Commission (TJC)* gave us a great understanding of what TJC expects when it surveys a healthcare facility. FCIA had the opportunity to educate TJC's surveyors in January 2014 about firestopping, both good and bad, the FM and UL Contractor Programs, ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Inspection, iAS

Accredited Special Inspection Agencies and more.

Jonathan Flannery, *American Society for Healthcare Engineering (ASHE)*, educated the audience about what the healthcare professional and general contractors expect of firestop contractors working in healthcare facilities. He also gave us ASHE's perspective on code development proposals as well.

Andy Streifl, *University of Minnesota*, spoke about the importance of firestoppings' role in



infection control in healthcare facilities.

Tying together the program on infection control, the *National Research Council of Canada's Gary Loughheed* reiterated the importance of firestopping and compartmentation in helping smoke control in buildings work.

Karl Thomas from the *FL State Fire Marshal's Office*, did a great job catching us up on how Florida enforces firestopping throughout the state.

And, we heard from *Hilti's John Weubbling* and **Russell Tuff** from *Social Impact, Inc.*, about social media and the firestopping industry. Russell and John shared many good secrets about how to build an effective social media

program. Interestingly, it sounds a lot like many other good marketing and sales plans!

FCIA's Firestop Education Sessions with FCIA's **Bill McHugh**, *UL, LLC's Pam Blanchette* and *FM Approvals' Jeff Gould*, resulted in almost everyone passing the FM or UL Firestop Exams, from what we hear. Thanks to Pam and Jeff for all you do to help contractors get better and better, building the reliability of installed firestopping.



FCIA Releases the Firestop Containment Worker Education Program and Manual

It's been several years in the making, and we're happy to announce that it's finally here! We're talking about the [Firestop Containment Worker Education Program](#) of course!

The FCIA Technical, Education and Apprenticeship Committees took Chapters 1, 2, 3 and the Appendices that apply to the workforce and inspectors, and

assembled a great new document specifically tailored for the Field Worker and Firestop Special Inspector. This comprehensive Education Program is comprised of two parts: the [Firestop Containment Worker Instructor Edition \(FSCW-IE\)](#) and the [Firestop Containment Worker Education Manual \(FSCW-M\)](#).

The [FCIA MOP FSCW-M](#) is a roughly 900 page document chock full of information all Firestop Containment Workers need to know before going on the job.



The [FCIA MOP FSCW-IE](#) is the Instructor portion of the program. This package contains a copy of the FSCW-M for the Instructor's use and an Instructor DVD. Contained on the DVD is:

- a digital copy of the FSCW-M;
- 22 PowerPoint presentations;
- 22 instruction guides;
- 22 "chapter" quizzes;
- and hours of step-by-step installation video that can be used to educate anyone interested in the Firestopping Industry.

Don't miss out. Order your copy of the [FCIA FSCW-M](#) (\$95/members) and the [FCIA MOP FSCW-IE Package](#) (\$1495/members) today! Email info@fcia.org for an order form, or visit <http://www.fcia.org/documents/FCIARESOURCEGUIDEORDERFORM.pdf>.

FCIA Leadership Starts with Committees

FCIA's 2015 Committee selection process starts now. Do you want to get more involved? All of FCIA's Presidents began as committee members. Do you picture yourself a future President? It seems the committee best able to claim the title "The Birthplace of Future Presidents" is the Program Committee. The Marketing and Membership Committees are also great groups to gain invaluable experience.

Do you have to aspire to the Presidency if you join a committee? No, absolutely not! In fact, many committee members have been on the same committee since the inception of the association 15 years ago. For most, they've participated and worked with future presidents, helping to shape the organization from the trenches. Further, many of your appointed Presidents continue to serve the committees they participated on well after their presidency.

Ready to learn, grow, and participate? Email info@fcia.org to find out how to join a committee.



The FCIA Education and Committee Action Conference 2015 (ECA)

FCIA's [Education and Committee Action Conference \(ECA\)](#) is where FCIA Members:

- learn about what the various committees are doing,
- check them out,
- and get some work done.

Plus, we always have a great lineup of speakers. This year, attendees will hear about what happened with industry Building Code Development Proposals as the conference is right after the ICC Code Hearings.

The [2015 ECA](#) will be held in Dallas, TX May 5-8, 2015 at the historic Adolphus Hotel. Return to an age of opulence and grandeur, as you attend educational sessions, committee meetings and various networking events at this luxurious venue. With the Reunion Tower, West End Marketplace, and lots of cool restaurants nearby, this vibrant



locale is the perfect setting for the group to work hard during the day and then cut loose and enjoy the town after-hours.

So, **SAVE THE DATE:** May 5-8, 2015, and plan to join us in Dallas, TX. Watch www.FCIA.org for announcements.

*Our programs will conclude on Friday by 10:30 am so people can get back home ... or take in the sites of Dallas.

What Are the Barrier Management Symposiums?



Back in 2005, FCIA built the Total Fire Containment Symposium. Now, for the past two years, FCIA has been partnering with UL, The Joint Commission and The American Society for Healthcare Engineering to present a different version of the program - called a 'Barrier Management Symposium'.

The Program has leading speakers including:

- Bill Koffel, Koffel Associates representing FCIA presents on Barriers;
- Anne Guglielmo, The Joint Commission addresses why Barriers are important and what the violations are in healthcare facilities;
- Rich Walke, UL covers the Testing of Barriers;

- Nestor Sanchez, USG Corporation talks about Fire Rated Gypsum Wallboard Assemblies;
- National Concrete Masonry Association looks at Concrete Assemblies;
- Paul Ballairgeon, DHI looks at Fire Rated Swinging Doors and Builders Hardware;
- Bill McHugh, FCIA on Firestopping's DIIM;
- Marc Sorge, Greenheck reviews Fire and Smoke Dampers;
- Technical Glass Products on Fire Rated Glazing;
- and, Bill McHugh & Anne Guglielmo jointly review Barrier Management Systems.

The symposium attracts between 130 and 200 attendees per 1-1/2 day session. The next Symposium is scheduled for April 13-15 in Rochester, MN. This event, hosted by ASHE Region 6, will be held at the Kahler Grand Hotel. Cost to attend is \$50/attendee, but space is limited for FCIA Members.



For more information, watch <http://www.fcia.org/barriermanagementsymposium.htm>.

In addition to this BMS event, three more similar programs are being planned around the country. Keep your eye on FCIA's [Barrier Management Symposium page](#) for details.

FCIA Webinars



FCIA conducts [FREE Webinars](#) to FCIA Members, Building Officials, Fire Marshals, Specifiers, Architects, Building Owners and Managers and many others. *Need CEU's for FM Approvals' FM 4991 or UL's Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs?* This [FREE Webinar series](#) fulfills the CEU requirements for both programs.

The topics are varied and always thoroughly analyzed, with a multitude of real-world examples and situations looked at. Plus, we always have an active time with many questions and a great exchange worldwide.

This year, the schedule consisted of 8 webinars. For 2015, we are expanding that to be monthly. The schedule was released earlier this month. If you missed it, email info@fcia.org to get a copy. Also, check out www.FCIA.org for announcements.

Did you miss a presentation? Past presentations can be found in "Hot News" at www.FCIA.org, or at <http://www.fcia.org/articles/presentations.htm>.

FCIA Presents at CONSTRUCTCanada

FCIA traveled to Toronto and [CONSTRUCTCanada](#) to present the DIIM of Firestopping in early December. We had a great audience with questions about how to specify FM 4991 and ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors, inspection, firestop applications and more about Systems while presenting.

FCIA Member Jim Smiley from Nexlevel attended providing support to the program.



FCIA Goes to ICC

ICC's 2018 Code Development Cycle starts with code proposal submissions, due January 12, 2015. The ICC Committee Action Hearings will take place in Memphis, TN April 17-30, 2015, and will focus on the Group A International Codes.



FCIA's Bill Koffel attended the ICC Fire Code Action Committee, Building Code Action Committee, Code Technology Committee joint meeting in Chicago in early December. Several topics ranging from the International Fire Code Chapter 7 reorganization, and much more were discussed.

For the ICC 2018 Code Development Cycle, the FCIA Code Committee has already met to discuss concepts from which to build code development proposals. For

continuity and to address the complexity of code development, the committee is made up of seasoned board members.

FCIA Members Renewing

FCIA Memberships have been renewing at a fast pace!

We're pleased that members recognize the value of FCIA Membership and renew quickly. Need another invoice? Email info@fcia.org, and we'll get you another fast.

FCIA Contractor Members: If you haven't renewed yet, there's still time to get your dues in before the Dec. 31 deadline to qualify for the \$25 discount. For questions, call +1 708-202-1108 or email lindsey@fcia.org.



FCIA 2015 Events Calendar

FCIA has been very active throughout the building industry, working to grow the demand for specialty firestop contractors through exposure, education and good, old-fashioned one-on-one conversation. 2015 is shaping up to be a blockbuster year for spreading the word about the DIIM or Firestopping and the importance of hiring specialty firestop contractors and inspectors.

Keep an eye on the Hot News at www.FCIA.org, where we post frequent updates for members and others, as well as the [Events page](#), where you can find more detailed information for specific events.

FCIA Welcomes New Members

FCIA welcomes new members, and we thank them for their support. Thank you to all current members, as well, for helping to build FCIA and the firestopping industry.

FCIA New Contractor Members

- Paramount Builders - Oakland, CA
- Thermo-Tec Insulation -



Cleveland, OH

- Canyon Insulation, Inc. - Corona, CA
- EOC Solutions - Manchester, NH

FCIA New International Contractor Members

- The Owners Enterprises - Doha, Qatar
- International Gulf Trading Company Chubb Fire Qatar - Doha, Qatar

FCIA New Associate Branch Members

- JHC Fire Containment Solutions - CO Branch

FCIA New International Associate Members

- AON Fire Protection Engineering - Dubai

FCIA New Friend of FCIA Members

- Altru Health Systems - Grand Forks, ND

FCIA New Silver Level Manufacturer Members

- National Gypsum - Charlotte, NC

Manufacturer members, there's a new benefit available. The [Member List](#) section of www.FCIA.org now contains your [corporate listing](#) with the USA Contacts listed.

To find local, worldwide contacts in Canada, Middle East, India and other parts of the world, website visitors only see the home office in the USA.

Make it easier to be found worldwide with a '**Branch Listing**' at www.FCIA.org. Questions? Email lindsey@fcia.org and we'll fill you in.

At FCIA, we have had a very busy - but productive - year. As a specialized trade industry, we have taken great strides over the past few years. The healthcare industry has recognized, and continues to highlight, the importance of effective compartmentation and firestopping. We hear that the economy is getting better in many areas with sales volumes improving for the industry. From a fire and life safety perspective, we certainly hope that building owners and managers in many other critical high-occupancy arenas recognize that firestopping and barriers need to be maintained and managed. When they do, FCIA will be there pointing out the fact that FCIA Members are best equipped to service the firestopping and the complete barrier. They are truly the best.

The Staff at FCIA – Bill, Linda, Lindsey and Sandy – wish you and your families the very best for the Holiday Season and a great 2015.

***Bill McHugh, FCIA
Executive Director***

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