FCIA Position on the New ASTM Guide - FCIA Standards Committee Alert

ASTM E3157-19, Standard Guide for Understanding and Using Information Related to the Installation of Firestop Systems (ASTM Guide), was published in June, 2019. This ASTM Guide was developed by a task group at ASTM.

The ASTM Guide contains many recommendations, some of which could increase the cost of the project and possibly impact the schedule, along with incorrect statements and terms. Further, the ASTM Guide presents product usage limitations NOT listed in: the Manufacturers’ installation instructions; product data sheets; UL, FM, Intertek, or other laboratory listings; or directory guide Information.

FCIA’s Standards Committee Chairs, Eric Keeton (Dalton Protection, Inc.) and Tracy Smith (Firestop Southwest), along with other FCIA Members and Executive Director, (continued on page 2)
FCIA Standards Committee Alert cont'd

Bill McHugh, participated in the ASTM Task Group during development. The group raised objections that were NOT originally addressed in the final ASTM Guide, which has now been published and is actively being promoted by other organizations. The significant list of objections submitted were voted down procedurally without adequate discussion before publication of the ASTM Guide.

According to the Firestop Manufacturers participating at the ASTM Task Group meetings, each a member of the International Firestop Council (the Firestop Manufacturers Association), the new ASTM Guide is an OPTIONAL document and is not to be considered a mandatory document, as it is a Guide.

Therefore, FCIA does not endorse use of the ASTM Guide by Specifiers, AHJ’s, Inspection Agencies, and Contractors.

FCIA recommends that Firestop installation Contractors consider qualifications and exclusions that specifically address the ASTM Guide.

As with all contract issues, consider contacting the company attorney or legal department about your specific needs.

FCIA Members and Staff remain committed to working diligently at ASTM and with the Firestop Manufacturers to make the ASTM Guide a value to the industry.

For more information, contact us at info@FCIA.org.

FCIA Firestop 'DIIM' Symposium Canada Opens Soon

Next week marks the opening of the FCIA Firestop & Effective Compartmentation 'DIIM' Symposium Canada in Montreal, QC at the Hotel Omni Mont-Royal.

The September 25 event is a full-day educational Symposium dedicated to the Firestop industry in Canada. Topics that will be covered include: NBC/NFC Code Requirements for firestopping; fire dampers; swinging fire doors; perimeter fire-containment systems; and labeling.

Then, on September 26, Firestop Contractors looking to pursue third-party accreditation under the ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Program and Special Inspection Agencies pursuing IAS AC 291 Accreditation are welcome to register for the half-day of education for the ULC Firestop Exam and the ULC Firestop Exam.

Visit us online to learn more and to register.

Note: Building Code Officials, Fire Marshals, Architects/Specifiers/Engineers at Design Firms, and Facility Management Personnel at Health Care or Educational Facilities are invited to attend the ‘DIIM’ Symposium Canada for FREE.

Inquire at info@FCIA.org to verify qualification for this offer.
FCIA Celebrates Key Milestone this November

This November marks the 20th Anniversary for FCIA, and the group is pulling out all the stops to celebrate in style.

Join FCIA this November 4-8 at the National Doral Hotel & Spa in Miami, FL for FIC '19 - the FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show - and commemorate this momentous milestone.

From blockbuster speakers and dynamic, technically relevant presentations to unforgettable events, the week promises to deliver something memorable at every turn.

Be sure to attend the keynote session with Rob Stevens (Leadership for Now), ‘An Executive Overview of The Ken Blanchard Companies Situational Leadership II’, for an overview of the renowned management model developed by The Ken Blanchard Companies.

Plus, explore other engaging sessions with technical powerhouses like: Jill Norcott (FM), Ruben Sandoval, Jr. (UL), Richard Branch (Dodge Data & Analytics), Karen Layng (M.A.I.T. Co.), George Mills (JLL Healthcare Solutions), Rich Walke (UL), Kevin LaMalva, P.E. (Simpson Gumpertz & Heger), Frank Marino (Safety Check, Inc.), Bill Koffel, P.E. (Koffel Associates), and more.

Participate in the FCIA Memorial Golf Tournament and support the FCIA President's Memorial Scholarship(s) for Fire Protection Engineering students. Treat your guest to a unique experience with the Airboatin’ in the Everglades Guest Tour. Take a trip down memory lane during the FCIA 20th Anniversary Celebration & Awards Dinner. But the surprises don't end there!

To learn more and to register online, visit [www.fcia.org/articles/FIC_Miami_2019_Events.htm](http://www.fcia.org/articles/FIC_Miami_2019_Events.htm).

FCIA Elections

Are you a voting Contractor or voting Inspection Agency Member at FCIA? Look for an election packet in late September from FCIA’s Nominations Committee.

Board of Directors nominees are selected from current, active FCIA Member firms. All FCIA Board of Directors positions are volunteer positions, including the FCIA Board President position, which is selected from the sitting Board.

Your vote for Board Members is important, so make sure you vote!
FCIA Webinars

Each month, we venture into fire-resistance-rated and smoke-resistant assembly subject matter with the FCIA FREE Educational Webinar Series. PDFs of the monthly presentations are available online. FCIA Members get access to recordings in the Members Only section. Not an FCIA Member? Join FCIA to get access to the recordings.

Learn more

Next FCIA Webinar

Tuesday, October 15
10:00 am CDT
REGISTER TODAY

FCIA Presents at OGS NY State

Throughout the year, the FCIA office fields requests for presentations to various groups. One such request was from the Office of General Services in Albany, NY. The Office of General Services in Albany, NY is responsible for writing Specifications for NY-owned buildings statewide.

This September, FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, traveled to Albany, NY to present to the group. The 2-hour presentation, ‘A Study on the ‘DIIM’ of Firestopping’, which included Specifications, existing building maintenance responsibilities, and much more, provided dynamic content and created great conversation with this key organization.

NEW

Chicago’ized’ IBC

From December ‘18 to late March ‘19, the City of Chicago’s Working Groups merged key Chicago Building Code elements into the 2018 International Building Code (IBC). The Working Groups met weekly, while Stakeholders and Working Groups met monthly. There were many organizations working on the Code development, including FCIA as a Stakeholder.

FCIA worked with the City to keep fire-resistance-rated corridors as part of the new Chicago’ized’ IBC. There were several other fire-resistance items that were kept from the legacy Chicago Building Code. The first publications come out October and the Code becomes effective for buildings permitted in August, 2020.
FSNA Meets

The Fire Safe North America, formerly the Alliance for Fire and Smoke Containment and Control, met in Chicago on August 24. Attendees included STI President Charbel Tagher, Rectorseal VP Riley Archer, Thermafiber’s Technical Services Leader, Angie Ogino, ROCKWOOL’s Sr. Manager, Codes, Standards, and Fire Safety, Rick Roos, the Air Movement and Control Association (AMCA), North American Insulation Manufacturers Association (NAIMA), Smoke-Guard, and others. While not in attendance, Hilti and 3M Fire Protection Products round out the Firestop industry input to the group.

Bill and Lynn Koffel did a great job managing the meeting. FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, presented on the new Chicago’ized’ International Building Code.

FCIA at TIAC

FCIA’s Executive Director, Bill McHugh, travelled to Montreal to present on Firestopping in Canada to the Thermal Insulation Association of Canada’s Contractor Membership. Many Canada FCIA Contractor Members have come from this group, and we were honored to be invited again to speak.

Thanks to Joey Fabing, Nexlevel Construction Solutions, for the invite and to Rob Gray for introducing us to the group several years ago. We always enjoy being with our Canada friends.

FCIA Partners Around the Globe

Trade Shows around the world give FCIA an opportunity to spread the word of the ‘DIIM’ of Firestopping & Effective Compartmentation to interested professionals worldwide. Through participation at these events and premier placement of Life Safety Digest, FCIA and our Members are exposed to decision-makers and key players in the industry. Here is a look at some of what’s coming up for FCIA...

FCIA Partners with OFSEC

OFSEC 2019 is Oman’s only comprehensive exhibition on fire, safety, and security.

The 3-day Exhibition will attract participation from a large number of exhibitors and representation from over 30 countries. The expo is aligned with the demand and supply of the market across the board of industries to share best practices, tackle challenges, and explore breakthrough methods for the integration of safety and security technologies.

And More...

Look for FCIA and Life Safety Digest at these other industry events around North America: CHES Annual Conference, September 22-24 in Saskatoon, SK; CONSTRUCT, October 9-11 in National Harbor, MD; and the IFMA World Workplace, October 16-18 in Phoenix, AZ.
FCIA at CHES

FCIA’s Canada Committee Members, Jim Smiley (ICON Insulation) and John Sharpe (Pro Firestop) travel to Saskatoon, SK this September 22-24 to represent FCIA at the Canadian Healthcare Engineering Society (CHES) Annual Convention. FCIA is lucky to have such dedicated member volunteers who make a difference at all of these events.

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

- Phoenix Firestop Contracting - Portland, ME
- Gotham General Carpentry - Yonkers, NY

**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.
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