



*FCIA Accreditation,
Code, Standards,
Committees & More....*



FCIA E-newsletter – July 25, 2012

FCIA at UL's Annual Meeting

FCIA and many other industries attended Underwriters Laboratories' Annual Meeting May 7-9. FCIA's Bill McHugh attended the UL Fire Council Meetings where leaders from fire protection industries gathered. There were two days of sessions on new and existing fire safety technology improvements. We met some old friends and made new relationships along the way with contacts in the US, Canada, India, Europe and China.

FCIA at ICC Hearings

FCIA attended the ICC Code Development Hearings in Dallas May 1-6. FCIA's Bill Koffel presented several code development proposals for FCIA and spoke on FCIA's behalf on a few other proposals. While at FCIA's Education and Committee Action Meetings, ICC's former President Ron Lynn, CBO, spoke to FCIA. 'If you want to brand yourselves as a trade, you need to be involved in the code development hearings and be visible'. Ron read our minds. FCIA's Bill McHugh was appointed by ICC's Board to the ICC Fire Safety Committee for this code development cycle. The opportunity to be part of the committee was an honor...and a lot of work. After serving, I have a great respect for those who serve on these committees and the ICC staff that manages the process. Final Action Hearings for 'Group A' Codes take place in Portland, OR in October. Look for a special report shortly.

FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show

Come to Disney's Adult Grand Floridian Resort in Orlando November 7-9 for this important event. We have some great speakers including the Joint Commission and others. Watch for the Education Programming, Ray Usher Golf Tourney info that funds the Bob LeClair Scholarship, and more! FCIA has a Great rate too at \$189/nite. Check out FCIA.org, events for info.

FCIA at IAS Board Meeting

FCIA's Executive Director Bill McHugh was appointed by IAS and ICC's Board of Directors to be a Board Member at International Accreditation Services (IAS). IAS accredits many different organizations in several industries. FCIA was involved in the

editing of IAS AC 291, Accreditation Criteria for Special Inspection Agencies for firestopping. The ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Standards for the Inspection of Penetration and Joint Firestops are used by special inspection agencies. FCIA believes that installation by FCIA Members, FM 4991 Approved, UL Qualified, inspected by an educated firestop inspector who is part of an IAS AC 291 Accredited Firestop Special Inspection Agency, brings the best value to the building owner and manager for installed firestopping.

FCIA Board Elections

The FCIA voting membership elects 3 new board members from the contractor membership each year. Are you interested in becoming a FCIA Director serving a 2 year term? Email bill@fcia.org your interest by Sept. 10, and the FCIA Nominating Committee will contact you. Check out FCIA.org, board for info.

FCIA Accreditation Committee Educates FM Auditors

FM Approvals' FM 4991 Standard for the Approval of Firestop Contractors Program includes a person who passes the FM Firestop Exam and manages the company's firestop installation process. Then, the company must pass a rigorous audit of the management system that controls the firestop installation process at the contracting company. FM Approvals Auditors conduct the 'FM 4991 Audit'. These auditors visit firestop companies and review the contractors' processes for compliance. It's great to have had the opportunity to educate auditors about the firestopping industry so they are more effective when auditing firestop contractors.

Thanks to FCIA Accreditation Committee chair Aedan Gleeson and Committee Member Don Murphy for bringing our Firestopping world to the FM Auditors. It will add value to the program.



FCIA Educates FM Auditors

UL Firestop Exams

FCIA spends time at UL's various locations delivering the FCIA Education Session to those seeking to pass the UL Firestop Exam and become UL Qualified Firestop Contractors. We've flown to Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Melville NY, and Northbrook, IL. The next UL Firestop Exam takes place in November at FCIA's Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show. FCIA will offer a 'FCIA Management System Education' Webinar in Late August. Watch Enews and FCIA's Website for more info.

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 firestopping, fireproofing, and effective compartmentation features and more. Send articles to bill@fcia.org.

Life Safety
DIGEST

ASTM E06 Meetings

FCIA's Standards Chair Eric Keeton and Vice Chair Tracy Smith, plus manufacturers, consultants and others worked together to review proposals to change ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 reflecting better performance of FM 4991 Approved and/or UL Qualified specialty firestop contractors. The group also conducted a webinar July 19. As a result, a ballot is being prepared that provides an incentive for building owners and managers to specify and use FM 4991 Approved and/or UL Qualified Firestop Contractors. Also, ASTM Committee E 36 was looking at duplicating ASTM E 2174 & ASTM E 2393. FCIA objected through a negative and manufacturers lead by IFC President Jim Stahl, Jr., attended meetings to object as well. Watch www.FCIA.org for more info.

CCHRB Education Session

Chicago's Council on High Rise Buildings held a session on the Stack Effect in high rise buildings last month. During the session, the word 'compartmentation' came up several times as a way to control air movement in buildings mitigating the 'stack effect' that occurs in these occupancies. FCIA was mentioned from the introductory remarks of Kim Clawson, Chair of the meeting, 'Bill McHugh, FCIA's Executive Director, told

me that the 2005 CCHRB Seminar (with Guylene Proulx and Dick Bukowski speaking) provided motivation for the associations programs moving forward'. Other key points included relationship between pressures and building features, the need for elevator lobbies and revolving doors in high rise occupancies to mitigate 'stack effect in buildings. One speaker mentioned, 'should we rely on one system for safety in buildings? If I'm in an 80 story building, and the sprinkler doesn't work, what happens?' We appreciate high level groups being proactive such as CCHRB. www.cchrb.org

FCIA Welcomes NEW Members!!

NEW FCIA Contractor Members

ARC Electrical – W. Brooklyn, NY
Crown Contracting – Mount Pearl, Newfoundland CAN
Donalco, Inc. – Ottawa, Ontario, CAN
Elzinga-Volkers Construction Professionals – Holland, MI
FireStop LLC – Fountain Hills, AZ
Fundy Pros Specialty Construction – Dieppe, New Brunswick, CAN
K. Guller Insulation – Lafayette Hill, PA
Keating Insulation, Inc. – Thunder Bay, Ontario, CAN
Nabholz Construction Corporation – Oklahoma City, OK
North American Contracting Services – S. Richmond Hill, NY
Pentagon Structures, LTD – Edmonton, Alberta, CAN
Power Vac-Belfor – Paradise, Newfoundland, CAN
PM Construction – Saco, ME
Ryder Insulation, Inc. – Houston, TX
TBN Associates, Inc. – Lanham, MD
Vancouver Building Maintenance – Dubai, UAE
Wyatt Inc. – Pittsburgh, PA

NEW FCIA Manufacturer Members

Intumescent Technologies - GA
RectorSeal Corp. – Houston, TX

NEW FCIA Associate Members

Aon Fire Protection Engineering - AZ
B&L Bolt, Inc. - MI
Prime Industries, Inc. - CO
RR Firestop Consultants – IN
Skyline Special Inspection Agency - NY
Walter T. Gorman - NY

FCIA also thanks the many members who renewed their dues for 2012. As an association, FCIA's retention has averaged from 85-92% over the years. This is a testament to the hard work of the committees and staff teams working together.

Firestop Inspector 'words'

FCIA was warned that the term 'Firestop Inspector' was about to be trade-marked. FCIA and others invested resources to create the ASTM E 2174, ASTM E 2393 Standards, get them into MasterSpec and SpecLink, approved and referenced in IBC Chapter 17 Special Inspections. FCIA's Chicago Trade Mark and Patent Attorney objected on our behalf for the benefit of mainly the FCIA Inspection Agency Members and we prevailed. We hope that through this support of Firestop Special Inspection Agencies that we continue to prove the value of FCIA membership.

FCIA Displays at Trade Shows

FCIA's Trade Show booth has been busy showing people who buy or influence fire and life safety all about Firestopping Design, Installation, Inspection and Maintenance.



Don Murphy & Johnny Mendez.
Brooke Army Medical center

FCIA Marketing Chair Don Murphy and Bill McHugh worked the American Society of Healthcare Engineers (ASHE) **Annual Conference** last week in San Antonio. ASHE reports a record turnout of attendees including Healthcare Engineers at the show. We did get to see some Canadian friends at this show as well. A visitors list is on the FCIA Website, Members Only.



ASHE Image

FCIA will be exhibiting at **CONSTRUCT2012 (Sept. 12-14)** to continue conversations with Specifiers. We'll be at The International Code Council's '**ICC Expo**' to visit with Building Officials and Fire Marshals as well. The Marketing Committee, Chaired by Don and Mike Pautsch, Superl, Inc., are planning 2013's efforts now.



FCIA Staff Changes

We welcome Evie Caprel back to FCIA as Associate Executive Director, Membership. Evie worked with us at FCIA in 2007 and helped train Angie Sims. Angie Sims is spending time with her family this summer and may return for special projects from time to time. We miss Angie, and really appreciate having Evie back. Her experience as a business owner brings FCIA much depth and experience to our group. Welcome back Evie!

***Best wishes for a safe, successful
summer construction season.
Bill McHugh, FCIA
Executive Director***

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