



FCIA eNewsletter – October

Summer is behind us Lindsey, and boy have we been busy at FCIA!

FCIA's Staff and Volunteers have been Exhibiting; Presenting at ASHE, NFPA, CSI/CONSTRUCT; Hosting FCIA Symposiums; and Planning for 2015. It's been a whirlwind of a few months as FCIA continues to work around the clock - and globe - to spread the word about the DIIM of Firestopping and the importance of Firestopping and Effective Compartmentation as a SYSTEM.

Every day there are small steps...which in the long-run add up to giant leaps for the industry. We are thrilled for progress that has already been made, excited for what is happening now and optimistic for what is yet to come.

On the Road Again...FCIA Hits the Road for CONSTRUCT 2014 and the ICC Annual Expo

Your FCIA Marketing Committee team has been busy the last several weeks promoting the industry to the world through: the concept of the specialty firestop contractor; the benefit of the special inspection; and the principles of the [DIIM of Firestopping](#) - proper Design, Installation, Inspection and Maintenance.

The group's first stop was Baltimore, MD for CONSTRUCT2014. CONSTRUCT and the CSI Annual Convention were well-attended, as always. FCIA's Thursday morning Presentation also had a record number of registrants. Our presenters stayed after for long conversations with Specifiers from around the USA and Canada.



Most important, FCIA representatives spent time suggesting that Firestop Specifications consolidate from two sections, 07-84-10 Penetrations and 07-84-20 Joints, **to a single section, 07-84-00 Firestopping**. Since the text for the spec section is very similar, it makes sense to minimize specification size with a consolidated spec.

Thanks to Marketing Committee Members Bryant Bickmore, Chair Don Murphy, and FCIA Board Member Scott Rankin for working the show.



Then, we boarded a plane to Ft. Lauderdale, FL for the ICC Annual

Conference and Expo. FCIA's Booth at the ICC Expo had great traffic with many friends stopping over to visit.

Our topics included - of course - the [DIIM of Firestopping](#) and the need for AHJ approval of both the Approved Agency (Inspection Company) and Special Inspector (Individual). We also stressed the importance of using the FM & UL Firestop Exams as a way to prove competence in Firestopping and Special Inspections for inspectors.

2014 Barrier Management Symposium Calendar Draws to a Successful Close



FCIA, ASHE, UL and The Joint Commission came together this September to host the final [Barrier Management Symposium](#) of 2014 in Long Beach, CA aboard the historic Queen Mary. The location was stunning and the group was eager to learn. There was even some **FREE** late night excitement with a **midnight fire alarm** which kept us all on our toes.

Attendees hailed from all over - Alberta to Arizona, Kentucky to California. The big topic was tying all of the various components of firestopping together to build the concept of fire resistance rated construction working as a **SYSTEM** in healthcare and all other types of buildings.

Introductions were covered by the California Society of Healthcare Engineers' Ken Nelson, [ASHE's Jonathan Flannery](#) and [The Joint Commission's Anne Guglielmo](#), and then the educational sessions began. The Symposium had sessions covering a wide-range of common violations, including:

- [Barriers and Code Requirements](#), presented by FCIA's Consultant Bill Koffel
- [Fire and Smoke Resistance Testing](#), with UL's Rich Walke
- [Gypsum Wall Assemblies](#), looked at by USG's Nestor Sanchez
- [Concrete Assemblies](#), covered by John Chrysler
- [Issues in the DIIM of Firestopping](#), led by our very own Bill McHugh
- [Common Violations for Swinging Fire Doors and Hardware](#), covered by DHI's Paul Baillargeon
- [Fire-Rated Glazing](#), with TGP's Patrick Murphy
- [Barrier Management and Above Ceiling Permit Programs](#), with TJC's Anne Guglielmo

Those who attended the sessions came away with a greater understanding of the function of barrier systems as a whole, including: how the different pieces work

together to create a **SYSTEM** that offers reliable building safety; and how to evaluate and manage these **SYSTEMS** for long-term solutions to questions of life-safety.

FCIA continues to lead the charge on bringing the message of the [DIIM of Firestopping](#) to the masses. The schedule for Barrier Management Symposia in 2015 is being finalized as we speak. Check the [Barrier Management Symposium](#) page at www.fcia.org often for new details.

Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show is Almost Here!

Only 3 Weeks Remain Until the Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show!

Attend educational sessions led by the industry's leaders and innovators. Attend fun events and see some of the sights! Brainstorm with professionals like yourself from all over the world on common problems and solutions. Live it up with FCIA as we celebrate our turning 15!

Although the bulk of the program takes place on Thursday, this year's [Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show](#) lineup is packed all the way to the end. Stick around Friday for the Florida State Fire Marshal's session, the benefits of Social Media Marketing and FCIA's New Open Mic Session.

[Registration for the conference remains open](#), and yes, there are still a few FCIA rooms at the Naples Beach Hotel & Golf Club. Make your reservations and get to Naples, FL November 4-7.

Register NOW!

*Trouble with Hotel Reservations? Contact the FCIA office and we'll do all we can at the hotel for you. Still not working out? Take a look at FCIA's backup lodging option at the [Naples Grande Resort](#). Mention FCIA when booking your stay.



Beef Up Your Knowledge with FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice (MOP)

It's not too late to get your copy of the updated [FCIA Firestop Manual of Practice](#).

Earlier this year, the MOP's Chapter 3 received a major overhaul. Content was expanded from 50 pages to over 600.

Beginning January 2, 2015, both the FM and UL Firestop exams will include this Chapter 3 update. If you will be looking to take either of the firestop exams in 2015, you will need the [Manual of Practice](#) - including the Chapter 3 update - to study.

Take the first step to begin the process of becoming a [FM 4991 Approved](#) or [UL/ULC Qualified](#) Firestop Contractor.

To [order](#) your copy of the [Manual of Practice](#) today, contact Lindsey at lindsey@fcia.org. FCIA Members receive a **\$600 discount** on the complete [Manual of Practice](#).

* Electronic Chapter 3 Updates were distributed to FCIA Members earlier this year. Didn't get yours? Contact Lindsey at lindsey@fcia.org to request your copy. Want a hard copy? Those with existing copies of the Manual of Practice can purchase the Chapter 3 update to add to their hard copy for \$95.



FCIA Works With ASTM on Standards for Firestopping Inspection



FCIA's Standards Committee Chair, Eric Keeton, FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, and Koffel Associates' representative, Jim Lathrop, traveled to New Orleans to meet with ASTM's E-06.21 task

team on the ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 Standards for Firestopping Inspection. Through a proposal from the task group, we added information about Firestop products during curing in the appendix and are working through negative votes on other issues. Watch for more changes to the documents to keep them up to date as they publish later in 2014.

Webinar Recap: Another Great One on the Books

FCIA Executive Director, Bill McHugh, hosted another chapter in the [DIIM of Firestopping Webinar Series](#) this past Wednesday, October 15. This session revisited the topic of Inspection, and focused specifically on systems analysis and how to evaluate the competence of the Special Inspection Agency and the Special Inspector.

Here's what people had to say about the FCIA hosted Webinar:

"I appreciate you the time to educate us on this important issue."

"The training I have received from FCIA has certainly added to the safety and well-being of many persons that will never know about FCIA."

Watch your email for more information about the next Webinar - slated for November.

FCIA Education Works to Assist Contractors' Bid for Success

As specifications appear and more get held throughout the world, more and more contractors are looking to become [FM 4991 Approved](#) or [UL/ULC Qualified](#) Firestop Contractors. The first step is taking - and passing - the Firestop Exam, which is then followed by building a Quality Management System Manual and getting ready for the audit.

FCIA offers a 4 hour Education Program prior to the UL and FM Firestop Exams at least 6 times yearly, including at this year's FIC Conference.

At the September UL Firestop Exam at UL's Headquarters in Northbrook, IL, FCIA's Education Session based on the Firestop Manual of Practice, including a heavy focus on systems selection and analysis, helped big time.

Congratulations are in order as there were *passing grades all around!*

FCIA Supports Middle East FireSafe 2014

[Middle East FireSafe 2014](#) is set to kick off October 20-22nd in Dubai, UAE at Habtoor Grand Beach Resort & Spa.

The forum takes learnings from key takeaway sessions over the past editions to provide focus on new techniques employed in fire components, fire-safety analysis, investigation and reporting, and a look into active and passive safety measures for better fire safe implementation.

The platform will bring together dignitaries from government institutions, construction, oil & gas, transport, port authorities, utilities, financial institutions, manufacturing industry and solution providers to discuss fire safe issues that affect human life and property.



FCIA Manufacturers on the Move

Many may not know that HILTI's **Guy Bradley** is now working much less at HILTI. We've been very glad to have someone as passionate about Firestopping as Guy participate actively in our industry for the past many years. We've also been pleased to meet and get to know Guy's replacement **John Weubling**, along with HILTI's Lichtenstein worldwide Head of Marketing, **Matthias Bever**, along with **Chris Kusel** as well.

Rectorseal's **Randy Clark** joined us at FCIA's three symposiums this year. Why is this so *Cool*? Randy was President at IFC many years ago and we appreciate all his years of contributions. Both **Riley Archer** and **John Goga** also continue to bring years of experience to FCIA Members as well.

Roxul's Worldwide presence is always there. Their staff including **John Scott**, **Mike Kozokowski** and **Bob Flanagan** have all been very gracious each time we've met with them.

At Specified Technologies, Inc., (STI), there's a big 25 celebration coming and plans for the future. Listen for the big announcement in Naples. Plus, **Jeff Wexler** was promoted to Director of Sales, Construction Channel to help lead sales and development domestically. **Brian Murphy** was promoted to Marketing Manager while **John Hurley** moves to Director of Sales, Electrical, Communications and Industrial. John replaces **Pedro Morillas**, who is retiring after 10 years.

At Thermafiber, an Owens Corning Company, we continue to have a consistent team serving FCIA Members. **Mike Williams**, **Rick Reuss** and **Angie Oginio** all assist technically (along with a big team) to keep us informed about their programs.

Thermal Ceramics' **Clay Booth** was promoted to National Sales Manager last year after 18 years in operations and business development roles at the ceramic fiber fire resistant ductwrap systems segment.

At 3M, we continue to see **Bill Kesting**, **Ted Colwell**, **Tom Thoreson** and the team at Industry Trade Shows such as CONSTRUCT, NFPA and ASHE. And, we saw **George Yoshida**, who is still involved and very healthy, at a show this summer.

At Balco, we enjoyed getting to know **Jim Armour** before he retired. The new team of **Ronnie Leonard**, **Ron Thompson** and **Peter Logdsdon** has picked up seamlessly where Jim left off.

Our friends at EMSEAL have had the same ownership for 20+ years with team members **Han Ling** and President, **Dan O'Hayer** bringing their talents to FCIA.

So what's the big deal about these people and companies? FCIA's Member Manufactures have provided stable teams servicing the industry throughout the past 25 years. That brings huge dividends in efficiency - due to technical and industry cumulative knowledge - but best of all, it creates strong relationships.

Our hats are off to these companies and their teams. It is a real compliment to the company, and the many individuals who choose to spend their career with them, that there are such long-term leaders in Firestopping. The adjustments each company has made as people are promoted, retire or choose to move on, has shown their strong commitment to a great future for our Firestopping Industry.

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

- KMI Fire - Phoenix, AZ
- Sharpe Interior Systems - Valencia, CA
- TCB Insulation Co. - Houston, TX



New International Contractor Members

- Fann & ETQAN Trading and Contracting - Doha, Qatar

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.

So, let's celebrate FCIA's 15 years in Florida as we look forward to the next hundred years and beyond as the Firestopping Industry FCIA Members - Contractors, Manufacturers, Consultants, Distributors and Reps - continue to dedicate their companies - and employees - to making Firestopping, Fire Resistance and Effective Compartmentation a very reliable fire and life-safety item in buildings.

Bill McHugh, FCIA

Executive Director

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