



FCIA Enewsletter - June 19, 2010 – FCIA Conferences, FCIA at IAPMO, ICC Code Hearings, ASHE, etc.

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~FCIA Education and Committee Action

Conference a big Success – With a view from the 32nd Floor on top of Union Square’s Westin St. Francis Hotel, FCIA had productive committee meetings. Members took and passed the FM & UL Firestop Exams, the 1st step towards becoming a DRI, and enjoyed some great education.

The Accreditation Committee hired Steve Lerman to deliver a program on Management Systems Manual Development, with the handout a ‘sample’ manual.



Just getting your program started? Copies of the MSM are available from the FCIA office. Email angies@fcia.org to request.

We were pleased to have Jeff Gould, FM Approvals, Sandi McCracken of International Accreditation Services, Gary Knief, Underwriters Laboratories all on hand to answer questions, and add to the program. Thanks to all.

Part I of FCIA’s Education Programs on Infectious Disease Control, (Linda Hickey, UC Irvine), Part I of FCIA’s ICC Chapter 7 Education Series (Rich Walke, UL), another program on ‘Inspection from an Inspection Agency View’, (Pat Tesche, Telgian) Photoluminescent Marking Marketing and Technical Program (Jim Armor, BALCO) the experts helped us understand Perimeter Fire Containment, (Jim Shriver, Thermafiber, Mike Pautsch, Superl), were all featured at the conference. Plus, committee meetings had productive input from members who are current and new committee members.

Watch for Part II of the Infectious Disease Control and ICC Chapter 7 Series...with a short review to

refresh what we learned in San Francisco, and much new material to cover in these important topic areas. And, check out the conference programs available in the members’ only area, <http://www.fcia.org> .

~FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show

– More top notch opportunities for relationship building...all at FCIA’s fall conference November 9-12, at the Westin Kierland Resort in Scottsdale, AZ. The Ray Usher Memorial Golf Tournament proceeds fund a scholarship for Fire Protection Engineering Students at Univ. of MD. Check out the hotel, at <http://www.fcia.org>, click on Events.

~FCIA at IAPMO Hearings

– FCIA’s Gary Hamilton attended the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials Code Development Hearings in Milwaukee just before FCIA’s Education and Committee Action Conference. FCIA submitted code proposals to *remove* ASME A 112.20.2 as a mandatory requirement by the code through language in IAPMO’s Uniform Plumbing Code, Chapter 3, Administration. IAPMO Staff also submitted a similar code change, which PASSED at the committee level. There are still several meetings left in the process before we accomplish our goals.

~FCIA at ICC Final Action Hearings

– FCIA’s items that were debated are all about the “II” part of the “DIIM-Design, Install, Inspect, Manage” Strategy that FCIA launched over 10 years ago.

FCIA’s Code Committee led by Gary Hamilton and Bob LeClair, has teleconferenced several times with Code Consultant Bill Koffel and Bill McHugh, plus the International Firestop Council, preparing for the ICC Final Action Hearings in Dallas.

The code development process is very transparent and well organized. Anyone, yes, anyone, can propose a change to a code. Committees are about 15 members, and made up of industry and governmental members. They debate the proposals at ICC Committee

Hearings, grouped by topic. Those hearings were completed November 2009 in Baltimore. Committees vote to APPROVE as SUBMITTED, MODIFIED, or DISSAPPROVE the Proposals. Results are available at <http://www.iccsafe.org>, code development, 2009/2010 Cycle.

If someone disagrees with the APPROVED or DISSAPPROVED proposals, then the issue is debated again, at the Final Action Hearings. For any public comment to be successful, a 2/3's vote of the voting building official and/or fire marshals in attendance at the Final Action Hearings must be garnered. Only governmental members can vote at these sessions. However, testimony is open to all.

Key issues include items for contractor qualification (the 1st I in DIIM) and independent inspection (the 2nd I in DIIM). With support from fire marshals, building officials, and others, the requirement for a contractor that is 'qualified or approved by an approved agency', such as FM Approvals or Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., FS 72, was DISAPPROVED at the Committee Hearings in Baltimore and again at the Final Action Hearings.

The second 'I', Inspection...was FCIA's Code Proposal that adds a requirement for both ASTM E 2174 and ASTM E 2393 to the Special Inspections Chapter, Ch. 17, proposal S127 & S128. This was APPROVED by the committee and APPROVED at the Final Action Hearings. This means buildings 75' above the lowest vehicle access and Occupancy type III and IV, will be required to have Special Inspections to ASTM E 2174 & ASTM E 2393 Standards for the Inspection of Penetration and Joint Firestopping. This will impact our industry, fire and life safety in a very positive way. With qualified inspection agencies, (check out FCIA.org) systems installed to the listing will be required of all...trades, specialty contractors, others. Look for more about this at Future FCIA Conferences.

Proposal FS 74, a proposal to bring specific rules to engineering judgments similar to the language in other trades, but in Chapter 7, was DISAPPROVED.

Although we won a big victory, that brought hourly ratings to occupancy separations back in buildings, through change number G 118 at the Baltimore Committee Hearings, the Final Action Assembly overturned the committee, and the proposal was

DISAPPROVED. FCIA's Bill Koffel wrote the justification for this proposal, submitted by the National Insulation Manufacturers Association and supported by the International Firestop Council.

Photoluminescent Signage is now required on doors in hotels as well, a new proposal by Manny Muniz.

Our long term view is that FCIA's 1st goal of working on the reliability of firestopping through quality submittals, installation companies, inspection and management, is moving along well. With Inspection – ASTM E 2174 & ASTM E 2393 and Management – International Fire Code 703.1 now part of the code; two of our four DIIM concepts are reality in the 2012 International Building and Fire Codes.

~FCIA at ULC and UL STP – FCIA Members are participating at UL's Standards Technical Panels (STP) to bring the contractor field perspective to the Testing Standards Development Process. At initial STP Meetings, UL's then STP Chair Daniel Ryan mentioned "if it is reasonably foreseeable that something can occur in the field, it should be reflected in the standard". The group met at FCIA's Education and Committee Action Conference in San Francisco, to discuss several points as an industry. FCIA's meeting encompassed both UL's US and ULC's Canadian Standards with new UL STP Chair Randi Myers, and UL's new Principal Engineer, Luke Woods, participating. Several FCIA Canada Members are participating too. Watch for new STP Panels forming.



FCIA at UL's STP Meeting in San Francisco

~FCIA at ASHE – FCIA's Leadership continues to meet with the American Society of Healthcare Engineers (ASHE) to build our relationship with this important occupancy that demands high quality firestopping combined with unique contractor operational requirements such as infection control, patient privacy and security issues. FCIA will attend the ASHE Show in Tampa, July 12 & 13. Look for more FCIA/ASHE collaboration efforts throughout 2010.

~**FCIA at ASSE** – FCIA’s 2010 President Randy Bosscawen, along with FCIA Members Tony Gamble, Gary Hamilton, Don Sabrsula and Pat Tesche travelled to the Cleveland Area to meet with the American Society of Sanitary Engineers (ASSE). A ASSE committee has taken responsibility for the ASME A 112.20.2 Standard for the Installation of Firestop System around Piping. It seems the plumbing industry is expanding the scope of this document to include inspection in addition to installers. ASSE is balloting their document now, with plans to complete sometime in 2010.

~ **FCIA Apprenticeship Program** – FCIA’s Apprenticeship Committee set up a ‘collaborative workspace’ called One Hub, where FCIA Members can upload files and pictures easily. Several pictures have been uploaded, which help ‘tell the installation story, step-by-step’. We need help though...from volunteers willing to take ‘step by step’ photos of several installation scenarios. We have a list going. Email bill@fcia.org for info or to provide photos.



FCIA Apprenticeship Chair Bob Hasting (L) leads discussion

~**FM 4991 Approval & UL Qualified Firestop Contractor Exams** – Both FM & UL offer testing at the FCIA Education and Committee Action Conference April 27, and at FCIA’s Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show, November 8. UL offers testing at UL in Melville, NY July 22, Toronto, ONT, October 7. Watch FCIA.org for more info.



The FM & UL Firestop Exam Participants

~**FCIA Endorsed Insurance Program** – The Phoenix Group has worked hard to get the insurance industry to understand Firestopping contractors. Need help, call Jim Venezia, 908-879-7224. He won’t ask you what firestopping is!



~**FCIA Existing Building Survey Standard Practice** – FCIA’s Ad-Hoc Committee has worked on several teleconferences to develop this new FCIA Procedure for building surveyors. Come to San Francisco to see it unveiled.



Eric Keeton, Kevin McLaughlin, spoke for Existing Building Survey Chair Aedan Gleeson & Committee

~**FCIA at IAPMO, ANSI Appeals Board** - FCIA received a formal interpretation from ANSI and IAPMO regarding the requirement that only a plumbing worker with 4 years documented experience in the installation of piping systems can install firestopping. It seems they agree with us. Meanwhile, ASME would not answer the question as they transferred the standard to ASSE. FCIA’s Code and Standards Committee thanked all involved in the program the past few years. Check out the FCIA Members Only section, for more info in early July.

~ FCIA Membership Still Growing!

~ **New 2010 FCIA Members** – FCIA new and existing members are key to the success of the Firestopping Industry. Working together for the good of the industry is the norm at FCIA, and we're glad many have chosen to join. There are always opportunities to pitch in and help at FCIA. New and existing members, just pick up the phone and call a committee chair, or FCIA's staff to learn more, and get involved. Contact info is on FCIA.org.

Contractor

Aeroplate Corp., CA
Chesapeake South, TX
Comstock Group LLC, KY
DPR Construction, Inc., CA
Drywall LTD, MA
Dynasty Construction, OH
Enviro-Management & Research, VA
Ferme Fuel Oil Co, Inc., NY
Firestopperzz LLC, MD
Foothills Building Components Ltd., AB, Canada
Lee Systems 7, Inc., IA
Low Country Insulation LLC, FL
Marciano Construction Corp., MA
Mastiff Firestop LLC, KY
Renovation Services Inc., MA
Southern Insulation, MD
Southeast Restoration & Fireproofing, Inc., GA
Strickland Waterproofing, Inc., NC
Total Fire Protection, NY
Z&E Enterprises dba Mid Atlantic Construction Group, MD

Contractor Branch

F Rodgers, CA
Masco - Coast Building Products, CA
Masco - Gale Contractor Services, AZ
PCI - Austin, TX
Pyro-Stop LLC, CT
USI - Chase Insulation, TX
USI - San Gabriel Insulation, Inc., CA
USI - Burnham Insulation & Shelving Inc., WA

Manufacturer

Brady Corporation, WI
Thermal Ceramics, GA

Associate

Aegis Diversified, HI

2010 FCIA Manufacturer Members:

2010 Gold Level



2010 FCIA Silver Members:



2010 Bronze Level

- Roxul, Inc.
- International Carbine Technology Co., LTD.

We wish FCIA Members the best of success for a safe & profitable Construction Season.

Bill McHugh, FCIA Executive Director, the FCIA Staff and FCIA Board

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