



2015 FCIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS PROFILE



Gary Hamilton, Hamilton-Benchmark, Inc.
1330 East Waterford Ave., St. Francis, WI 53235
Phone (414) 482-0771 ~ E-mail: gary@hamiltonbenchmark.com

Gary Hamilton is President of Hamilton Benchmark, Inc., and has been a firestopping and passive fire protection specialist since 1992. He's been a Contractor Member of FCIA since 2005 and currently serves on the FCIA Board of Directors as President. Gary is also Chair of the FCIA Code Committee, and participates on the Apprenticeship Committee as well as the UL 1479/2079 Standards Technical Panel.

Gary strongly believes in preserving the integrity of the firestop industry and finds that his participation as a director of FCIA provides the opportunity to shape and mold the industry for the greater good. He recognizes the great responsibility in serving the association in a position to stand in vigilance of our industry interests at every opportunity, at every level, with diligence and integrity.

Code development has always been a top priority for Gary and he views it as a business development issue for all. In the mid 90's Gary began work relating to the development of the Wisconsin Code. Through understanding the requirement found in section 51.049 of the old Wisconsin Building Code, he had it subjected to ASTM E 814 Firestop testing at the 3M Cottage Grove Test Facility. The results provided solid evidence that the code was grossly insufficient. In November 1997, Gary was invited to present before the Wisconsin Commercial Building Code Council which unanimously voted to enact an emergency revision in January, 1998 making ASTM E 814 Tested Systems the requirement instead of 'generic materials'. As chairman of the FCIA code committee, Gary has assisted in further development of ICC, NFPA, IAPMO, for the furtherance of the Firestop Industry. He has also participated in battling against bad code such as the IAPMO requirement for ASME A 112.20.2 standard which limits the installation of firestop around piping systems to a plumber with 4 years piping experience.

Gary has worked to push forward with the development of the educational models necessary to realize what he believes to be the most important initiative of the FCIA since the Firestop MOP, the firestop containment worker apprenticeship. He has traveled to Chicago and Washington D.C. to support FCIA apprenticeship Committee efforts and is positioning his company to sponsor a firestop apprenticeship in Wisconsin.

One of Gary's strongest attributes is his belief that to represent the membership of FCIA as a director you have to be in touch and willing to listen and hear the ideas and opinions of the members. A perfect example of his willingness to act upon the suggestions of membership was the mock trial idea that Jay McGuire of Firestop Technologies suggested and ultimately was presented by Jay and Gary at the San Antonio Conference.

Gary and his wife Angela (also active in the business) have five daughters, all active in sports and sailing.