

FCIA Recommended Practice Existing Building Firestop Systems Survey



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FCIA Recommended Practice Existing Building Firestop Systems Survey

- Why Develop this Practice?
 - Provide Service Purchasers Differentiation
 - Clarify “Survey vs. Inspection”
 - Quantify Purchase for building owners and manager

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- Survey Benefits
 - Quantifies service provided
 - Identifies qualified service providers

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- Title...
 - *“FCIA Recommended Practice for the Survey of Fire Resistance Rated and Smoke Resistant Penetration and Joint Firestopping in Existing Buildings”*

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- Scope of the Recommended Practice
 - *Establishing of procedures to survey firestopping, including methods for survey.*

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- Reference Documents
 - FCIA Firestop Manual of Practice
 - FM Firestop Exam
 - UL Firestop Exam
 - FCIA Education Program for the UL & FM Exams
 - UL Fire Resistance Directories
 - FM Approvals Guide
 - Intertek Systems Listing Book
 - Current Life Safety Plans

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- Terminology
 - *Survey document*—any information provided to the surveyor by the building owner and manager that is to be used as the basis for the survey process. This information shall include, but is not limited to, current Life Safety Plans, specifications, as-built plans, contract drawings, listed designs, judgments, or the engineering judgment design with illustrated instructions, building codes, and other documentation.

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- Terminology
 - *Survey* - to examine as to condition, situation, or value: appraise, without destructive testing of subject firestop systems or engineering judgments.

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- Terminology
 - *Survey form*—the document contained in this standard practice that is used to record information obtained during the survey.

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- Terminology
 - *Surveyor* —an individual meeting the qualifications set forth in this document and who performs the survey.

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- Surveyor
 - Contractor, survey company, with an individual(s) who has passed the UL or FM Firestop Exam for Designated Responsible Individual, (DRI).
 - Surveyors shall maintain 6 CEU's every 3 years or retest to verify continued knowledge.
 - Conflict of Interest – Independence – Survey firm and surveyor shall be independent of manufacturer and supplier, distributor, manufacturers representative.

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- Summary of Practice
 - This practice sets forth the minimum requirements to qualify a surveyor to use this practice.
 - This practice provides the minimum information required to survey an existing building.
 - This practice provides a standard survey form that is to be used when surveying firestopping.
 - This practice provides a standard report format that is to be used when reporting the survey results.

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- Survey Process
 - The building owner and manager is
 - Supply surveyor current life safety plan
 - fire walls, fire barriers, fire partitions, smoke barriers and smoke partitions.
 - If no life safety plans
 - Survey provider requests a life safety plan be developed
 - Building owner or manager may assign evaluation of portions of buildings, rather than the complete building.

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- Visual Survey
 - Wall and/or floor assemblies, per life safety plan, at intervals;
 - Identify the Wall / Floor Assembly Construction,
 - Identify missing wall / floor Assembly Sections, 'compromised construction

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- Visual Survey
 - Report as follows:
 - Record “Visually Non Compliant”
 - Record “Visually Compliant”
 - Record “cannot confirm compliance”

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- Record data
 - The following are Survey Activities
 - Identify based on life safety plans, supplied by owner, architect/engineer.
 - Wall / Floor type
 - Fire resistance rating
 - Smoke resistant properties
 - Survey the wall or floor's firestopping systems.

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- Record Data
 - Smoke assemblies identified;
 - SB - Smoke Barrier – Look on both sides
 - SP – Smoke Partition – Verify that one side is sealed. Look at one side, if nothing exists, look at other side to verify.

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- Record Data
 - Identify firestopped or non-firestopped.
 - Identify penetrating items
 - Visually identify nominal annular space, gap size
 - ‘Angled’ penetrating items
 - i.e., 45degrees to the wall, floor
 - Perpendicular with, but penetrating membrane or wall/floor
 - Identify membrane penetration & through penetrations
 - Identify type of penetrating item(s) or joint
 - Parallel to wall/floor

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- Record Data
 - Identify “If Labeled”
 - Label “Appears to Be Correct”
 - MisLabeled – “Visually Non Compliant”

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- Record Data
- Sample Survey Form, see Appendix A
 - Result of survey – All observed non-compliant or cannot confirm compliance shall be documented and marked on the survey forms.
 - Surveyor shall physically identify the location where a required firestopping system has been omitted or where the survey results indicate that the installed firestopping is:
 - ***Visually Compliant***
 - ***Visually Not Compliant***
 - ***Cannot Confirm Compliance***
- The surveyor shall advise the building owner or manager of any deficiencies noted in the survey report.

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- Report
 - At the end of the survey process, the surveyor shall submit a final report.
 - The final report shall contain a cover page with the following:
 - The project name, location, and reference number;
 - The name and address of the surveyor;
 - The name and address of the building owner and manager;
 - The final report shall contain results of the survey.

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