



FCIA Enewsletter – May 18, 2011
FCIA at FCIA at ASHE, ASSE,
IAS, IFC...PLUS, A NEW
FCIA Platinum Member, STI



~FCIA Education and Committee Action Conference – FCIA’s Education and Committee Action Conference was a great experience for all.

FCIA’s Code Consultant Bill Koffel presented ideas for the 2015 Code Cycle, Legal Issues were presented by Kevin Dale, Esq., Healthcare Fire protection and resistance from Dwayne Garriss, the State of GA CMS Administrator, and Dennis Hall, CSI’s Current President spoke to us about Firestopping Specs. Also, thanks to Phil Mancuso and Casey West for presenting about Fireproofing, and many other great speakers.



FCIA Members at Committee Meetings

~FCIA hears from UL – FCIA’s Standards Committee heard about a new option to publish material shrinkage in the front of the UL Directory. Much more discussion takes place at ASTM in April about these issues. Check out FCIA.org for more info on the home page.

~NEW FCIA Platinum Member – FCIA Member **Specified Technologies, Inc.** has become a ‘Platinum Sponsor Member’. FCIA appreciates STI’s commitment to fire and life safety through moving to the new membership level at FCIA.

~FCIA at ASHE – FCIA’s Marketing Committee unveiled the new FCIA Trade Show Booth Banners at the American Society of Healthcare Engineers Professional Development Conference March 12-14, in Tampa. Check out the FCIA Members Only section to see who stopped by the booth.



New Trade Show Display Panel

~Life Safety Organization Meets in New Orleans – With a focus of “Education, Research, Advocacy”, the group affirmed the mission, reviewed where they are with goals and objectives, and planned action for the rest of 2011. Building awareness and value of Total Fire Protection in buildings was the main goal agreed upon in Las Vegas and again in New Orleans two weeks ago.

~Cellulose is Firestop? – Claims from manufacturers continue for products, that have been tested to a ‘ASTM E 814’ protocol, and ‘modified’. Be sure to ask if a hose stream test was part of the evaluation, and if a floor or wall was tested. Floors are more difficult to pass.

~FCIA at IFC Meetings – Thanks to FCIA Board Member Scott Rankin who flew (on his own dime) to the Bahamas for the International Firestop Council Meetings. Discussion points included movement, shrinkage, education, etc.

~FCIA requests shrinkage on Product Data Sheets – Specialty Firestop Contractors who inspect their own installed firestop systems have noticed that some firestop sealants/caulks shrink after application. FCIA's Standards Committee has requested to the International Firestop Council that manufacturers of products used in firestop systems list on the printed product data sheets how much their products shrink during and after curing, and the percentage content of solids in the materials. The first request was from FCIA's President in August, 2008. Insist on this data in specifications and for your project as-built files.

~FCIA at IAPMO Hearings – FCIA attended the International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials hearings May 2 & 3 in St. Louis. It seems the group is removing the issues FCIA had with the code's references to ASME A 112.20.2, Standard for the Qualification of Installers of Firestop around Piping Systems.

~FCIA at ASSE – FCIA's Standards Committee and Leadership have been participating in the development of the American Society of Sanitary Engineers' Professional Qualification of Installers and Inspectors of Firestop Systems around Mechanical Piping. Through FCIA team efforts, ASSE has added that the Firestop/Containment Worker is equal to the Journeyman Plumber in this professional qualification.

~FCIA at ASTM – FCIA's Standards Committee travelled to Anaheim, CA, to meet with the ASTM E06 Committees on several issues. The ASTM E

2174 and ASTM E 2393 Standards were discussed, with changes ballot items forthcoming to improve the standards. The Inspector Qualifications were also discussed. Guide to the Design and Installation of Firestopping was discussed as well. Most important, FCIA announced a new initiative at ASTM to create a Standard for the Qualification of Installers and Inspectors of Firestop Systems, using the new certification program created at ASTM just last fall.

~New ASTM Firestop Test - A new ASTM International standard presents two methods for testing the intumescence, or volume expansion, of firestop products. ASTM E2786, Test Methods for Measuring Expansion of Intumescent Materials Used in Firestop and Joint Systems, was developed by Subcommittee E06.21 on Serviceability, part of ASTM International Committee E06 on Performance of Buildings.

“ASTM E2786 creates a reasonable reference for the firestop industry, so when someone states that the expansion is 20 times the original size, then there will be no question as to how that expansion was determined,” says Tim Mattox, Chair of the working group of the subcommittee.

ASTM E2786 is the first in a trilogy of E06.21 standards that will be used to determine the ongoing performance of firestop materials to various exposures and to determine the expected longevity of firestop performance through small scale testing.

~FCIA at IAS – While in CA, FCIA presented adjustments to the International Accreditation Services (IAS) Accreditation Criteria AC 291. We were successful in adjusting the name of the UL and FM Firestop Exams by removing the 'DRI' in the name. The term Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) refers to people who are employed by a company that has become UL Qualified or FM 4991 Approved. The 'DRI' status cannot be used unless the person works for that company that has completed the UL or FM Audit and declared,

'Qualified or Approved'. The company then, in turn, designates the person as the company 'DRI'.

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

Life Safety DIGEST

~FCIA Past President Bob LeClair Dies suddenly – FCIA was saddened to hear of Bob LeClair's death on May 4, 2011. We had just seen him in New Orleans the week before. Bob was a very active FCIA and Life Safety Organization member and was well known for his passion for the firestop industry.

He was FCIA President in 2005, active Co-chair of the Code Committee, member of the Program and Life Safety Digest Committee, and Chair of the Life Safety Organization. Also, during Bob's tenure as FCIA President, Life Safety Digest was launched.

For those who knew him well, they will never forget his unselfishness, volunteering spirit and dedication to family and friends. He will be missed by all.

Bob leaves behind his wife Beth, and his young sons David, Robert and Joshua. A 'Family Fund' has been established for his loved ones. Contact the FCIA office at 708-202-1108 for more information or email linda@fcia.org.



~FCIA Welcomes NEW Members!! **NEW FCIA Contractor Members**

Atlas Industries Inc., CO
Coatings Unlimited Inc., MO
Constech, Canada
Darragh Company, AR
N.M. Contracting Company, UAE
Norkote Inc., WA
PCI - Vancouver
Procon Emirates LLC, UAE
Safe Seal Inc., CAN
Sanders Construction, NY
SEC Firestop Inc., GA

NEW FCIA Associate Members

Applied Professional Engineering LLC, Guam
Jacobsen Construction, UT

~FCIA Member FM 4991 Approved and UL/ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors – There are 85 FM Approved 4991 Contractor firms and 25 UL and ULC Qualified Firestop Contractor Firms in the US, Canada, United Arab Emirates, and Qatar. Is your firm in the process of getting FM 4991 Approved or UL Qualified? What's the hardest part? Management System Manual? Writing the procedures? Passing the FM or UL Firestop Exam? Visit FCIA.org, members only section to get answers. There are resources that can step you through the process in the Members Only Section. Contact FCIA's office if you need your password.

NEW UL / ULC Qualified Firestop Contractors

Thomas J Donnelly, Inc., NY

~FCIA @IgCC – FCIA is attending the International green Construction Code Hearings this week. It seems the Portland Cement Association has proposed that a 1 or 2 hour rated wall is 'sustainable', or more robust, meaning less likely to wind up in a landfill soon. They also have submitted a much more restrictive height and area table, under the 'green' banner. More as we see results.

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Looking forward to seeing everyone at the FCIA Firestop Industry Conference & Trade Show, at Paradise Point, Mission Bay/San Diego.

Bill McHugh, FCIA Executive

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