FM Approvals Update

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Overview

• Why FM Approvals?
• What are the requirements?
• What is the status of the program?
Why Should I Partner With FM Approvals?

• FM Approvals is a Nationally Recognized Testing Laboratory (NRTL) focused solely on certifying products and services that are designed to help prevent and/or minimize losses.

You are also partnering with FM Global
FM Global

- A commercial and industrial property insurance company with a different focus and message -> believe that the majority of losses are preventable through engineering
- Research based engineering (not actuarial data)
- Mutual company focus - returned nearly $4 billion to policy holders since 2001
- 1800 engineers and 5100 employees worldwide
- Insure 1/3 of Fortune 1000 on a global basis
Why can FM Approvals do for you?

- **Access to Markets**
  - Products and services accepted by end users and local regulators

- **A Competitive Advantage**
  - A cut above the competition
  - A marketing differentiation
  - Opportunities

- **Approval Guide** (www.approvalguide.com)
Basis for Approval

• Contractor has been in the firestop installation business for the two (2) year period immediately prior to obtaining Approval.
• Minimum of one (1) DRI employed by the contractor per location
• An initial, in-house and job-site Surveillance Audit of the contractor’s quality control program.
• A documented and archived record keeping system for all installations.
Designated Responsible Individual (DRI)

- The DRI has a demonstrated knowledge of the FCIA MOP, FM Approval requirements, overall product knowledge in his/her area of expertise and the ability to select firestopping components, systems and assemblies that will meet or exceed written specifications.
- Must pass both written exams with 80% or greater
- Every three (3) years
  - Pass a written re-exam and obtain 48 LUs (6 CEUs) or
  - Obtain 72 LUs (9 CEUs) and re-examination is waived or
  - Pass both initial written exams (No LUs)
DRI FAQs

• What happens if the DRI leaves the company or is unable to perform duties?
  – Approved contractors are given a grace period of two (2) months to employ or qualify another DRI, without penalty or loss of Approval. During any such grace period, the contractor shall not install or apply labels or markings to any firestopping to indicate FM Approval.

• Can one person be the DRI for two offices?
  – No. Each FM Approved office must have its own DRI
DRI FAQs (cont.)

• What happens if an individual doesn’t pass the exam?
  – An individual shall be limited to taking each written examination once every thirty (30) days and not more than three (3) times in any six (6) month period.

• I was a DRI at another FM Approved Firestop Contractor. Can I be the DRI for my new company?
  – Maybe. The Approval is owned by your previous company. If they issue a release of data from their Approval project allowing you to use your valid exam results, then yes. If they will not release the data, you must take the written exams again. In either case, your new company will have to apply for Approval.
Surveillance & Job Site Audit

• The intent is to verify the contractor’s quality control program, system design selection capabilities, training, transmission of system design requirements to field personnel, successful installation, marking of installed systems and assemblies and handling of non-conformances.

• Documented and archived record keeping system for all installations

• The job site can be working or complete. Site must be accessible by contractor and FM Approvals.

• Project submittal package for that job site shall be available for review.

• FM Approvals will review installation of firestopping, material labeling and handling, project documents, etc.
Quality Assurance (QA) Manual

• We don’t tell you how to run your business!

• You tell us what you do but we’ll audit you to make sure you’re doing what you say you’re doing.

• Not a single format is required for all manuals
Topics to Address in Your QA Manual

- Management Organization
- Receiving Inspection
- Material Storage
- In-Process Controls
- Final Assembly and Test
- Non Conforming Materials
- Procurement and Supplier Control
- Design Selection

- Drawing and Document Control
- Corrective Action
- Measurement and Test Equipment
- Personnel Training and Certification
- Recordkeeping (min. 7 years)
- Miscellaneous
Miscellaneous Notes for QA Manual

- Assign a unique document name
- Assign a date of issue
- Show revision levels
- Number all pages and appendices
- Include a Table of Contents
- Make it available to all personnel and require all personnel to annually review the manual (and sign a statement acknowledging they have reviewed it and understand it)
- Conduct your own internal review – don’t count solely on outside organizations
- Statement regarding changes to the manual
## FM Approved Contractors

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Thank you.

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