• What Code provision has given you the most problems this past year or so?
  ▪ Code
  ▪ Summary of provision
  ▪ Problem you encountered
OVERVIEW

• Overview of the ICC and NFPA Code Processes
• Summarize code development activities of other organizations
• Present a strategic plan for code activities over the next three years
• References to recent code change activity will be included
• Proposal closing date
  - IBC - January 12, 2015
  - IFC – January 11, 2016
• Several “special” activities ongoing
  - Health care occupancies
  - Vertical openings?
Public Input closing date is July 6, 2015???
ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

• ICC Code Technology Committee (CTC)
  ▪ Appointed to one year term effective 1/1/11
  ▪ Study Groups
    o Care Facilities
    o Elevator Lobbies
    o Unenclosed Exits
    o Balanced Fire Protection
      ❖ Vertical Openings
      ❖ Roof Vents
    o NIST
  ▪ CTC will be disbanded in favor of Code Action Committees (BCAC, FCAC)
ACTIVITIES OF OTHERS

• ICC/ASHE Ad Hoc Committee on Health Care
  ▪ Smoke compartments
  ▪ Elevator lobbies
• ICC Code Action Committees
To defend, and if possible increase, the size of the US firestop market, and to increase the percent of that market that falls to firestop specialty contractors for installation.
OBJECTIVE 1

• Retain (defend) current building code requirements for compartmentation

• Means and Methods
  ▪ Work with allied industries and companies to collectively resist the many anti-compartmentation code change proposals constantly submitted and advocated by the real estate industry interests as well as by code officials with a bias against compartmentation.
OBJECTIVE 2

• Re-introduce compartmentation concepts lost in previous cycles and/or introduce new compartmentation concepts based upon infectious control, sound attenuation, smoke, and water migration.

• Means and Methods
  ▪ Work with allied industries and organizations to identify potential ways to bring back compartmentation concepts related to occupancy separation, egress, and ingress etc. Develop creative means for introducing new compartmentation opportunities by identifying needs and challenges relating to infectious control, sound proofing associated with privacy, smoke, odor and water control to limit building owner liability.
OBJECTIVE 3

• Change the building codes to require qualified contractors

• Means and Methods
  • Lobby allied industries, fire marshals, code officials and building owners to communicate the value of securing qualified contractors for life safety installations.
OBJECTIVE 4

- Encourage market forces to move the firestop market towards qualified contractors through increased inspection requirements in the building codes

- Means and Methods
  - Get code changes to require 3rd party inspection in more situations
  - Have code offer a trade-off wherein 3rd party inspection not required when qualified contractor is used.
OBJECTIVE 5

• Ensure that all code requirements for firestopping are clear and enforceable

• Means and methods
  ▪ Work with other concerned individuals and organizations (e.g. IFC, UL, concerned code officials) to propose code changes “for the good of the code”. Identify where clarification needs to be made and where changes should be made.
OBJECTIVE 6

• To increase enforcement as well as compliance, ensure that code requirements for firestopping are practical

• Means and methods
  - Work with (or if needed, against) allied industry partners to modify the code to make all firestop requirements practical and believable
OBJECTIVE 7

• Communicate code related education, accreditation, marketing and standards proposals to the appropriate FCIA committee to solicit reciprocal commitment.

• Means and Methods
  ▪ Develop ideas generated during code committee discussions that support and/or create a successful environment for existing or new code proposals.
STRATEGIES

• Education
  ▪ Design professionals
  ▪ Code officials
  ▪ Contractors
• Code and standard development
• Master specifications
• Contractor qualifications
• Improve code enforcement activities
• Alliances
• Seminars/webinars
• Articles
• Presentations
  ▪ ICC/NFPA meeting presentations
  ▪ ICC Chapter meetings
  ▪ Allied professional meetings (AIA, SFPE)
• FCIA resource documents
  ▪ Print media
  ▪ Website
• Form strategic alliances
  ▪ IFC and FCIA have been actively working together the past few years
  ▪ Reach out to others – NAHB, BOMA, GSA, ASHE

• Proposals/Comments
• “Lobby” support
• Testify at hearings
• Guide specifications
  ▪ CSI/CSC MasterFormat
  ▪ Federal Government agency specifications
CONTRACTOR QUALIFICATIONS

- Increase the number of contractors participating in FM and UL programs
IMPROVE CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Education
- Proper document – plan preparation
- Special inspections
• Provide the design community with the tools and skills to properly address through penetration and fire-resistant joint systems in construction documents
  ▪ Model specifications
  ▪ Education of code requirements
    o Establish FCIA as the “go to” resource for education programs
  ▪ Clear, concise code language
715.1 General. Joints installed in or between fire-resistance-rated walls, floor or floor/ceiling assemblies and roofs or roof/ceiling assemblies shall be protected by an approved fire-resistant joint system designed to resist the passage of fire for a time period not less than the required fire-resistance rating of the wall, floor or roof in or between which it is installed.
• Develop a methodology by which interested parties (contractors, code officials, design professionals) can identify problems with existing code text
• Upon review by the FCIA Code Committee, prepare code proposals for problems identified to FCIA
• Need not be (and should not be) limited to fire stop systems and joint systems
• FCIA should continue to submit proposals to improve the clarity of existing code provisions
IMPROVE THE QUALITY/RELIABILITY BY PROPER INSTALLATION

- Enforcement will be addressed under a separate item
- Provide qualifications for contractors who install fire stop and fire-resistant joint systems
  - Existing programs exist but too few contractors
  - Model specifications – ongoing activity
  - Educate design professionals, building owners/managers, and code officials
    - Availability, benefits, requirements
  - Code mandates – it should be noted there has been little success in this area in the past
  - Standards are starting to require qualifications (NFPA 13, 20, 72, etc)
  - State requirements for licensure – where others have started
  - Is contractor oversight required if “approved” contractor used?
• State requirements for licensure
  ▪ Has FCIA grown to a point to establish chapters at the State level to address State issues?
    o AFAA, AFSA, NFSA, SFPE,........
  ▪ At present, economy will be a barrier
  ▪ Establish specific types of projects at the start
    o Dollar value
    o High-rise
    o Occupancy specific
IMPROVE THE QUALITY/RELIABILITY BY PROPER INSTALLATION

• Include as a “approved contractor” requirement in an installation standard
  ▪ Past attempts to have fire stop systems included in NFPA 80 failed
    o Currently referenced in many codes
  ▪ NFPA 221 - *Standard for High Challenge Fire Walls, Fire Walls, and Fire Barrier Walls*
    o Many of the same players as in the Code processes

▪ Barriers
  o Contractors
  o Traditional methods
  o Lack of demonstrated need
• Contractor qualifications addressed under a separate item
• Provide methodology that systems are properly installed
• Previously mentioned
  ▪ Education
  ▪ Proper documentation
  ▪ Special inspections
• **1705.17 Fire-resistant penetrations and joints.** In high-rise buildings or in buildings assigned to Risk Category III or IV, special inspections for through-penetrations, membrane penetration firestops, fire-resistant joint systems and perimeter fire barrier systems that are tested and listed in accordance with Sections 714.3.1.2, 714.4.2, 715.3 and 715.4 shall be in accordance with Section 1705.17.1 or 1705.17.2.
IMPROVE THE QUALITY/RELIABILITY BY PROPER INSTALLATION

• Add qualified contractor to the same conditions as special inspections
• Reduce frequency of inspections to be performed when using qualified contractors
• Require certified special inspectors
IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY BY PROPER MAINTENANCE

• IFC Section 703.1 requires annual inspection of various fire protection features of a building
  • Assist BOMA with compliance strategies for this code requirement
    o Education
    o Checklist for inspection
  • Identifies the need for proper “marking” of fire stop and fire-resistant joint systems.
IMPROVE THE RELIABILITY BY PROPER MAINTENANCE
SPECIFIC TOPICS

• Engineering judgments – limit use to applications where a listed system does not exist
• Where are joint systems required?
• Compartmentation as a viable fire protection feature in buildings
713.2.1 Alternative Methods: Where the configuration of a penetrating item or group of items is such that a listed penetration firestop system tested in accordance with ASTM E 814 or UL 1479 is determined to be non-existent and reconfiguration of the penetrations or fire resistance rated assembly is determined to be impractical or impossible, alternative methods for maintaining the integrity of the required fire–resistance rating of the assembly shall be permitted to be established using an engineering analysis based on a comparison of listed penetration firestop systems and prepared by a manufacturer’s technical representative of the systems specified or prepared by the laboratory that conducted the original test.
Questions and Discussion