FM Approvals Update

J. E. Gould, P.E.
Senior Engineering Specialist, FM Approvals
November 9, 2011
FM Approvals Update

Who’s New?
General Update
HOT Lab
Time for Some Changes?
Who’s New?

• AAC Contracting (NY)
  Tom Fichtner

• Al Shadid Technical Contracting (UAE)
  Boris Joseph
Who’s New?

Atlas Industries (CO)
Shane Sweeney

Chronicle Interiors (UAE)
Avinash Podmashali
Who’s New?

• L & C Insulation, Inc. (WI)
  Peter Gauchel & Doug Lietke

Narang Projects
  Syed Sohail Ahmed

• Roberts Firestop Specialties (CA)
  Richard Roberts
So Where Does That Leave Us?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approval Guide</th>
<th>No. of locations</th>
<th>No. of DRIs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011 (Nov)</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Authorized or in process – 8 locations
Presentations by FM

• We recently participated in 2 presentations in the Middle East
• FM sent representatives to Abu Dhabi last month to attend, present and administer exams at the FCIA Educational Seminar
• Approximately 10% of our Approved Firestop Contractors are in the Middle East
• Oct 2011 Dubai (FM Approvals)
Test Results

• During 2010 and 2011, we gave exams at 5 events sponsored by the FCIA (Scottsdale, Abu Dhabi, Dubai, San Francisco and New Orleans).

• A total of 93 people took the exams at these events – Initial exams only (no re-exams)

• Can you guess how many people passed both the General Information and Design Selection Exams?
  a) 93  b) 92  c) 82  d) 72  e) 62  f) 52

• The correct answer is e) – only 62 of 93 have passed
Test Results

- Design Selection Exam
  - Average score of those who passed: 89
  - Average score of those who failed: 61
  - No. of people who scored 50% or less: 9
HOT Lab

• FM Global recently opened a new HOT Lab
• What’s a HOT Lab?
  – Hands On Training
• It’s a new facility where we can train our engineers what loss prevention items really look like
FM 4991 – Approval Standard for Approval of Firestop Contractors

FM Approvals, in conjunction with the Firestop Contractors International Association (FCIA), developed Approval Standard 4991, Approval of Firestop Contractors. The purpose of the Standard was to improve the performance and installation of firestop systems and their components by examining and qualifying contractors involved in the installation of such systems and components. The Standard assesses the ability of a company’s Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) on their general knowledge about firestopping and their ability to select appropriate firestop systems for specific circumstances. This is done by administering written examinations and assessing a company’s quality control procedures. FM 4991 was the first program of its type to be accepted nationwide by architects and engineers through programs like MasterSpec, SpecLink and other master specifications at leading architectural firms specifying projects worldwide.
Firestop Systems Installed by
Gleeson Powers
an FM Approved Contractor

FIRE BARRIER MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS:
Fire Barrier Management Programs are now offered by Firestop Manufacturers and FM 4991 Approved Firestop Contractors alike. These Programs can be used to document Firestop installations to assure proper Firestop System Designs are followed at each condition.
Time for a Change?

FM Approvals has been approached by the FCIA leadership about some possible enhancements to the program?

What could those enhancements be?
Limitations of the Existing Program

- Specifications often broken by giving work to the trades
- Approved Contractor get some of the work but not all – openings by Approved Contractors adjacent to openings by others that were not properly firestopped?
- Quality of inspections and audits
- No formal buy-in from the building owner
What would you like to see considered?

- Would you find it beneficial to be able to issue a Certificate of Conformance (COC) to the building owner if the COC had the FM logo on it similar to a Central Station program?
- What if COCs could only be given if an Approved contractor did an entire barrier or area?
- What if it required more documentation of identifying openings, inspections and destructive testing?
What would you like to see considered?

• Better training of FM auditors and more stringent job-site audits?
• More frequent job site audits?
• What if you had to identify and take a photo of each opening?
• What if a COC could be renewed on a regular basis as long as the building owner was placed on a barrier maintenance program?
Miscellaneous

• A list will be prepared showing how many CEUs one can receive for attending various mfg’s training sessions
• Attend FCIA – will increase to 1.5 CEUs
• 2012 - Visit Building Officials on behalf of FCIA and individual Approved Contractors?
Questions?