FCIA 2015 STRATEGY SESSION

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YOUR INPUT IS NEEDED!

• 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 potential implementation strategies
• Propose 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 3, 2012
  ▪ IFC – January 3, 2013
Proposal Period and Comment Period have closed other than the Technical Correlating Committee:
  - Leakage rates for penetrations of smoke barriers
  - Limitations on use of wetted glass as fire barriers
Technical Correlating Committee meets in early January
Final NFPA membership vote – June, 2011
GOAL

Improve the quality and reliability of through penetration fire stop systems and fire resistant joint systems.
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
• Proposals/Comments
• “Lobby” support
• Testify at hearings
• Guide specifications
  ▪ CSI/CSC MasterFormat
  ▪ Federal Government agency specifications
Increase the number of contractors participating in FM and UL programs
IMPROVE CODE ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

- Education
- Proper document – plan preparation
- Special inspections
IMPROVE THE QUALITY BY DESIGN

• 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
• **714.1 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.
• JOINT. The linear opening in or between adjacent fire-resistance-rated assemblies that is designed to allow independent movement of the building in any plane caused by thermal, seismic, wind or any other loading.
• 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
    o 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?
    ○ AFAA, AFSA, NFSA, SFPE,........
  ▪ At present, economy will be a barrier
  ▪ Establish specific types of projects at the start
    ○ Dollar value
    ○ High-rise
    ○ Occupancy specific
• 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
IMPROVE THE QUALITY/RELIABILITY INSTALLATION BY ENFORCEMENT

• Contractor qualifications addressed under a separate item
• Provide methodology that systems are properly installed
• Previously mentioned
  ▪ Education
  ▪ Proper documentation
  ▪ Special inspections
• Require special inspections for certain projects
  ▪ Importance of buildings
  ▪ High-rise buildings

• Who does special inspections?
  ▪ Door Hardware Institute program for fire door inspectors
  ▪ IAS AC 291
    ○ Specification requirement
    ○ Code change??

• Are special inspections required if “approved” contractor used?
IMPROVE THE QUALITY/RELIABILITY BY PROPER INSTALLATION

• 6.11 Firestop Systems
  • 6.11.1 Successful completion of the UL Firestop Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) Examination and a minimum of one year of experience in the on-site quality control of installed firestopping, fire-resistive joint systems, and perimeter fire barriers; or
  • 6.11.2 Successful completion of the FM Approvals Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) Firestop Examination and a minimum of one year of experience in the on-site quality control of installed firestopping, fire-resistive joint systems, and perimeter fire barriers; or
  • 6.11.3 Qualification as a Firestop Systems Inspector through training or certification by an agency which is accredited under ISO/IEC 17024, AC371, ASTM E 2659-09, or ANSI/NOCA 1100, and meet 6.11.1 or 6.11.2; or
  • 6.11.4 P.E., R.A., or F.P.E. and a minimum of one year of experience in the on-site quality control of installed firestopping, fire-resistive joint systems, and perimeter fire barriers, and meet 6.11.1 or 6.11.2.
• 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?
- Air leakage requirements – L ratings
  - Concept of resist passage of smoke
- Compartmentation as a viable fire protection feature in buildings
• Limited hearings/committee meetings in 2011
• Recommendations:
  ▪ Refine long range plan for the next three years
  ▪ Develop alliances with interested parties
  ▪ EDUCATE, EDUCATE, EDUCATE