



INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL OVERVIEW

Founded in 1990, the International Firestop Council (IFC) is a not-for-profit organization of experts committed to making buildings safer through passive fire containment. IFC supports the passive fire containment industry through education, awareness and development of codes and standards.

With membership composed of manufacturers, distributors and users of passive fire protective materials and systems, IFC aims to influence building codes, construction and contracting decision-makers by reaching out to companies, government officials and trade organizations with information and opinions on trends in passive fire containment.

IFC is dedicated to providing resources for code writing and developing industry standards. Since its inception, IFC has proposed more than 200 building code changes, with eighty percent of those proposals now approved. IFC has also created a field inspection method for code enforcement, participated in task groups that prepare new code language, and published materials supporting the firestopping industry.

IFC members are available to provide informational seminars to industry organizations, and member-written articles have appeared in numerous trade magazines.

For more information about IFC, visit www.firestop.org.



**INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL
MEMBER COMPANIES**

Voting Members

3M Fire Protection Products
Grace Construction Products
Hilti, Inc.
RectorSeal
Roxul, Inc.
Specified Technologies, Inc.
Thermafiber
Thermal Ceramics
Tremco
Unifrax Corporation
United States Gypsum Company

Associate Members

A.F. Underhill, Inc.
Affinity Architecture, Inc.
Albion Engineering Company
Diversified Thermal, Inc.
Fire Barrier, Inc.
Firestop Inspector LLC
Firestop Solutions
Gleeson Powers, Inc.
Intek Construction Products
Jeemco
King Interiors Corp.
M.F. Jones Acoustics
McLeod Industries
Multicon Construction Co.
National Firestop Ltd.
Penguin Life Safety Corp.
PPMI Firestop, Inc.
Pyro-Stop LLC
Superl, Inc.
The Dow Chemical Company
Wall Systems Inc. of Southwest Florida
Withers Communications, Inc.
Zero International, Inc.



INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL FACT SHEET ON PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION

What is firestopping?

Firestop systems protect against the passage of flames, deadly gases and toxic smoke through openings that are created for penetrations, joints and gaps in fire-resistive walls, floors and floor/ceiling assemblies.

What's the difference between "active" and "passive" fire protection?

"Active" fire suppression includes mechanical systems – such as sprinklers – that are designed to extinguish fires after they have started. "Passive" fire protection systems aid in the containment of fires within the areas in which they start, preventing smoke, hot gasses and flames from spreading throughout a building.

Why is passive fire protection necessary?

Fire is a dangerous enough phenomenon that redundancy in fire protection is necessary. Having passive fire protection in place, in conjunction with an active system, helps ensure that building occupants will have time to exit before gasses, fire and smoke spread throughout the building.

Can passive and active fire protection systems work together?

While active fire suppression systems are effective means of fire protection, these systems may not prevent the production and spread of smoke, gasses and heat. Therefore, a complete fire protection system includes both active and passive protection systems.

How does passive fire protection save money?

Passive fire protection not only saves money, it saves lives. When a fire breaks out, having a passive and active suppression system in place allows more time for building occupants to escape; firefighters more time to put the fire out; and reduces property destruction by preventing fire and smoke spread and limiting water damage.

What should a total fire protection system include?

Fire rated floors, walls and ceiling assemblies, fire rated doors and curtains, fire rated glazed openings, protection of joints and penetrations, structural fire protection, smoke and heat vents, fire and smoke dampers, fire extinguishers, standpipe outlets, hose racks and other control features are some examples of what a complete fire protection system may include.

Do most buildings have codes that require passive fire protection systems?

All codes mandate firestopping of fire-resistance rated assemblies. These include:

- BOCA National Building Code
- ICBO Uniform Building Code
- ICC International Building Code
- ICC International Fire Code
- National Building Code of Canada
- NFPA 1 Uniform Fire Code
- NFPA 70 National Electric Code® National Electric Code
- NFPA 101 Life Safety Code
- NFPA 5000 Building Construction and Safety Code
- SBCC Standard Building Code

For more information on passive fire protection, go to www.firestop.org.



INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL *STORY IDEAS*

Representatives from the International Firestop Council are available to serve as an expert resource on passive fire protection stories. IFC can also contribute unpublished, original case studies, white papers and byline articles.

Sample topics:

- The economies of passive fire protection. By including firestopping in commercial and residential construction planning, money and lives can be saved.
- Economic impact of fire, gas and smoke in a building without a passive fire protection system.
- Renovating an older building to include passive fire protection materials – what should architects, engineers, specifiers and contractors plan to include? What are the latest trends, products and codes?
- Codes and firestopping. IFC representatives can provide updates, industry perspective and outlooks on codes for new and old residential and commercial construction.
- Developing a fire prevention and suppression system. What to include to create a safe, effective environment.
- Discussion of “active” and “passive” fire protection, and how these systems can work collaboratively.
- New building safety: tips and trends.

More information about the International Firestop Council is available at www.firestop.org.

For more information, please contact:

Hallie Fisher
Landau Public Relations
Hfisher@LandauPR.com
216.736.4418



INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL LEADERSHIP

Steven M. Tyler President

As president of the International Firestop Council, Steven M. Tyler is responsible for shaping the vision and focus of the organization. Tyler is committed to building industry consensus on the value of and need for passive fire protection through raising awareness. Tyler, an 18-year passive fire protection veteran, serves as business unit manager of the Fire Protection Systems Group at Tremco, Inc., where he focuses on fire resistant joint treatments and service penetration firestops. Tyler received a bachelor's degree in history and chemistry from the College of Wooster, and a master's degree in business administration from John Carroll University.

James Park Vice President

With more than 30 years of experience in passive fire protection, James Park serves as the International Firestop Council vice president. Part of his responsibilities include providing AIA training and Inspector Education programs. Park also leads IFC's involvement in developing and enforcing building codes and standards. Other IFC responsibilities include supporting IFC's Education Committee and conducting contractor training courses. Park is the national sales manager at Rectorseal, where he manages the Firestop Products division. Park, who has an associate's degree in chemistry, is on the board of directors of the AFSCC, and is a member of NFPA, ICC and CSI.

Richard Licht Code Action Committee Chair

Richard Licht leads the International Firestop Council's Code Action Committee in recommending new and modified building codes. Licht spent 34 years at 3M Company, until founding RRL Consulting Solutions in 2002. A widely published author of fire standards and model building code language, Licht's articles have appeared in numerous academic journals, *Rubber World*, *Claims Magazine*, *Fire & Safety Magazine*, and *ASTM Symposium*. Licht, who holds four U.S. patents, is also the technical director at AFSCC, and a member of several ASTM committees, code groups, SFPE and NFPA. Licht has a bachelor's degree in chemistry from the University of Wisconsin.

Sarah Brewer Duct Enclosure Committee Chair

As the Duct Enclosure Committee chair, Sarah Brewer is responsible for providing International Firestop Council members with updates on duct wrap issues and conducts educational training presentations for industry professionals. She has also participated in

code and standards writing and specification activities. Brewer is currently the group product manager at Unifrax Corporation where develops new and modified fire test standards and building code regulations, leads new product development and fire testing teams, and conducts marketing activities associated with new product commercialization. Brewer, who holds a patent on an expansion joint fire barrier, is a member of ASTM E05, NFPA, SFPE, UL Standards Panel. She has a bachelor's degree in fire protection engineering from the University of Maryland.

Valerie R. Wolford
Education Committee Co-Chair

Valerie Wolford is responsible for guiding the organization's public relations and marketing activities in her role as the International Firestop Council's Education committee co-chair. Wolford is the North American marketing manager at Tremco Fire Protection Systems Group. Wolford holds a bachelor's degree in public relations from Kent State University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Akron.

Phil Zanghi
Education Committee Co-Chair

As the International Firestop Council's Education committee co-chair, Phil Zanghi develops resources such as brochures, training seminars and inspection manuals that are geared toward educating code and building officials about passive fire protection. Zanghi is the Fire Protection Product manager at Grace Construction Products, and is a voting member of ASTM E05 and E06, and a regular contributor to FCIA. Zanghi has a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Northeastern University and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

John P. Sinisi
Inspection Committee Chair

John P. Sinisi is responsible for helping firestop inspectors work with the IFC to strengthen the inspection process by standardizing procedures, document management and education. Sinisi, who has more than 20 years of safety experience, is the president of FireStop Inspector LLC, and the creator of a patent pending firmware for mobile documentation and field data collection integrating automated forms, barcode and digital photos in one handheld unit. He has also developed a software based fire barrier management documentation and reporting system used to facilitate the inspection process and ASTM compliance. Sinisi, a contributing member of FCIA, NFPA, BOMA, ASSE, ASTM and IIE, has a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering from the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Editor's Note:

International Firestop Council leaders are available to serve as an editorial resource by providing expert information on passive fire protection. Images, logos, contributed articles/white papers and more available upon request.

For more information on the International Firestop Council, or to speak to one of its experts, contact:

Hallie Fisher
Landau Public Relations
216.736.4418
hfisher@landaupr.com



INTERNATIONAL FIRESTOP COUNCIL RESOURCES

The International Firestop Council is an industry resource for educational publications and brochures. Available resources include:

- *Balancing Active and Passive Fire Protection Systems in the Building Codes*
- *Firestopping & Fireblocking: What's the Difference?*
- *Firestopping Inspection Manual for Through Penetration Joints, Perimeter Fire Barrier Systems and Flexible Fire Resistant Duct Enclosures*
- *Firestopping Rated Wall and Floor Penetrations*
- *How to Avoid Firestopping Liability*
- *IFC Guidelines for Evaluating Engineering Judgements*
- *Inspecting Firestop for Compliance (video)*
- *Inspection Guidelines for Penetration Firestop Systems and Fire Resistive Joint Systems in Fire Resistance Rated Construction*
- *Inspection Guidelines for Through-Penetration and Joint Firestop Systems in Fire Resistance Rated Construction*
- *Inspection Manual for Firestopping through Penetrations, Joints and Perimeter Fire Barrier Systems*
- *Intumescent Wrap Strip Firestopping Products*
- *Maintaining Life Safety Effectiveness in the New Building Codes*
- *Saving Lives through Passive Fire Protection*
- *The Hose Stream Test*
- *Yours, Mine or Ours – Who is Responsible for the Firestopping?*

Editor's Note:

Publications may be reprinted with permission. For more details, contact:

Hallie Fisher

Landau Public Relations

216.736.4418

hfisher@LandauPR.com