

IFC FIRESTOP INSPECTION SEMINARS

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The International Firestop council is being very successful in its efforts to schedule Firestop Inspector Training Seminars across North America. To date we have completed three seminars that provided training to 108 building code, fire department, and individual firestop inspectors. Currently eight seminars are scheduled in 2005 and one in 2006 with 475 projected attendees. A list of scheduled seminars may be found under the "Events and Meetings" tab of the new IFC web site.

Based on the increase in seminars, the IFC created a Presentation Policy to guide participation in seminar attendance and the actions of presenters. Following is the approved policy.

IFC Presentation Policy

As an industry group, IFC is first and foremost interested in advancing the industry's agenda. Therefore, these policies are designed to prevent misunderstandings, as well as set a certain tone, for IFC sponsored presentations.

1. Only current members of IFC may present on behalf of IFC at any IFC-sponsored event, such as the Inspector Training Seminar. Members of other organizations that are members of the IFC may not present unless they are themselves direct members of IFC.
2. Only members of IFC may attend "private events" sponsored by IFC or organization being trained but only after receiving approval by the sponsoring organization prior to the presentation date. Other persons may attend, if they are invited by the organization receiving the training. If the event is "public", IFC members should abide by the organizing entity's rules or wishes with regards to who can or should

attend the event.

3. IFC members making a presentation on behalf of the IFC must wear a shirt depicting the IFC logo.
4. IFC members in attendance who are not presenting are encouraged to wear IFC shirts. In any event, manufacturers attending the presentation are reminded that attendees are there because it's an industry event and not an advertising opportunity for individual companies – and are expected to behave accordingly.
5. Presenters are expected to be thoroughly familiar with the subject at hand and to represent IFC in the best light possible. They are also expected to stick with the official IFC material.
6. Presenters who have a change of plans must notify IFC at least 1 week ahead of time, and do their best efforts to find a replacement from their own company.
7. Presenters must have a current bio on file with IFC office describing their qualifications.
8. Presenters are responsible for distributing and returning all presentation questionnaires and presentation materials to IFC office immediately after the event.

Page 2**IFC FALL MEETING IN SAN DIEGO**

The IFC has scheduled its fall meeting in San Diego, California starting November 7 and concluding on November 9. These dates are prior to the FCIA meeting in San Diego running from November 9 to 11.

The IFC meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Islandia Hotel located on the Ocean ait

Mission Bay. Hotel room registration may be made by calling 800-233-1234 starting July 9 and asking for the IFC rate.

The overall meeting agenda has been e-mailed to IFC membership. Detailed committee agendas are being prepared and will be made available well in advance of the meeting.

IFC WELCOMES NEW MEMBERS

With the help of member referrals, publicity and education, IFC has added four new members to its roster in 2005:

- ✦ Royal Quickstop Fireprotection Systems, Toronto
- ✦ S&W Waterproofing, Kansas City, Mo.
- ✦ Total Fire Stop Systems, Warren, Manitoba
- ✦ Global Firestop Services, Dartmouth, Nova Scotia

IFC members and associate members have the opportunity to participate in firestop education and code action programs. In addition, all mem-

bers are invited to association meetings to help drive the direction of the organization and its mission.

"IFC serves as an industry resource and firestopping advocate on behalf of its members and the firestopping community in general," said Steven M. Tyler, IFC president. "With the support of new members and the ongoing help of our existing members, we will continue to enhance our educational outreach and code work to promote firestopping."

IFC WEB SITE UPDATE

After several months in the making, IFC's revised Web site is almost ready to go live.

The site, www.firestop.org, has received a complete facelift. New links, graphic design and content are featured. Based on member feedback, the updated site includes several new features that will enhance its function as an industry resource.

Some of the new, elements on the updated site include:

- ✦ Training programs
- ✦ Industry information
- ✦ Event and meeting planner
- ✦ Firestopping information

IFC's Web site is an ongoing work in progress, and will continually be updated for added value. Members are encouraged to submit their feedback and ideas for enhancing the Web site to Hugh Dudley.

IFC PUBLIC RELATIONS PROGRAM UPDATES

IFC's public relations efforts continue to gain momentum, with several news releases, media opportunities and byline articles in development.

Recent program highlights include:

Inspector Training Support

Upon confirmation of an Inspector Training Program, IFC issues local market releases to relevant state and regional trade publications. After completion of the programs, IFC is reviewing opportunities to develop case studies.

News Release Program

Based on the news release scheduled developed at the beginning of 2005, IFC continues to issue news releases on a regular basis, and has several on tap for the coming months. Ideas for news releases are encouraged.

Trade Show Support

The Education Committee recently pitched media who attended BICSI, AIA and NFPA. The committee is also reviewing speaking opportunities at key shows/conferences for 2006 and beyond.

Media Relations

A sampling of articles that have recently appeared or are scheduled to appear in the following trade publications include:

- ✦ *AWCI*
- ✦ *Building Safety Magazine*
- ✦ *Canadian Consulting Engineer*
- ✦ *Canadian Facility Management*
- ✦ *Fire Chief*
- ✦ *Plumbing & Mechanical*
- ✦ *PM Engineer*
- ✦ *School Construction News*
- ✦ *Today's Facility Manager*
- ✦ *Walls & Ceilings*

If you have any ideas for the public relations program or would like to contribute, please contact Hallie Fisher at Landau Public Relations: 216.696.1686 x 4418 or hfisher@LandauPR.com.

COLLEGE EDUCATION CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

IFC has engaged a curriculum developer to create a college level curriculum for the firestop industry. The curriculum will cover all aspects of firestopping in five modules. The intended audience for these modules are students in schools offering fire safety programs, primarily students in community and technical colleges.

The topics covered in the training modules are:

- ✦ What is Firestopping
- ✦ How Firestopping Works
- ✦ Where and Why Firestopping is Required
- ✦ How Firestopping is Specified and Designed
- ✦ How Firestopping is Installed
- ✦ How Firestopping Should be Inspected

The curriculum format will include lecture/discussion, workshops/ quizzes, hands-on sessions, and homework assignments. The materials provided will include slide presentations, instructor notes and student guides.

It is expected to have one college conduct a beta test of the curriculum this fall with full launching in the spring of 2006.

DUCT ENCLOSURE FORUM

The Duct Enclosure Committee held an Industry Forum in April to gather input from industry experts regarding development of acceptance criteria for Metallic HVAC Duct Enclosure Assemblies (ICC ES AC179). Individuals were present representing materials manufacturers, fire test laboratories, regional building code agencies and local building departments. This was the first time such a diverse group of interested parties were assembled in an effort to reach consensus on the development of policy to govern the performance criteria, acceptable qualification of fire-rated duct enclosures used as an alternative to a code prescribed fire-rated shaft wall enclosure.

A significant number of technical topics were discussed and areas requiring additional work were identified. The Forum worked to build working relationships between the various groups that had common goals but approached the issue from different perspectives. Based upon the positive feedback received from the meeting, this IFC Committee will continue to play an active role in ICCES Acceptance Criteria development process forth is emerging HVAC duct enclosure application as well as to work closely with other standards development groups working on similar performance documents.

In addition, IFC Duct Enclosure Committee submitted a code change proposal to the International Mechanical Code (IMC) that achieved a successful ballot at the ICC Committee Meetings held in February. Code Change

Proposal M54 will now move forward for a full IMC membership vote at the upcoming Annual ICC Code Hearings in late September in Detroit. This IMC code change will clarify the fire test requirements for kitchen exhaust duct enclosures in Section 506.3.10 of the 2003 International Mechanical Code that are permitted as an exception to the fire-rated shaft enclosures for this application. The proposal will require alternate enclosure systems to be tested per ASTM E2336 "Standard Test Methods for Fire Resistive Grease Duct Enclosure Systems". For factory built, prefabricated duct enclosure systems, testing per UL2221 "First Edition of the Standard for Tests of Fire Resistive Grease Duct Enclosure Assemblies" is also acceptable. This code change proposal was the culmination of the effort of a number of IFC and other passive fire protection industry companies who worked hard to draft wording the entire industry would support. It is a step toward harmonizing the performance criteria used across the country to evaluate all types of alternate grease duct enclosure systems. If successful, it will benefit the passive fire protection industry by providing uniform criteria by which systems are qualified, installed and inspected.

NEW YORK STATE APPROVES IFC INSPECTORS SEMINAR

The two hour Firestop Inspectors Seminar has now been approved by the state of New York. This approval means that any building official and fire department inspector who is seeking New York State Enforcement In-Service Training credits will receive 2 hour credits after completing the IFC Seminar.

A seminar is already scheduled for the NYSBOC Rockland Chapter on November 4, 2005 for 125 attendees. Other NY Chapters are awaiting the IFC Seminar approval before scheduling their seminar.



**"Saving Lives Through
Passive Fire Containment"**

Firestop systems continuously protect against the passage of flames, deadly gases and toxic smoke through openings that are created by penetrations, joints and gaps in fire-resistive walls. The materials and systems provide passive fire containment required in modern building construction.

The IFC is a not-for-profit association of manufacturers, distributors and installers of passive fire protective materials and systems. It promotes the concept of fire containment through research, education and development of safety standards and code provisions.

We're on the Web
www.firestop.org
