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## **Fireproofing inspection program to expand nationwide**

A new agreement between the International Code Council and the National Fireproofing Contractors Association (NFCA) will expand the Code Council's Spray-Applied Fireproofing Special Inspector certification program. The program has been in use primarily in the western United States for more than 15 years. The International Code Council and NFCA are extending the certification across the U.S. to help ensure qualified inspectors are conducting the special inspections of Spray-Applied Fire-Resistive Material (SFRM) as mandated by the International Building Code.

The NFCA will provide a special inspector training program to help ensure that the inspector has the knowledge base to conduct proper SFRM inspections and to become a Certified Spray-Applied Fireproofing Special Inspector. NFCA currently provides contractor training programs in support of the UL Qualified Contractor program.

"The ICC Certified Inspector is a natural extension of the UL Qualified Contractor program for SFRM contractors," said NFCA President Hank Vogel. "With the creation of Qualified Contractors, it becomes more important that the inspectors have an increased level of knowledge and professionalism."

"Fireproofing adds an important layer of fire protection to the structural components of buildings," said International Code Council Board of Directors President Wally Bailey. "It is critical to building safety and fire prevention that spray-applied fireproofing be installed and inspected properly. We look forward to working with NFCA to promote the Code Council's Special Inspector programs for fireproofing around the country."

The International Code Council, a membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention, develops the codes used to construct residential and commercial buildings, including homes and schools. Most U.S. cities, counties and states that adopt codes choose the International Codes developed by the International Code Council.

The NFCA is a trade association representing both contractors and manufacturers of spray-applied fire resistive materials (SFRM) and intumescent fire-resistive coatings applied to protect structural building elements.