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Thank You

**NFCA PLATINUM
MANUFACTURER MEMBER**



NFCA DELIVERS STRONG ADVOCACY AT ICC PUBLIC COMMENT HEARINGS

The National Fireproofing Contractors Association (NFCA) played a prominent role at the International Code Council's Public Comment Hearings in Hartford, Connecticut, April 19–23, 2026. NFCA achieved key victories and raised important life-safety concerns focused on preserving and enhancing fire-resistance requirements within the code.

MAJOR VICTORY: STEEL CONSTRUCTION REMAINS UNRESTRAINED

Proposals to classify all steel structures as “restrained” for fire-resistance purposes were successfully disapproved at the public comment hearings. Concrete construction will be considered restrained under the 2027 IBC. NFCA stressed the importance of proper due diligence using established standards such as ASTM E119 and UL 263, rather than simplified approaches, to maintain accurate and conservative fire-resistance ratings.



FIREPROOFING INSPECTION STANDARDS FALL SHORT - FOR NOW

NFCA championed new ASTM standards for the inspection of spray-applied fire-resistive materials (SFRM), intumescent fire-resistive materials (IFRM), and board and wrap systems. Although the proposals were disapproved—primarily due to concerns over scope, prescriptiveness, and inspector qualifications raised by groups such as the National Association of Home Builders—NFCA views this as temporary. Stronger, consensus-based inspection protocols remain essential for improving installed quality.

PARKING GARAGE FIRE RESISTANCE

Proposals to increase fire-resistance ratings in open and enclosed parking garages (from 2 hours to 4 then 3 hours) were disapproved. NFCA highlighted evolving vehicle risks, including higher plastic content, plastic fuel tanks, and electric vehicle fire challenges, referencing international incidents. The association called for proactive measures while awaiting further data from the NFPA Fire Protection Research Foundation. A related proposal for residential parking garages was withdrawn.



OCCUPIABLE ROOFS

NFCA advocated for stronger fire-resistance requirements on occupiable roofs, pushing to eliminate the “20-foot rule” exemption and align ratings with the floor below. The proposals were disapproved amid questions about loss history, but NFCA emphasized unique hazards: unsprinklered areas, potential alcohol consumption, higher occupant loads, and direct occupant exposure.

20-FOOT RULE FOR COLUMNS IN ATRIUMS

A proposal expanding the 20-foot exemption for fireproofing columns in tall atriums and large-volume spaces was approved as modified. NFCA and partners expressed concerns regarding incomplete fire modeling, downward heat conduction, and the need for defense-in-depth between active and passive systems. This change may impact protection on upper column sections.

FORWARD MOMENTUM

Despite some setbacks, NFCA achieved important outcomes and demonstrated the value of industry engagement in code development. Planning is already underway for continued advocacy as new materials and building uses emerge. Robust passive fire protection is vital for structural integrity and life safety.

WHAT'S NEW IN THE WORLD OF STANDARDS

ASTM E05 & E36 COMMITTEE MEETINGS COMING TO DALLAS!

Join ASTM International in Dallas for Committee Week, June 1–4, 2026. Committee E05 on Fire Standards will cover cone-calorimeter methods, radiant-panel testing, smoke chambers, tunnel operations, roofing evaluations, and exterior wall fire exposure.

Committee E36 will address accreditation, quality systems, terminology, and more. These sessions directly influence the standards that govern fireproofing work—NFCA encourages active participation.



ADVANCING STANDARDS
TRANSFORMING MARKETS

FCIA AND NFCA DELIVER OUTSTANDING PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION CONFERNECE

The joint FCIA/NFCA Passive Fire Protection (PFP) Conference was a tremendous success this year. The conference brought together firestopping and structural fireproofing professionals in Las Vegas, Nevada. The event fostered exceptional cross-pollination between the two disciplines.

Attendees benefited from dynamic discussions, technical presentations, and collaborative workshops that highlighted the critical interdependence of firestopping and fireproofing in delivering complete passive fire protection systems.

Participation was outstanding, with strong turnout and highly engaged industry professionals who actively contributed insights and best practices. The high level of interaction underscored the growing recognition that integrated approaches between firestop and fireproofing contractors lead to better project outcomes and enhanced building safety.

NFCA extends its thanks to all who participated and looks forward to building on this momentum in future joint initiatives.

PFPCON IS COMING TO CANADA

PFPCON '26 Canada, the country's only national conference and expo dedicated exclusively to Passive Fire Protection (PFP), will bring together industry professionals committed to strengthening life safety and building resilience.

Focused on the systems and strategies that protect people, property, and operations when fire and smoke occur, this event serves as a critical platform for education, collaboration, and innovation. Attendees will gain valuable insights into the latest practices, standards, and technologies shaping the future of PFP.

More than just a conference, PFPCON '26 is where knowledge drives awareness—and awareness leads to meaningful action. From expert-led sessions to networking opportunities with leaders across the industry, participants will leave equipped to make a lasting impact in their work and communities.

Join us in building a safer Canada—one informed decision at a time.

**September 1-4, 2026
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia**



INDUSTRY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

ILLINOIS ENACT MANDATORY REGISTRATION FOR SPRAYED FIRE-RESISTANT MATERIAL APPLICATORS

Under the Illinois Sprayed Fire-Resistant Material Applicator Act (425 ILCS 75), effective 1 July 2026, all applicators of cementitious or fibrous SFRMs in the state must hold valid OSFM registration.

Qualifications include apprenticeship completion or documented training (minimum eight hours). Applications are being accepted now, with early approvals valid through June 30, 2029.

This development directly affects fireproofing contractors and supports higher standards of installation quality.

PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION MATERIALS MARKET POISED FOR STRONG GROWTH THROUGH 2033

Persistence Market Research projects the global market rising from US\$4.3 billion in 2026 to US\$6.6 billion by 2033 (CAGR 6.4%). Drivers include stricter regulations, urban growth in Asia-Pacific, and demand from construction and energy sectors. Europe leads currently; Asia-Pacific is the fastest-growing region.

NFPA NAMES NEXT PRESIDENT AND CEO

Ross Ashley assumes the role on 1 July 2026, bringing extensive emergency management experience from KPMG. The fire and life safety community looks forward to his leadership.



SIDERISE DOES IT AGAIN!

Siderise has earned a spot in Building magazine's Good Employer Guide 2026 for the second year running, recognized as the only construction product manufacturer on the list for its outstanding workplace culture and employee support.



IN MEMORIUM: CHUCK RAMANI

The industry lost a respected leader with the passing of Chuck Ramani, Founder and Past President of the International Accreditation Service, on 1 April 2026. His contributions to accreditation and conformity assessment were profound. IAS has created a Lifetime Achievement Award in his memory.



Thank You

NFCA GOLD MANUFACTURER MEMBERS



UL SOLUTIONS WITHDRAWS SECOND EDITION OF UL 2755

UL Solutions has officially withdrawn the Second Edition of UL 2755, the Outline of Investigation for Modular Data Centers (last updated in 2018). The decision was made because the previous requirements had become obsolete and no longer adequately addressed modern safety concerns or aligned with current installation codes.

IMPACTS ON STRUCTURAL FIREPROOFING

The older edition of the standard did not fully account for today's demanding conditions, including dramatically increased fire loads from high-density IT equipment, advanced power and cooling systems, and the unique structural challenges of prefabricated and stacked modular configurations.

NFCA members should note that UL Solutions has released a new Third Edition (UL 2755:2025), which incorporates updated safety requirements reflecting current technologies and model code provisions. This change highlights the growing importance of using the latest tested and listed fireproofing systems—such as spray-applied fire-resistive materials (SFRM), intumescent fire-resistive materials (IFRM), and board or wrap systems—to protect structural steel and maintain required fire-resistance ratings in these high-risk environments.

Contractors are encouraged to review project specifications carefully and consult with manufacturers to ensure full compliance with the revised standard. Doing so will help deliver reliable structural fire protection and support overall building resilience in this rapidly expanding sector.

FEATURED MEMBERS

We would love to hear about the great work happening across our NFCA community.

If you have a recent achievement, project highlight, or insight from the field, consider sharing it with us.

This space is all about recognizing the efforts that move passive fire protection forward. Submissions can be sent to Carol Ann at carolanni@cmservices.com



BECOME AN NFCA MEMBER

There's no better time than right now to join the National Fireproofing Contractors Association community—gain immediate access to resources, industry expertise, and support that moves your business forward.

Here are a few benefits NFCA Members find valuable:

- NFCA's Annual Week of Learning - One free attendee
- Listing at NFCA-online.org's Member List - Where customers can find you!
- NFCA Website MEMBERS ONLY Section access, for exclusive FREE content.
- NFCA Contractor Accreditation Program (CAP) - Sets your company apart.
- UL Qualified SFRM Contractor Program - Gives your company more competitive advantages.
- NFCA's Handbook of Fireproofing Knowledge", is the industry textbook provides a great study guide for becoming a DRI in NFCA's CAP and the UL SFRM Program.
- NFCA Webinars - Educates code officials, specifiers, inspectors and fireproofing contractors, who learn to approve fireproofing submittals, jobs.
- and MORE!

Submit an application to Carol Ann Lis at carolanni@cmservices.com or contact her for more information on the benefits of membership!



NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Please help up welcome our newest NFCA members:

CONTRACTOR MEMBERS

West Lincoln Insulation Inc.



Lanehart LLC



Bahl Fireproofing



Accredited Firestop Installers LLC



Installtec, Inc



Just Spray It



FireSafe Solutions Inc.



INTERNATIONAL CONTRACTOR MEMBERS

Jitsukawa Taiko Co.



株式会社 實川耐工

Firi Fire Proofing & Paints



SILVER MANUFACTURER MEMBER

FlameSeal



NFCA CONTRACTOR ACCREDITATION PROGRAM

A big shoutout to our members who recently took the SFRM/IFRM exams. These are no small feat! Your dedication and commitment to advancing your expertise in fireproofing truly stand out.

COMPANIES INCLUDE:

**Accredited Firestop Installers LLC,
Arango Proofing LLC
Donalco Western Inc.
FireSafe Solutions Inc.
Isolation 4 Saisons
JT Thorpe & Son, Inc.
Just Spray It, Kaloutas & Company, Inc.
Oaks Brothers, Inc.
Performance Contracing, Inc.
Southwest Specialty Coatings, Inc.
Therma Seal Insulation Systems
Western Partition Inc. (WPI)
Zack Painting Co., Inc.**

Want to be among our newest accredited contractors? Virtual exams are around the corner!

REGISTER FOR THE VIRTUAL FIREPROOFING EDUCATION AND EXAMS THIS AUGUST

August 20-21: Join NFCA for Virtual Fireproofing Education & Exams

Take the first step toward becoming a DRI and NFCA-Accredited or UL Solutions Qualified SFRM Contractor* by completing and passing the NFCA Education for IFRM & SFRM Fireproofing Exams.

These competency requirements don't apply to contractors alone. Fire and building codes worldwide also require Special Inspection Agencies to employ qualified inspectors. One way inspectors can demonstrate their expertise is by successfully completing NFCA's Fireproofing Education & Exams.

An NFCA Certificate of Completion may be submitted to the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), along with a resume outlining relevant experience, as part of the approval process.



Tuesday, June 16, 2026 10:00 AM CST

'Directing the Directory - How to Navigate the Intertek Directory of Listed Products (DLP) and Find Listed Systems' with Herbert Stansbury (Intertek) and Charles Meyers (Intertek)



Join us for a practical session on navigating Intertek's Directory of Listed Products (DLP).

This webinar will show participants how to efficiently access and use the DLP via both the Intertek homepage and direct URL for quick retrieval of listing information. Attendees will learn how to find Listing Reports and Design Listings using Design Numbers, as well as how to browse by Manufacturer, Test Standard, Listing Category, or CSI Code

With a focus on firestop systems—including penetrations, joints, perimeter joints, and duct protection—the session will also cover how to interpret Listing Reports and access supporting Design Documents, helping participants confidently apply these resources to real-world firestop design and specification.

Thank You

NFCA SILVER MANUFACTURER MEMBERS



PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY IN LIFE SAFETY DIGEST

Life Safety Digest, the official publication of FCIA, is the industry's trusted source for firestopping, fireproofing, and fire-resistance-rated construction. Published quarterly, it reaches contractors, architects, engineers, code officials, and facility managers—the key decision-makers in the built environment.

NFCA is proud to be featured, contributing expert insights on passive fire protection, including SFRM and IFRM systems.

Why Advertise?

- ◆ Targeted reach to engaged life-safety professionals
- ◆ Credible platform backed by FCIA leadership
- ◆ Multi-channel exposure—print, digital, and events
- ◆ Valuable context alongside trusted technical content

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