April/May 2022



WHAT'S COMING UP...

The International Code Council's (ICC) **Building Safety Month** kicks off this week. It is an international campaign each May to raise awareness about building safety and regularly-adopted, updated building codes.





<u>ICC BSM Week 1</u> - The building safety industry is focused on creating safe & sustainable construction by addressing the key areas of energy efficiency, building science and innovation – at the individual and community level.



ICC BSM Week 2 - There is a tremendous work opportunity for qualified candidates seeking a job in the building industry, including code officials. Visit the ICC Chapter websites to learn more.



ICC BSM Week 3 - Preparing for devastating events like hurricanes, floods, snowstorms, tornadoes, wildfires and earthquakes helps increase the health and safety during a disaster, protects the local tax base, ensures continuity of essential services, and supports a faster recovery after a disaster.



ICC BSM Week 4 – According to World Health Organization estimates a/o June 2019, 785 million people lacked even a basic drinking-water service, including 144 million people who are dependent on surface water. Building, plumbing and green codes help guard potable water supply for future

generations through proper construction, conservation and safe disposal. Code officials are vigilant protectors of our water supply.

THANKS TO NFCA

GOLD SUPPLIER MEMBER







Did you know that the **National Research Council of Canada** has published the 2020 versions of the **National Building Code and National Fire Code of Canada?** The new codes provide:

NBCC – Not much change here in Fireproofing, in that NFCA's Proposal to add Fireproofing Inspection to the NBCC was disapproved by the Standing Committee on Fire Protection. Look for NFCA to provide another proposal for the 2025 version of the code, for occupiable rooftops and also fireproofing inspection.

NFCC – According to the NRC, there are nearly 40 technical changes incorporated into this new edition, improving the level of safety, health and fire protection provided by the Code, and expanding the NFC into new areas. One key element is that fire safety plan requirements are consolidated to facilitate compliance and enforcement.

The NFCA's Annual **Award of Excellence** program winners received their awards at NFCA's Week of Learning in Tempe, AZ. Great short presentations took place during the conference, but longer presentations with Q&A will be featured at the May 24 NFCA Free Webinar. Don't miss it!!



CONGRATULATIONS to the 2022 NFCA Award of Excellence winner!

- Low Rise INNOVATION Award Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport Sky Train Expansion, Rolling Plains Construction, AZ, Tom Anderson
- Low Rise MAGNATUDE Project Scarlett, Alpha Insulation & Waterproofing, Chuck Jahant, Lee Campbell
- HIGH RISE Lucas Museum of Narrative Arts Martin Brothers, Joe Cavalita
- **EXISTING BUILDING -** Transamerica Building Structural Upgrade Raymond Northern California, Marty Fuetsch

NFCA 2022 PRESIDENTS Award Winners – We honored retiring directors, leaders, and NFCA's Education Faculty, presented by NFCA President, Carl Fernald.

John Taglienti, East Coast Fireproofing – John is retiring from the industry in July. He has served as a Director, President, Past President for 12 years. He also has participated in Accreditation, Manufacturer, Program and Safety Committees. He continues to provide safety updates for us to use in these eNewsletters. We wish him the best.





Keith Kennedy, Aries Contracting, LLC – The team of Barbara and Keith, have done much for the industry during their time at NFCA. Keith served as a Director, on the Safety Committee, Vice Chair of the Safety Committee, with he and Barbara helping with the NFCA's Safety Handbook. Congratulations Keith, on your pending retirement.

Paul Steele, Raymond – Paul's role as a Director, Past President, Nominating Committee, Technical Code and Standards, always has passion for fireproofing involved. He has been active in committees, and always provides excellent perspectives on NFCA industry topics.



NFCA's Fireproofing Education Faculty – NFCA recognized Daniel Ehehalt, Isolatek, John Dalton, GCP Applied Technologies, Ernst Toussaint, Hilti, Sean Younger, Carboline

and Phil Mancuso for their contributions of time and talent during NFCA's Education for the SFRM and IFRM Fireproofing Exams. They do make a difference!

UPDATES:

NFCA's Week of Learning included the NFCA Fireproofing Education & Exams for DRI's and Inspection Personnel, plus a great NFCA Educational Conference.

- Over 120 attendees,
- International Building Code (IBC) Updates for the 2018, 2021 and 2024 versions of the IBC, with Rich Walke, Doug Evans, and Bill McHugh, caught the NFCA Membership up to date on important issues in the codes.



- During Leadership for All, Rob Stevens provided a look at our own preparation
 and performance for fireproofing. This call to THINK before all actions, including the
 small stuff, hopefully results in better prevention of big mistakes, or injuries.
- The "TOP 10 QUESTIONS" from the manufacturers, provided a lot of new fireproofing knowledge to the audience on SFRM, IFRM, Boards and Wraps.
- UL's new Primary Designated Engineer Kevin Hyland, and NFCA Consultant Rich Walke, gave us the History of ASTM E119 and UL 263, showing how fireresistance is valuable to fire and life safety in buildings.
- UL's Ruben Sandoval provided insight into how UL's Qualified Fireproofing Contractor Program, and the NFCA Contractor Accreditation Program can set your company apart. He also focused on how management systems are built, and the UL QFCP Program's details and benefits.
- NFCA's Bill McHugh, UL's Ruben Sandoval, and Rolling Plains' Jason Aestasi covered the NEWLY UPDATED NFCA Fireproofing Inspection Education Program. Look for more on this in the near future.
- Former Code Official Joe McElvaney provided insight into how our industry can do
 what the sprinkler and alarm industry dues, providing annual visual inspection of
 fireproofing and all passive fire resistance in buildings.
- Bob Pool, Alfred Miller Co. provided a great summary of the differences between oil and gas industry fireproofing and commercial fireproofing. Everything from management system required to operate at these worksites to safety, and product differences. Well done Bob Pool.



- 19 NFCA Contractors sent participants for the IFRM & SFRM Education and Exams.
- Next IFRM & SFRM education and exams will be held virtually in the Fall. Check back for details!

NFCA @ ICC Code Development Hearings – The ICC's International Building Code (IBC) Development Hearings had lots of fire-resistance action, at the beginning and end of the 10 day session, with things to watch in between.

During the **Administrative Committee Hearings, Chapter 1 of the IBC**, there were discussions on 104.11, the alternative methods section, on **ADM 13.** A comment was made during testimony that "Fire Resistance is Eliminated". NFCA responded, 'NO, Fire-Resistance has not been eliminated". For equivalencies, there is still proof - of quality, effectiveness and fire-safety as it relates to Chapter 7 of the IBC's Fire-Resistance provisions - needed prior to code official approval of the alternate method.

Thankfully, NFCA was there at the IBC Code Hearings to represent the Fire-Resistance Industry and not have false claims made that fire resistance was eliminated. This

important fire-protection feature in buildings is here to stay because it protects the structure, so people can egress and provides firefighters a safe platform to stage firefighting operations. Plus, if the structure stays intact and does not sag, warp due to excessive heat, the sprinkler system can continue to operate as piping suspended from the floor above stays intact and operating.

Just as important, the **IBC Structural Code Committee disapproved** a proposal that would have inserted **Performance Based Structural Fire Design (PBSFD)** based on the American Society of Civil Engineers, Document ASCE7-16. A key comment for the disapproval was there is not yet a supply of engineers to create the PBSFD, nor a supply to evaluate it the PBSFD at the municipal level at building departments. There were several other opposition comments from the American Iron and Steel Institute, many others.

NFCA HAFK Book – NFCA's Handbook of Accepted Fireproofing Knowledge (HAFK) is a great resource to learn from – for new entrants to fireproofing and seasoned veterans. Learning is a lifetime sport. Fireproofing knowledge is cumulative too. Don't have your copy? **Order today**, PDF and Hard Copy. You'll want both to prepare for the NFCA SFRM and IFRM Fireproofing Exams, at NFCA's Week of Learning.

SAFETY SECTION:

This month the US Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has its *National Safety Stand Down*, May 2-6, 2022.

According to OSHA, Companies can conduct a Safety Stand-Down by taking a break to have a toolbox talk or another safety activity such as conducting safety equipment inspections, developing rescue plans, or discussing job specific hazards.





OSHA states that company managers are encouraged to plan a stand-down that works best for their workplace anytime. Need help? Check out the <u>Suggestions to Prepare for a Successful "Stand-Down"</u> and <u>Highlights from the Past Stand-Downs</u>.

Safety is everyone's business. We respect all the NFCA Member resources used to keep the Fireproofing Workplace safe.

NFCA MEMBER UPDATES:

Did your company promote someone? Retirement? Exciting company news? Let us know! Email kriston@nfca-online.org

WELCOME NEW NFCA MEMBERS:

• Performance Contracting, Inc. (PCI) (Contractor Branch Member)

Haven't renewed yet? Don't forget, your NFCA Membership Dues are the reason we can keep the Fireproofing Industry front and center at ICC, ASTM, NRC, NFPA....

- Advocating and defending Fire-Resistance at the International Code Council's International Building Code Development Process, NFPA, other venues.
- Bringing the Field Perspective to the ASTM Standards Development process for ASTM E605, E736 and other Fire and Inspection Standard processes.
- Spreading fire-resistance concepts with NFCA's Handbook of Accepted Fireproofing Knowledge Book, NFCA Safety Book.
- Providing world-class education for Contractor and Inspection Agency Personnel who install and inspect fireproofing.

Membership supports NFCA's efforts at all these venues, and much more. Plus, you get access to the NFCA Members Only Section, for resources including the NFCA Week of Learning Education Session Slides, and much more. **Renew online** today.

Not a NFCA Member Yet?

Membership in NFCA supports educational opportunities specific to fireproofing plus advocacy efforts on behalf of fireproofing - fire safety and the industry.

You'll also get great member discounts and access to NFCA's member's only industry information. **JOIN NOW!**



Don't forget to connect with members on LinkedIn and post NFCA & NFCA Member activities from time to time.

THANKS TO NFCA SILVER SUPPLIER MEMBERS:





QUESTIONS? Contact Kriston at kriston@nfca-online.org; 708-236-3411