

# PasFiPro '25

9-10 FEBRUARY | DOHA, QATAR

**FCIA** 

**NFCA**® 



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# 2025 FCIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For the Association to thrive and grow, it needs good leaders, strong leadership. FCIA's Board of Directors is a very diverse and passionate group of Contractors. Each person has chosen to give back to the Association through serving on the Board, participating on Committee(s), and more.

## PRESIDENT

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## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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## TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

Bill McHugh  
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NFCA's Board of Directors is responsible for steering the organization while adhering to the stated mission of furthering the quality of structural fire-resistance in buildings. To carry out this charge, NFCA Board volunteers meet multiple times per year to provide oversight and strategic direction.

## PRESIDENT

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# A WORD FROM THE FCIA & NFCA BOARD PRESIDENTS

Welcome to PasFiPro '25 Doha, the FCIA-NFCA Passive Fire Protection Symposium.

As we embark on this new year, we are thrilled to share our enthusiasm and vision for the Firestop Contractor International Association (FCIA) and the National Fireproofing Contractors Association (NFCA) and the exciting strides we are poised to make in 2025. Building upon our strong foundations and the collective dedication of our members, we are committed to further solidifying FCIA and NFCA's positions as the leading voices and resources for structural and effective compartmentation Passive Fire Protection worldwide.

Collaboration is the cornerstone of our success. FCIA and NFCA are dedicated to fostering stronger connections within the Passive Fire Protection community and beyond. Our initiatives in 2025 will focus on:

- **Strategic Partnerships:** We will forge new alliances with key organizations in the building and construction industry, including Contractors, Engineers, Inspectors, and like-minded Associations. Growing these relationships, we believe will benefit the entire Passive Life Safety Industry for years to come.
- **International Growth & Development:** Abhishek Chhabra, the FCIA & NFCA Director, International Initiatives, has been seen at in-person and virtual events around the world and digital communities spreading the word of Passive Fire Protection. He has been working tirelessly to bring together key decision makers and influencers in the construction community. This year, begins with the FCIA-NFCA PasFiPro '25 Doha and Dubai events that will be elevated in attendance and scope thanks to Abhi's tireless efforts to connect folks in the passive life safety world.

We are confident that 2025 will be a year of remarkable progress for FCIA, NFCA, and our members. With your continued support and active participation, we will elevate the structural and compartmentation Passive Fire Protection industries to new heights and make our buildings safer for all.

Gus Mancini, 2025 FCIA Board President

Mathew Stephenson, 2024 NFCA Board President





FCIA & NFCA Committees are comprised of Member volunteers who work together on various pieces of Association business, from Codes and Standards development to Marketing outreach and more. This collaboration is how we gain industry consensus on issues related to the improvement of fire and life safety in buildings around the globe and how we create opportunities for the growth of our industry.

Consider volunteering your time and talents with one of the following Committees. Contact the Committee Chair(s) or [lissettek@cmservices.com](mailto:lissettek@cmservices.com) for additional information or to inquire about joining a Committee.

## FCIA COMMITTEES

### **ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE**

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### **ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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### **CODE COMMITTEE**

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### **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

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Aideen Doneski - Vice Chair  
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## FCIA COMMITTEES continued

### **EDUCATION TASK GROUP: FCIA MANUAL OF PRACTICE (MOP)**

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### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

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## FCIA COMMITTEES continued

### LIFE SAFETY DIGEST COMMITTEE

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### PROGRAM COMMITTEE

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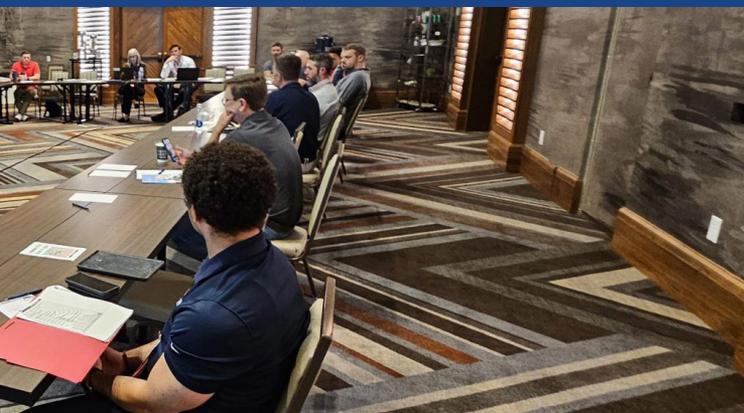
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## NFCA COMMITTEES

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## NFCA COMMITTEES continued

### PROJECT MANAGEMENT TASK FORCE

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# WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

## PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

FCIA and NFCA partner this year for PasFiPro '25, the FCIA-NFCA Passive Fire Protection Symposium Doha. The educational Symposium provides education and networking opportunities for fire-resistance-rated structural and effective compartmentation - Passive Fire Protection - experts to enhance proficiency and make essential connections to set yourself as the true expert that you are.

## 9 FEBRUARY 2025

### MEETINGS PLUS 1 & 2 (2nd FLOOR)

All times listed are in GMT+3

- 0830 am – 1630 pm Symposium Registration Open
- 0830 am – 0900 am Welcome Tea & Coffee
- 0900 am - 0930 am PasFiPro '25 Doha Welcome Comments  
*Engr. Mark Bacsafra, Qatar Civil Defence | Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*
- 0930 am - 1000 am FCIA & NFCA: The Visions, The Missions, The Associations  
*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*
- 1000 am - 1045 am Code & Standards Requirements for Passive Fire Protection  
*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*
- 1045 am - 1100 am Break
- 1100 am – 1145 am Evaluating Passive Fire Protection in Risk Assessment: A Holistic Approach  
*Sourav Chatterjee, Lockton (MENA) Limited*
- 1145 am – 1230 pm An Introduction to the New UL Solutions Technical Evaluation Developer Program  
*Ghaith Bakir, UL Solutions*
- 1230 pm - 1300 pm Firestopping & Fireproofing Contractor Accreditation Programs  
*Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*
- 1300 pm - 1400 pm Luncheon
- 1400 pm - 1445 pm Firestop, Compartmentation, & Structural Fire-Resistance Inspections  
*Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

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## 9 FEBRUARY 2025 *continued*

### MEETINGS PLUS 1 & 2 (2nd FLOOR)

All times listed are in GMT+3

- 1445 pm - 1530 pm      **Fireproofing & More**  
*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*
- 1530 pm - 1600 pm      **Maintaining Protection - Structural Fire-Resistance and Effective Compartmentation**  
*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*
- 1600 pm                      **Closing Comments**  
*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

### **PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED**

FCIA's Education for the Firestop and Fireproofing Exams helps prepare Specialty Installation Contractors and Special Inspectors to pass the FM or UL Firestop Exams. Passing the Exams is required for Firestop Contractors to attain and maintain FM 4991 Approved or UL Qualified Firestop DRI status and for Firestop Inspectors to prove competence to AHJ's or International Accreditation Services IAS AC 291 Special Inspection Agency responsible individual status.

## 10 FEBRUARY 2025

### MEETINGS PLUS 1 & 2 (1st FLOOR)

All times listed are in GMT+3

- 0800 am - 1200 pm      **Firestop Exam Registration Open**
- 0800 am - 0830 am      **Welcome Tea & Coffee**
- 0830 am - 1000 am      **FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exams**  
*Bill McHugh, FCIA*
- 1000 am - 1015 am      **Break**
- 1015 am - 1130 am      **FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exams, continued**  
*Bill McHugh, FCIA*
- 1130 am - 1300 pm      **Quality Management System Manual Development Education**  
*Bill McHugh, FCIA*
- 1300 pm - 1345 pm      **Luncheon**
- 1400 pm - 1730 pm      **FM & UL Firestop Exam for DRI Candidates & Inspection Personnel**
- Note:** The UL Firestop Exam is an OPEN BOOK exam. UL Exam Participants MUST provide their own copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice. The FM Firestop Exam DOES NOT allow use of the MOP during the exam.

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## 9 FEBRUARY 2025

0900 am - 0930 am

### **PasFiPro '25 Doha Welcome**

*Engr. Mark Bacsafra, Qatar Civil Defence | Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

Join Qatar Civil Defence, FCIA, and NFCA as we welcome delegates to PasFiPro '25 Doha! During this session, we'll hear updates from QCDD, including the important role Passive Fire Protection plays in QCDD's commitment to safeguarding lives and property from smoke and fire.

0930 am - 1000 am

### **FCIA & NFCA: The Visions, The Missions, The Associations**

*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

In this session, you'll learn about the origins of the Firestop Contractors International Association (FCIA) and National Fireproofing Contractors Association (NFCA), what the missions and guiding principles are, and how both groups advocate and work to further the Passive Fire Protection industry in the Gulf Region.

1000 am - 1045 am

### **Code & Standards Requirements for Passive Fire Protection**

*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

Once the Building Codes specify Standards, understanding what the Standards evaluate is critical to proper 'D'esign, 'I'nstallation, 'I'nspection, and 'M'aintaining Protection.

This session covers structural fire protection, compartmentation, and firestopping fire test Standards.

1100 am - 1145 am

### **Evaluating Passive Fire Protection in**

### **Risk Assessment: A Holistic Approach** *Sourav Chatterjee, Lockton (MENA) Limited*

This presentation will explore the critical role of Passive Fire Protection (PFP) systems in comprehensive fire risk assessments, emphasizing the need for a holistic approach which goes beyond simply assessing individual components of PFP. This holistic approach involves integrating PFP systems into the broader context of risk management.

Attendees will learn to balance the potential risks and benefits of Passive Fire Protection measures, factoring in real world scenarios and potential failures.

After this session, attendees will:

- Understand the role of PFP systems in overall fire safety and how Insurance Risk Engineers evaluate PFP during risk assessments;
- Develop a deeper understanding of the life cycle of passive fire protection measures and their maintenance and how it affects ongoing risk assessments;
- Connect the correlation between PFP adequacy, Insurance risk scores, loss estimate calculations, and technical premium;
- Examine the impact of passive fire protection on building evacuation plans.;
- and Develop strategies for integrating Passive Fire Protection into a comprehensive fire risk management plan to ensure both safety and regulatory compliance.

1145 am - 1230 pm

### **An Introduction to the New UL Solutions Technical Evaluation Developer Program** *Ghaith Bakir, UL Solutions*

UL Solutions has a new program, the



Technical Evaluation Developer Program (TEDp) that includes requirements intended to increase the level of independent oversight for technical evaluations.

This session explores the origins and requirements of the program, as well as the benefits for Code Authorities and more.

### 1230 pm - 1300 pm

#### **Firestopping & Fireproofing Contractor Accreditation Programs**

*Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

FCIA worked closely with UL to build the UL Qualified Firestop Contractor Program and FM Approvals for the FM 4991 Standard for the Approval of Firestop Contractors.

NFCA developed the NFCA Contractor Accreditation Program, which supports UL's Qualified SFRM Contractor Program.

Learn more about all three programs, including how to become accredited, how and why to Specify the programs, and the benefits of working with accredited Contractors.

### 1400 pm - 1445 pm

#### **Firestop, Compartmentation, & Structural Fire-Resistance Inspections**

*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

In this program hear about inspection requirements in the International Building Code, and how it works for effective compartmentation elements including firestopping, structural steel fireproofing, fire-rated walls, floors, fire doors, fire dampers, and fire-rated glazing.

### 1445 pm - 1530 pm

#### **Fireproofing & More**

*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

Structural Steel and Concrete building

elements and assemblies are protected by SFRM, IFRM, Board and Wrap Fireproofing to insulate from the effects of high temperatures – including deformation, expansion, loss of strength to support a load. In this session, learn about the various types of fireproofing materials, listings, advantages, disadvantages, and more.

### 1530 pm - 1600 pm

#### **Maintaining Protection - Structural Fire-Resistance and Effective Compartmentation**

*Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA/NFCA | Bill McHugh, FCIA/NFCA*

The International Fire Code, NFPA 101, NFPA 1, and UAE Fire and Life Safety Code of Practice all require that firestopping and fireproofing protection be maintained.

This session looks at the requirements for each.



## 10 FEBRUARY 2025

0830 am - 1130 am

**FCIA Education for the FM & UL**

**Firestop Exams**

*Bill McHugh, FCIA*

The FM & UL Firestop Exams are based on FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice (MOP), the FM & UL program guides, and systems selection and analysis. These exams are used for contractor personnel to become FM 4991 Approved Contractor and UL Qualified Contractor Program DRIs.

For Special Inspectors, passing the exam proves firestopping competency to the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ), required by the IBC's Chapter 17. Passing an exam is also a requirement in IAS AC 291 for the Inspector to become a Responsible Person.

The FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exam education sessions help prepare individuals and support individual preparation for these rigorous exams,

further strengthening and developing firestopping knowledge.

\*This program IS NO SUBSTITUTE for reading FCIA's Firestop Manual of Practice and studying the FM & UL program guides and systems selection and analysis before the exams.

1130 am - 1300 pm

**Quality Management System Manual Development Education**

*Bill McHugh, FCIA*

This session takes an in-depth look at the Quality Management System Manual requirements for the FM 4991 Approved, UL Qualified Firestop Contractor, and IAS AC 291 Accreditation programs. The session also provides tips and a framework for structuring and writing a comprehensive QMS Manual.





### **Ghaith Bakir, Senior Regulatory Engineer-MEA**

**Ghaith Bakir** is a Senior Regulatory Engineer at UL Solutions, who provides regulatory support in the Middle East and Africa regions.

Working out of the UL Solutions office in Doha, Ghaith provides technical expertise in regulations-, codes-, standards-, and product installations-related issues to assist regulatory authorities, consultants, manufacturers, designers, and contractors in resolving product acceptance and code compliance issues. He represents UL Solutions at AHJ and code development meetings by participating in code discussions and conducting technical presentations on code-related technical subjects, and he plans, conducts, and supervises code and regulatory related projects of major magnitude and scope.

Prior to joining UL Solutions Ghaith worked as a Project Engineer for a leading producer and supplier of fire and life safety solutions managing projects across the United Arab Emirates (UAE) involving the installation, testing, and maintenance of fire protection equipment and systems. He also worked for a Doha Master Developer as a Fire Engineer, assisting in developing and implementing fire safety management system frameworks and evaluating compliance with national and international fire safety standards and best practices.

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### **Engr. Mark Bacsafr, MBA, ACPE, Fire Protection Engineer**

**Engineer Mark Ryan Bacsafr, MBA, ACPE** is a Fire Protection Engineer in the Safety Systems Division of Qatar Civil Defence.

An ASEAN Chartered Professional Engineer ( A.C.P.E. ) with more than 15 years of various experience in Engineering, Construction, QA/QC, Inspection, Testing, and Commissioning of M&E Systems for various Large-Scale Residential, Commercial, Industrial, and Infrastructure projects, Engr. Bacsafr has successfully handled reputable engineering projects such as Hamad International Airport, Qatar Rail-Doha Metro, Ras Abu Aboud Stadium, Barwa City Project, 1322 Golden Empire Tower, and Dingle Diesel Power Plant. He specializes in Building Services and Fire Protection Engineering involving various systems, such as Emergency Lighting, Emergency Power & Standby Power, Fire Detection & Alarm, Gas Detection, Smoke & Heat Control Ventilation, Fire Suppression, and related Passive Fire Protection systems.

He is well-versed with international codes, system standards, and product standards, such as NEC, NFPA, IBC, BSI, EN, UL, FM, and others, and he has developed programs, guidelines, and regulatory procedures regarding Design Review, Product Evaluation, Inspection, Testing, Commissioning, and Maintenance of M&E Systems in Buildings for Qatar Civil Defence.

Qatar Civil Defence



## Sourav Chatterjee, Senior Risk Engineer, Risk Solutions

**Sourav Chatterjee** is an experienced and knowledgeable insurance professional with 13+ years of expertise in risk consulting and engineering, with an emphasis on loss prevention of large, complex construction, infrastructure projects, renewable energy risks, and others in the Middle East and Asian market. His experience also involves project consultation, reviewing adequacy of fire protection system design, and performing ITM of fire protection systems as part of his work.

Sourav is a Fellow of Insurance Institute of India (III) and holds a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering.

Sourav has worked as a Senior Risk Consultant in various major multi-national companies in UAE and India, such as AIG, RSA, LTI, and CMSRS, where he gained a deep understanding of various local and international loss prevention standards and is well connected in the insurance market within MENA and Asian regions.

He regularly speaks as a panelist at risk management forums across the region.

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## Abhishek Chhabra, Director - Middle East & Asia

**Abhishek Chhabra** works as the Regional Director of Operations for the MENA region with the International Code Council (ICC). He joined ICC to run the Doha office by providing essential on-the-ground support to organizations involved in building safety in the region, including various stakeholders like AHJs, consultants, manufacturers, architects, etc.

With over 15 years of experience in oil/gas, project management, and TIC industries, he leads ICC's operations and business development aspects in the MENA through existing and new partners and helping to deploy/lead/facilitate ICC's service lines for new business offerings across its family of solutions spectrum.

A distinguished speaker at conferences and workshops, Mohamed reinforces ICC's mission in building safety/innovation/sustainability, showcasing his commitment to advancing the industry's best practices and standards. His contributions underscore his dedication to fostering a safer and more resilient built environment in the MENA region.

He obtained his Masters degree in Engineering Systems Management and Bachelors degree in Electrical Engineering with Minor in Applied Mathematics and Computational Methods from the American University of Sharjah.

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## Bill McHugh, Technical Director



In his 43 years in the construction industry, **Bill McHugh** has been involved in Associations to help improve the reliability of various construction features. Prior to being FCIA & NFCA Technical Director, he was Executive Director of both FCIA and NFCA. He has worked at major construction products manufacturers, a specialist firestop distributor and contractor – even provided independent inspection – prior to being involved in FCIA and NFCA.

Bill participates in Building and Fire, Energy Code Development processes. He is active at: National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), various International Code Council (ICC) Codes including International Building (IBC), Fire (IFC), Existing Building (IEBC), Energy (IECC), and Property Maintenance (IPMC), the National Building & Fire Code of Canada (NBCC, NFCC), the United Arab Emirates Fire and Life Safety Code of Practice, the State of Illinois and City of Chicago, and many other country Codes.

He has served on the ICC's 'Fire Safety' Code Development Committee and serves on the Fire Protection Features Committee at NFPA.

He served as organizer and moderator for the ASHE/TJC/FCIA/UL Passive Fire Protection Barrier Management Symposiums and has presented on passive fire protection and firestopping at many conferences, effectively educating thousands.

In addition to being a published author in many magazines, he also produces *Life Safety Digest*, The Magazine of Passive Fire Protection, including effective compartmentation.

He is a past Institute Director, Chapter President, and Region President at the Construction Specifications Institute (CSI) and member at Construction Specifications Canada (CSC), and is a past member of the International Accreditation Services (IAS) Board of Directors.

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