



THE ARIA RESORT
LAS VEGAS, NV

30 MARCH - 3 APRIL 2026



EDUCATION FOR THE IFRM & SFRM FIREPROOFING EXAMS

IFRM and SFRM Contractor Accreditation Programs prove Contractor knowledge, establish quality control processes, and ultimately improve the quality and accuracy of installed Intumescent Fire-Resistive Materials (IFRM) and Sprayed Fire-Resistive Materials (SFRM).

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2026 - IFRM FIREPROOFING EDUCATION

JOSHUA 1

All times listed are in PDT

- | | |
|---------------------|--|
| 7:00 am - 5:00 pm | PFPCON '26 Registration Open |
| 7:30 am - 8:00 am | Breakfast for IFRM & SFRM Education Attendees |
| 8:00 am - 8:15 am | The NFCA Contractor Accreditation Programs
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC |
| 8:15 am - 9:15 am | UL Product iQ Directory & IFRM Systems Selection
Rich Walke, CTI |
| 9:15 am - 9:45 am | Primers and NFCA Technical Bulletins
Greg Becker, Isolatek |
| 9:45 am - 10:00 am | Break |
| 10:00 am - 10:30 am | Measuring Thickness of IFRM Applications
Greg Becker, Isolatek |
| 10:30 am - 10:45 am | IFRM Thickness Gauge Demo
Greg Becker, Isolatek |
| 10:45 am - 11:30 am | NFCA 300 Application Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC |
| 11:30 am - 12:00 pm | NFCA 400 Quality Control Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC |
| 12:00 pm - 12:45 pm | Luncheon for IFRM & SFRM Education Attendees |

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MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2026 - IFRM & SFRM FIREPROOFING EDUCATION

JOSHUA 1

All times listed are in PDT

- 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm NFCA & UL SFRM Accredited Contractor Program Overviews
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions
- 2:00 pm – 2:30 pm Restrained Versus Unrestrained
John Dalton, GCP
- 2:30 pm – 2:45 pm Break
- 2:45 pm – 4:15 pm The ICC Building Code Requirements for Fireproofing
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Rich Walke, CTI

TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026 - SFRM FIREPROOFING EDUCATION & EXAMS

JOSHUA 1

All times listed are in PDT

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm PFPFCON '26 Registration Open
- 7:30 am – 8:00 am Breakfast for IFRM & SFRM Education Attendees
- 8:00 am – 9:00 am UL Product iQ Directory & SFRM Systems Selection
Dan Ehehalt, Isolotek
- 9:00 am – 9:30 am Beam Substitution Procedures & Examples
John Dalton, GCP
- 9:30 am – 10:00 am Thickness Adjustment Procedures & Examples
John Dalton, GCP
- 10:00 am – 10:15 am Break
- 10:15 am – 11:15 am UL Fire-Resistance Topics
Rich Walke, CTI
- 11:15 am – 12:00 pm NFCA 100 Application Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC
- 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm NFCA 200 Quality Control Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC
- 12:30 pm – 1:15 pm Luncheon for IFRM & SFRM Exam Attendees
- 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm NFCA IFRM & SFRM Fireproofing Exams
Note: The IFRM & SFRM Fireproofing Exams are online OPEN BOOK exams. Participants MUST provide their own copy of the NFCA Handbook of Accepted Fireproofing Knowledge (HAFK) and handouts, as well as a laptop and charger.

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EDUCATION FOR THE FM & UL FIRESTOP EXAMS

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

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, 30 MARCH 2026

JOSHUA 2

All times listed are in PDT

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm PFPCON '26 Registration Open
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm FCIA Education for the FM & UL Firestop Exams
Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA
- 2:00 pm - 2:15 pm Break
- 2:15 pm - 3:30 pm FCIA Education for the Firestop Exams (continued)
- 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm Quality Management System Manual Development: A How-To Session
Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026

JOSHUA 2

All times listed are in PDT

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm PFPCON '26 Registration Open
- 7:30 am - 8:00 am Continental Breakfast for Firestop Exam Attendees
- 8:00 am - 11:30 am FM & UL Firestop Exams

Note: The UL Firestop Exam is OPEN BOOK exams. UL Exam Participants MUST provide their own copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice. The UL Canadian Supplement covers questions specific to Canada. The FM Firestop Exam DOES NOT allow use of the MOP during the exam.



The Ultimate Change Order Software for Firestop Contractors

"Everything is done in an instant without chasing down people or paperwork"

– Javier Lucatero, President, Accurate Firestop



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TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 2026

All times listed are in PDT

- 7:00 am – 6:00 pm **PFPCON '26 Registration Open** Registration Desk 2
- 9:00 am – 4:00 pm **Exhibitor Move-In** Mariposa Ballroom

PFPCON '26 SPECIAL EVENT: HANDS-ON OFF-SITE DEMOS

- 12:00 pm – 12:30 pm **Meet in Tour Bus Lobby and Board Busses** Hotel Lobby
- 12:30 pm **Depart Hotel for The Industrial**
- 1:00 pm - 3:30 pm **Hands-On Off-Site Demos**
The Industrial Event Space
2330 Industrial Road, Las Vegas, NV 89102
- 3:30 pm - 3:45 pm **Board Busses**
- 3:45 pm – 4:15 pm **Return to The Aria Resort & Casino**
- 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm **Welcome Reception with Exhibitors** Mariposa Ballroom
Attendees, Spouses, Guests, and Speakers Welcome
Sponsored by Hilti Inc.

WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

- 7:00 am - 5:00 pm **PFPCON '26 Registration Open** Registration Desk 2
- 7:30 am – 6:30 pm **PFPCON '26 Expo Floor Open** Mariposa Ballroom
- 7:30 am – 8:00 am **Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors** Mariposa Ballroom
Sponsored by Owens Corning / Thermafiber
- 8:00 am – 8:15 am **PFPCON '26 FCIA & NFCA Presidents' Welcome** Mariposa Ballroom
Joe Wilkinson, 2026 FCIA Board President | Steve
Winston, 2025 NFCA Board President
- 8:15 am – 8:45 am **Passive Fire Protection: The Hero(es) You Never See** Mariposa Ballroom
Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA | Lindsey Dutkiewicz,
FCIA & NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA

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WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

8:45 am – 9:15 am	PFPCONtalk: FCIA & NFCA Committee Unmasked FCIA: Accreditation Canada Code Education Inspection Marketing Membership Program Standards NFCA: Accreditation Canada Education Finishes Task Group Program Project Management Task Group Safety Technical Codes & Standards Women in Fireproofing	Mariposa Ballroom
9:15 am – 10:15 am	Unleash Your Curiosity Diana Kander, Entrepreneur, Innovation Consultant, Speaker, Author	Mariposa Ballroom
10:15 am – 10:45 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by Inpro	Mariposa Ballroom
10:45 am – 11:45 am	FCIA Committee Action Sessions Standards Committee Accreditation Committee	Joshua 1 Joshua 2
10:45 am – 12:00 pm	NFCA Award of Excellence Nominees	Joshua 5-6
12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Working Lunch Sponsored by Specified Technologies Inc.	Mariposa Ballroom
12:30 pm – 1:00 pm	Lunch Session - Software Demos BuzzBid Clearstory Estimating Edge	Mariposa Ballroom
1:00 pm – 1:45 pm	PFPCON '26 Exhibitor Updates	Mariposa Ballroom
1:45 pm – 2:30 pm	Codes and Compliance Pathways Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA	Mariposa Ballroom
2:30 pm – 3:00 pm	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by Flamro Brandschultz-Systeme	Mariposa Ballroom
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	Solving Complex Fireproofing & Firestopping Conditions: Structural Steel, Joints, & Perimeter Systems Dan DeSantis, Specified Technologies Inc. <i>Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees</i>	Joshua 9-10
3:00 pm – 3:45 pm	The Future of Fireproofing: Training the Next Gen Anthony Kerstens, OPCMIA Antonio "Tony" Ruiz, OPCMIA Plasterers' Local No. 200 Steve Tasco, OPCMIA Plasterers' Local No. 200	Joshua 5-6

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WEDNESDAY, 1 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

3:45 pm – 4:30 pm	NFCA Committee Action Sessions Accreditation & Education Committees Safety Committee	Joshua 3 Joshua 4
3:45 pm – 4:45 pm	FCIA & NFCA Joint Committee Action Session Canada Committees	Joshua 5-6
3:45 pm – 5:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Session Inspection Committee Marketing & Membership Committees	Joshua 9-10 Joshua 2
5:00 pm – 5:30 pm	NFCA Annual Business Meeting & Elections Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA Paul Steele, NFCA Election Committee	Joshua 5-6
5:30 pm – 7:00 pm	Networking Reception Sponsored by Specified Technologies Inc.	Mariposa Ballroom

THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

7:00 am - 5:00 pm	PFPCON '26 Registration Open	Registration Desk 2
7:30 am – 5:30 pm	PFPCON '26 Expo Floor Open	Mariposa Ballroom
7:30 am – 8:00 am	Women in Construction Networking Breakfast Sponsored by Hilti Inc.	Joshua 8
7:30 am – 8:15 am	Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors Sponsored by Balco	Mariposa Ballroom
8:15 am – 9:15 am	First Brood Dr. Anirban Basu, Sage Policy Group	Mariposa Ballroom
9:15 am – 9:45 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by MM Systems	Mariposa Ballroom
9:45 am – 10:15 am	The Firestop Contractor Accreditation Programs: News You Can Use Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions	Joshua 9-10
9:45 am – 10:30 am	NFCA Committee Action Sessions Marketing & Membership Committees Program Committee Manufacturer & Technical Codes & Standards Committees	Joshua 3 Joshua 4 Joshua 5-6

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THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

10:15 am – 11:00 am	Perimeter Edge-of-Slab Firestopping: Common Challenges and Practical Considerations Jessica Starks, Hilti <i>Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees</i>	Joshua 9-10
10:30 am – 11:00 am	The Fireproofing Contractor Accreditation Programs: Updates and More Lindsey Dutkiewicz, NFCA Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions	Joshua 5-6
11:00 am – 11:15 am	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by Fischerwerke GmbH & Co.	Mariposa Ballroom
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Bid Less, Win More Matt Verderamo, Well Built Consulting	Mariposa Ballroom
12:15 pm – 1:00 pm	Networking Lunch with Exhibitors Sponsored by Hilti Inc.	Mariposa Ballroom
1:00 pm – 2:00 pm	What the Fire-Resistance Industries Need to Know About One Another Adam Carter, Superior Industrial Insulation Co. Douglas Evans, P.E. FSFPE Gus Mancini, Gleeson Powers Alan Mcdurmon, PCI Atlanta	Mariposa Ballroom
2:00 pm – 2:30 pm	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by ROCKWOOL	Mariposa Ballroom
2:30 pm – 3:15 pm	NFCA Committee Action Sessions Finishes Task Group Women in Fireproofing Committee Project Management Task Group	Joshua 3 Joshua 4 Joshua 5-6
2:30 pm – 3:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Session Code Committee	Joshua 1
2:30 pm – 4:30 pm	FCIA Committee Action Sessions Education Committee Program Committee	Joshua 9-10 Joshua 2
3:15 pm – 4:00 pm	Predictive AI for Passive Fire Protection: Turning Documentation into Risk Intelligence Girish Ramachandra, Lumber	Joshua 5-6
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Networking Break with Exhibitors Sponsored by Construction Specialties	Joshua Prefunction



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THURSDAY, 2 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

- | | | |
|--------------------|---|-------------------|
| 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm | How Long Am I Liable?
C. Leanne Prybylski, Esq., Hendrick Phillips Salzman & Siegel, P.C. | Joshua 5-6 |
| 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm | FCIA Association Report and Contractor & Inspection Agency Members Only Session | Joshua 9-10 |
| 6:30 pm – 10:30 pm | PFPCON '26 Dinner & NFCA Annual Awards & Entertainment
Sponsored by FCIA & NFCA | Primrose Ballroom |

FRIDAY, 3 APRIL 2026

All times listed are in PDT

- | | | |
|---------------------|---|---------------------|
| 7:00 am – 10:00 am | PFPCON '26 Registration Open | Registration Desk 2 |
| 7:30 am – 11:00 am | PFPCON '26 Expo Floor Open | Mariposa Ballroom |
| 7:30 am – 8:15 am | Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors
Sponsored by Balco & Owens Corning / Thermafiber | Mariposa Ballroom |
| 8:15 am – 9:15 am | The Passive Fire Protection Code Report
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA Rich Walke, CTI | Mariposa Ballroom |
| 9:15 am – 9:30 am | Networking Break with Exhibitors
Sponsored by 3M | Mariposa Ballroom |
| 9:30 am – 10:30 am | From Sparks to Success: A Modern Guide to Fireproofing Startups
Nikita Gordon, Elmhurst Group Steve Winston, American Coatings Corporation | Joshua 5-6 |
| 9:30 am – 10:30 am | How to Build Credibility and Gain Respect and Trust with Code Officials
Brice Miller, Fire Containment Training Services | Joshua 9-10 |
| 10:30 am – 10:45 am | Networking Break with Exhibitors
Sponsored by Siderise Insulation Ltd. | Mariposa Ballroom |
| 10:45 am – 11:45 am | Closing Plenary Session
Building What's Next: The Global Future of Passive Fire Protection
Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA | Mariposa Ballroom |

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THE FIREPROOFING EXAMS

EDUCATION FOR THE IFRM & SFRM FIREPROOFING EXAMS

NFCA's Education for the IFRM and SFRM Fireproofing Exams helps prepare Fireproofing Contractor personnel to pass the NFCA IFRM and SFRM Fireproofing Exams. Passing the Fireproofing Exam(s) is required for Fireproofing Contractors pursuing the NFCA IFRM and SFRM and UL SFRM Contractor Accreditation Programs.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

8:00 am - 8:15 am

The NFCA Contractor Accreditation Programs

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

What exactly does the National Fireproofing Contractors Association do, and what are the NFCA Contractor Accreditation Programs?

In this session, you'll hear about the mission of the NFCA and how we advocate and work to further the structural fire-resistance industry, like through the development and promotion of the NFCA IFRM and SFRM Contractor Accreditation Programs and why those programs are so important to fire and life safety in buildings around the world.

8:15 am - 9:15 am

UL Product iQ Directory & IFRM Systems Selection

Rich Walke, CTI

This session provides an overview of using IFRMs to protect structural building elements. Topics include why fire protection is needed, major U.S. and international fire-resistance test standards, how fire tests are conducted, essential IFRM terminology from UL Product iQ, UL assembly numbering, W/D ratios, and guidance for selecting appropriate IFRM designs.



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9:15 am - 9:45 am

Primers and NFCA Technical Bulletins
Greg Becker, Isolatek

During this session, candidate DRIs will learn the critical role primers play in the application of IFRMs, the methods used to describe primers in the UL Designs, the primer surface preparation requirements, the types of primers, compatibility requirements between primers and the IFRM, adhesion testing requirements, and recoat intervals.

10:00 am - 10:30 am

Measuring Thickness of IFRM Applications
Greg Becker, Isolatek

In this session, we review the process for measuring the thickness of applied Intumescent Fire-Resistive Materials (IFRMs). Candidate DRIs will learn about the requirements for determining IFRM thickness as required by AWCI Technical Manual 12-B, including visual inspection and thickness testing, the role of wet thickness measurements, the types of testing gauges used to measure thickness, gauge calibration and zeroing requirements, the proper technique for using thickness gauges, the frequency of thickness measurements, the role of Shore D Hardness measurements, the thickness requirements of AWCI Technical Manual 12-B, the location of thickness measurements on building elements, mediating thickness deficiencies, and patching and repairing IFRMs.

10:30 am - 10:45 am

IFRM Thickness Gauge Demo
Greg Becker, Isolatek

During this session candidate DRIs will participate in a hands-on demonstration of the use of an electronic thickness gauge.

10:45 am - 11:30 am

NFCA 300 Application Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

During this session, candidate DRIs will learn the role of the NFCA 300 Standard Practice for the Application of Intumescent Fire-Resistive Material. Attendees will learn key industry terminology, OSHA safety requirements, product and storage guidelines, application equipment, environmental and site conditions, substrate requirements, proper spraying techniques, NFCA patching practices, and important contractual considerations such as exclusions and qualifications.

11:30 am - 12:00 pm

NFCA 400 Quality Control Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

During this session candidate DRIs will learn the role of the NFCA 400 Field Quality Assurance Procedure for the Application of Intumescent Fire-Resistive Material. Topics to be covered are processes for determining acceptable substrate surface conditions, the acceptable environmental conditions, drying time and recoat intervals, storage and handling of the products, thickness measurements, mediating thickness deficiencies, and inspection of IFRMs.

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

The NFCA & UL SFRM Accredited Contractor Program Overviews
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

You've taken the first step to contractor accreditation, but what is it exactly? In this session, we look at the Contractor Accreditation Programs for fireproofing, including the requirements of the program including the merits of being an NFCA and UL SFRM Accredited Contractor, the components of the program, and the steps necessary to become accredited.



THE FIREPROOFING EXAMS

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

Restrained Versus Unrestrained

John Dalton, GCP Saint-Gobain

Restrained versus Unrestrained, that is the question, and in this session, we'll figure out the answer.

During this session, candidate DRIs will learn how restrained and unrestrained project conditions plays a crucial role in the life safety of the occupants of a building. The session provides an overview of the 50 year debate over which rating is appropriate, how the restrained and unrestrained ratings are determined based on fire tests in accordance with ASTM E119 and UL 263, the language of the International Building Code and National Building Code of Canada relating to restrained and unrestrained ratings, the methods for determining whether a building is restrained or unrestrained, and the impact that decision has on the required thickness of fireproofing.

2:45 pm - 4:15 pm

The ICC Building Code Requirements for Fireproofing

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Rich Walke, CTI

During this session, candidate DRIs will learn the requirements of the International Building Code (IBC) as it pertains to the fireproofing industry. Topics to be covered include pertinent definitions, how the use of automatic sprinklers impacts the Type of Construction Classification, the required bond strength for SFRM products, the method of determining the building height and area limitations, the mixed occupancy requirements, the Types of Construction, the required fire-resistance rating for the various building elements, the methods of determining a fire-resistance rating, the unique requirements for structural elements, exterior walls, fire walls, fire barriers, fire partitions, smoke barriers, smoke partitions, horizontal assemblies and shaft enclosures, the requirements for rooftop structures, and the requirements for special inspections of SFRMs and IFRMs.

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in **fireproofing**, period.



VersaMax Pump and Mixer

The VersaMax fully hydraulic, diesel pump and mixer system easily delivers coating materials for medium to high output projects for fireproofing applications.



ALUM CART

Alum injection systems

The HyFlex ALX series of alum injection systems are available as single-barrel and double-barrel options.

Pairing the HyFlex VersaMax with the Alum Cart will drastically up your output and reduce your job time meaning more money in your pocket!



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TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

8:00 am - 9:00 am

UL Product iQ Directory & SFRM Systems Selection
Dan Ehehalt, Isoltek

Participants will gain foundational knowledge on using SFRMs to protect structural building elements. The session covers why fire protection is required, key fire-resistance test standards in the US and internationally, how fire tests are performed, and essential SFRM terminology from UL Product iQ. Attendees will also learn how UL assembly numbering works, the requirements in the UL Guide Information for SFRMs, the concept of W/D ratios, and guidance for selecting appropriate SFRM designs.

9:00 am - 9:30 am

Beam Substitution Procedures & Examples
John Dalton, GCP Saint-Gobain

This session explains the two methods for adjusting the thickness of SFRM as applied to alternate size structural steel elements based on the W/D ratios. Adjusting the thickness of SFRM can be done based on generic equations contained in the UL Guide Information for Fire-Resistance Ratings – ANSI/UL 263 or in some cases based on equations in the individual designs. Both involve understanding the W/D ratio of the beam contained in the UL Design, the W/D of the alternate steel element, the thickness adjustment equation for steel beams and steel columns, and the limitations of the use of the equations.

9:30 am - 10:00 am

Thickness Adjustment Procedures & Examples
John Dalton, GCP Saint-Gobain

In this session, candidate DRIs will learn how to adjust the thickness of SFRM for alternative structural steel sizes using W/D ratios. The training covers two methods: applying the generic equations in the UL Guide Information for Fire-Resistance Ratings (ANSI/UL 263) and using adjustment equations found in certain UL designs. Participants will learn how to determine W/D ratios for both the original and alternate steel members, apply the appropriate beam or column thickness adjustment equations, and understand the limitations of each method.

10:15 am - 11:15 am

UL Fire-Resistance Topics
Rich Walke, CTI

This session covers key requirements from the UL Guide Information for Fire-Resistance Ratings (ANSI/UL 263). Participants will learn about UL Follow-Up Services, methods for protecting painted or oversized steel members, protection of primed or painted steel deck, treatment of bridging bars, and the use of encapsulants, bonding agents, and sealants. Additional topics include using dissimilar materials on a single element, patching SFRM and IFRM, applying floor-ceiling designs as roof-ceiling assemblies, using Restricted Load Conditions, and addressing flute cavity protection.



THE FIREPROOFING EXAMS

11:15 am - 12:00 pm

NFCA 100 Application Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

During this session, candidate DRIs will learn the role of the NFCA 100 - Standard Practice for the Application of SFRM, including terminology used by the SFRM industry, OSHA safety requirement relating to the application of SFRMs, the requirements for the SFRM products, storage and handling of the products, equipment used for the application of SFRMs, the requirements for the application environment, the requirements for the installation site, the requirements for the substrate to receive the SFRM, proper spraying techniques, the proper protection during curing, NFCA patching guidelines, and contractual language relating to exclusions, qualifications and clarifications.

12:00 pm - 12:30 pm

NFCA 200 Application Standard
Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC

During this session candidate DRIs will learn the role of NFCA 200 - Field Quality Assurance Procedures for the Application of SFRMs. Topics to be covered are determining acceptable substrate surface conditions, the acceptable environmental conditions, applications to flexible metal decking, water control procedures, water flow rates and calibration procedures, water ratio requirements, and SFRM wet density requirements.



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- ✓ Eco-Friendly & Low VOC – Water-based formula reduces environmental impact, making it safer for applicators and indoor air quality.
- ✓ Maximize Efficiency with Less Coating – Reduce DFT requirements & Apply more WFT mils per coat.



**YOUR SAFETY IS
OUR PRIORITY**

Contact us to upgrade
your IFRM fireproofing
today!



EDUCATION FOR THE FM & UL FIRESTOP EXAMS

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

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

MONDAY, MARCH 30, 2026

12:00 pm - 3:30 pm

FCIA Education for the FM & UL

Firestop Exams

Gabby Peck, Ph.D., 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.

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

Quality Management System Manual Development: A How-To Session

Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

This session takes an in-depth look at the Quality Management System (QMS) 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.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

8:00 am - 11:30 am

FM & UL Firestop Exams

The UL Firestop Exam is an OPEN BOOK exam. UL Exam Participants MUST provide their own copy of the FCIA Manual of Practice. The UL Canadian Supplement covers questions specific to Canada. The FM Firestop Exam DOES NOT allow use of the MOP during the exam.



THE PASSIVE FIRE PROTECTION CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

PFPCON '26 combines the FCIA Education & Committee Action Conference and the NFCA Week of Learning and brings together the structural fire-resistance and effective compartmentation industries for a dynamic tradeshow, compelling industry education, high-energy networking events. Here you can immerse yourself in the experiences, connections, and opportunities that move the Passive Fire Protection industry forward - from professional development and accreditation to hands-on engagement and high-impact brand presence.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31, 2026

12:00 pm - 4:15 pm

PFPCON '26 Group Outing

The Industrial Event Space

2330 Industrial Road, Las Vegas, NV 89102

Join PFPCON '26 for an exciting group outing and hands-on demo sessions!

We'll be joined by some of the Passive Fire Protection industry's leading manufacturers and distributors as we test and inspect an array of fireproofing and firestopping systems and installations.

Goggle up and spray some cementitious fireproofing with the pros at GCP, Quikspray, Isolatek, and Ventures Equipment.

Get hands-on with Balco's Expansion

Joint firestop systems and see what real protection looks like.

Lay down some serious Intumescent Fire-Resistive Material (IFRM) with Isolatek, PPG, and TriTech.

Put your skills to the test installing large-diameter plastic pipe firestop systems with Hilti.

Level up your expertise in perimeter fire containment with live Curtainwall demos from Specified Technologies and Hilti.

If you're involved in fireproofing and firestopping, or are curious about one or the other, this demo session is for you!

Transportation and refreshments will be provided.



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 2026

8:00 am - 8:15 am

PFPCON '26 FCIA & NFCA Presidents' Welcome

Joe Wilkinson, 2026 FCIA Board President | Steve Winston, 2025 NFCA Board President

PFPCON, the Passive Fire Protection Conference & Trade Show...the first-ever global event dedicated to the education, promotion, innovation, and collaboration of the global Passive Fire Protection industry. We're putting PFP on the global stage and shining a light on the important role PFP plays in building safety.

Bringing together FCIA's Education & Committee Action Conference (ECA) and NFCA's Week of Learning under one roof, PFPCON '26 is the industry's first step towards forging unity, education, and committee initiatives that will impact the global Passive Fire Protection industry for generations to come.

8:15 am - 8:45 am

Passive Fire Protection: The Hero(es) You Never See

Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA | Lindsey Dutkiewicz, FCIA & NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA

Join us for the opening session of the Passive Fire Protection Conference & Trade Show, where we reflect on the core work of Passive Fire Protection to recognize and celebrate the critical (often overlooked) contributions the Passive Fire Protection industry makes every day.

Through real-world case studies that connect daily tasks of firestopping and fireproofing to real-life outcomes, this session reinforces why Passive Fire Protection matters: it saves lives, averts disasters, and safeguards buildings and communities.

This session provides a grounded reminder of the practical impact of PFP in the world around us, emphasizing its importance in enhancing fire safety and resilience and setting the stage for a week focused on PFP.

8:45 am - 9:15 am

PFPCONTalk: FCIA & NFCA Committees Unmasked

FCIA: Accreditation | Canada | Code | Education | Inspection | Marketing | Membership | Program | Standards
NFCA: Accreditation | Canada | Education | Finishes Task Group | Program | Project Management Task Group | Safety | Technical Codes & Standards | Women in Fireproofing

Last year, the FCIA and NFCA Boards of Directors made the calls to members to help shape the future of the Passive Fire Protection industry through Committee and Association involvement. Many stood up and answered the call.

Picking up the mics once again, Lissette and Lindsey put FCIA and NFCA Committee Chairs on the hot seat to get answers to your burning Committee questions. We'll figure out what these Committees really do and how Committee work turns into guidance, education, and advocacy. We may even finally answer which Committee runs entirely on coffee and what "other duties as assigned" actually means.

This year, they are looking for even more hand raising, even more idea generating, even more Committee participation. The only way to get them to stop is to volunteer and get involved!



9:15 am - 10:15 am

Unleash Your Curiosity

Diana Kander, Entrepreneur, Innovation Consultant, Speaker, Author

In today's ever-changing business climate, your attendees' roles have evolved far past their job descriptions. They face a volatile external environment - they encounter pressure to stay relevant to customers - they experience challenging workforce issues - and they are being asked to do a lot more with a lot less. All of this is asking them to be innovators. The big question is, are they doing it the hard way or the easy way.

Based on her book, *The Curiosity Muscle*, this keynote helps members of organizations who don't have innovation in their job description to embrace and identify as an innovator. Diana will share the key skills and habits that make innovation easier and a lot more fun. And she'll empower attendees to harness the power of curiosity to unlock new possibilities and drive business growth. Attendees will leave this keynote identifying as innovators and seeking opportunities to use their new skills.

During this session, attendees will learn:

- How to institutionalize curiosity, asking better questions to stay competitive and relevant to your customers
- How to determine blind spots within your organization and avoid falling into the "expert trap"
- How to create a more innovative culture that leads to results and drives growth

10:45 am - 12:00 pm

NFCA Award of Excellence Nominees

The projects are in. The stakes are high. Now it's time to hear directly from the 2026 NFCA Award of Excellence nominees.

Each team will pull back the curtain on the real-world challenges they faced - from safety and scheduling to logistics and execution - and how they delivered winning

solutions. You'll get a front-row seat to industry-leading work...and then YOU decide who takes home the honors with real-time voting.

12:30 pm - 1:00 pm

Lunch Session - Software Demos

BuzzBID | Clearstory | Estimating Edge

Looking for a software solution for Change Orders? Bids? AI? Then make sure to attend this software demo session where software providers provide real-time demos, then make time to meet with them during the trade show.

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm

PFPCON '26 Exhibitor Updates

PFPCON '26 exhibitors take the stage to announce new products and company news!

1:45 pm - 2:30 pm

Codes and Compliance Pathways

Abhishek Chhabra, FCIA & NFCA

Building Codes around the world continue to evolve regularly. This session touches on how they evolve, slightly differently from each other, but more importantly how similar they are in intent.

With that background, we explore the mechanics of compliance and various conformity assessment mechanisms which are used to enforce these building codes. As the construction industry evolves at different paces around the world, so are the approaches to construction and tracking building materials and workmanship. With an aim to understanding how repeatability of supply of materials, as well as workmanship, can be assessed, compliance pathways will shed light on the nooks and corners of what gets written into technical regulations, as well as procurement contracts that can help plug the gaps and enhance reliability by making liability and responsibility more quantifiable!

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

The Future of Fireproofing: Training the Next Generation

Anthony Kerstens, OPCMIA | Antonio “Tony” Ruiz, OPCMIA Plasterers’ Local No. 200 | Steve Tasco, OPCMIA Plasterers’ Local No. 200

Strong projects start with strong laborers. This session provides an essential overview of training frameworks designed to build a knowledgeable, capable, and safety driven fireproofing workforce. Attendees will explore the core competencies every fireproofing laborer should master – ranging from understanding material types and application methods to equipment operation and safe equipment use, inspection basics to quality control, job site best practices and troubleshooting in the field. Whether you’re an educator, contractor, program administrator, or field worker, you’ll leave with practical ideas to enhance training quality and support the next generation of fireproofing professionals.

3:00 pm - 3:45 pm

Solving Complex Fireproofing & Firestopping Conditions: Structural Steel, Joints, & Perimeter Systems

Dan DeSantis, Specified Technologies

Complex structural conditions often create gaps in fire-resistive continuity. This course addresses practical challenges including increased spray overlaps for bond integrity, sealing around beams and bar joists, framing to support mineral wool, sequencing SFRM installations, and detailing around IFRM-coated members. Attendees will learn how to interpret UL listings, apply System HW-D-0102, and properly manage untested beam penetrations and modified web conditions through appropriate engineering judgments.

Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees

5:00 pm - 5:30 pm

NFCA Annual Business Meeting & Elections

Lindsey Dutkiewicz, NFCA | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., NFCA | Paul Steele, NFCA Election Committee

Hear from the NFCA Executive and Technical Directors as they review all the exciting things that happened at NFCA last year and everything there is to look forward to in 2025. Then, hear from your NFCA Election Committee Chair and elect your 2026 NFCA Board of Directors.



THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026**8:15 am - 9:15 am****First Brood**

Dr. Anirban Basu, Sage Policy Group

Everyone is speculating about what 2026 will bring. After an incredibly active 2025, can the U.S. economy maintain its momentum, or will lingering economic uncertainty translate into the next recession?

In this fast-paced, data-driven presentation, we will monitor the latest trends in employment, housing, commercial real estate, financial markets, and output. You can expect some surprises, perhaps an insight or two, and maybe even a few laughs as we characterize the present and predict the future.

9:45 am - 10:15 am**The Firestop Contractor Accreditation Programs: News You Can Use**

Scott MacGovern, FM Approvals | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

This session looks at program and company updates for the FM 4991 Approved and UL Solutions Qualified Firestop Contractor Programs.

10:15 am - 11:00 am**Perimeter Edge-of-Slab Firestopping: Common Challenges and Practical Considerations**

Jessica Starks, Hilti

This technical presentation examines challenges associated with perimeter edge-of-slab firestopping, particularly at the interface with curtain wall systems. The discussion focuses on constructibility, system compatibility, code compliance, and coordination issues encountered in curtain wall design, with particular emphasis on modular construction.

After completing this session, participants will be able to:

1. Identify common perimeter firestopping challenges associated with aluminum-framed curtain wall assemblies.
2. Reference and apply applicable codes and standards governing perimeter fire containment systems.
3. Distinguish between unitized and stick-built curtain wall construction and their implications for firestopping design and installation.
4. Evaluate firestopping considerations unique to modular construction methods.
5. Understand the role of construction sequencing in achieving compliant and effective perimeter firestopping installations.

Session Closed to Manufacturer Attendees**10:30 am - 11:00 am****The Fireproofing Contractor Accreditation Programs: Updates and More**

Lindsey Dutkiewicz, NFCA | Mark St. Onge, UL Solutions

Half of NFCA's Contractor Members are accredited in NFCA's Contractor Accreditation Program (CAP), with hundreds of DRIs on staff.

UL's Qualified SFRM Contractor Program has new companies coming on board.

The NFCA CAP and UL SFRM QFCP Programs provide NFCA Contractor Members the ability to jump to the next level of professionalism and separate themselves from competitors. This session provides an overview of the programs' status and new developments worldwide.

11:15 am - 12:15 pm

Bid Less, Win More

Matt Verderamo, Well Built Consulting

Have you ever struggled to get a call back after bid day? Have you ever wondered how to negotiate more work? If so, Bid Less, Win More, is built for you.

In this session, we will discuss the fundamentals of sales for construction companies, including strategies for building stronger relationships, getting calls back after bid day, and positioning your proposal for the highest likelihood of success. Join us to accelerate your "Get Work" engine and start winning more work.

After this session, attendees will be able to:

- Adopt a new business development mentality to improve results
- Discover how to use leverage during the sales process
- Add more value to your estimating team
- Build stronger client relationships based on trust
- Walk away with a system for improving your chances at negotiating work

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

What the Fire-Resistance Industries Need to Know About One Another

Adam Carter, Superior Industrial Insulation Co. | Douglas Evans, P.E., FSFPE | Gus Mancini, Gleeson Powers | Alan Mcdurmon, PCI Atlanta

Passive Fire Protection is a critical fire and life safety element for total building protection. Tune in for this round table discussion where

we explore both structural fire-resistance and effective compartmentation - the two essential pillars of Passive Fire Protection.

Although firestopping and fireproofing approach fire safety from different angles - one focused on containing fire and smoke through effective compartmentation, the other on protecting structural elements to prevent premature building collapse - both disciplines are interdependent and vital to comprehensive fire protection.

In this session, we'll break down the essential structural fire-resistance concepts that every firestopping professional should understand to ensure continuity of protection across the entire assembly: materials, methods, thickness requirements, inspection points, and the underlying fire test fundamentals.

Learning Objectives:

- Learn about what happens when a fire-resistance-rated beam becomes part of the same rated gypsum panel or concrete block wall assembly.
- Review when structural wood or steel building elements penetrate through a breach in a fire-resistance-rated wall assembly.
- Understand more about firestopping head of wall assemblies when the horizontal assembly is protected and not protected.
- Learn the differences between firestopping and fireproofing.
- Discuss whether bottom of wall joint protection is prudent.
- Analyze duct wrap protection.
- Explore thin film intumescent protection for structural steel.

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3:15 pm - 4:00 pm

**Predictive AI for Fire Protection
Leaders: Quantifying and Reducing
Compliance & Safety Risk
Girish Ramachandra, Lumber**

Passive fire protection may not be visible once the walls close, but the risk exposure remains. For fireproofing and firestopping contractors, incomplete penetration logs, inconsistent inspection records, prevailing wage errors, and documentation gaps can quietly erode margins and create audit, insurance, and bonding risk.

This session explores how firms can use structured data — from inspection logs and penetration tracking to time cards, certified payroll, and project cost records to move from reactive compliance to proactive risk management. By identifying patterns in recurring deficiencies, labor classification issues, and documentation inconsistencies, contractors can reduce callbacks, improve first-pass inspection success, and strengthen internal controls on public work.

We'll also discuss how accurate, current documentation supports building managers and facility engineers in maintaining life-safety integrity and simplifies insurance risk evaluation.

Attendees will leave with a practical framework to quantify compliance exposure, protect profitability, and strengthen documentation governance across the lifecycle of passive fire protection projects.

4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

How Long Am I Liable?

**C. Leanne Prybylski, Esq., Hendrick Phillips
Salzman & Siegel, P.C.**

This presentation discusses the various theories of liability and how long contractors/ manufacturers/engineers/designers may be liable. The presentation includes discussion regarding (i) the types of claims that may be brought against a party,

(ii) statutes of limitations and repose, (ii) how a contractor could inadvertently extend the time a claimant has to bring a claim, (iii) when and why an individual could be found personally liable, and (iv) how a party may seek to limit its liability.

Learn about:

- Theories of liability
- Statutes of limitations and repose (e.g., How long are you liable? When does a cause of action accrue?)
- How to avoid becoming personally liable for a claim
- How you may seek to limit your liability

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

**FCIA Association Report and
Contractor & Inspection Agency
Members Only Session**

Let your voice be heard in this FCIA Contractor & Inspection Agency Members Only session. Ask questions. Provide input. Address your Board and Leadership. Put this session to work for you.

FRIDAY, APRIL 3, 2026**8:15 am - 9:15 am****The Passive Fire Protection Code Report**

Bill McHugh, McHugh Consulting LLC | Gabby Peck, Ph.D., FCIA & NFCA | Rich Walke, CTI

The Building and Fire Code Development Process at the International Code Council, NFPA, National Building / Fire Code of Canada, and other codes, is as dull as it gets. However, industries can appear or disappear by a code proposal eliminating the industry.

This session covers what we'll be discussing at the upcoming ICC Code Development Committee Action Hearings in October, Public Comment Hearing in April, 2026, summer NFPA Fire Protection Features Committee. Meeting in summer, 2026, Canada codes too. Don't miss it!

9:30 am - 10:30 am**From Sparks to Success: A Modern Guide to Fireproofing Startups**
Nikita Gordon, Elmhurst Group | Steve Winston, American Coatings Corporation

Explore what it takes to enter the fireproofing industry with confidence. We'll cover the core decisions that shape successful fireproofing businesses - materials, equipment, regulations, staffing, certification and compliance requirements, and risk mitigation.

Leave with actionable insights to minimize issues, maximize success, and build a startup designed to carve out a strong position in the structural fire-resistance space.

9:30 am - 10:30 am**How to Build Credibility and Gain Respect and Trust with Code Officials**
Brice Miller, Fire Containment Training Services LLC

This program will help provide some communication suggestions for primarily Firestop Contractors and Special Inspectors as they are working with Code Officials. We will also include the Design Professionals along with Code Officials. Participants will gain valuable skills to help them in their line of work.

Overall, attendees will leave this program informed, encouraged, and equipped with numerous tips and techniques to help them in their field of work.

10:45 am - 11:45 am**Building What's Next: The Global Future of Passive Fire Protection**

The FCIA and NFCA leadership team invite you to the closing plenary session of the inaugural PFPCON to get an energizing look at what's next for the global Passive Fire Protection community. Together, they'll share the pioneering initiatives, fresh ideas, and strategic priorities already taking shape to drive the future of the industry.

Attendees will get a front-row seat to the bold visions and practical strategies guiding both Associations as they champion a "global language of Passive Fire Protection", deeper collaboration, and a more unified global approach to Passive Fire Protection. This isn't just a recap - it's a forward-facing roadmap for where we're going and how we'll get there.

After all, FCIA and NFCA are the global language and voice of Passive Fire Protection.



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