

# NFCA® ENEWS LETTER

National Fireproofing Contractors Association

What a year it's been!!

NFCA's 2021 has been nothing short of amazing. With great board leadership, staff and a passion for fire and life safety, we've done a lot!

## WHAT'S COMING UP...

### January 24-26, 2022 NFCA IFRM & SFRM **VIRTUAL** Education & Exams

Don't miss this opportunity to learn about fireproofing and start the process to become a NFCA Designated Responsible Individual (DRI) or prove competence to the AHJ as a fireproofing inspector. Mark your calendar now for the week of January 24-26, 2022. **NEW DATES**. Additional Details will be posted on the website January 5th, 2022.

**April 18-22, 2022 NFCA's Week of Learning** Save the Date - Hotel Contract negotiations are underway. Mark your calendars.

### CALL FOR ENTRIES - Deadline 1/31/22

#### 2022 NFCA Award of Excellence Call for Entries

The NFCA Award of Excellence recognizes NFCA Contractor Members for an exceptional fireproofing project, new construction or existing building, that demonstrates innovation and safety, in the categories of Low-Rise and High-Rise Buildings.

- Project entries must have been completed between January 2020 - January, 2022.
- Only NFCA Contractor Members may submit entries.
- Winners will be announced at the 2022 NFCA Week of Learning Conference.



For additional information and Entry Form - [Click Here](#)

## DID YOU KNOW...

### NFCA CAP, UL Programs Make a Difference-

NFCA's Contractor Accreditation Program continues to grow, with half the NFCA Contractor Membership CAP accredited, and contractors sending multiple people to take the NFCA Education and Exams, for DRI's and Inspection Agencies. And, UL's newly relaunched UL Qualified SFRM Contractor Program has NFCA members working with UL to become part of the program, separating themselves from the competition. Watch for more growth of the NFCA Fireproofing Education & Exams, and NFCA CAP UL Programs in late '22, into 2023 and beyond.

### IFRM and SFRM

Accredited Contractor



National Fireproofing Contractors Association

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**NFCA Inspection Agency Education Growth**- Fireproofing Inspection Agency personnel are taking NFCA's Education and Exams proving competencies, required by the IBC's Chapter 17, Special Inspector Qualifications. At the same time, they gain in depth knowledge of fireproofing. Educated inspectors means better fire and life safety in buildings.

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**NFCA & Steel Industry** - NFCA continues to work with the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) and American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC), on ways to make more efficient fire-resistance-rated assemblies, without losing sight of fire and life safety in buildings. We appreciate the relationship we have with both AISI and AISC.



**American  
Iron and Steel  
Institute**



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**NFCA Members on LinkedIn** – It's great to connect with members on LinkedIn and post NFCA & NFCA Member activities from time to time. Don't forget to promote your NFCA CAP and/or UL credentials when you post! NFCA's Contractor Accreditation Program is quite the accomplishment – as is the UL Qualified Fireproofing Contractor Program. Use it to your advantage! Don't forget to post your accomplishments to LinkedIn and share it widely to show credibility in fireproofing.



## UPDATES:

### **International Code Council's (ICC) Building (IBC) & Fire Code (IFC) Development Process Cycle A went well for NFCA:**

- Clarifications made for attachments to structural building elements
- According to the Fire Safety Committee, ASTM E119/UL 263 full scale testing and with a load applied as called for in the standards, is required by the IBC's Chapter 7.
- NEW *Intumescent Fire-Resistive Materials* term, replaces Intumescent Fire-Resistant Coatings, Mastics and Coatings, while Sprayed Fire-Resistant Materials becomes *Sprayed Fire-Resistive Materials*, reflecting the NFCA's Handbook of Accepted Fireproofing Knowledge terminology.
- An *Occupiable Roof* now needs to be counted as a storey, possibly resulting in some existing buildings being classified as High-Rise Buildings that were not before. That means a safe building for occupants who are now protected on the occupiable roof as if they were on the floor below.
- A move to insert ASCE 7-16's Appendix E on Performance Based Structural Fire Design into the ICC's Chapter 7, Fire-Resistance, was DISAPPROVED, as the committee felt it should be in the International Performance Code, or as an alternative method under Section 104.
- ICC APPROVED inserting the word 'mezzanines' into Table 601, Footnote b, 'providing good clarification to the code's intent', according to the committee.
- A DISAPPROVED proposal in Table 601, Footnote b, stating that 'girders, beams, trusses and spandrels that are located less than 20' above any floor or mezzanine shall be provided individual encasement protection for the full length', had a reason that Chapter 7 already states this clearly.



Whether an APPROVED or DISAPPROVED NFCA Proposals, the ICC's Code Committees proved that horizontal building elements and assemblies, need to be tested in accordance with ASTM E119 and UL 263 Fire Test standards, with the acceptance criteria using full scale size and with a load applied, proving performance.



**NFCA @ ASTM & UL-** At UL/ULC Fire Test Standards, NFCA's Bill McHugh became a member at UL's UL263 and ULCS-101 Fire Test Standards Technical Panels. While at ASTM, NFCA is working with the industry on keeping ASTM E605 and ASTM E 736 up to date. We're also working on NEW ASTM Fireproofing Inspection Standards, under development for SFRM, IFRM. NFCA provided input to the DRAFT Boards and Wraps Fireproofing Inspection Standards too. We expect to see ballots 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of '22.

**NEW NFCA – By Laws-** NFCA's Board rewrote the 20 year old NFCA By-Laws to reflect today's NFCA and its activities, membership. Thanks to NFCA's leadership for looking at the association and by laws strategically for the future.

**NEW NFCA Board of Directors-** Newly elected NFCA Board Members agreed that due to the 'off cycle' annual meeting in the Fall of '21, that the Directors serve until the spring '23 Conference. This gives the new board time to work in key NFCA initiatives.

**NFCA Fire Testing Educational Webinar** – NFCA recorded a [Fireproofing Educational Webinar](#) to educate contractors, specifiers, building code officials and fire marshals about how to evaluate fireproofing submissions. The webinar confirms what the ICC's Fire-Safety Committee stated, 'Full Scale ASTM E119 or UL 263 Fire Testing with a Load Applied as is stated in the standards is REQUIRED by IBC's Chapter 7. Forward the link to code officials, specifiers, fire marshals. It's FREE, and builds knowledge about safe buildings using fireproofing.

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## SAFETY SECTION:

**NFCA offers these reminders to keep your home & family safe this holiday season & beyond.**

1. Keep trees and plants well hydrated.
2. Don't overload electrical outlets.
3. Opt for battery operated window candles.
4. Post vacation photos after returning home.
5. Inspect all electrical decorations before use and look for the UL Label.
6. Stay in the kitchen when something is cooking. Unattended items are the leading cause of cooking fires.
7. Don't leave packages in plain view in your car.
8. Batteries should be stored away from small children and pets.
9. Extension cords should never be run under carpet or furniture.



**We hope these reminders will lead to a joyous Holiday Season and great new year!**

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## NFCA MEMBER UPDATES:

Did your company promote someone? Retirement? Exciting company news? Let us know!  
Email [kriston@nfca-online.org](mailto:kriston@nfca-online.org)



**2022 Membership** Invoices were sent to the NFCA Membership this past week. Annual Membership payment is due January 31, 2022.

NFCA thanks you in advance and appreciates your continued support to bring you quality educational programs and advocate on behalf of fire and life safety!

**NFCA Interim Members** – NFCA Interim members are those fireproofing contractor companies that have not yet completed both the 2 years in business and completion of 20 fireproofing projects. NFCA Interim Members, check your project history. We'd be pleased to remove the 'interim' from your name. [Email NFCA](#) if you're past 2 years in business and 20 projects completed!!

**Welcome New Members:**

- Interim Contractor: [Barrier Technologies](#) in Sacramento, CA
- Associate Member: [AKF Group](#) in Boston, MA

**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!**