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IDA Fire Door Proposal Moving Towards Approval

Washington, D.C. (July 21, 2021) – IDA's code proposal to add personnel qualifications for annual inspections and testing of rolling steel fire doors, and correlate the IFC (International Fire Code) with NFPA 80, will be on the consent agenda for approval at the upcoming code hearings this September in Pittsburgh. The proposal was approved by the IFC Code Development committee during virtual hearings in May; because it received no negatives during the public comment period it will now move to the next step in the process and will be included in the 2024 edition of the IFC.

"By including language consistent with NFPA 80, the IFC will contain clear provisions for annual rolling steel fire door tests," said IDA President Brenton Cheney, adding "use of the term 'trained rolling steel fire door systems technician' in the fire code to identify who is qualified to perform these annual tests is a vital step to help ensure that rolling steel fire doors will work as intended during an emergency."

IDA code development activity is managed by the IDA Advocacy committee, chaired by Wes Perry, IDA Dealer Vice-President. The IFC proposal was developed to bring recent updates to NFPA 80 on personnel qualifications into the fire code. "Improving the consistency between the IFC and NFPA 80 will help reduce the chances that fire door drop tests will be performed by people without the right training," Perry said. IDA will include this updated IFC provision in education programs for code officials and fire marshals. By promoting compliance to the code, IDA will help expand opportunities for door dealers to offer fire door inspection and testing services and improve the safety of the built environment.

"IDA is committed to responsible advocacy; helping to improve fire door safety is an important part of our public affairs agenda" said IDA Executive Director Mike Fischer. Fischer added that promoting safety through codes and standards benefits all involved parties, including building owners, occupants, and fire door manufacturers and dealers.

The IFC is developed and maintained by the ICC (International Code Council), the leading global source of model codes and standards and building safety solutions. The Code Council's codes, standards, and solutions are used to ensure safe, affordable, and sustainable communities and buildings worldwide.

About IDA

The International Door Association (IDA) is a nonprofit trade association representing door and access system dealers and suppliers all over the world. The association includes the large majority of garage door dealers, manufacturers and individual technicians in the door and access system industry, and provides resources in the name of advocacy, education and collaboration with likeminded organizations. IDA's goal is to advance the industry with increased professionalism and product quality unmatched by any other industry. For more information on IDA Advocacy efforts, visit www.doors.org

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