



Balanced Fire Safety Design & Concrete Masonry Fire Walls

This seminar provides an overview of what Balanced Fire Safety design is and emphasizes building code changes that have resulted in an over-reliance on its "Active" features. The ASTM E-119 Fire Test and its requirements are reviewed to further illustrate the critical role that passive features provide in balanced design.

Learning Objectives – 1 HSW AIA CES Learning Units

- To become familiar with fire statistics and trends in the US.
- To understand the history and background of the ASTM E-119 Fire Test and realize that TWO wall specimens are very often used to pass the test.
- To gain an appreciation of what Balanced Fire Safety Design is and to understand the role that concrete masonry firewalls play in Balanced Design.
- To realize that building codes have eroded, and have continued to erode, the Balanced Design Concept by relying more upon its active features.



Presenter: Kevin Cavanaugh

While earning his BSME at the University of Maryland, Kevin Cavanaugh interned at the National Institute of Standards and Technology where he first became involved with the concrete and masonry industries. After graduation, Kevin accepted a position as the National Concrete Masonry Association's (NCMA) Energy Engineer. After two years, and to better understand what NCMA's members faced in their markets, Kevin launched his current 25-year career in technical sales, marketing and product development of lightweight aggregate, concrete masonry and associated concrete and masonry products and systems.

Kevin Cavanaugh
Engineering Services & Architectural Outreach
Masonry Advisory Council



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If you are interested in other topics, let us know! We will develop an AIA CES accredited program that addresses the issues that are important to you. For more information on MAC's AIA CES Courses please call us at 847-297-6704 or email: kCavanaugh@masonryadvisorycouncil.org