THE BURN

Summer 2025 Wrap Up

Approaching 35 Years of Specified Technologies Inc.

STI Staff

As we approach our **35th Anniversary** on **October 4th, 2025**, STI is preparing to celebrate a milestone year. This moment gives us the chance to reflect not only on our history of innovation and growth but also on the people and relationships that have shaped our journey.

From our earliest days, our success has been built on trust. Trust from our customers, our partners, and our team has allowed us to grow stronger with each passing year, creating solutions that advance firestopping technology and knowledge while staying true to our mission of putting people, safety, and performance first.

The next edition of The Burn will highlight this milestone in depth, looking back on 35 years of progress while also sharing our vision for the future. We look forward to celebrating the stories, milestones, and memories that remind us not only of what we have accomplished but why we do what we do.

For now, we leave you with a few photographs from our recent **Americas Meeting**. Over three days, teams came together to share ideas, align on strategy, and shape the future of our business. We honored outstanding contributions at our **Gala celebration** and enjoyed an incredible performance by our own band, Two-Stage Intumescents. The weekend concluded with **hands-on training** at ten demo stations, showcasing the expertise and passion that define our culture. Thank you to every member of the STI team for making these moments possible and for continuing to drive innovation and excellence every day.

IN THIS
ISSUE

Approaching 35 Years of Specified Technologies Inc.

(continued)

Closing the Gaps: SpecSeal® Mullion Plugs Available Now

Specified Technologies Inc. Product Management

Curtain Wall systems are a defining feature of modern buildings, but their complex framing and live stack joints can leave mullion voids vulnerable to fire, smoke, and sound transmission. To address this critical challenge, STI developed the SpecSeal® Curtain Wall Mullion Plug, a fire-retardant foam plug laminated with intumescent material.

The Mullion Plug is engineered to expand 10-15 times when exposed to high heat, sealing cavities to block flames, hot gases, and smoke. This unique design also reduces sound transmission with a Noise Reduction Coefficient (NRC) rating of 0.75, providing a well-rounded solution for safety and comfort.

Unlike field-applied foams or sealants that lack listings, the Mullion Plug is UL Certified as 'Accessories for Perimeter Fire Containment Systems' (Category XHDI) and included in multiple Intertek design listings, offering tested reliability that supports system integrity during fire testing. Each unit is custom cut for a precise fit, simplifying installation and ensuring consistent performance.

Today, curtain wall fabricators and glaziers are already incorporating this solution in shop and field applications, recognizing its role in helping perimeter fire containment systems meet performance requirements. With material in stock and ready to fabricate, STI is proud to provide an industry-first solution designed for the realities of today's advanced façade systems.

SpecSeal® MP

We engineer peace of mind.
1 (800) 992-1180 stifirestop.com

A Summer of Digital Progress at STI

Justin Pine
Senior Manager, Software & Services

The STI Digital Solutions & Marketing Teams have been hard at work over the summer implementing new features and enhancements to our suite of digital solutions. The most notable release this summer being a new build of Firestop Clash Management (FCM) which introduced our new Head-of-Wall mapping functionality to building floor plans. Our development team's are already hard at work on additional features and fixes for FCM and the rest of our digital solutions with releases planned over the remainder of the year. Keep an eye out on our Social Media and Blog to find out when new updates are live!

At our Americas Meeting the team proudly announced our Firestop SYNC Suite, the integration of our Barrier Management Program (BMP), Firestop Clash Management (FCM), and Firestop Locator (FSL) tools. Firestop SYNC empowers Owners, Engineers, and Contractors to take control of life safety on their projects, giving them the platform to establish the firestop standard, ensure the design follows that standard, and enforce that the project is built to that design standard. Stay tuned to STI's social media and website for updates on Firestop SYNC and when you can utilize for full suite on your next project.

Not to be outdone, our Digital and Market Management Teams have dedicated the summer to writing additional articles in our Digital Knowledge Base answering common questions about our digital solutions as well as creating new tutorials and how to guides. Our online Case Study library also grew with new cases studies released and more on the way.

Closing out the summer, stifirestop.com saw a series of updates and new pages added including new pages dedicated to each Construction Trade as well as new pages for the various Markets that we support and serve. A new Upcoming Webinars page also went live as your one stop for all Webinars that STI is participating in or hosting for the duration of 2025. Interested in seeing what Webinars are on the horizon, then click here to sign up!

Back to Basics – What is the L-Rating

Specified Technologies Inc. Engineering Services

The L-Rating is a measure of air leakage through an installed firestop system. It measures the rate of airflow that passes through the firestop system, and is listed in units of CFM (Cubic Feet per Minute) per device module or CFM per square foot, with achievable ratings listed at ambient and 400F°. CFM per device module is intended to be applied to fixed device type firestop solutions, with CFM per Sq. Ft. intended for sealant or other soft seal-type firestop solutions, which have openings ranging from several inches to several feet in size.

The L-Rating is measured at ambient to replicate cold smoke as well as at an elevated temperature of 400F°. This simulates smoke leakage under fire exposure. Intumescent materials may begin to expand at elevated temperatures, and polymer jacket cabling may start to swell, so the L-Rating is typically lower at elevated temperatures.

Unlike F & T-Ratings, the L-Rating is an optional test, and not every listing includes an L-Rating.

A Company with a Soul, A Legacy of Training

John Zalepka
Director of Training & Industry Engagements

For 35 years, STI has been defined by caring more. Our next chapter builds on that legacy with stronger trainers and lasting impact.

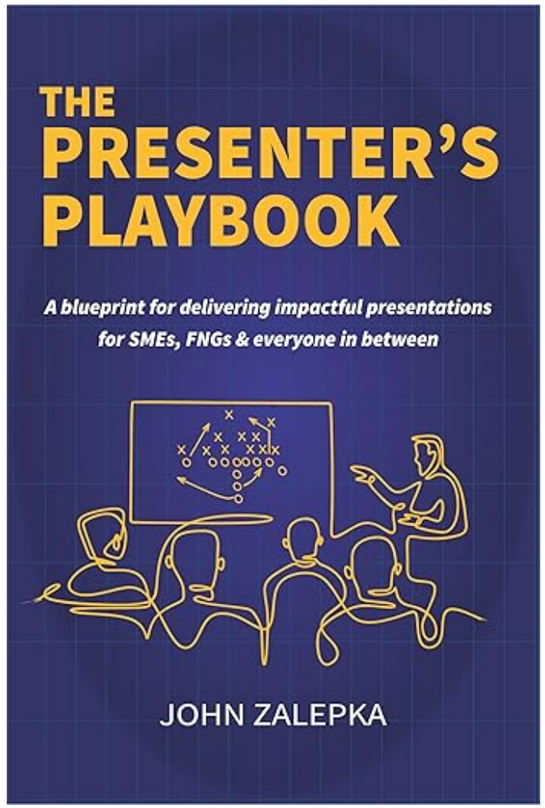
This year, STI celebrates 35 years of innovation, relationships, and impact. Over the decades, many have called us a company with a soul, and we take that as the highest compliment. It reflects the culture we've built: one that values people, puts relationships first, and solves problems the right way. That same philosophy has always guided our commitment to education, ensuring the firestop knowledge we share is every bit as strong as the solutions we deliver.

For nearly as long as STI has been in business, our Firestop Instructional Training (FIT) and Train-the-Trainer (TTT) programs have been central to our mission. These programs have equipped thousands of contractors, architects, engineers, and inspectors with the knowledge and confidence to protect lives through proper firestop design and installation.

I've had the privilege of leading STI's training efforts for the past seven years, and I believe we've elevated them. We've expanded how we reach people, through in-person instruction, webinars, our online Firestop University, hybrid events and stronger coaching in TTT. Along the way, I saw that while many trainers had deep technical expertise, they often struggled with the presentation side: simplifying complexity, connecting with audiences, and delivering content with confidence.

That challenge led me to write The Presenter's Playbook. While inspired by firestop training, it's designed to help any subject matter expert become a stronger communicator. Moving forward, it will be a cornerstone resource in TTT, giving trainers practical tools to engage learners, structure their sessions, and make knowledge stick.

As we celebrate 35 years, I'm proud that STI continues to train with purpose, grounded in the same values that built this company: caring more, elevating others, and leaving a lasting impact on our industry.



Click to view the book on Amazon!

Spotlight on UL Systems

David Vail
P.E., Project Manager & Codes/Standards

EZ Path® Series 44+ Floor Grid System

EZ Path® Series 44+ Floor Grid System with E-Wrap® (F-A-3094 and F-A-3095)

EZ Path® Grid Equal F & T Rating Systems!

Meeting the requirement for an equal F and T Rating has never been easy for the installation of cable bundles. However, STI has designed two brand new systems to do exactly this in minimum 4-1/2 in. thick concrete floors and walls! The systems enjoy F and T Ratings of up to 3 Hrs. Each system consists of the EZ-Path® Series 44+ Floor Grid System to firestop the opening and E-Wrap® Endothermic Wrap to insulate the devices and cabling. F-A-3094 provides a 2 Hr F and T Rating and utilizes two layers of E-Wrap®, while F-A-3095 allows for an equal F and T Rating of 3 Hr when three layers of E-Wrap® are installed.

L-Ratings added to TTG Curtain Wall Systems!

CW-S-0009 and CW-S-0011 were already useful systems for platform framed exterior walls with steel studs and SpeedFlex TTG Track Top Gasket positioned between the floor runners of the exterior wall and the top surface of the concrete floor as the firestop. Utilizing TTG allows for a simple and speedy installation and CW-S-0009 and CW-S-0011 both provide F-Ratings of 2 Hrs. The only thing missing was air leakage values for the joint systems, but we are happy to report that based on feedback from our end users requesting this information, it is now available for these two systems. L-Ratings at ambient and 400°F are less than 1 CFM/Lin Ft for both listings.

UL Guide Information for Cross Laminated Timber Systems

David Vail
P.E., Project Manager & Codes/Standards

This article will serve as a bit of a refresher course on interpreting the system numbering notation employed by UL when describing the firestopping systems contained within their firestop directory, which these days is published online via UL Product iQ. UL has recently begun promulgating through-penetration firestop systems for penetrants contained within openings in cross laminated timber (CLT) assemblies. Therefore, even those of us familiar with the traditional numbering scheme of UL systems have some new identifiers to learn that now serve to denote CLT floors and walls. STI is hard at work developing new systems in CLT, so the conclusion of this article will preview a handful of firestop systems that will be released over the next few months.

UL provides guide information for each of their "Category Control Number" or CCN groupings. This guide information serves to provide important background details that would be too in depth to include within each individual system. However, the guide information is of critical importance as it can include parameters such as relevant test standards, system ratings and limitations on certifications along with other details that basically form the rules for a given CCN group. The CCN established by UL for through-penetration firestop systems is "XHEZ" or "XHEZ7" for these systems certified for Canada.

Both the XHEZ and XHEZ7 guide information documents contain a section titled "Numbering System". It is here that we find the guidelines that UL has established for assigning each through-penetration firestop system within their online directory an appropriate label that allows end users to quickly identify the type of penetrant and what sort of assembly it passes through. The significance of the first letter is easy enough, with an "F", "W" or "C" indicating that a floor, wall or either a floor or wall is the assembly being penetrated respectively. The second letter, and sometimes second and third letters for "C" type penetrations where a floor or a wall are penetrated, signifies the type of construction of the wall or floor assembly. Admittedly, these descriptors are not very intuitive in terms of the assemblies they represent so until users have memorized some of the more common letters it is helpful to refer to the table within the guide information where each letter is cross referenced with the assembly it represents. The final four-digit code of each system indicates what type of penetrant is associated with the firestop system, and once again it is helpful to refer to the table until these codes become familiar.

The latest additions to the firestop system labeling scheme are the letters "G" to signify CLT floor assemblies and "O" to signify CLT wall assemblies. These new items will appear as the second or perhaps second and third letters within firestop systems as the online directory becomes more populated with solutions for CLT applications. A quick example of a potential firestop for a metallic penetrant within a CLT floor assembly would look like F-G-1000. We know it is a floor based on the first letter and the second letter specifies that the assembly type is CLT. Finally, a 1000 series penetrant type is reserved for metallic pipes, conduits or tubes.

As promised at the introduction of this article, STI is currently working with UL to promulgate a handful of new firestop systems for CLT floor assemblies. The first batch will include coverage for nonmetallic pipes, insulated metallic pipes and bare metallic pipes and utilize the SpecSeal® Intumescent Sleeve as the firestop. Other firestopping solutions and penetrants will follow soon after as we continue to develop our catalog for CLT applications. Please stay tuned as we look forward to sharing more details in the near future. In the meantime, please be advised that STI maintains a dedicated CLT landing page on our website that already features numerous firestopping applications for systems developed in conjunction with Intertek. We will supplement the current Intertek coverage for nonmetallic pipes, cable bundles, AC linesets, metallic pipes, insulated metallic pipes and blank openings with our new UL listings soon!

Product Field Shots

AS200 Installation at Head-of-Wall Joint

Project: Titan Stadium

Location: Nashville, TN

Contractor: Firestop Tech

SSP Putty Pad Installation

Project: 1760 3rd Ave

Location: Manhattan, NY

Contractor: Archstone Builders

Cast-In Devices Installation

Project: 1760 Jerome Ave

Location: Bronx, NY

Contractor: Archstone Builders

Upcoming

Trade Shows

FIC '25
10/13/25 - 10/16/25, Orlando, Florida

Zak World of Façades
10/15/25, New York, New York
Booth #823

CSI National Conference 2025
10/15/25 - 10/17/25, Cleveland, Ohio
Booth #325

Pacific Marine Expo
11/20/25 - 11/22/25, Seattle, Washington

International Work Boat Show
12/03/25 - 12/05/25, New Orleans, Louisiana
Booth #1406

Meet the
TEAM

Andrew Dalsass
Creative Director

What is your role at Specified Technologies Inc. and how long have you been here?

I have been the Creative Director of the Marketing Team at STI for about four months. My passion for storytelling and creating strategically engaging work has always been important to me. It has been a great opportunity to collaborate with our talented marketing team, helping to elevate our work on many levels. We focus on various aspects, including visual brand design, writing connecting copy for our targeted audiences, and organizing a more efficient work process with SmartSheet. Work comes from all the vertical markets, so every day is a fun challenge!

What is one bucket list item of yours?

This summer I was lucky to have spent a few days in Glacier National Park, in Montana, which has inspired me to explore some of the National Parks I haven't seen–lots of hikes to do!

What project have you worked on in your career that you are most proud to have been a part of?

As I raised my daughters, I always wanted them to feel empowered and believe they could achieve anything. However, statistics show that most girls lose interest in STEM fields by the end of middle school, often due to the stigma that these areas are primarily for boys. When I was given the opportunity to collaborate with Girl Scouts USA on the largest fundraising and advocacy campaign for girls leadership in the organization's history, I was incredibly passionate about it. I developed the campaign idea, To-get-her-there.org, which can also be interpreted as "together-there." It was incredibly humbling to help raise over half a billion dollars in less than five years. The creative executions featured girls alongside adults in inspiring STEM careers, accompanied by the line, "Be there so she can be here."

What is your favorite part about working in the firestop industry?

It was essential for me to be part of a company that is dedicated to creating something meaningful in the world, and the impact of our work is significant. Since our business focuses solely on life safety, we have the opportunity to be innovative in this field. After attending BICSI recently, I appreciated hearing from many customers about their emotional connection to our products and solutions.

What is one fun fact about yourself?

Just after college, I attended the Art Students League five nights a week. I guess I made a good impression on my teacher, Nelson Shanks, who was a world-renowned portrait painter. He asked me to apprentice with him under the condition that I would temporarily be the cook and housekeeper in his mansion on the Delaware River until he could find a suitable full-time replacement. Well, I became quite skilled at ironing, folding laundry, vacuuming and working with a stipend each week, to prepare two meals a day for six people for exact times. I had to get really good at a lot of things I wasn't so good at very fast. Looking back, I not only got the classical training, but this experience helped me in many other ways.