"IFA will play a significant role in expanding special event programs for the pyrotechnic industry," said George Zambelli, President of Zambelli Internationale Fireworks Manufacturing Co.

Zambelli began his career at the age of seven – rolling firecracker tubes for his father’s business, which had been founded in Italy and resettled in New Castle, PA at the turn of the century.

Zambelli Internationale has been in the special events industry for more than 53 years. Its fireworks have graced numerous festivals and events including the inaugurations of President Kennedy, Johnson, Carter, and Reagan, and special events for President Bush.

One of his most memorable experiences was the Statue of Liberty Celebration on July 4, 1984. As he stood at the foot of that statue, he could envision his father’s ship when he came to America, never dreaming that almost 100 years later the company he started would be honored to help celebrate the symbol of freedom.

Zambelli took over as President and General Manager of his father’s company after college, and the business took off – eventually developing satellite offices in Boca Raton, FL and Safer, CA.

He feels that his greatest accomplishments have been building the firm into a multi-million dollar business, becoming the number one fireworks manufacturing company in America, and having his family carry on the Zambelli tradition of prime service, quality product, and the expertise to satisfy all clients.

“It is gratifying to see the progress IFA has made and that it continues to prosper both domestically and worldwide. This can be attributed to the dedication and great job Bruce Skinner and his staff have accomplished at the helm of IFA. I am extremely elated to have been chosen for the IFA Hall of Fame. It is a respected, well-managed and distinguished organization,” Zambelli said.

Editor's Note: George Zambelli passed away in 2003.