

Worldwide Firefighters' Conference Planning Today To Safeguard Tomorrow

Conference Programme

DAY 1: Tuesday 15th March

09.30 Registration

RISK ASSESSED COMPETENCE

10.00 **Introduction: JOIFF an overview**

Mike Evers, JOIFF Chairman and Chief Fire Officer, Ciba Chemicals

10.20 **Morning Chair's welcome**

Richard Coates, Group Fire Adviser BP International and Founder Member of JOIFF

10.30 **Integrated risk management plans**

As outdated prescriptive standards of fire cover are replaced by the Integrated Risk Management Planning system, the service is finally able to approach its role in a holistic manner. Driving down risk in concert with determining fire cover presents new challenges and opportunities to the fire and rescue service and to industry.

To make it work will require effective partnerships, a comprehensive understanding of risk reduction and an appropriate response to incidents, when required. We are now able to exploit technology to inform and underpin professional judgement, enabling proactive and interactive delivery of service.

For the first time the Fire and Rescue Service is on its front foot in its pursuit of safer communities, whilst engaging those communities in the process through consultation and incident prevention initiatives.

Gordon Russel, Her Majesty's Inspector of Fire Services, HM Fire Service Inspectorate

10.55 Tea break

11.20 **New working practices for the fire and rescue services**

The government's vision for the UK Fire and Rescue Service has been clearly outlined in the White Paper, "Our Fire and Rescue Service", and enshrined in the Fire and Rescue Services Act soon to be enacted Regulatory Reform Fire Safety Order.

The introduction of integrated risk management planning and the self-compliance approach for fire safety have released fire and rescue services from the constraints of prescriptive standards.

This presentation aims to raise questions and prompt discussion.

- How are these freedoms being used to improve the safety of our communities?
- Are the changes for the better?
- What evidence are the changes based upon and is there any evidence that they are working?

John Judd, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Greater Manchester Fire Service

- 11.45 **Verifying for competence assurance**
Verifying occupational competence i.e. the external quality assurance for standards of competence in employment
- Assessing and verifying competence
 - Standards for assessing and verifying
 - Training for verifying
 - Developing and maintaining a customer focus for verifying
 - Non-intrusive methods of verification
 - Maintaining the results of competence.

Peter Bowyer, Lead Verifier for NVQs in Management, Edexcel

12.10 Panel questions

12.55 Lunch

ASSURANCE

- 1.20 **Afternoon Chair's welcome**
Mike Evers, JOIFF Chairman and Chief Fire Officer, Ciba Chemicals

- 1.25 **Systems testing**
Philip Field, Technical Director, BRE Certification

- 2.00 **Foam standards and testing**
Luc Jacobs, Product Manager, Solberg Scandinavian AS

- 2.35.1 **Firefighters' working environments and their personal protective equipment (PPE)**
- Standards-makers' perception of the risks to which Firefighters are exposed has not always been accurate
 - Firefighters might be dangerously over-protected by providing them with compliant Personal Protective Equipment when other safety control measures are not effectively in place
 - Because of some of the extreme levels of performance set in standards for PPE for Firefighters, such PPE is sometimes used to compensate for poor operational procedures which fail to recognise the wide range of work activities of Firefighters
 - Standards for PPE ensembles for Firefighters should be developed by moving away from prescriptive based requirements and by incorporating a User Risk Assessment approach

Alec Feldman, JOIFF Secretariat; Director, GD Group

3.20 Tea break

- 3.45 **Corporate killing**
- New law for old
 - Present position and likely future
 - Catchment and concerns
 - The fire service as target
 - Planning and compliance

Mark Scoggins, Solicitor, Fisher Scoggins LLP

4.45 Panel questions

5.00 Day One close

7.00 Conference Dinner (seated at 8.00)

DAY 2: Wednesday 16th March

8.30 Coffee

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND RESPONSE

9.00 **Morning Chair's welcome**
Bob Docherty, Independent Consultant

- 9.05 **Uncontrolled vapour cloud explosion: The real thing!**
On 1 September 2004 a major petrochemical industry experienced an UVCE when a large ethylene gas leak occurred. The end result was multiple fatalities and more than 300 casualties. This paper will cover this event by looking at:-
- Comparison between what theoretical models predicted before the incident and what the real effects were
 - How to manage more than 300 casualties during the incident
 - What difficulties were experienced during the incident
 - Proposal of an emergency exercise to prepare for such an event

Pine Pienaar, Area Leader, Emergency Management Services, Sasol Synfuels (Pty) Ltd

9.35 **Resilience**
Speaker to be confirmed

- 10.05 **Fighting fire - Extinguishing media protecting the environment**
- How extinguishing media put out fire
 - Fire-water run-off, controlled waters, groundwater, the aqueous environment
 - Containment - A Suitable Sufficient Assessment of Risk
 - Class A and Class B foams
 - AFFF, Fluorosurfactants - the environmental challenge
 - Testing standards
 - Foam equipment
 - Powders, gels and other additives

Dr. Roger A. Klein, University of Bonn, Germany

10.35 Tea break

11.0 **International fire response**

Dwight Williams, President, Williams Fire and Hazard Control, USA

12.15 Panel questions

12.35 Lunch

MAJOR INCIDENTS - LESSONS LEARNED

1.35 **Afternoon Chair's welcome**
John Judd, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, Greater Manchester Fire Service

- 1.40 **An engineer's view of human error**
- Examples of human error will be described and illustrated
 - How changing designs or methods of working can minimise the effects of or reduce opportunities for error

Trevor Kletz, Independent Consultant

2.05 **Lessons learned from oil refining and petrochemical losses**

There are many things we can do in our plants to prepare to stop a large fire/explosion from being a catastrophic event. If you know what to prepare for and train on the basics with special attention to the things that have escalated fires to levels that are not controllable in other plants. Vapour clouds do not have to become plant killers. Protect against BLEVES and train your responders to a level that they can stop the fires from spreading. The best way to learn these lessons is to visually look at many large losses in detail.

- The seven to eleven theory
- Blast Waves or Resulting Fire - which one is destroying our plants?
- When can you expect an LPG vapour Cloud to become a deflagration or explosion
- Real Fire Brigade Training, how real should it get.

Gene Allen, Senior Account Engineer, Allianz Global Risk, USA

3.05 Panel questions and Summary

3.20 Refreshments and Conference close

Please note, it may be necessary to alter the timing, speakers, or content of the programme for reasons beyond our control