



# The Catalyst

The Official Newsletter of JOIFF

December 2003

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

## FROM THE EDITORS

This, the fourth edition of The Catalyst for 2003, concludes the third year of its publication. In the three years of publication we have covered many diverse subjects of relevance to Emergency Services personnel and we hope that you will agree that the content of this issue follows this pattern. Although an International Organisation, the majority of the Membership of JOIFF is based in the United Kingdom where a great deal of change is being made in all aspects of the operation of Fire Services as a result of initiatives by Government, Employers and Unions - extending beyond Municipal Brigades to include Occupational and Industrial Brigades. In this edition we include a Paper presented by John Judd, International President of the Institution of Fire Engineers, on Integrated Risk Management Policy which is now a legal requirement in the United Kingdom. To our Readers outside the UK, whilst the article is based on what is currently happening in the UK, we believe that the content is very relevant to Fire Services Worldwide and we can all learn from the progress being made and the difficulties being encountered in the implementation of a new and more modernised system of operations for National Fire Safety and the place of Emergency Responders from all sectors of the Economy in this system. In the last edition of The Catalyst, we included

detail of the Integrated Personal Development System, another major development in the operation of Fire Services in the UK. One of the competencies highlighted in this radical change-over towards a system of Competency Based Training for Fire Service personnel is Emergency Fire Appliance Driving and an article on this is included in this edition from George Smith of Minding Driving Ltd.

Jon Britton and Mike Willson of Kidde Products provide further information to the debate on Foam and its effects on the Environment and we provide information on a Hazardous Materials response system operated by CEFIC. Our regular features - New Members, Members Section, Reactor and the Training Notes Columns - are also included in this edition.

Our aim continues to be to bring you high quality articles on new developments and other happenings in the area of Emergency Services Management. In addition to The Catalyst, current information relevant to Emergency Services Management is also posted on the JOIFF website which is under continuous development. We sincerely thank our advertisers / sponsors without whom we could not function.

We look forward to your continuing support and wish all our Readers a very Happy, Safe and Healthy Christmas and New Year.

## ABOUT JOIFF

JOIFF, the Joint Occupational Industrial Fire Forum, the Organisation for Emergency Services Management in Process Industry, is a grouping of Companies, represented by their Emergency Services Manager - or equivalent position - and nominated Deputies. For the purposes of JOIFF Membership, a Process Industry is considered to be any Industrial / Commercial Organisation that

is engaged in processing, storage, handling and/or transport of high risk materials and that has nominated personnel as Occupational Firefighters / Emergency Responders. Associate Members of JOIFF are Organisations or Individuals who do not comply with the requirements for Full Membership but who share the same interests.

JOIFF provides a forum for discussion amongst peers, accredited training, information dissemination and technical advice.

JOIFF welcomes interest from suitable Organisations who wish to become Members or Associate Members - contact the JOIFF Secretariat, details on the back page.

*JOIFF Ltd. Registration number 362542.*

### *Disclaimer:*

*The views and opinions expressed in The Catalyst are not necessarily the views of JOIFF or of its Secretariat, Fulcrum Consultants neither of which are in any way responsible or legally liable for any statements, reports or technical anomalies made by authors in The Catalyst.*



## NEW MEMBERS

During the past three months, the Executive of JOIFF were delighted to welcome the following new Members:

### Members:

**Engen Petroleum Ltd., Wentworth, South Africa,** represented by Colin Hull, Senior Fire Officer, with Brian Williams, Risk and Safety Services Manager as Deputy. Full time and part time members of the Emergency Response Team provide cover for the Refinery.

**Falklands Islands Fire and Rescue Service, Stanley** represented by Gardner Fiddes, Chief Fire Officer, with Andrew Miller, Station Commander, as Deputy. The Fire and Rescue Service provides Domestic and Airport Fire Service cover in all aspects associated with a self-contained small island.

### Williams Fire & Hazard Control

our first full Member from the United States of America, represented by Eric Laverne, Lead Firefighter / International Manager in Texas, USA with Kelvin Hardingham, Lead Firefighter / European, Africa, Middle East Manager in Essex, UK, as Deputy. WFHC, with a large fulltime team of Firefighters, work in the Petrochemical, Chemical and Marine Industries providing 3 levels of Incident Support, Level 1: 24

hour tele-conference service, Level 2: on-site technical support and Level 3: provision of major equipment, personnel and emergency foam services.

### Members - Associate / Corporate:

#### **Dafo Fomtec AB, Tyresö, Sweden,**

our first Member from Sweden, represented by John Olav Ottesen, Director of Sales Marketing, with Johnny Rydén, Managing Director, as Deputy. Dafo Fomtec AB are Manufacturers of Fire Fighting Foam and Foam equipment and Systems.

#### **Industrial Fire Journal, Dorset, UK,**

represented by Aidan Turnbull, Editor with Paul Budgen, Manager as Deputy. JOIFF and the Industrial Fire Journal (IFJ) are discussing means of mutual co-operation, which will result in a very interesting Alliance which we hope will be of major benefit to the JOIFF Membership. Further detail about the IFJ is included elsewhere in this edition of The Catalyst.

#### **Simulation Ters Ltd. Burton on Trent, UK**

represented by Steve Fahey, Managing Director. Simulation design and supply realistic live Fire Training Simulators and other Training props.

We look forward to the involvement of all our new and existing Members in the continuing development of JOIFF.

## MEMBERS' SECTION

### Regions:

As JOIFF grows, the Executive and Secretariat monitor its operation to ensure that it remains efficient. Earlier this year, the Executive agreed on implementing a Regional structure where appropriate:

- to improve communications between Members in a geographical area
- to enable the JOIFF Executive and JOIFF Secretariat to take advantage of a number of Members working and communicating together to organise local and Regional events such as Seminars and Workshops
- to enable Members in a Region to identify local and Regional issues of concern to them and, under the direction of the JOIFF Executive, to formulate plans of action to influence Regulatory and other Authorities which will improve the operating conditions of the Members in the Region.

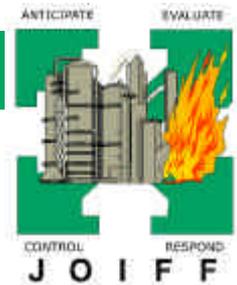
By the formation of a Region, Members do not lose any of their rights or privileges as Members of

the relevant category of JOIFF by being in a Region. Dividing Membership into Regions is solely a means of facilitating administration as outlined.

Last month, a JOIFF South East Asia Region was set up based in Singapore and the first Chairman of the Region is I.M. Raj, SUT Sakra Pte. Ltd. At the recent Members meeting in Hull, England, it was agreed that a United Kingdom Region be established with JOIFF Chairman Gary Douthwaite, as Regional Chairman. Operating procedures will be put in place to assist the Regions in their development in the near future.

### Website:

In the continuing development of the website our "Members Area" page has been launched and Members have been advised of the Password for access. It is intended to expand the detail in the Members Area within the next few weeks. Watch that space !!



## INDUSTRIAL FIRE JOURNAL.

Established in November 1990 with a special financial grant backed by BP, the Industrial Fire Journal (IFJ) owned by Hemming Information Services Ltd. of Dorset UK, has grown to become the world's largest-circulating international industrial fire magazine. The JOIFF Executive are pleased to welcome IFJ as one of the newest Associate Members / Corporate and there are currently on-going discussions on areas of mutual co-operation.

This promises to be a very interesting and productive Alliance as JOIFF and the IFJ have strong synergies - sharing the personal experiences of emergency responders at incidents, revealing the latest fire and safety strategies for the industry and showcasing technology amongst those working in fire & safety departments in Process Industry. In recognition of the formation of

this Alliance and as a means of introducing those who don't know about the IFJ, they will be providing a free six months subscription to the magazine to all persons in the JOIFF Membership Directory. Together, JOIFF and the IFJ will build on their extensive network within the Worldwide family of Emergency Responders. Members will be advised of developments.

Hemming Information Services currently produces three separate journals which cover the entire firefighting and fire protection spectrum: industrial firefighting; municipal brigade firefighting and local government Fire Authorities.

**INDUSTRIAL FIRE JOURNAL (IFJ)** the worlds' largest circulating international fire magazine a quarterly journal whose target audience is fire professionals within the oil, gas, chemical, power, marine, airport, mining

sectors and other high risk industries in 153 countries.

**FIRE & RESCUE (F&R)** magazine quarterly magazine aimed at city fire chiefs and relevant government departments in 153 countries. This provides worldwide coverage on major fire and rescue incidents, equipment, techniques and training issues.

**LOCAL AUTHORITY PLANT & VEHICLE (LAPV)** six issues a year aimed at local authority and public utility executives, waste transport officers, local fire authorities and local government departments only in the UK. This covers purchase and specification of roadworks plant, vehicles (emergency, bus, lorry and refuse collection) and all grounds maintenance equipment.

GD are pleased to introduce its new range of confined space equipment, emergency rescue and evacuation, safety harnesses, sked stretchers, tower rescue kits, blockfor, retrievable devices.



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## INTEGRATED RISK MANAGEMENT - PLANNING FOR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES IN ENGLAND AND WALES

John P Judd QFSM BA FI Fire E.

*This is an abridged version of the paper presented by John Judd, International President of the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE), to the Republic of Ireland Branch October 2003 Conference of the IFE. The views and opinions expressed are those of the author and not necessarily of the Institution of Fire Engineers or the Greater Manchester Fire Authority, where John is Assistant Chief Officer Head of Fire Safety.*

### Introduction

Since 1948, the provision of a fire service in the UK has been based on the Fire Services Act 1947 which sets out standards and methods of monitoring those standards. A fundamental basis for assessing the effective provision of a fire service has been standards of fire cover that prescribe the "speed and weight of attack" of any attendance at a fire. These standards, developed in the 1930's for the conflagration risk of war, were based on an assessment of the property within an area. Although refined in detail over the decades, the standards remained fundamentally flawed, in that they did not assess the risk to life from fire or other incidents where the fire service had a life saving role.

The fire services in the UK have long been responsible for the enforcement of fire safety legislation and as a result, life safety in workplaces and public buildings is very much improved. Many changes to legislation by responding to tragedies and in recent years, the very different approach of the European directives for workplace safety has resulted in more complex and contradictory legislation that requires a complete overhaul.

The UK fire service has been building a number of effective reforms over a number of years, but delivering all these innovative ways of delivering a fire service was being held up. The blockages to change were the consensus building machinery that governs the fire service and the lack of any governmental vision for the fire service. Fire simply was not on the Government's agenda. That changed with the industrial unrest that resulted in strikes in the winter of 2002.

The outcome, a government white paper "Our Fire and Rescue Service" was published in June 2003, based on the report of the independent enquiry, chaired by Sir George Bain, "The Future of the Fire Service Reducing Risks - Saving Lives" and it proposed reforms in principle areas of fire activity. The government has renamed the fire service "The Fire and Rescue Service", since that better reflects the role it fulfils. They have gone further by confirming the broader role of "preventing fire, responding to a wide range of threats and hazards, and rescuing people from whatever dangers they may face, thereby helping create safer communities for all" This very broad statement, if carried into policy, will present real difficulties for fire and rescue services which will need to train effectively for a very wide range of hazards that are so infrequently

encountered.

Integrated Risk Management Planning has been introduced as the basis for the new approach to protecting people. The related issues of information needs and professional development are also included.

### Integrated Risk Management Planning.

There are three principles that are key to developing an Integrated Risk Management Plan:

1. Recognise that risk assessment is the product of the frequency and the consequences of a risk. Frequently occurring events such as small fires in the open air with minimal impact must attract less emphasis than infrequently occurring events such as serious injury or death from fires or other hazards.
2. In planning to reduce the risk, the emphasis must be to Prevent the occurrence, (fire or other hazard). Recognising such an achievement is highly desirable but difficult to achieve, the second step is to
3. Provide protection e.g. smoke detection, escape plans etc. Clearly, protecting people must come before property. Plans also need to recognise the need to protect community, heritage and the environment. Figure 1 below illustrates these concepts.

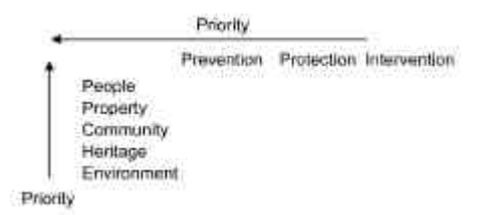
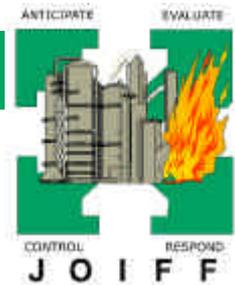


Figure 1 Matrix of priority in Risk Management Planning

4. Prove an effective intervention system to rescue where protection fails, or to bring the incident under control is the essential final provision.

The current timetable for the preparation of these plans is the draft must be available for public consultation by 31 October 2003 and finalized by 31 March 2004. Fire Authorities are required to consult the public and others on the proposals in the draft IRMP. The consultation on this first plan will take place between 1 November 2003 and 31 January 2004. Many draft IRPM's are now available on the web. These planning documents are very significant since they contain the new standards of fire cover that each fire authority has determined is adequate for their area. The comfort of following national standards no longer applies. Evidence is an essential basis on which



to determine policy and with over 50 years of operating to the national prescriptive standards, only the very brave will take dramatic steps away from the existing standards of speed and weight of attack. The approach being taken by most authorities appears to be incremental steps where it can be demonstrated to be clearly better. Such changes include reduced attendance to well-protected buildings where the previous prescription required three or more appliances.

Another significant theme in the draft plans appears to be the releasing of resources from the unproductive emergency attendance of false alarms and small fires and minor "special services". The intention is that resources released can be re-directed into prevention and protection strategies, whilst also seeking to retain the resilience to respond to major civil emergencies, such as terrorist attacks.

### Implementing the Plans

Developing the plans is only the beginning of the changes to the fire and rescue service in the UK. Implementing the outcomes of those plans will be the greatest challenge. There are a number of crucial developments necessary to ensure the planning is effective. In my view, those developments are

- Much improved information gathering and interpretation skills
- A robust performance management methodology.
- The ability to vary the application of resources quickly to respond to changing risks
- An effective professional development process for fire and rescue staff.
- Meaningful communication with the public about how the fire and rescue service will be delivered.

If IRMPs are to gain the confidence of the public, it will be necessary to show that the revised methods of working have had a beneficial impact on the safety of the community. Proving the effectiveness of campaigns and programmes will remain a challenge. The activities of people in communities are not easily measured or quantified, and it is difficult to separate out any one "approach".

Fire Services have had fixed and consistent staffing processes for many years. The need to vary resources to make the most effective use and the growing demands for family friendly policies will demand greater staff planning arrangements. The service has taken for granted the simplicity of the existing inflexible shift pattern and must resource the need to be more effective in the planning of staff availability and skills profiles. The individual skill profiles can also be expected to show more variation, given the need to develop specialists within the work force.

The service has been working for ten years to introduce improved development methodologies based on specific roles, using role maps that set out the necessary competencies. The Integrated Personal Development System is being introduced as part of the settlement of the industrial dispute in the service.

It will be essential for fire authorities to ensure that the role maps set out, meet the needs of the service they have decided to deliver against their plan. The role maps must match the plans they aim to support.

### Personal Observations

The development of integrated risk management is a step forward for the fire service, since it provides a more structured and effective mechanism for the integration of all aspects of the work of the fire and rescue service. The very success in fire safety activity is leading to the protection of the fire service work being marginalised. With the fire safety legislation due to be amended in October 2004, there is a danger of a planning blight effect. If the fire service is to really know what resources it must send to public buildings and workplaces, it must be able to regulate the standards of fire safety in the premises. That means having a robust risk based approach to enforcing fire safety.

The Fire and Rescue Service also needs to recognise the wider fire profession has a real contribution to make and can improve the quality of risk based approaches to its work. The Fire Service's work in Fire Safety Enforcement, Crime and Disorder, Local Strategic Partnerships, Community Safety, Housing, Education and Health is leading us into whole new areas, working with other professionals, who sometimes seem to speak a different language, and work in ways unfamiliar to the fire service.

One of the reasons I believe that it takes time is that our fire service personal development processes are not well understood outside of the service. I believe that having a professional development process or standards that are recognised by other professionals is invaluable in the process of engaging with others. In my view, the biggest challenge and greatest potential asset in delivering the fire and rescue service of the future will be the extent to which we engage our existing and future staff. We need to engage them because we want them to own their own development. That is a major cultural shift for many in the service. It is not unusual in other professions and it is not new to anyone who is a member of a professional body, but it is to many in the fire service. Entrants to the fire service do not routinely join a professional body, in the way they would if they were beginning careers in Personnel, Finance, Law, Health, Building Control, Social Work, Health and Safety, Environmental Health or any of the scientific, technical or engineering professions. Despite the evidence, the fire and rescue service has all the hallmarks of a modern profession. Indeed a professional has been defined as "someone who diagnoses and prescribes in technical matters and communicates judgements to the less well informed and executes their wishes". So why do so many of our staff not join professional bodies, or see themselves



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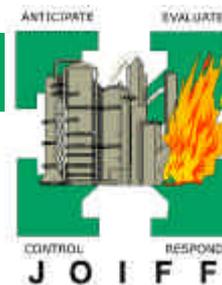
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as a professional, in the way their many new partner professionals in other organisations do?

I believe we do not encourage uniformed entrants to the service in the way we do for many of our non-uniform professionals. The Service doesn't provide a model that motivates and encourages them to develop their knowledge and skills beyond the minimum to do the job, development that offers them the opportunity to participate, and the ability to achieve parity of esteem with other professionals.

If I have a worry about IPDS it is that IPDS alone, will not encourage the wider organisational contribution

and discretionary behaviour. We must also promote learning, motivation and the opportunity to work more broadly to contribute to organisational success.

Membership of professional bodies inculcates positive behaviour, such as life-long learning, ownership of personal and professional development, mentoring others and a professional code of ethical behaviour, which was identified by many, to be missing from the fire service during the recent dispute.

## ERICARDS - INFORMATION FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INCIDENTS.

Unless full information of the product involved in a HazMat incident is known, technical support is needed by the Responders. The European Chemical Industry Council (CEFIC) has developed a very simple and effective response system which they are promoting as a voluntary aid to Emergency Responders.

The basis of the CEFIC Response System is the ERICard (Emergency Response Intervention Cards) which is a set of instructions that provide Emergency Responders with guidance on initial actions to be taken in transport accidents involving dangerous goods. Under the Leadership of the CEFIC

Logistics Committee and with support from the European Commission Directorate-General for Energy and Transport, the cards have been developed and are being kept up to date by a team of experts from the European Chemical Industry and public Fire Brigades. The current version aligns the ERICards to the restructured ADR 2003 version and includes cards for ADR Classes 1 (Explosives) and 7 (Radioactive material).

The revised cards are available on the Internet Site <http://www.ericards.net> in English, German, Spanish, French and Dutch. The website advises that

ERICards apply to a group of products and are not a substitute for the specific product information, and they therefore require Emergency Responders trained in chemical emergency response using sound judgement taking into account the particular circumstances of each incident. The cards can be downloaded from the Internet site, an obvious advantage in the event of having to search for information during an Incident. They have also been published as a book in the English language.

For more information on ERICards contact the JOIFF Secretariat.

## EMERGENCY FIRE APPLIANCE DRIVER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

*by George Smith*

Probably one of the most dangerous activities an individual will pursue is driving. In the case of a fire officer the pressure is all the greater due to the nature of the occupation and the adrenaline rush experienced when attending an emergency. With 95% of crashes attributable to some sort of human error, it won't take long before we become a statistic. If we are lucky we will live to fight another day.

Recently the UK Health and Safety Executive published on its website - [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk) - a document entitled 'Driving at Work' - Managing work-related road safety. This is a document that in my opinion has long been awaited for, and I can

only stress the importance of viewing this on the website and establishing whether the policy currently in place at your premises covers 'at-work driving'. The document looks at main areas such as: Legal Responsibilities, Benefits and managing work-related road safety, risk assessment, the driver, the vehicle, and the journey.

Currently a programme is being developed for airport fire officers that can be tailored to any industry served by its own fire service. The qualification, accredited by Edexcel as NVQ standard is based on developing drivers against the Roadcraft standard, National Fire Service standards and CAP 699, the Civil Aviation standard. An

instructor's course will be offered enabling individuals to deliver a one week induction course to fire officers. A customer's needs will vary from location to location and area to area, however as is the case with other qualifications, a reasonable time can be taken to attain the qualification and in some cases only parts of it.

The Roadcraft system of driving is long established as a very high standard. Advanced driving is based around it and it teaches a driver a system of vehicle control that in my experience has ensured my safe passage on a number of occasions. By driving to this system and developing an individual's driving skills the benefits both for



the individual and company are immeasurable. It also ensures that there is a measurable standard across a particular industry. A behavioural approach to driving is also focussed on looking at an individual's attitudes and behaviour as well as driver pressure. Driving starts even before

getting behind the wheel of a vehicle and it is essential to ensure that the mind is on the driving. There is a lack of a properly structured driver programme providing a qualification on completion. I think you will agree that it may be worth spending a little now instead of being forced to pay out a huge amount in the future. As well as the financial penalties, drivers are serving prison sentences for manslaughter and

directors/supervisors for corporate manslaughter. Remember that first emergency-'there but for the grace of God go I' We have all been there and had a de-brief afterwards in an attempt to find out what went wrong.

*George Smith is Managing Director of Minding Driving Ltd. For more information, contact the JOIFF Secretariat.*

## GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS FOR FOAM USERS

by

*Mike Willson & Jonathan Brittain, Kidde Products*

New research by the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) indicates that fire fighting foams used by many JOIFF members are unlikely to be a source of the chemical PFOA in the environment. The background to this research dates back to 16 May 2000 when the 3M Corporation unexpectedly withdrew its 3M Light Water™ range of AFFF and AR-AFFF, along with other products such as Scotchgard™ stain-repellants, in a co-operative agreement with the US EPA.

The reason given for this dramatic move was that the foams contained a fluorocarbon surfactant called perfluoro-octanyl sulphonate (PFOS). Manufactured by 3M in a process called Electro-Chemical Fluorination (ECF), PFOS was found to be persistent, bio-accumulative, and toxic, or PBT for short. PFOS is absorbed orally and is distributed primarily in blood serum and by the liver, although inhalation or physical contact may also result in contamination. Test samples from the public showed low-level concentrations of approximately 30 to 50 parts per billion, but 3M production employees showed levels that were up to one hundred times higher. It has also been detected in animal populations around the world ranging from monkeys to penguins, showing that it is highly mobile and bio-accumulative.

It was not long after the 3M announcement that questions were asked about the fluorocarbon surfactants used in other fire fighting foams. However, it soon emerged that all three of the main foam manufacturers in the UK supply products that are PFOS-free. This is because they use fluorinated surfactants manufactured by a completely different process known as Telomerisation.

However, concerns were still expressed about these telomer-based fluorinated surfactants because of the possibility that they might degrade to the wider chemical group perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Although PFOA is not currently classified as a PBT, it is persistent, may accumulate in the body in the same way as PFOS, and is carcinogenic in animals.

The US EPA Telomer Technical Workgroup was asked to investigate the issue. At a recent meeting of the Workgroup, groundwater monitoring data was presented that confirmed that telomer-based fire

fighting foams are not likely to be a source of PFOA in the environment. The US EPA has accepted the proposal by the Workgroup that telomer-based foams no longer be considered as part of the PFOA Enforceable Consent Agreement (ECA) process, and are therefore unlikely to be put into a restricted category in the future.

Similar research is being carried out in the UK by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) with input being provided by those foam manufacturers who are members of the British Fire Protection Systems Association (BFPSA).

The importance of this latest development in ensuring the continued use of fluorocarbon surfactants in modern fire fighting foam technology cannot be underestimated. Fluorocarbon surfactants play a crucial role in saving lives (the public, employees, fire fighters); protecting fire fighters from injury (burns, heat exhaustion); minimising the risk of fire escalation; reducing the threat to high-value assets; minimising downtime; ensuring the efficient use of foam and water resources; and helping to protect the environment.

The future would appear to rest with fire fighting foams based on telomer-based chemistry. When buying foams it is therefore crucial to make a clear distinction between foams known to contain or degrade to PFOS or PFOA, and those foams containing only telomer-based fluorocarbon surfactants. This welcome news means that leading brands of foam such as FP70 Plus, Petroseal, and Niagara that are widely used by JOIFF members will continue to be the agents of choice for many years to come.



*Alec Feldman JOIFF Secretariat presents gift to I.M. Raj of SERB Singapore at a function held to recognise achievement of JOIFF accreditation.*

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### "THE REACTOR COLUMN."

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In our Editors' column of this edition, reference is made to the changes that are currently being made within the UK Fire Service. One of the core changes, described in the September 2003 edition of The Catalyst, is the introduction of the Integrated Personal Development System. Fundamental to this System of Personal Development and advancement in the Fire Service - and this relates to all Fire Service, not only Municipal but also Occupational including Aviation - is the movement from Rank to Role. The current system of Ranks in the UK Fire Service will disappear and the performance standard will be competence to role. In the Municipal Fire Service, ranks will be replaced by levels of Management and readers may be interested to see the anticipated assimilation from the existing rank structure in the UK to the new role based structure:

Crew Manager - Leading Firefighter  
Watch Manager - Sub-Officer or Station Officer.  
Station Manager - Station Officer or Assistant Divisional Officer.  
Group Manager - Divisional Officer III or II  
Area Manager - Divisional Officer I or Senior Divisional Officer.  
Brigade Manager - Guess !!!

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Surfing on the Internet, I came across the following press release under the name Tony Gladstone as author:

Going to bed the other night, I noticed people in my shed stealing things. I phoned the police but was told no one was in the area to

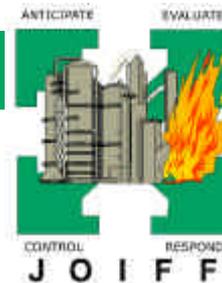
help. They said they would send someone over as soon as possible. I hung up. A minute later I rang again. "Hello" I said, "I called you a minute ago because there were people in my shed. You don't have to hurry now because I've shot them." Within minutes there were half a dozen police cars in the area plus helicopters and an armed response unit. They caught the burglars red-handed. One of the Officers said "I thought you said you shot them" to which I replied "I thought you said there was no one in the area."

You can find it on the website: [http://www.non-books.com/Fast\\_Reads.htm](http://www.non-books.com/Fast_Reads.htm) along with some other interesting items.

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I have referred in the past to the excellence of the United States in gathering statistics about deaths and injuries to Firefighters and the difficulties in trying to relate such statistics to those from other Countries, because many other Countries don't publish their statistics. So within the scheme of things, we do not know whether the incidents in the USA based on population are comparatively good or bad. However, the statistics of injuries to Firefighters during 2002 published in the November /December 2003 edition of the Fire Journal do make interesting reading. The statistics for 2002 are said to be the lowest number since 1977 and a 1.8% decrease over 2001. A total of 80,800 injuries are recorded for 2002, covering Fire or Chemical burns; Smoke or Gas Inhalation; Other Respiratory Distress; Burns and Smoke Inhalation; Wound, Cut, Bleeding, Bruise; Dislocation, Fracture; Heart Attack or Stroke; Strain, Sprain,

Muscular Pain; Thermal Stress and Other. 47% of these injuries were sustained on the fireground, 19% at non-fire emergencies and 9% in Training and the major cause of all the recorded injuries is Strain, Sprain, Muscular Pain. The article recommends that proactive actions be taken at local level to reduce injuries - amongst which are commitment by top Management to reduce injuries; establishment of Safety Committees; provision of appropriate protective equipment and a mandate to use it; development and enforcement of policies on safe practices for drivers of fire apparatus (Note: see the article on this subject in this edition of The Catalyst); implementation of regular medical examinations and a physical fitness programme and development and enforcement of a programme on the use and maintenance of Self-contained Breathing apparatus.

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Much has changed in JOIFF since the first edition of The Catalyst was published in March 2001. Now with 52 Organisations as Full Members and 17 as Associate Members / Corporate in 20 Countries around the World, JOIFF has grown into an elite International Body which is becoming recognised as **the** International Organisation for Emergency Services Management. The mix of Members has moved from primarily Petrochemical Industry Membership to a broad Industrial base which has given JOIFF a much wider resource of expertise from which to draw. Mr. R wishes all Readers a very Happy Christmas and 2004 and looks forward to JOIFF growing even stronger and more influential during the coming months.



## DIARY OF EVENTS

January 2004:	16th	1, Portland Place, London. Large Tank Fires. A conference organised by I Chem E Safety and Loss Prevention Subject Group
March 2004:	23rd -24th	FIREX South, Sandown, England.
April 2004:	12th - 15th	Industrial Fire World Exhibition / Conference. Houston USA..
	26th - 1st May	FDIC Exhibition, Indianapolis, USA.
May 2004:	3rd - 5th	Williams Fire and Hazard Control 1st African Advanced Flammable Liquid and Foam Technology Workshop SASOL Secunda, South Africa.
	23rd - 27th	FPA Exhibition and Conference Salt Lake City, USA.
July 2004:	4th - 16th	Institution of Fire Engineers. International AGM. Dublin, Ireland.
August 2004:	12th - 15th	AFC Conference and Exhibition. New Orleans USA.
	28th - 4th Sept.	World Firefighters Games. Sheffield, England.
October 2004:	3rd - 6th	IFE Malaysia International Conference, Kuala Lumpur.
	19th - 20th	FIREX North, Harrogate, England.
May 2005:	16th - 19th	International Fire Expo Birmingham, England.
June 2005:	6th - 11th	Interschutz. Hanover Germany.

Please contact the JOIFF Secretariat with details of any event that you think that JOIFF Members might be interested in attending.

*Note: The Catalyst is not responsible for the accuracy of dates and / or venues announced. This is based on information given to the Editors and is published in good faith.*

## JOIFF TRAINING NOTES

### JOIFF accredited Training Establishments.

We are pleased to announce the full JOIFF accreditation of a third Training Establishment - SUT Sakra Pte. Ltd. Singapore. JOIFF Training Advisor Gerry Johnson recently spent a week in Singapore with Chief Emergency Response Officer and Head of Emergency Response Training for Sakra Emergency Response Brigade (SERB), I.M. Raj, his Deputy L. Selvarasu - "Silva" - and their core of excellent Instructors.

SERB, a division of SUT Sakra Pte. Ltd was established in 1996 on Jurong Island, Singapore as an industrial fire-fighting & rescue consortium to provide expert fire protection, prevention, maintenance and inspection and training to owners of petrochemical and chemical manufacturing plants, terminal tank storage and marine terminals in or near Jurong Island. During emergencies, SERB responds as a full service industrial fire department or to supplement activities performed by internal emergency response teams. Member companies pay an annual fixed and variable charge for the services of SERB - which means that instead of each individual investor setting up elaborate facilities to deal with emergencies, they can concentrate on their own daily operations knowing

that SERB has a complete emergency response system set up to assist whenever necessary.



*Gerry Johnson JOIFF Training Advisor with I.M. Raj and his team of instructors at the function held in Singapore to present JOIFF Certificate of Accreditation to SERB.*

To support its core business, SERB established a self-contained industrial training facility which today provides specialized programs for fire-fighting, rescue, hazmat and incident command system;

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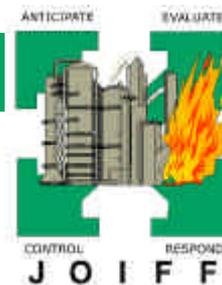


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breathing apparatus; fire safety awareness programs, etc. The facility is in two locations and includes fire props to simulate challenging fire scenarios as well as other props and the necessary safety facilities. As an Organisation working towards World Class excellence, SERB saw JOIFF accredited Training as Best Industry Practice for Emergency Services personnel in Process Industry and applied for accreditation. Gerry Johnson submitted the SERB programs, facilities and people to a rigorous audit at the end of which he recommended full approval as a JOIFF accredited training centre, the first outside the United Kingdom.

**Evaluation Reports. - Very good results.**

Throughout this year, a number of JOIFF accredited Courses have been held in the two UK based Training Establishments, International Fire Training Centre, Teesside and Washington Hall, Lancashire, Students are to be congratulated on their dedication, enthusiasm and commitment to the Training as is evidenced by the excellent assessments that are received following Courses.

On behalf of the Chairman of JOIFF, Gary Douthwaite, Alec Feldman of the JOIFF Secretariat presented a JOIFF Certificate of accreditation for SERB's Training Establishment to C.G. Tan, Executive Vice President of SembCorp Utilities Pte. Ltd., Holding Company for SERB, at a well attended function in the Jurong Country Club, Singapore.



*left to right: I.M. Raj Head of E.R.Training SERB; C.G. Tan Exec. V.P. Sembcorp Utilites Pte. Ltd.; Gerry Johnson JOIFF Training Advisor; Alec Feldman JOIFF Secretariat.*

**JOIFF Accredited Fire Extinguisher Instructor.**

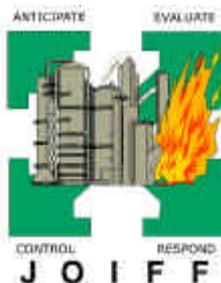
Humberside Fire Brigade Industrial Training Centre developed a Fire Extinguishers Instructor Course for and was accredited by JOIFF and we are delighted to announce that the first such Course has taken place and four persons have been successful. Heartiest congratulations to Dave Calvert and Martin Daly of JOIFF Member Acordis, Great Coates and to Bob Bore of Huntsman Tioxide and Gary Scaife of KC Stadium who have qualified as the first JOIFF accredited Fire Extinguisher Instructors.

The Fire Extinguisher Instructor Course is a 2½ day Course which covers training principals and techniques; a full understanding of the method of operation of fire extinguishers and how they extinguish fire; Health and Safety considerations, risk assessments and environmental implications for the carrying out of extinguisher training lectures and practical sessions; practical extinguisher demonstrations and finally, students being assessed on their own sessions which they are required to prepare and present.

**JOIFF TRAINING 2004.**

The following bookings for JOIFF accredited Training Courses have been made and places are available. If you have Training needs which are not covered in this list, please contact the Secretariat.

Course Name	Dates	Venue
3 day Occupational Firefighter (Part Time)	16th - 18th February	Washington Hall
	8th - 10th March	IFTC Teesside
	13th - 15th April	Washington Hall
	7th - 9th June	Washington Hall
	13th - 15th September	Washington Hall
	4th - 6th October	IFTC Teesside
	8th - 10th November	Washington Hall
	13th - 15th December	IFTC Teesside



JOIFF Training 2004 continued...

2 day Practical Firefighting Course	26th - 27th January	Washington Hall
	19th - 20th February	IFTC Teesside
	15th / 16th March	Washington Hall
	19th - 20th April	IFTC Teesside
	17th / 18th May	Washington Hall
	1st / 2nd September	Washington Hall
	23rd - 24th October	IFTC Teesside
	25th - 26th October	Washington Hall
5 day Team Leader Course	29th - 30th November	Washington Hall
	9th - 13th February	Washington Hall
	29th March - 2nd April	IFTC Teesside
	10th - 14th May	Washington Hall
	7th - 11th June	IFTC Teesside
	6th - 10th September	Washington Hall
5 day BA Wearer Course	25th - 29th October	IFTC Teesside
	15th - 19th November	Washington Hall
	6th - 10th December	IFTC Teesside
10 day Breathing Apparatus Instructor (BAI) Course	19th - 23rd April	IFTC Teesside
	11th - 15th October	IFTC Teesside
	19th - 30th January	Washington Hall
	15th - 26th March	IFTC Teesside
5 day BAI Refresher Course	18th - 29th October	IFTC Teesside
	20th - 31st October	Washington Hall
	26th - 30th January	Washington Hall
	26th - 30th April	IFTC Teesside
Fire Extinguisher Instructor	4th - 8th October	IFTC Teesside
	27th - 31st October.	Washington Hall
	12th -14th April	HumberSide Fire
	9th -11th August	Brigade Industrial
	22nd -24th November	Training Centre

For further information on JOIFF accredited training and to book places on any of the courses, contact the JOIFF Secretariat.

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