2003, Issue 2

The Catalyst

The Official Newsletter of JOIFF

June 2003

www.joiff.com

From the Editors

This is the second edition of The Catalyst for 2003. 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 shortly will be advising Members of a new feature on the website which will be the start of password-accessible Membership pages. The first project that we are working on for this development is to provide a reference to the wonderful JOIFF "Shared Learning" resource. This will allow Members access to a library of information concerned with problem issues on High Risk Industry sites and details of how other Members are dealing with them.

The overall aim is that the JOIFF website and The Catalyst will complement each other in assisting JOIFF to provide "State of the Art" detail and information to Members and those working in and with High Risk Industry. Check out the website and we welcome your comments on both it and The Catalyst.

In this edition, we once again provide a wide range of diverse detail which we hope will be of interest. Our regular contributor Jon Brittain of Kidde, one of the Sponsors of JOIFF, has joined forces with his colleague Gary Beaumont to provide an article on Integrated Safety Systems. A new contributor to The Catalyst, Bob Jackson, highlights the necessity for ensuring that Emergency Teams arrive safely at incidents. We reproduce an article on thermal imaging cameras from MSA, another of the sponsors of JOIFF and we publish a report on the recent Industrial Fire World Conference and Expo in Houston Texas. Our regular features - New Members Column, Reactor Column, Training Notes - are also included in this edition as is the PPE column and we sincerely thank our advertisers without whom we could not function.

We look forward to your continuing support.

About Joiff

JOIFF, the Joint Occupational Industrial Fire Forum, the Organisation for Emergency Services Management in High Risk 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 High Risk 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.

New Members

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

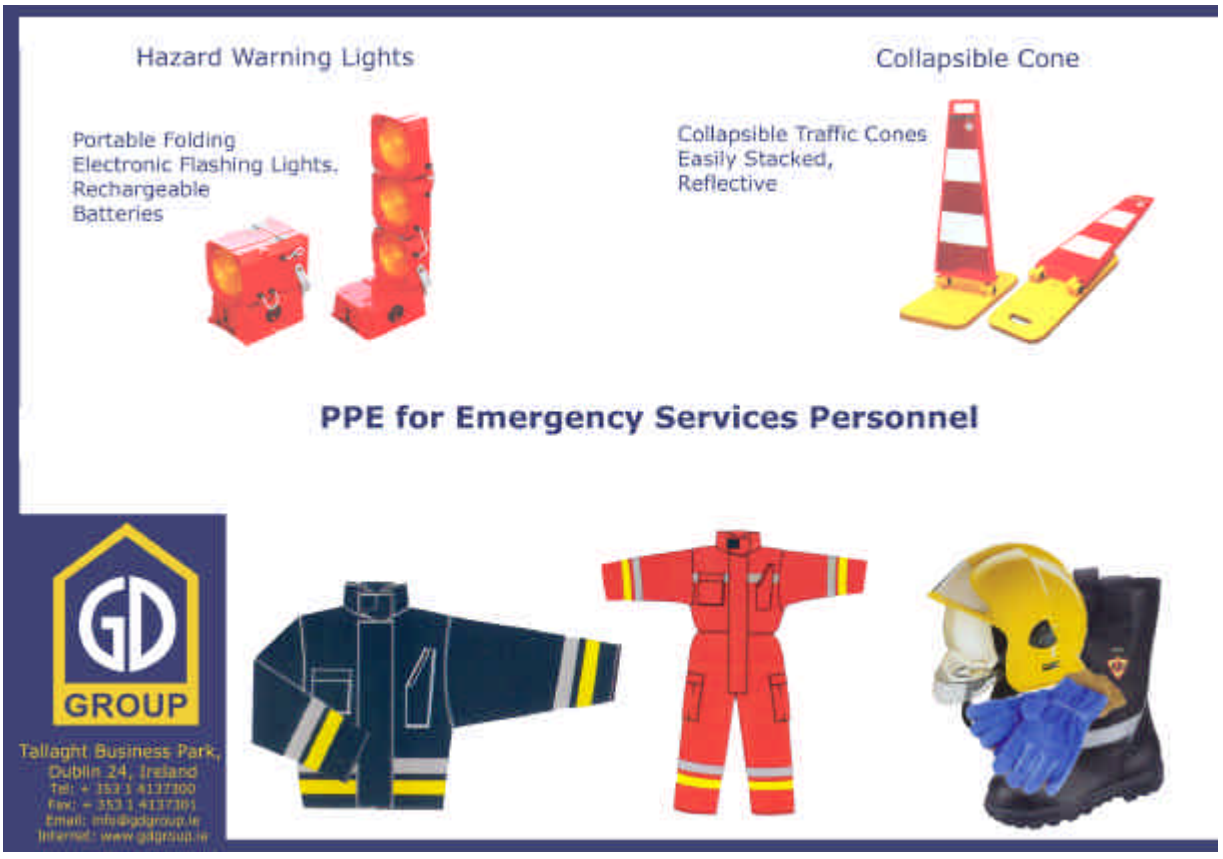
Members:

BMW Plant Hams Hall, North Warwickshire England, our first Member from the Automotive Sector, represented by Gil Infanti, Fire and Security Coordinator. Gil is responsible for a full time Fire Brigade who provide a proactive Fire, Medical and Security Service 24 hrs./ 365 days a year. The Business employs over 700 persons on a 52 acre site in a modern facility at the heart of BMW engine manufacture, designed as two levels below ground and three levels above. The Control Room monitors fixed and site installations via BMS. The Brigade operates a number of Emergency Vehicles including a fully equipped ambulance and teams deliver initial First Aid and trauma care.

Bristol International Airport, Bristol, England, our first Member from the Aviation Sector, represented by Symon Clifford, Fire Service Manager with Haydn Beynon, Training Officer as Deputy. Symon is responsible for a large full time Airport Fire Service which provides ICAO Category 7 Fire cover. On-site, the Airport has a hot fire training simulator used for the delivery of industrial fire training courses as well as for the Training needs of the Airport Fire Service.

Pfizer UK Ltd., Sandwich, Kent, England, represented by Peter Bedborough, Manager, Fire and Rescue Department with Ray Colyer, Fire Safety Adviser as Deputy. Pfizer have both full-time and part-time Emergency Services personnel and Chemical Incident Response and other Vehicles. The Fire and Rescue Department is responsible for the Management, testing, inspection and maintenance of Fixed Property Protection and Life Safety Systems. Numerous Fire Panels are networked to a central receiving station as are Individual sprinkler valve risers. The entire site is fire ring-mained with separate pump houses. All Sprinkler and property protection is installed to NFPA Codes of practice. All Life Safety Systems are installed and maintained according to British Standards and Statutory Regulations, all managed by the Fire and Rescue department.

SUT Sakra Pte. Ltd. (Sakra Emergency Response Brigade), Singapore represented by I. M. Raj, Manager / Chief Emergency Response Officer with L. Selvarasu, Deputy Chief Emergency Response Officer as Deputy. Full-time personnel provide a fully equipped



commercial Firefighting Brigade providing services to a cluster of Companies. These services include fire protection; equipment maintenance and industrial Firefighting and Emergency Response Courses. The Fire Brigade has a number of Emergency Service vehicles including Foam Trucks; Hazmat/Rescue Trucks etc. and SUT Sakra has its own Training field in which it provides training to its Brigade and Clients.

Members - Associate Individual:

Pat Kirby, Shannon, Ireland.

Pat has recently retired after holding the position of Chief Fire and Security Officer of Shannon Airport, one of the major International Airports in Ireland, for many years. He has extensive experience in all aspects of Fire and Security matters with a special interest in Training. He has formed his own Training Organisation.

Dr. Niall Ramsden, Buckinghamshire, England.

Niall - and his Company Resource Protection International - is well known for his specialist involvement with Industrial Fire Response in High Risk Industry throughout the World for more than 25 years. Niall has been a staunch supporter of JOIFF since it was established and he acted as Specialist Technical Editor for JOIFF.

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

Industrial Fire World Conference and Exposition.

The 18th annual Industrial Fire World Conference & Exposition (IFW) took place from 14th - 17th April 2003 at the Adams Mark Hotel in Houston, Texas, USA. Gloomy economic conditions and heightened security due to the war in Iraq, affected the numbers attending as well as the time that those who did attend could spend at the Expo, but despite these issues, the Conference drew very good attendance numbers. IFW 2003 had a wide and varied programme of lectures and workshops for participants to choose from. Opening speakers commented extensively on efforts to strengthen industrial security in the wake of the Sept. 11 2002 tragedies and how new perspectives on security at High Risk Industrial sites were being gained by discussions and exchanges of ideas between Industrial professionals in the USA and increasingly, from other Countries. Speakers talked about the importance of pre-planning to respond to a terrorist attack. Mike Smith, the deputy chief with the Washington, DC Fire Department who was Officer in charge of the response to the 9-11 Pentagon atrocity, brought international prospective to the issue by discussing his October 2002 visit to Israel to study how firefighters there respond to frequent terrorist attacks. A Speaker from the U.S. Fire Academy reminded Emergency responders at the Conference "As horrible and tragic as Sept. 11 was, the next significant hurricane to hit this country could do far more significant damage."

Workshop sessions during the conference addressed a wide range of industrial emergency concerns. A Volunteer Fire Department Chief discussed how his department responded to an explosion in May 2002 at a specialty chemicals plant where "...in a matter of a few minutes fire progressed from what the guard observed as a small fire to something creating a large enough plume of smoke to be visible in the night sky several miles away". A specialist from France spoke on designing LNG facilities and classified LNG fires as either pool fires, jet fires (also momentum fire or flame on orifice) and cloud fires which include flash fires and fireballs. A Fire Chief of a Petrochemical Plant in Texas, detailed how pre-planning helped him deal with protecting exposed gasoline in a 150 foot diameter storage tank. "Heavy thunderstorms sank the floating roof".

Special events also took place, one of which was a simulated terrorism response exercise involving more than 300 state, federal and local emergency personnel. The exercise was coordinated by representatives of the U.S. Coast Guard and the Houston Local Emergency Planning Committee and opened with a few sketchy reports about a ferry sunk in the Houston Ship Channel by an intense explosion. Next came a recorded message delivered to a local radio station "The Night of Power is upon you for your failure to heed our legitimate demands for freedom from capitalist oppression ... this is but a taste of the wrath we shall mete out to you." Gathered around a table-sized map of the Houston ship channel, participants ranging from the FBI to industrial firefighters spent several hours coordinating the response to the evolving scenario as more terrorist attacks were reported. At stake was the continued operation of the largest inland port in the United States, an area that is home to more than 100 petrochemical and chemical companies. "We want the participants to realize that if something happens like 9-11, no one agency can handle it on their own," said one of the session's coordinators. "Terrorists like to use simple things in novel ways."

David White, conference chairman, said that the goals of the annual Industrial Fire World Conference vary from many other fire conferences. "Our focus is on keeping industrial fire professionals in touch with resources to address current and emerging issues," White said. "Whether responding to fires ignited by a terrorist event, a natural disaster or disasters inherent with the products made or used where you work, you need to be armed with the best information you can get. By bringing international experts, peers who have lessons learned to share, agencies addressing our issues and training and product resources together, you have a rare chance not only to hear the expert, but to visit in person, get to know more about their thinking and even challenge them with you 'yes, but' concerns."

There was plenty of time between the lectures and Workshops, to visit the extensive and comprehensive exhibition by Suppliers of goods and services available to Industrial Emergency Response Teams.

JOIFF was represented at IFW by the JOIFF Secretariat and a Paper was presented on how JOIFF Training Programmes for Occupational Emergency Teams under a system of Competency Based Training are being developed. The Secretariat and the Organisers of IFW are now in regular contact discussing possibilities for developing stronger ties between JOIFF and IFW.

It is hoped that many Members of JOIFF will attend the 2004 Exposition and in anticipation of this, a special Programme is being developed by IFW. Currently, the draft programme for the 2004 Conference and Expo which will be held from April 12-15, 2004 - again in Houston, Texas at the Adam's Mark Hotel -is as follows:

Monday 12th April.
*Special Seminars will be held.
* Trip to Houston Ship Channel and evening Meal with display of CIMA (Houston Ship Channel Mutual Aid Association) and area fire departments equipment.
Tuesday 13th April.
* Conference & Exhibition Opens with General Main Program 8:00 am - 6:00 pm
Wednesday 14th April.
* Conference & Exhibition 8:00 am - 4:30 pm
* Workshops all day
Thursday 15th April.
* 7:30 am leave for Texas A & M Fire School for special demos of fire fighting equipment and products on fire field. Lunch of Special Texas BB-Q for everyone
* Leave for Houston hotel arrive @ 4:30 pm
The conference is a unique forum for industrial fire professionals Worldwide to gain information from experts in every aspect of their work, and to share ideas, discuss issues and find solutions.

To learn more about Industrial Fire World, including details and costs of registration for the Conference and Hotel bookings, visit their web site, www.fireworld.com.

If any Member of JOIFF has any proposals or other comments which might assist in the preparations for the 2004 Conference, please contact the JOIFF Secretariat.

Health & Safety and Driving
The Missing Link?

R A Jackson
MAIRSO InstTAI RoSPA(NRSC) MInstLGVDI MInstLM MInstMTD MInstAM

Most businesses are fully aware of the Health & Safety legislation that applies to them both in general terms and where appropriate specifically for their trade or operation. The rules and regulations for specific industries are designed to protect the workers from dangerous occurrences and the employer has a duty to provide information and training to ensure this - it also serves to protect the employer, if, of course they can prove that they have provided this training and information, from litigation. It is not enough to say " I didn't know" ignorance is no excuse.
The U.K. Health & Safety Executive Work Related Road Safety Task Force findings clearly placed "at work" driving in the same category as any other workplace, this is not a new phenomenon for Industry as works roads and vehicles were and are covered by RIDDOR (Reporting of Injures, Diseases and Dangerous Occurrences Regulations UK). There is similar legislation in other Countries.
Driving is or forms part of most essential fire/rescue/protection occupations in some way or form. It may not be the greatest part, but it is an essential part of these occupations just the same. Where Industrial or Commercial undertakings have Fire/Rescue services due to the nature of the on-site risk, they spend considerable amounts of money on staff training to ensure amongst other things continued Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus competency, and where required, specialist fire-suppression

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techniques, officer's management skills are often expensive as well.
The "Cart before the Horse" springs to mind - what is the point in investing all this time and money if the skills and equipment do not get to the incident for lack of training of a driver? Getting there safely is a vital link in the chain; in fact at the start of an incident it's the primary task, for if it doesn't get there, someone else has to be committed to the original responders, the incident gets bigger and the cost of the original incident escalates by not being tackled quickly.
Quality Response Driver Training is no longer Optional - it is Essential, to ensure the safety of the fire/rescue personnel, other workers, and the public, it also provides at least a level of defence for the employer, if the worst should happen. Coupled to this is the very real threat that if someone should die as a result of a collision involving an untrained driver - the Company, and even individual Directors could find themselves facing Corporate Manslaughter charges.
Burying ones head in the sand, or relying on ignorant bliss is no longer acceptable.

About the author:
Bob Jackson is Chairman of the UK National Blue Light Users Conference with some 15 years of training Emergency Service drivers. He is heavily involved with Road Safety and Occupational Road Risk on a wider basis.

GIVING THE BACKUP TEAM EYES

WIRELESS VIDEO TRANSMISSION USING THE THERMAL IMAGING CAMERA EVOLUTION

The ability to send video images from thermal imaging cameras (TIC) to a remote receiving station, for viewing by the command personnel, aids strategic decision-making and helps ensure firefighter safety .

Thermal imaging cameras have been used in many applications, such as:

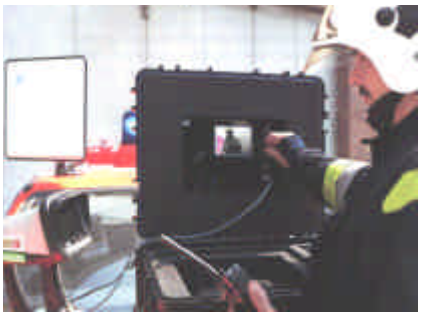
- In the construction industry to determine heat loss
- In the electrical industry to find defective cables
- In the chemical industry to monitor fluid levels and leakages.

Now this exciting technology has been harnessed for the firs service to make their work easier and, most important, safer. The newly developed Evolution series of thermal imaging cameras is especially suitable for firefighting situations. Fire-service personnel can use it to orient themselves in thick smoke, fog or dark environments and quickly find people, fire sources and smouldering areas.

A special feature of the camera is its wireless video transmission capability. The ability to send video directly from the point of operation to the mission control centre aids in decision-making and in guaranteeing the safety of the firefighters. The transmission uses specific radio frequencies so that it is not blocked by walls and other obstacles.

Simplified licensing procedure.
Normally a permit is required to transmit over radio waves. As the Evolution camera uses radio frequencies to send its pictures, the purchaser of the camera must obtain a permit from their local telecommunications regulatory body for each camera they purchase. To make this complicated procedure easier, MSA is working on a simplified registration process for its customers. Agreements are now being arranged with all European regulatory agencies.

Reserved frequencies have already been established in Germany, Denmark, Finland and Switzerland. In Germany, for example, an MSA customer must simply fill out a form. Other documentation will no longer be required, as this information has been supplied by MSA and all regional offices of the regulatory commission have already been informed. The customer can thus expect to receive his or her permit within days. According to the German regulatory board (RegTP), MSA is at this time the only company with this arrangement.



This initiative from MSA not only simplifies the registration process for its customers; it also ensures them of complete legal conformity. In addition, the user can be confident of a clean signal quality, as opposed to cameras that use American frequencies where signal disruptions might occur.

This article has been reproduced from the Winter/Spring edition of "Safety Pin", published by MSA Europe. All published "Safety Pins" are available on the web at the MSA homepage, address - www.msa-europe.com

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THE BIG PICTURE

Gary Beaumont & Jonathan Brittain
Kidde Products

Emergency Service Managers know that getting detection and protection systems to work properly on a large high-risk industrial site can lead to compromises in safety. With a new generation "Integrated Safety System" (ISS) from Kidde you can at last see and take control of the big picture!

The list of safety systems in use today seems endless: linear heat detection and foam extinguishing systems on floating roof storage tanks; water mist, sprinkler, explosion suppression, and toxic gas detection systems in process areas; gaseous fire suppression and high sensitivity smoke detection systems in control rooms; and smoke detectors, manual call points, and fire alarms in office areas.

INTEGRATED SAFETY SYSTEMS

Kidde - Integrated safety system

To take a truly integrated and coherent approach to such a wide variety of safety systems, what you need is an "Integrated Safety System" (ISS). This provides centralised monitoring and control of all the safety systems on-site, which in turn means improved safety and reduced costs (and fewer site walks!).

ISSs have come of age recently due to dramatic advances in the speed with which electronic data can be handled. Today they can do much more than just link up individual safety systems. For example, they now offer remote monitoring with CCTV images to assess the status of an area, enabling safety officers to make judgement calls about deploying personnel and evacuating non-essential staff.

Furthermore, where a fire system is protecting a process area there may be a requirement under alarm conditions to stop the process in advance of potential product loss. Some processes are very dangerous and could either add fuel to the fire or cause a secondary hazard such as an explosion if not shut down properly. An ISS can have a built-in Emergency Shut Down (ESD) system that will carry out a series of routines to ensure a system is shut down safely.

JOINED UP SAFETY

How does a modern ISS work? Well, each safety system located around a site has a number of electrical inputs and outputs (I/O). These are linked directly to a central control panel or "Progammable Logic Controller" (PLC) in an arrangement called "Centralised I/O". More often nowadays, however, the I/O is located locally to the safety systems in junction boxes or "I/O modules" in an arrangement called "Distributed I/O". These I/O modules are in turn linked to the PLC by a high-speed fibre-optic communication loop, which runs around the entire site.

What happens if a digger accidentally cuts through the communication loop? Believe it or not, it continues to operate! That's because it is "bi-directional", or in other words the signals passing between the I/O module and PLC run in two directions simultaneously. If at any time the communication loop is broken, the I/O module simply sends its data in the opposite direction and continues to communicate with the PLC. Moreover, the signal is sent not just once, but three to five times! This ensures the signal is real and not just a spurious noise blip. All this is possible because the speed of communication using fibre-optic cable is incredibly fast - a mind-boggling 1000 million bits of data per second!

SAFETY INTEGRITY LEVELS

The importance of the reliability of an ISS cannot be overstated. The leading independent approval body for ISSs is the German organisation TUV, which tests them against a standard that uses Safety Integrity Levels, or SILs. These are measures of the safety of a critical control system and are ranked from 1 to 4. The higher the SIL, the greater the impact of a failure. SIL 4 = catastrophic community impact; SIL 3 = employee and community protection; SIL 2 = major property and production protection (possible employee injury); SIL 1 = minor property and production protection.

TUV Requirement Class	Safety Integrity Level (SIL)
-	*No safety requirements*
1	*No special safety requirements*
2, 3	1
4	2
5, 6	3
7	4

The type of ISS you need depends on the SIL level of your facility. A "1oo1" (one-out-of-one) or Simplex System uses a single PLC to control the system. A higher SIL rating may require additional reliability measures such as "Modular Redundant Systems" which have various numbers of additional or redundant processors in the PLC. A Dual Modular Redundant (DMR) system employs two isolated parallel processors and extensive diagnostic features integrated into one system. Failure of one processor means there is still another one to continue. Similarly, in a Triple Modular Redundant (TMR) system, failure of one processor allows the other two to decide whether or not the status of the system is correct.

KEEP IT SIMPLE, STUPID!

There are fire equipment companies that supply safety systems, and there are electronics companies that supply Integrated Safety Systems. But there is only one company that supplies both, namely Kidde. The largest independent supplier of fire and safety products in the world, Kidde is uniquely placed to ensure that safety systems from any manufacturer work together as an integrated whole. A single company in control ensures that specifications, lead times, and budgets are met, and a consistent design philosophy further enhances reliability. While Kidde Integrated Safety Systems inevitably get abbreviated to "KISS", it is perhaps fitting that the same acronym also stands for "Keep It Simple, Stupid!"

IMPORTANT NEW PUBLICATION

GUIDELINES FOR THE DESIGN AND PROTECTION OF PRESSURE SYSTEMS TO WITHSTAND SEVERE FIRES

1st Edition, March 2003
PUBLISHED BY THE INSTITUTE OF PETROLEUM, UK

Mitigation of the impact of severe fires on hydrocarbon, petrochemical and chemical processing plants is critical to minimise the risk to personnel, to reduce damage and to limit capital loss.

These new guidelines are intended for design and process engineers concerned with large, essentially fully enveloping pool fires and jet fire impingement on pressure vessels, their associated pipework, valves, flanges and other equipment, referred to collectively as pressure systems.

The scope of the guidelines covers a wide range of steel pressure vessels used both onshore and offshore. These include process vessels, fixed storage vessels and transportable vessels such as road and rail tankers whilst at the loading/unloading facility. (These guidelines do not apply to small portable pressure vessels such as gas cylinders as these already have specific requirements related to their portability).

These guidelines are intended for use primarily for designing new facilities and specifically deal with fires that are more severe than the open pool fires currently covered in other documents. These guidelines are therefore intended to be used in conjunction with the existing codes and recommended practices such as API RP 520 and 521, which cover the design and fire protection required for all other fire scenarios.

ISBN 085293 279 0 Full Price £45.00 (IP Members Price £33.75)

The publication can be ordered from:
Portland Customer Services
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For more information on the Institute of Petroleum's publications, see their website at www.petroleum.co.uk

PPE Corner

A meeting of International Standards Organisation sub-committee ISO TC 94 SC 14 which is responsible for the development of Standards for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for firefighters, took place in Winnipeg, Canada from 7th-11th April 2003. SC 14 is subdivided into 5 Working Groups (WG). WG 1 is developing a draft Framework Standard for Firefighters PPE, will compile a list of Terms and Definitions used in Standards for PPE, will develop a "SUCAM" document covering Selection, Use, Care and Maintenance of all PPE for Firefighters and will prepare Standards for various types of testing of PPE ensembles - protection against heat using manikins, comfort testing using sweating Manikins, testing for human factors e.g. mobility, donning, dexterity and tactility for gloves etc. and integrity from gases, liquids and particulates.

The first draft of a Standard to be developed by WG 2 for the full PPE ensemble for Firefighters when fighting fires will be circulated shortly. This covers protection for the head - including hearing and seeing - the body, hands and feet and respiratory protection. WG 3 is developing a Standard for the full PPE ensemble for Firefighters when fighting Wildland fires and has started to prepare details on the environments experienced during Wildland Firefighting. WG 4 has started to develop a Standard for the full PPE ensemble for Firefighters when dealing with Hazardous Materials Response including liquid splash protective requirements and vapour-protective ensembles. It is hoped to include Annexes dealing with Protection against discharge of chemical / biological terrorism agents as Firefighters will be "on the front line" if any such incidents occur.

WG 5 is responsible for developing a Standard for the full PPE ensemble for Firefighters when dealing with non-fire Rescue and is starting this work by the establishment of 4 Project Groups to identify the lists of potential exposures to Firefighters of Hazards during Rescue under 4 main divisions - rope rescue, water rescue, rescue from vehicles and plant and special rescue - including Urban Search and Rescue (USAR).

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The latest draft of prEN 469, the revision of EN 469:1995 , the European Standard for Protective clothing for Firefighters, has passed its vote and work has commenced on the preparation of the first draft for formal vote. A new draft of EN 443, the European Standard for helmets for firefighters is expected to be sent for its first vote later this year.

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If anyone would like further details on the above contact the JOIFF Secretariat.

Industrial Fire World

Industrial Fire World Magazine has recognized that it shares with JOIFF a passion to keep Industrial Fire Protection Professionals informed on new technology, resources and lessons to be learnt from incidents that occur. Whether your task is to protect an oil refinery, a petrochemical facility, a manufacturing plant or any other specialized local industry, Industrial Fire World Magazine gives you the latest up-to-date information on techniques and technology from the most respected leaders in the field.

Discover the latest technological developments in fire fighting. Recognize the different techniques required for hazmat events. Get the important tips on both high angle and confined space rescue that can save lives in an emergency. Take advantage of columns on hazmat, EMS, and maintenance.

Industrial Fire World Magazine is mailed to those on the subscription list, every 2 months. JOIFF members are offered a special subscription opportunity for a 1, 2 or 3 year subscription - for details, contact the JOIFF Secretariat.

To learn more about Industrial Fire World, visit their web site, www.fireworld.com.

In close cooperation with international fire services and respiratory protection experts MSA have developed the new compressed air breathing apparatus AirMaXX to meet the highest requirements of safety, reliability and ergonomics

Using optimum ergonomics design, maximum mobility is allowed:
- The carrying plate is fully adjustable and results in a perfect fit for all body sizes, whether small or tall;
- Absolute freedom of movement is guaranteed by the S-swing of the shoulder straps;
- A swivelling hip belt follows the wearers movements;
- The optimized harness adds to the carrying comfort and the ergonomic profile of the breathing apparatus.

AirMaXX fits securely and safely yet leaves freedom for extreme movements. Furthermore the cylinder retainer facilitates ease of handling which allows fast exchange of cylinder

SCBA AirMaXX is designed to house electronic add-on modules that allows it to be linked with telemetric systems to the operations center that monitors the apparatus user by radio signals. ICU - the Integrated Control Unit for MSA compressed air breathing apparatus revolutionizes the current monitoring systems for breathing apparatus with numerous information and warning options. After automatic activation, the ambient temperature and the cylinder pressure are measured and these figures as well as the calculated remaining service time are indicated on an illuminated display.

An integral motion sensor and the option of activating a manual alarm in emergencies provides additional safety.

The slip-proof, shock absorbing housing with the elastomer stripes and the ergonomic operating parts result in optimal handling.

This outstanding design was honoured with the world-wide recognised and prestigious prizes of the product design industry, the RedDot Award 2001.

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"THE REACTOR COLUMN."

Write to The Reactor, Mr. R., with comments, problems, ideas or anything at all that you would like to be heard. The Editors may decide not to print a letter or part of a letter and letters may be edited. No letter will be published unless the name and address of the Writer is given to the Editors, but names and addresses will not be published without the writer specifically requesting it.

Dear Mr. R,

In planning for Emergencies, Management often have the attitude that as the Municipal Fire Brigade is inevitably expected to respond speedily and to deal efficiently with the incident, Occupational Emergency Response Teams do not require as much Training as Municipal Firefighters. Perhaps they have not realised that although both sets of responders may face similar hazards, the motivation and training requirements of Occupational and Municipal Emergency Response Teams differ greatly and therefore the basis of the different approaches that will be taken by each Team as it arrives at the incident will be different.

The tactics of Municipal Emergency Responders is based on initially dealing with life risks and then taking the necessary actions to stop the fire from spreading - it is only after these priorities have been satisfied that their main attention will be drawn to protection of the property in which the incident is taking place. On the other hand, the tactics of a well trained Occupational Emergency Response Team are based on initially dealing with life risks with their second priority to protect the buildings and processes to try to ensure the continuation of business and the maintenance of jobs in the Organisation.

In many cases, Occupational Emergency Teams will be part time Emergency Response personnel whose main job will be in the actual production process of the Organisation. But when an incident occurs, it will be their responsibility to provide the initial response and the likelihood is that if the responding Occupational Emergency Response Team does not provide an effective first response within the first few minutes, the cost of the incident will be enormously greater than it should. This will inevitably happen if the Team has not been properly trained to understand and identify the correct response.

The growing scarcity of resources available to Municipalities increases the likelihood that when the Municipal Emergency Response Team arrives they will neither have the specialist equipment nor the suitably trained personnel to deal with an on-site incident. This is not a criticism of Municipal Emergency Response Teams - it is neither practical nor fair to expect their personnel to have the necessary knowledge, training and equipment to deal with the hazards of individual sites.

Health and Safety practice requires that if personnel are employed to do a job, they must be given the appropriate Training and equipment to allow them to carry out their specified tasks safely and effectively. Therefore if an Emergency Response Team is in place, it has to have the facilities and Training to be competent in performing the tasks necessary to safely handle an emergency at their skill level. This does not mean paying lip service to Emergency Team response on the basis that no matter what happens, the ultimate responsibility for dealing with the task will fall to the Municipal Fire Brigade - the attitude that says "We don't equip or train our Emergency Team to tackle Fire and Rescue because that is the job of the Municipal Brigade" How short sighted - and potentially dangerous - is that approach?

Hopefully, but most unlikely, every member of an Occupational Emergency Response Team , will have a career where the full range of skills that they should have will not be needed. But when the "Big One" hits, will they be able deal with it effectively with the minimum loss to the Organisation that employs them? As Management look out their office windows at the rapidly developing destruction of the Organisation for which they are employed to develop and grow, will they be confident that the investment in their Emergency Teams has properly equipped them to effectively mitigate the incident, or will they still be saying to themselves that the Municipal Brigade will arrive shortly and take care of matters? What do you think????

Yours etc.

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In the European Union, the requirements of the European Directives known as the ATEX Directives, will become mandatory from 1st July 2003. These Directives concern equipment and protective systems intended for use in potentially explosive atmospheres. Such equipment must be marked by a special symbol of explosion protection and must also display a CE mark which proves conformity to the essential health and safety requirements of the Directives. Safety devices with a measuring function, e.g. gas detectors, must meet a recognised European performance standard. Some of requirements that the Directives place on employers include preventing and providing protection against explosions, classifying hazardous areas into zones, providing warning signs in a specified form, selection of equipment and protective systems on the basis of categories set out in the Directives and suitable training of workers.

JOIFF TRAINING NOTES

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

Don't forget that JOIFF accredited Training Establishments have implemented a 4 week cancellation charge for short notice cancellations.

Training utilising the JOIFF / Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) accredited on-site modular Training Programme for Occupational firefighters has started in the United Kingdom. Successful Trainees will receive JOIFF Certificates of Qualification as Occupational firefighters and Breathing Apparatus Wearers and those who are student members of the IFE will also receive an IFE Preliminary Examination Certificate. Details of the next stage of Training for Emergency Services personnel, a JOIFF / IFE accredited Firefighter Technician Programme, are being finalised.

Programme for 2003:

Dates	Detail	Venue
September 15th - 19th	5 day Team Leader Course	IFTC Teesside
October 6th - 8th	3 day Occupational Firefighter (Part Time) Course	IFTC
October 9th - 10th	2 day Practical Firefighting Course	IFTC
November 17th - 21st	5 day Team Leader Course	IFTC Teesside

All Courses are JOIFF Accredited.

Further details on Modular Training on Site and on any other aspect of JOIFF Training can be obtained from the JOIFF Secretariat, Fulcrum Consultants - detail below.

The Catalyst is published by ABCom. *www.abcom.ie*

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JOIFF in Partnership with

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