

Newsletter

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Letter from the Chairman

Preparations for the 8th Symposium are now well in hand. As Chair of the Programme Committee, Craig Beyler has set in place a centralised system for the submission of papers and the allocation of referees, with direct involvement of the Session Chairs. It is modelled on the process which has been used successfully by the Combustion Institute for their biennial symposia for several years. We plan to keep a tight reign of the entire process, right through to the publication of the proceedings in early 2006. However, if all goes according to plan, a CD will be available at the Symposium – so bring your laptops! Less than six months now remain before the deadline for submission of papers (17th December 2004). Hopefully, by the time you receive the next Newsletter, your paper will have been submitted and be well on its way to being accepted for presentation at the Symposium.

At the time of writing, we are planning the next meeting of the IAFSS Committee, to be held on 4th July at Heriot-Watt University, Edinburgh, immediately before the start of Interflam'04. Mr Wu Qihong (Standing Director of the China Fire Protection Association) and Dr Xiao Xuefeng (Deputy Head of Division, Fire Department, Ministry of Public Security) will be attending to report on the preparations for the 8th Symposium. They will also have the opportunity to meet many IAFSS members and discuss the plans for September 2005. In addition, Carole Franks and I will be visiting Beijing in September to meet with the conference organisers and offer whatever help we can. It will be an outstanding event in which I am sure all IAFSS members will wish to participate. I have visited China on many occasions and cannot wait to return!

Dougal Drysdale

Plenary Speakers for the 8th IAFSS Symposium

The Program Committee is busy preparing for a successful 8th IAFSS Symposium, 18-23 September 2005, Beijing CHINA. Primary activities have included selecting plenary speakers for the 8th IAFSS Symposium, preparing materials for potential authors (see Information and Assistance for Potential Authors article in this newsletter), and preparing the electronic paper submission and review system.

The six plenary speakers selected for the 8th IAFSS Symposium are:

- **Dr. Dorothy Bruck**, Centre for Environmental Safety and Risk Engineering, Victoria University of Technology, AUSTRALIA (human behavior)
- **Prof. Giovanni Camino**, University of Turin, ITALY (fire chemistry and retardancy)
- **Prof. Fan Weicheng**, State Key Laboratory of Fire Science, CHINA (fire research in China)
- **Prof. Jean-Marc Franssen**, Institute of Civil Engineering, University of Liege, BELGIUM (structural fire protection)
- **Dr. Kevin McGrattan**, Building and Fire Research Laboratory, NIST, USA (fire modeling)
- **Prof. Ai Sekizawa**, University of Tokyo, JAPAN (human behavior and risk assessment)

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- New Book: Evaluation of Fire Safety
- Database on full scale fire tests
- New MSc Course in Fire Protection Engineering

POSITION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Lund Institute of Technology
Professor in Risk and Safety Management
Professor in Fire Safety Engineering

CONFERENCE NOTICEBOARD

- 10th Interflam Conference
- 3rd international symposium on Human Behaviour in Fire
- 5th International Conference on Performance-based Codes and Fire Safety Design Methods
- Symposium: Fire Risk Evaluation to European Cultural Heritage
- ASTM firestopping symposium
- Computational Simulation Models in Fire Engineering and Research
- 2nd International Maritime Conference on Design for Safety
- Call for Papers: 10th International Fire and Materials Conference
- Call for Papers: 4th International Conference on Advances in Steel Structures

These six speakers were selected by a vote of the Program Committee from 35 nominees put forward by members of the IAFSS Committee and the Program Committee. The plenary speakers represent the global scope of IAFSS and the diversity of sub-disciplines of fire science. We look forward to their respective contributions that will be highlighted as plenary lectures at the symposium and as extended papers prominently placed in the CD and printed proceedings.

As the plenary speakers develop working titles for their papers, these will be added to the IAFSS web page.

Craig Beyler

Information and Assistance for Potential Authors for the 8th IAFSS Symposium, 18-23 September 2005, Beijing CHINA

A web page has been setup to assist potential authors for the 8th IAFSS Symposium. The site includes the formal call for papers, detailed instructions to authors, a paper template, the paper submission and review schedule, and a link to submit papers electronically. The web page can be accessed by going to www.iafss.org, clicking on the 8th Symposium button, and selecting "CLICK HERE to go to the Paper Submission Website" (or go there directly at <http://www.haifire.com/iafss/index.htm>)

The paper submission deadline is 17 December 2004. Final selection of papers will be made prior to 15 May 2005 and revised papers will be required to be returned to IAFSS by 15 August 2005. Electronic copies of papers will be provided to symposium participants at the symposium.

The bound symposium volume will be produced and distributed after the symposium in late 2005. Accepted papers are expected to be presented at the symposium.

Since most authors will submit their paper in WORD, we have prepared a template to simplify the process of formatting the paper to symposium style. If you normally use other word processing software, feel free to use that software following the instructions file.

In addition to full papers, authors of work in progress may wish to submit a poster paper. The style follows the full paper style and format, but the length is a single page. Accepted poster papers will be displayed by the author during a poster session while standing by his/her poster to be available to discuss the work with symposium participants. The schedule for poster submissions is the same as full papers.

All papers should be submitted electronically using the clickable submission link on the web page. If any problems with this system arise, papers may be submitted as an email attachment to iafss@haifire.com.

This is the first IAFSS symposium to use a fully electronic paper submission and review process. This system is intended to simplify paper submission for authors, and to streamline the paper review process. Session chairs will be recruiting reviewers over the coming months so that a cadre of reviewers is available by the 17 December 2004 paper submission deadline.

Once a paper is electronically submitted, the author will receive an acknowledgement of the submission via email and will be provided information to allow the author to track the progress of the paper review process. The paper will be assigned to the appropriate session chair, who will select appropriate reviewers for the paper. Reviewers will be notified of their duties via email, and the reviewers will download papers from the review website and provide review comments electronically to the review website.

The session chair will collect and synthesize the reviews. The session chair will make recommendations to the Program Committee, who will collectively make the ultimate decisions on paper selections. Authors will receive notification of the action taken on their paper via email, along with review comments and instructions for the final version for accepted papers. The electronic review website is fully password protected, giving authors access only to information on their submissions and giving reviewers access only to the paper they are assigned to review.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Craig Beyler at iafss@haifire.com

Schedule

Paper submission deadline	17 December 2004
Final selection of papers:	15 May 2005
Final submission of revised paper (photo ready):	15 August 2005
8th Symposium in Beijing CHINA	18-23 September 2005

The Fire Research Institutes of China

There are many organizations engaging in fire science research and fire technology development in China including specialized fire research institutes, universities, industrial research institutes, manufacturers, fire departments, and test laboratories. Among them, there are four fire research institutes that have the longest history and are involved in broad research areas. They are the Tianjin Fire Research Institute, Shanghai Fire Research Institute, Shenyang Fire Research Institute and Sichuan Fire Research Institute, and they are all under the administration of the Ministry of Public Security. The National Engineering Research Center for Fire Protection is built around the four institutes.

The Tianjin Fire Research Institute is located in a cultural and educational zone within a southern suburb of Tianjin. Tianjin is the largest industrial city and port in northern China. The research areas of Tianjin Fire Research Institute include fire science, fire engineering technology, explosion prevention technology, fire investigation technology, fire extinguishing agents, fire resisting materials and technology, building fire protection, and industrial fire protection. The Institute has a number of large fire test facilities, fire test furnaces, a petroleum tank fire test facility, as well as many research and experimental facilities.

The Shanghai Fire Research Institute is located in the international metropolis of Shanghai. It is engaged in research related to fire suppression theory and technology, fire robots, fire fighting and rescue equipment, personal protection equipment, fire department communication technology, fire safety planning and other related areas. The National Center for Quality Supervision and Testing of Fire Equipment, which is a part of the Institute, is responsible for approval tests for a wide range of fire protection equipment, such as fire vehicles, fire pumps, fire hoses, fire extinguishers, personal protection equipment, rescue equipment, etc.

The Shenyang Fire Research Institute is located in the famous city of Shenyang, the largest industrial city in northeast China. Its research area covers fire detection theory and technology, fire detection and alarm systems, technology for determination of electrical causes of fire, fire communication technology, fire department control centre facilities and technology, etc. The National Center for Quality Supervision and Testing of Fire Electronic Products, which is part of Institute, is responsible for approval testing of fire electronic products such as fire detectors, fire alarm control units, fire communications equipment, emergency lighting appliances, etc.

The Sichuan Fire Research Institute is situated near the world-famous natural scenery and cultural heritage of Dujiangyan, a place of beautiful mountain resorts and scenery, in Chengdu, Sichuan Province. The Dujiangyan water control and irrigation project, built two thousand years ago, is the oldest irrigation project in China. Founded in 1963, the Sichuan Fire Research Institute is the earliest Fire Research Institute in China, built two years before the other three Fire Research Institutes. It is involved in building fire protection theory and technology, structural fire resistant technology, fire resistant materials and coatings, smoke control technology, analytical techniques for assessing effluent from burning materials, building structure and material fire test technology, etc. It has a unique high-rise fire-test tower, an underground fire-test facility, and fire-test furnaces for building structures and components.

The four Fire Research Institutes are vigorously involved in international standard activities and are the liaison bodies for ISO/TC92, IEC/TC15 and their sub-committees. They are also the secretariats for the various sub-committees of the Chinese National Fire Technology Standard Committee. Working together with experts from various areas, they are responsible for developing Chinese national standards and codes for fire protection products and engineering practice. In addition, they chair a number of technical committees of the Chinese Fire Protection Association, such as the Building Fire Protection Technical Committee, the Petrochemical Industrial Fire Equipment Technical Committee, the Fire Investigation Technical Committee, and the Fire Safety Education Work Committee.

Fire is a frequent disaster that we have to face. To research the science of fire and improve fire protection technology is the task of scientists and engineers from various organizations. In addition to the four Fire Research Institutes, there are also other units and laboratories in China devoting themselves to fire research, such as the State Key Laboratory of Fire Science in the University of Science and Technology of China, the Fire Retardant Technology Research Laboratory of Beijing Polytechnic University, the Building Fire Research Institute of China Academy of Building Research, the People's Armed Police Force Academy of China, Tsinghua University, Tongji University, Peking University, China University of Mining and Engineering, Chinese Academy of Forestry, the Ship Test and Research Institute of the Ministry of Transportation, the Polytechnic University, the City University of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and Architecture and Building Research Institute in Taiwan. They are working in a wide range of areas in Fire Science and Engineering, including fire science theory, forest and grassland fire, city fire, mine fire, and underground fire, etc.

According to the decision of IAFSS, the Ninth International Symposium on Fire Safety Science will be held in Beijing P.R.China, from 18th to 23rd, September 2005. Closely working with IAFSS, the China Fire Protection Association (CFPA) will host the symposium which is an important gathering of the international fire safety science and engineering society. On behalf of Mr. Sunlun, the president of CFPA, I would like to extend a gracious greeting and warmest welcome to every member of IAFSS, and to all fire scientists, engineers, scholars, and professionals in the world to attend the symposium in Beijing, and to visit the Fire Research Institutes in China.

Wu Qihong
Chief Engineer,
Member of the Standing Committee, of CFPA

WPI Names New Firesafety Studies Director

Kathy A. Notarianni has been named the new director of the Center for Firesafety Studies at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). She will be the center's second director, succeeding founding center director David A. Lucht, who steps down after more than 25 years in the position. Notarianni is scheduled to join WPI in July, after she finishes her duties as project leader and research engineer with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

As director of the Center for Firesafety Studies at WPI, Notarianni will work with the university's fire protection engineering faculty to plan for the future of graduate studies and research in fire protection engineering, which incorporates elements of civil, structural, electrical and chemical engineering to make structures, vehicles, clothing and people safer from fire. She will build upon the center's working relationships with off-campus agencies, laboratories, universities and companies having common interest in fire protection engineering education and research. She will also monitor industry needs for fire protection engineering graduates, and recruit young men and women who can be trained to meet those needs.

Notarianni will bring to WPI her 15 years of experience with the National Institute of Standards and Technology. During her more recent assignments with the Fire Science Division of NIST's Building and Fire Research Laboratory, Notarianni managed a group of 12 scientists and engineers in a technical program of integrated performance assessment and risk. The program serves to produce tools to quantify fire events for fire hazard and risk assessment; fire fighting operations and training; fire investigations and performance evaluations of fire protection systems in buildings; and transportation networks and vehicles in response to fire.

Notarianni is well published, having authored or co-authored more than 30 publications, including chapters in two books, the "Handbook of Fire Protection Engineering," and "Improving Regulations." She has been recognized by the SFPE and U.S. Department of Commerce with awards for leadership and performance.

New Zealand Building Industry Authority

In New Zealand, the Building Industry Authority is about to be re-structured under a revised Building Act, now before parliament and a select committee. As part of this process a "Fire Advisory Group" is being set up to advise on policy issues. It is hoped that this will strengthen the interaction between engineering technology and public policy in the area of performance-based fire design. It is now over twelve years since New Zealand was one of the first countries to incorporate performance-based design options for fire engineering in its building code. This experience is now being used to assist in refining government policy objectives for both life and property safety in the control of fire. Membership of the group includes representation from practicing fire engineers, researchers and academia. Limited international representation may also be sought.

Report on the Third International Workshop on Structures in Fire

International fire conferences often address a wide range of fire safety engineering topics. This provides an opportunity for cross-fertilisation of concepts and theories for researchers addressing different topics. In 1999, however, it became apparent that it would also be useful to introduce focussed workshops on *Structures in Fires (SiF)* during which experts in fire resistance could present their current research

activities and receive feedback from their peers in an informal setting. The first SiF Workshop was held in Copenhagen, Denmark in June 2000 and the second in Christchurch, New Zealand in March 2002.

Following the success of these two workshops, the National Research Council Canada was selected to host the *Third International Workshop on Structures in Fire* May 10 & 11, 2004 in Ottawa. The focus of the workshop was on determining the behaviour of structures exposed to fire by various means: testing, calculation and numerical modelling. 47 abstracts were submitted to the Technical (Program) Committee. Each abstract was reviewed by two reviewers (by two additional reviewers if the first two had differing opinions) and 36 were accepted for presentation

Topics addressed included the behaviour of materials, systems, and building structures, when exposed to fire. The workshop brought together 62 experts in fire resistance research from 16 countries around the world. Discussions were animate and stimulating. Planning for the fourth SiF will commence soon

IAFSS Awards for Excellence in Research

In the last two issues of the Newsletter (July 2003 and January 2004), it was announced that three awards will be presented at the next IAFSS Symposium for PhD (doctorate), MPhil and MSc dissertations relevant to the field of Fire Safety Science. A more detailed discussion of these awards can be found on the IAFSS website (<http://iafss.org/html/newsletter04.htm#excel>). There will be one award for each of the three IAFSS regions (Europe and Africa; the Americas; and Asia and Australasia). Dissertations submitted during the three-year period ending 12 months before the next symposium will be eligible for consideration, provided that the students have successfully defended their work within that period.

For the 8th symposium in Beijing (Sept. 18 – 23, 2005), the three-year period will be 1st August 2001 – 31st August 2004. Supervisors are asked to submit the work of their top student for one of these awards. The best thesis from each region will be selected by a committee which will be chaired by the respective regional Vice-Chairman of the IAFSS.

If you are interested in putting one of your students forward for one of these awards, please send a short abstract of the thesis to Prof. Mario Fontana ETH Zurich fontana@ibk.baug.ethz.ch and he will provide additional details in due course.

Survey of University Courses and Programs

The Education Committee of IAFSS is planning to collect information on universities around the world that offer courses and degree programs in Fire Safety Engineering. A survey will be circulated soon asking schools to provide information on courses and degrees offered as well as web-site address; etc. The results will be compiled and summarised in the next IAFSS Newsletter and posted on the [iafss-es](http://iafss-es.org) web site. Most universities will be contacted directly for information but an announcement concerning the survey will be posted soon on the IAFSS Bulletin Board

New MSc Course in Fire Protection Engineering

A new MSc Course in Fire Protection Engineering at the University of Coimbra, Portugal, is planned to start in October 2005. Further information will appear in the next Newsletter, but details can be obtained from Prof Joao Paulo C. Rodrigues. Email: jpaulocr@dec.uc.pt, Web: <http://www.dec.uc.pt>

FM Global Scholar Named at WPI

Nicholas A. Dembsey, associate professor of Fire Protection Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute has been named the FM Global Scholar for 2003-2005. This position is funded and supported by commercial and industrial property insurer FM Global, headquartered in Johnston, Rhode Island, a world leader in scientific fire research for more than a century. The support will assist Prof. Dembsey and one of his doctoral students in their research focus on composite material flammability and performance-based applications.

"Our partnership with WPI's premier program in fire protection engineering is something we are proud to be a part of," said Dr. Paul Croce, FM Global vice president and manager of research. "We expect the knowledge and insight gained will be invaluable to students."

Professor Dembsey earned his BS in civil engineering at the University of Michigan and MS at the University of California at Berkeley. He completed his PhD in civil engineering (fire safety engineering science) at Berkeley under the direction of Professors Pagni and Williamson, working in the areas of compartment fire measurement and model evaluation. At WPI his teaching and research focus is in fire dynamics and fire modelling.

In recent years, Dembsey's work has evolved into the areas of fibre reinforced polymer (FRP) composites and the performance-based applications of these material systems, in collaboration with industry. In 2003 he was appointed chair of the newly created FRP Fire Performance Task Force of the American Composites Manufacturers Association (ACMA).

University of Canterbury: Newsletter

Detailed information about the Fire Engineering Programme at the University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand can be found at <http://www.civil.canterbury.ac.nz/fire/firehome.html>

The web-site is easily navigated and provides information on the research interests of faculty members, descriptions of the various courses offered, synopses of recent research projects undertaken by students, a description of research facilities and a listing of recent publications of faculty and students.

Database on full scale fire tests

In researching the paper "[BFD Curve: a new empirical model for fire compartment temperatures](#)" (Fire Safety Journal 37 (2002) 437-463), over 150 full scale fire tests were analysed by Cliff Barnett and put into the same format of tables and graphs using a common template. The data came from fire test laboratories including the following: BRIJ, CEBS, CECM, ECSC, FRS, JFRO, NFSC, NIST and NSIT. This database will be valuable information for fire scientists, fire engineers and especially students. It is in the process of being re-edited at the present time and should be available on or before 1 Oct 04. It is expected to be about 300 pages long but will be split into 10 sub-folders for ease of emailing. The database will be available on request free of charge. If interested in obtaining a copy, contact Cliff Barnett by email at crb@crb.co.nz.

New Book: Evaluation of Fire Safety

A new book entitled *Evaluation of Fire Safety* by D. Rasbash, G. Ramachandran, B. Kandola, J. Watts, and M. Law was published in February 2004 by Wiley Europe. The book examines key aspects of quantifying fire safety: property damage, performance of fire services/measures, fire safety modeling and verification, and stochastic modeling. It provides a quantitative approach to major fire and explosion disasters, demonstrating crucial faults and addresses real-life

problems and applications. More details can be found at <http://www.wiley-europe.com/WileyCDA/WileyTitle/productCd-0471493821.html>

Position Announcements: Lund Institute of Technology

The Lund Institute of Technology (LTH) is one of the leading engineering schools in Sweden, with more than 5,000 undergraduate and 800 postgraduate students. Fire safety engineering at LTH is an internationally established research area with unique teaching programmes in fire safety engineering and risk analysis. Two tenure positions in this area are open for application.

Professor in Fire Safety Engineering

The subject primarily comprises basic studies of fires and explosions, including ignition, spread of flames, production of toxic gases, fire suppression, spread of smoke gases and their effects on man, the environment, materials, products and structures. The intention is to integrate knowledge into models for consequence calculations of performance-based building design, fire investigations, risk analysis and design of active and passive fire-protection systems. (*ref no. 471*)

Professor in Risk and Safety Management

The subject primarily comprises methods for risk, safety and vulnerability analysis of industrial systems including transport and other technical infrastructure systems. The term "methods" should be interpreted as comprising both quantitative and qualitative assessment tools, including the integration of human/organisational factors into the analysis. Risk analysis comprises methods for the identification of risk sources and estimating/assessing the probability and extent of damage. Risk analysis also includes criteria for risk acceptance, as well as methods of analysing alternatives and making decisions. (*ref no. 472*)

Detailed information regarding these positions is available at www.lth.se "Work at LTH". Applications should be written in English and sent before September 1, 2004, to The Registrar, Lund University, P.O. Box 118, SE-221 00 LUND, Sweden. The ref. no. must be stated.

CONFERENCE NOTICE BOARD



10th Interflam Conference

The 10th Interflam Conference on fire science and engineering will be held July 5-7, 2004 at the Edinburgh Conference Centre at Heriot Watt University, Scotland. Interflam has grown from being the largest and longest established international fire research conference (held every 3 years since 1979) into a multifaceted event with the conference at the core of the programme. Poster sessions, exhibitions, demonstrations, workshops, discussion groups and student activities all add to the value of the event. Interflam attracts papers from the principal organisations active in fire studies. It is targeted to create an interface between the researcher, fire safety engineer, fire service professional and designer.

For more details
<http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/intercomm/html/events/interflam04.htm>

3rd International Symposium on Human Behaviour in Fire

The 3rd International Symposium on Human Behaviour will be held September 1-3, 2004 at the Europa Hotel in Belfast, Northern Ireland. The symposium is being jointly organised by Interscience Communications and FIRESERT, University of Ulster. The symposium will focus on research informed policy making, advances in human behaviour in fire research and knowledge / technology with respect to the following four topic areas: Community Fire Safety; Impact of Major Fire Events; Care of Vulnerable Populations; and Physical and Operational Safety Systems.

Over the 3 days of the symposium some 44 papers will be presented by speakers from 12 countries including, Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, UK and the USA. The brochure is available in pdf format on the Interscience website www.intercomm.dial.pipex.com

A Research Student Workshop will take place on the day preceding the symposium and will provide the opportunity for research students to meet and present their work in an informal environment. Further details of the workshop and application form can be downloaded from: <http://www.engj.ulst.ac.uk/hubfin>

5th International Conference on Performance-based Codes and Fire Safety Design Methods

The 5th International Conference on Performance-based Codes and Fire Safety Design Methods will be convened October 6-8, 2004 in Luxembourg. Performance-based codes, regulations and design methods are gaining formal and widespread acceptance in many countries. The conference promises to continue the tradition established by SFPE to present the state-of-the-art in performance-based code approaches and design methods. The first day will be dedicated to performance codes and will feature challenges they present. On the second day, the theme will turn to design in the performance environment. During the last day, a compilation of case studies will focus on a performance-based fire-safety analysis and design for a transportation centre. For more information concerning the conference visit the website <http://www.sfpe.org>

Symposium: Fire Risk Evaluation to European Cultural Heritage

The final symposium of the European thematic network on the fire protection of cultural heritage, Fire Risk Evaluation to European Cultural Heritage (FiRE-TECH), will be held November 29-30, 2004 in Ghent, Belgium. Places are strictly limited. For more information contact Steven Cooper at steve.cooper@wfrco.uk or go to the website www.firetech.be/symposium.be

ASTM Symposium on Firestopping

A Symposium on Firestopping will be held December 6, 2004 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC, USA. The Symposium, sponsored by ASTM Committees E5 on Fire Standards and E6 on Performance of Building Construction, will provide a forum for the exchange of ideas on current and emerging firestopping products issues. The objectives are to focus attention on firestopping products and assemblies testing, installations and standards; provide rationale for current full-scale and intermediate-scale fire testing, perimeter joint testing and smoke testing; identify new opportunities based on product

CONFERENCE NOTICE BOARD cont/...

performance, system capabilities via smoke resistance and movement capabilities; and investigate application of new international standards. The symposium is designed to expand the awareness of fire protection and safety professionals, designers, testing laboratories, manufacturers, suppliers and end users about emerging products application and new standards for performance specifications in the development and use of firestopping products.

Computational Simulation Models in Fire Engineering and Research

The University of Cantabria (Spain) is hosting an International Technical Congress "Computational Simulation Models in Fire Engineering and Research" on October 20, 2004

The Congress is aimed at professional and technical personnel involved with fire safety, as well as at senior students in engineering disciplines. Papers will address computational simulation of fire in civil and industrial buildings, and in transportation facilities. For registration and additional information please visit the Congress web site: <http://grupos.unican.es/gidai>.

2nd International Maritime Conference on Design for Safety

The 2nd International Maritime Conference on Design for Safety will be held October 28-30 2004 in Sakai, Japan. Sakai is 14th largest city in Japan and is a suburb of Osaka. It is an important historic city famous for the huge Tumulus and as the cradle of the tea ceremony in the 16th century. A main session of the conference will focus on Fire and Explosion Safety and is being co-ordinated by Prof. Ed Galea (University of Greenwich, UK) and Mr. K. Yoshida (NMRI, Japan). Papers in the session will deal specifically with maritime and off-shore environments on topics involving fire issues, fire modelling, explosion issues, explosion modelling, explosion and evacuation, and fire and evacuation. The language for the conference is English.

Call for Papers: 10th International Fire and Materials Conference

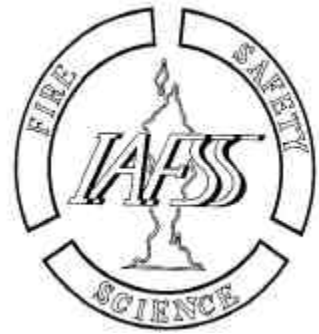
The 10th International Fire and Materials Conference will be held January 31 to February 1, 2005 in San Francisco, USA. Fire and Materials is a major international forum on fire performance of materials and products. The conference focuses on manufacturers and their customers, designers and regulators, who need up-to-date information on fire issues, including new materials, applications, assessment techniques and requirements. The conference addresses specific issues and general updates in the fire safety field.

Authors are invited to send a 250 word abstract for review to Stephen Grayson at intercom@dial.pipex.com or to Marcelo Hirschler at GBHInt@aol.com before July 31, 2004. A final version of the paper is required by December 15, 2004.

Call for Papers: 4th International Conference on Advances in Steel Structures

The 4th International Conference on Advances in Steel Structures (ICASS'05) will be held June 13-15, 2005 in Shanghai, China. The previous three conferences were held in Hong Kong with great success in 1996, 1999 and 2002. As with the previous conferences, this conference is intended to provide a forum for discussion and dissemination of recent achievements by researchers, designers, product providers, fabricators and erectors in analysis, behaviour, design and construction of steel, aluminium and composite steel-concrete structures. Papers are sought on a broad range of topics including fire resistance.

Authors are invited to submit one page abstracts to ICASS-05@mail.tongji.edu.cn before 31 July, 2004. Abstracts should indicate clearly the aims and conclusions of the work to be included in the final paper. Both abstracts and final papers will be reviewed



The Full Committee

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