



Newsletter

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Plans for the 8th International Symposium

The 8th International Symposium on Fire Safety Science will be held September 18-23, 2005 in Beijing, China at Tsinghua University. It will be co-hosted by the China Fire Protection Association, the University of Science and Technology of China, and Tsinghua University. The arrangement committee chair is Prof. Fan.

Tsinghua University is one of the premier universities in China. The campus is situated in northwest Beijing on several former royal gardens of the Qing Dynasty and is surrounded by historical sites in northwest Beijing. With a splendid legacy accumulated over the past 90 years, Tsinghua has retained its character and charm while promoting rigorous scholarship and research that ensure academic and educational prestige in China and abroad.

Beijing, as the capital of China, is the nation's political, economic and cultural center and is unique in history, tradition and characteristics. From the 12th Century to 1911, it was the capital of the Jin, Yuan, Ming and Qing Dynasties. You will find the city an unforgettable destination, with its ancient Great Wall, the Forbidden City, and numerous palaces telling legends of dynasties long lost in the mists of history. Moreover, the city has refreshed its complexion by the growing number of parks and recreational centres, folk shows during holiday celebrations, splendid theatrical stages, and a grand city outlook.



Proceedings of the 7th International Symposium

Publication of the Proceedings of the 7th International Symposium on Fire Safety Science is expected in September 2003. The Proceedings will be published in Book and CD-ROM formats. The CD-ROM will be in PDF format, which will allow users to word-search the entire volume and to print papers from the disk.

All those receiving symposium proceedings as a result of attending the 7th Symposium will also receive the CD-ROM version. The publisher will mail the Proceedings directly to Symposium attendees. Non attendees can order copies of the Proceedings by contacting Interscience Communications at intercomm@dial.pipex.com

IAFSS Support for Student Participation in International Meetings

The IAFSS Committee has given £1000 to the organisers of the 4th International Seminar on Fire and Explosion Hazards (Londonderry, UK, 8th – 12th Sept 2003) to provide assistance to students who wish to present papers at the meeting. Plans are being made to offer similar donations to the organisers of other Conferences.

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News from the IAFSS Education Subcommittee

A new web site for the IAFSS Education Subcommittee has recently been set up. This is a temporary site and has been set up to encourage educators in Fire Safety Engineering to contribute and share educational material. The temporary site is currently accessible at <http://www.brunamal.is/iafss-es>.

At this time, only limited material is available at the site. The University of Leeds has graciously contributed a very interesting web based learning tool on Thermal Ignition. James Ierardi, linked to Worcester Polytechnic, has contributed an interesting web tool, where several hand-calculation formulas can be used with great ease. The Department of Fire Safety Engineering at Lund University has shown the generosity of putting a very comprehensive distance learning course on Enclosure Fire Dynamics on the web site, accessible for free to all. They have, however, limited the access to the first 5 Chapters of the course, but state that if other educational institutions show similar generosity, they will open access to all 10 Chapters.

We are now looking for more contributions. The IAFSS Education Subcommittee is interested in placing material on the web-site from various courses taught within the discipline of Fire Safety (Protection) Engineering. Material of interest includes:

- Course curricula (or links to curricula), course descriptions, reading instructions (identifying literature, page numbers) and teaching material (such as PowerPoint or other material).
- Tutorial questions and suggested answers.
- Full solutions of tutorial questions (access will be limited to teachers).
- Description of laboratory assignments.
- Examples of laboratory assignments handed in by students (access will be limited to teachers).

Educators are asked to supply material in any format (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, html, etc) to the IAFSS-ES webmaster, Bodvar Tomasson or to Bjorn Karlsson. Bodvar is a Fire Safety Engineer at VSI consultants in Reykjavik, and can be reached at bodvar@brunamal.is. Bjorn Karlsson is one of the IAFSS-ES Coordinators and can be reached at bjorn@brunamal.is.

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Updates on Fire Research Facilities

During the 7th International Symposium on Fire Safety Science convened in June 2002 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute a "Panel on New Fire Laboratories" described five new fire research facilities that were in various stages of planning or construction. A brief update on each of these facilities follows.

FM Global, U.S.A.: Construction of the new Fire Technology Laboratory, in the FM Global Research Campus in West Gloucester, Rhode Island, has essentially been completed and acceptance testing has started. All cold air flow and test water systems have been checked and are working well. FM is in the midst of conducting large fire tests to shake down the facility and the support systems (air emission control, water treatment, building control system, data acquisition, etc), and so far the testing is going well. FM expects to be finished with the testing by the end of August. For more information see

http://www.fmglobal.com/pdfs/Frontiers17_1.pdf

Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), U.S.A.: Construction of the new Fire Research Laboratory, in ATF's National Laboratory Center complex in Ammendale, Maryland, has also been completed. Cold-flow commissioning of the burn-room hoods has started. The first fires will be ignited in early July, followed by a two-month, hot-flow commissioning / calibration program. The standard fire test equipment (cone calorimeter, LIFT, etc.) will be functioning by the end of July. For more information see

<http://www.atf.treas.gov/labs/frl/brochure02.htm>

University of Ulster, Northern Ireland: The new facilities of the Institute of Fire Safety Engineering Research and Technology (FireSERT) are up and running. The facilities include a 600 m² burn hall, a range of calorimeters, numerous large- and intermediate-scale fire test apparatus, a fire dynamics laboratory and a human behaviour suite with three sleep laboratories. A fire modelling suite has also been outfitted to compliment the experimental facilities. Extensive research and product development work has been underway for some time. For more information see

<http://www.engi.ulst.ac.uk/FIRESERT/facilities.html>

University of Waterloo, Canada: The new Fire Research Laboratory, situated within the Waterloo Region Emergency Services Training and Research Complex, was officially opened on June 20. The facility is technically up and running though most of the equipment is still undergoing commissioning and some is yet to be installed. The initial experiments in the Facility will be transportation accident scenarios involving a pool "fuel spill" fire impacting a mock aircraft fuselage in light winds. Also underway is the outfitting and instrumentation of a steel burn house to conduct a series of studies of smoke transport in 2-storey residential structures. For more information see

<http://www.adm.uwaterloo.ca/infonews/release/2003/>

Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile: In May 2002, a new fire-resistance laboratory was opened at the Pontifical Catholic University in Santiago. The laboratory has already begun to test assemblies and coatings in accordance with regional and international fire-resistance standards. The laboratory offers a unique opportunity to promote materials research and development in Latin America and will play a major role in a new post-graduate fire-safety program to be initiated in 2003. More information will be posted soon at the web site <http://www.dictuc.cl/ipf> In the interim, information is available by contacting fuego@ing.puc.cl

IAFSS Awards for Doctorate Dissertations

IAFSS is planning to offer awards for the best doctorate dissertation in each of the three geographical areas (Europe and Africa, Americas, Asia and Oceania) at each of its triennial symposia. The aim of the Awards is to make IAFSS visible to young researchers in the field of fire safety science, to attract attention to our symposia and to encourage excellent contributions to fire safety science by young researchers. Dissertations completed during the three-year period ending 12 months before the next Symposium are eligible for consideration and should be submitted by the thesis advisors/research supervisors. Each award will consist of an invitation to present a paper at the next IAFSS symposium. Conference fees will be paid and an award of \$1000 (US) will be available to cover travel and accommodation costs.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute and FM Global Agreement

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and FM Global have entered into an agreement which will increase their collaboration on fire research and fire protection engineering graduate education. FM Global will provide financial contributions to support a WPI fire protection engineering professor as well as the work of graduate students. FM Global also is donating two state-of-the-art fire propagation apparatus for use in WPI's Fire Science Laboratory. This new agreement further strengthens the relationship between the two organizations. WPI professors and graduate students have been working with FM Global scientists, researchers and engineers and taking advantage of their laboratory facilities for decades.

An Awards Selection Committee is in the process of being formed

Further information will be posted on the IAFSS Website in due course, but any immediate enquiries may be directed to Prof. Mario Fontana (fontana@ibk.baug.ethz.ch).

Carleton University's Full-scale Fire Research Facility

The design of a new Fire Research Facility for Carleton University (Ottawa, Canada) is nearing its final stages with completion expected at the end of July 2003. Construction is planned to commence early in the fall with completion scheduled for the summer of 2004. The \$10 million (CAN) funding for this facility comes from the Canadian Foundation for Innovation, the Ontario Innovation Trust, the National Research Council, the Ottawa Fire Services, and the Toronto Transit Commission.

The facility will be of great value to the research program of the recently established NSERC/Industry Industrial Research Chair at Carleton University and will provide unique research opportunities to graduate students at Carleton specializing in Fire Safety Engineering. The facility will be constructed on the grounds of the National Research Council (NRC) at its fire test complex outside Ottawa. It will complement existing full-scale facilities at NRC and it will become a unique world class test site that will provide capabilities for fire and explosion research and be marketable to Canadian and International clients.

More information on the facility will be posted soon at the web site <http://www.carleton.ca/~ghadjiso/>

CONFERENCE NOTICE BOARD

2nd International Conference in Pedestrian and Evacuation Dynamics

The 2nd International Conference in Pedestrian and Evacuation Dynamics will be held August 20-22, 2003 on the historic campus of the University of Greenwich in London, U.K. Papers presented at the conference will address the state-of-the-art in computer simulation of pedestrian and evacuation dynamics. As the only international conference dedicated to computer simulation in this fast-developing safety and regulatory field, the three-day event will attract senior decision-makers from companies, public sector organisations and regulators, as well as the world's leading academic experts. For more details concerning the conference, visit the conference web site at <http://fseg.gre.ac.uk/PED2003/>

4th International Seminar on Fire and Explosion Hazards

The 4th International Seminar on Fire and Explosion Hazards will be held September 8-12, 2003 in Londonderry, Northern

Ireland.

The Seminar will bring together researchers and international experts working on the underlying science and technology associated with fire and explosion hazards.

128 abstracts were submitted to the Seminar organisers addressing advances in combustion, fire and explosion sciences and the application of these advances to understand hazards, and to prevent and mitigate the adverse effects of accidental fires and explosions. Invited lectures will be given by eminent researchers in the combustion, fire and explosion safety sciences. The seminar is of particular interest to scientists, engineers and professionals dealing with fire and explosion hazards.

The organizing committee is making efforts to give attendees a feeling for the Irish character (with a hint of Russian thrown in). A Preliminary Programme (soon to be finalized) as well as general information concerning Registration and Accommodations may be found at the Seminar web site: <http://www.engj.ulst.ac.uk/4thisfeh/>

CONFERENCE NOTICE BOARD cont/...

International Symposium on Fire Safety of Steel Structures

An International Symposium on Fire Safety of Steel Structures will be held September 11-12, 2003 in Cologne, Germany. The seminar is aimed at sharing recent advancements in fire safety of steel structures that will be of particular interest to scientists, fire protection and structural engineers, architects and members of building companies and authorities. The Symposium Programme as well as general information concerning Registration and Accommodations may be found at the Symposium web site: <http://www.bauen-mit-stahl.de/veranstaltungen.htm>

Call for papers: 6th Asia-Oceania Symposium on Fire Science & Technology

A Call for Papers has been issued for the 6th Asia-Oceania Symposium on Fire Science & Technology (AOSFST), which will be held April 19-22, 2004 in Seoul, South Korea. The principal host of the symposium will be the Korea Institute of Fire Science and Engineering. The program welcomes plenary papers, symposia session papers, poster papers, technical demonstrations in the following areas of fire science and technology: fire chemistry and physics; fire dynamics; fire investigation; fire risk assessment; fire safety issues (management, design, legislation, education); fire spread and structure response; fire suppression and detection; forest fires; gas explosions; people/fire interactions; performance-based codes; smoke movement; and special hazards.

An abstract, not more than 2 pages in length, must be submitted by October 30, 2003 to Professor E.S. Kim at eskim505@hotmail.com. Notification of acceptance of a paper for presentation at the Symposium will be made by November 30, 2003 and the full paper must be received by January 31, 2004. Information on the Symposium venue, accommodations and travel details as well as instructions to authors can be found on the web site <http://www.kifse.org>

5th International Conference on Wood and Fire Safety

The 5th International Conference on Wood and Fire Safety will be held May 9-14, 2004 in the High Tatras, Slovak Republic. The aim of the conference is to provide a forum whereby multi-disciplinary issues and recent research related to fire safety of wood products and assemblies are presented and discussed. A web site is to be established at <http://www.wfs.tuzvo.sk>. In the interim information can be obtained from wfs@wfs.tuzvo.sk.

Call for Papers: 10th Interflam Conference

A Call for Papers has been issued for the 10th Interflam Conference on fire science and engineering, which will be held July 5-7, 2004 at the Edinburgh Conference Centre at Heriot Watt University, Scotland. Interflam is the longest established international fire research conference and has been held every 3 years since 1979.

An abstract, not more than 2 pages in length, must be submitted by November 1, 2003. Notification of acceptance of a paper for presentation at the Symposium will be made by January 31, 2004 and the full paper must be received by May 5, 2004. For more details concerning the conference, visit the conference web site at <http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/intercomm/html/events/interflam04.htm>



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