

# Fire & Rescue Conference Agenda

**intersec**17 – 19 January, 2023  
Dubai, UAE

## Day 1 – 17 January, 2023

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- 11:00 – 11:30**    **ESL Learns:**  
**Importance of Bus Fire Suppression System**
- Speaker:**  
**Vivek Vijay, Certification Specialist, Emirates Safety Laboratory**
- 11:30 – 12:00**    **ESL Learns:**  
**Certification Requirements for Wireless Fire Detection and Alarm System**
- Speaker:**  
**Aparna Venugopalan, Certification Specialist-Electrical, Emirates Safety Laboratory**
- 12:00 – 12:15**    **Opening Remarks from the Chairperson**
- Speaker:**  
**Alexander Castellanos, Head of Fire & Life Safety, WSP**
- 12:15 – 12:30**    **Opening Keynote Address**
- Speaker:**  
**H.E. Brig. Expert Ali Hassan Al Mutawaa, Assistant Director-General for Fire and Rescue Affairs, Dubai Civil Defense**
- 12:30 – 13:00**    **Compliance versus Practicality of UAE Fire and Life Safety Code of Practice**
- Speakers:**  
**Eng. Salma Humaid Saeed, Head of Drawing & Projects Section, General Directorate of Dubai Civil Defense, UAE**  
**Julius Sarmiento, Senior Certification Specialist, Emirates Safety Laboratory**
- 13:00 – 13:30**    **An overview of Emirates Safety Laboratory (ESL) – Enhancing fire safety in Dubai and contribute to the Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050**
- Speaker:**  
**Ahmed Yousry, Senior Associate - Business Development, Emirates Safety Laboratory**
- 13:30 – 14:00**    **MoU signing by Dubai Civil Defense**
- 14:00 – 14:30**    **Product Certification Ceremony by Emirates Safety Laboratory**

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## 14:30 – 15:00 **Operational Capabilities for Dealing with Lithium-Ion battery Fires and Thermal Runaway in EV cars and Scooters**

- Understand the hazards surrounding lithium-Ion batteries (Case Study Videos)
- Awareness of the dangers they can pose (Thermal Runaway & Vapour Cloud Explosion VCE)
- Emergency responders Limited capabilities to deal with Lithium Battery Fires (Case Study)
- The impact on Building Design infrastructure and Business Continuity.

### Speaker:

**Michael James Kelly, Fire Safety Officer, Savills Property Management, UK**

## 15:10 – 15:40 **National Resilience**

The presentation will provide an overview of:

- National Resilience
- National Resilience Assurance
- UKFRS National Co-ordination and Advisory Framework
- The New Dimension Programme

### Speaker:

**Paul Murphy, Area Manager (National Resilience Lead Officer), Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service**

## 15:50 – 16:20 **Fire Safety Challenges and loss prevention strategies of Roof-Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Panels**

The installation of large Photovoltaic (PV) systems on commercial building roofs is an emerging risk in the Middle East. Favorable environmental conditions, net energy reduction strategy and adoption of sustainable and self-reliance policies are attracting building owners to install PV technology. The electrical breakdown potential of the PV system along with the presence of the combustible sandwich panels and other fire loads are significantly increasing the inherent fire risk of the commercial facilities. Hence an effective risk management strategy is essential for loss prevention. The objective of this conference presentation is to review the fire hazard, and loss histories of the PV systems, which will help in the understanding of the worst-case impact. The mitigating solution items as per the local & International standards and research updates about the PV Systems will be also focused on during the discussion. The result of this review will help in prioritizing the implementation of high-priority risk improvement items and investment planning for loss prevention and compliance.

### Speaker:

**Laxminarayan Nayak, Regional Risk Engineer, RSA**

## 16:20 – 16:30 **Closing remarks for the day**

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## Day 2 – 18 January, 2023

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- 10:30 – 11:00** **ESL Learns:**  
**Improving INTELLIGIBILITY in Voice Evacuation Systems - What is the use of Voice Evacuation if you can't understand the messages?**
- What is 'Intelligibility'?
  - Why it's important
  - What affects the message that reaches your ear?
  - Design considerations and suggested improvements to voice evacuation design
- Speaker:**  
**Philip Witts, Chief Operating Officer, Ateis Middle East**
- 11:00 – 11:30** **ESL Learns:**  
**Similar building elements, different fire test standards – How to choose the most appropriate method to enhance fire safety for interior finishes**
- Speaker:**  
**Rachel Marie Novelo, Engineer – Reaction to Fire testing, Emirates Safety Laboratory**
- 11:45 – 12:00** Opening Remarks from the Chairperson  
**Peter Stephenson, Director – Fire Safety Division, Middle East, Hydrock**
- 12:00 – 12:30** **Defining Competence for Building a Safer Future**  
 Events effect change- This is a look a understanding the mistakes made prior to major fire events and what we should do the reduce the chances of it happening again by raising the bar on the professionalism of the products and services supplied
- Speaker:**  
**Ian Moore, Chief Executive Officer, Fire Industry Association (FIA)**
- 12:30 – 13:00** **Construction: Importance of creating a fire strategy and emergency response capability based on a community risk assessment**  
 The presentation will focus on the importance of creating a robust fire strategy for a building and the emergency response capability considering a community risk assessment. Whilst the development of a fire strategy for a building is a very important factor in ensuring the safety of the occupants, a wider assessment to identify and prioritize local risks to assess and establish the emergency response requirements for the community is equally as important. This can be achieved by undertaking a community risk assessment and developing a community risk reduction plan which will bring key stakeholders together for a unified effort to identify and mitigate critical safety issues that threaten the local economy and critical infrastructure.
- Speaker:**

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**Peter Stephenson, Director – Fire Safety Division, Middle East, Hydrock**

**13:00 – 13:45 Panel discussion: Fire safety & sustainability – approaching the net zero challenge**

**Moderator:**

**Duncan J. White, Managing Editor, IFSJ**

**Panelists:**

**Vinay Deshpande, Technical Director – Fire & Life Safety, WSP**

**Steven Reilly, Principal Engineer - Fire & Life Safety Lead MENA, Cundall**

**Susan Lamont, Director – Fire Safety, Arup**

**13:50 – 14:20 Emerging Technologies in Fire Protection Systems**

Internet of Things has caught up to the fire protection community and critical equipment like valves, fire pumps, etc. are now beginning to be connected so the users can monitor the status of this equipment and perhaps control this equipment in the future. The presentation would discuss some of these technologies along with the topic of the reliability of these systems.

**Speaker:**

**Dave Fuller, VP Approvals Manager, Fire Protection, FM Approvals**

**14:20 – 14:50 Zero Emission solutions for the Fire & Rescue Sector**

- *Fire & Rescue Services are increasingly expected to plan and implement zero emission solutions to contribute towards broader net zero carbon targets.*
- *This presentation will highlight short and longer solutions to effectively and efficiently reduce emissions in specialist fleets with demanding performance requirements*
- *With the development of zero emission solutions in the fire sector, the presentation will outline the broader requirements Fire & Rescue Services need to address – including recharging or refueling infrastructure, Health & Safety, training and operational procedures.*

**Speaker:**

**Matthew Dear, Director – Better Environment And Transport (BEAT)**

**15:00 – 15:30 Fire detection by video – the new issue**

- *Detection of fire, flames and heat by video is becoming a new opportunity, especially for outdoor and other challenges*
- *Standardization work at the ISO level is in progress*
- *Institutions like UL in the USA or VdS in Germany are preparing the guidelines for the use of video-based systems*

**Speaker:**

**Peter Krapp, Managing Director of Safety & Security Section, ZVEI**

**15:30 – 16:00 Solar PV Panels – The “DC Danger Zone”**

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The unmitigated electrical safety risk for Fire & Rescue Services/First Responders from solar panels and how innovation in equipment, systems and procedures will significantly improve firefighter and community safety

**Speaker:**

**Alex Keene, European Sales & Marketing Manager, PVStop International**

**16:10 – 16:20**    **Closing remarks**

## Day 3 – 19 January, 2023

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**10:30 – 11:00**    **ESL Learns:**  
**Bus and Heavy Equipment Fire Suppression, The importance of maintenance and an update on Lithium battery extinguishing systems**

**Speaker:**

**Edward Barnes, Chief Technical Officer, Reacton Fire Suppression**

**11:00 – 11:30**    **ESL Learns:**  
**Photovoltaics fire safety**

**Speaker:**

**Faheemuddin Mohammed, Certification Specialist, Emirates Safety Laboratory**

**11:45 – 12:00**    **Opening Remarks from the Chairperson**  
**Peter Stephenson, Director – Fire Safety Division, Middle East, Hydrack**

**12:00 – 12:30**    **Deficiencies encountered by HOE during the installation of facade systems**

**Speaker:**

**Mohamed Yousufdeen, Chief Technical Officer & Board of Directors, Fire experts for safety engineering**

**12:40 – 13:10**    **An Overview of Codes Requirements for Protecting Penetrations in Fire-Rated Construction**

- Building & fire code basics
- Through- and membrane penetration firestop systems
- Navigating UL Product iQ® for code compliance
- UL's Technical Evaluation Program

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**Speaker:**

**Ghaith Bakir, Senior Regulatory Engineer-MEA, UL Solutions**

**13:20 – 13:50 100 Years - 100 Cities - The Evaluation of Urban Fire Risks**

- World Fire Risks
- Urban Fire Risks
- Types of Fire Risks in the Cities
- Model for Evaluation of Urban Fire Risks

**Speaker:**

**Dr Peter Wagner, Head of Leadership Department, Berlin Fire and Rescue Academy, Member of CTIF**

**14:00 – 14:30 High Rise Firefighting - Practical to tactical**

Tall buildings pose unique firefighting challenges that require practiced operational decision-making and tactics to overcome a host of potential problems. This presentation will discuss and review tactical response options to address challenges and catastrophic failures in operational deployment. Subjects to be addressed will include: coming up short and adding a length, taking nozzle reaction to ground, flowing with door control, the punch, steps for making entry and test glass. A short video on “Exterior Control” options utilizing portable monitors, bent pipe, distributor and opposing tip nozzles for fire, auto-exposure, cladding and void space control along with water supply solutions.

**Speaker:**

**Captain Brent Brooks, Toronto Fire, Canada**

**14:40 – 15:10 Systematic job competency assessments to enhance firefighters’ education, skills, and training**

- Background to Oil and Gas Fires
- Identification of custom competencies
  - Pre-Incident Plans
  - Competency Library
- Systematic Competency Assessment Methodology
  - Identification of required competencies from Competency Library
  - Self-Assessment
  - Line Management Assessment
  - Individual Development Plan
  - Education/ Training/ Skill development
  - Re-Assessment
- Implementation of Competency Assessments
  - Manual Assessments
  - SAP Success Factors
- Expected outcome from systematic assessments

**Speakers:**

**Dr. Adel Al Ali, Senior Director – Group HSSE&R, ENOC**

**Dr. Ramakrishna Akula, Senior Specialist – HSE Competency Development, ENOC**

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15:20 – 15:50

## Fire Fighting & Protection Systems

- *Emergency evacuation & process*
- *Emergency requirements/arrangements in the building.*
- *Emergency escalations & Command center*
- *Authorities' involvement & requirements*

### Speaker:

**Ihab Al Bairam, Senior Director HSE & Quality, LOAMS / DAMAC Group**

15:50 – 16:00

**Closing remarks from the Chairperson**