

## Månadsbrev nr 3

Det har varit en månad som var hektisk för mig under de första två veckorna, från den 15 mars så tog jag två veckors semester för en välbehövlig återhämtning i Dubai och Bahrain. Följande aktiviteter för Sprinklerfrämjandet har utförts under februari:

- 3/3 EFSN, Bryssel – Årsmöte,
- 4/3 EFSN, Bryssel – möte Tekniska kommittén,
- 5/3 EFSN, Bryssel – möte med EU-kommissionär Meglena Kuneva, Bulgarien
- 10/3 Brandteknisk konferens i Växjö - Innemiljöcentrums årsmöte

### **1. EFSN – Årsmöte i Bryssel den 3 mars**

Deltog i EFSN:s årsmöte i Bryssel som Sprinklerfrämjandets representant. Jag bifogar protokollet från mötet.

### **2. EFSN – möte med Tekniska kommittén i Bryssel den 4 mars**

Deltog i EFSN Tekniska kommittémöte i Bryssel. Protokoll har tidigare skickats ut till alla medlemmar, men för säkerhets skull bifogar jag det med månadsbrevet.

### **3. EFSN – möte med EU-kommissionären Meglena Kuneva från Bulgarien den 5 mars**

Alan Brinson har genom sina politiska kontakter lyckats arrangera ett möte med EU-kommissionären Meglena Kuneva från Bulgarien. Kuneva är sedan januari 2007 EU-kommissionär med ansvar för "Consumer Protection". Alan hade lyckats genomföra mötet med hjälp av två inflytelserika politiker från England.

Mötet avsåg att presentera en allmän syn på brandsäkerhet i hotell, med särskild inriktning på sprinklerskyddet. Alan hade arrangerat en särskild grupp från den Tekniska kommittén att bistå honom vid mötet – förutom jag själv också följande personer:

- Brendan McGrath, FM Global, Paris,
- Joachim Böke, Viking Corp, Köln,
- Ian Gough, BAFSA, England,

Vi hade ett mycket intressant och uppskattat möte med Kuneva och hennes tre bisittare. De visade alla ett stort intresse för vårt budskap om att i ökad omfattning få en samordnad syn på behovet att sprinkla hotellen i Europa. Kravet på sprinkler i den typen av verksamheter kommer oftast "inifrån" de större hotellgrupperna, Marriott, Meridien m.fl.

Vårt möte leder nu till att Kuneva uppmanade oss att förse hennes arbetsgrupp med framförallt statistik från hotellbränder (lyckade/misslyckade) och starka argument varför hotellen behöver sprinklerskyddet. Förnyade möten planeras under året, då hon vill se snabba framsteg för att kunna driva frågan vidare inom EU. Jag återkommer med ny information när sådan finns.

## **Sprinkler Räddar Liv**

### *Sprinklerfrämjandet*

#### **4. Konferens i Växjö – brandtekniskt seminarium den 10 mars**

Undertecknad var inbjuden att delta och hålla ett föredrag vid ett ½-dags seminarium i Växjö den 10 mars. Temadagen arrangerades av Innemiljöcentrum i Växjö och de önskade att Sprinklerfrämjandet kunde delta med en egen presentation.

Jag pratade sprinklerskydd i allmänhet med särskild inriktning på 2 av förra årets två jämförbara bränder i stora köpcentra – Lindexbranden i Södertälje och köpcentret Flanör i Gävle i november. Ni vet all att den ena ledde till en mycket svår brandskada (osprinklad) med upp till 8 månaders avbrott och den andra i ett stort köpcentrum i Gävle (sprinklad) med ett avbrott i verksamheten på 1 dag. Båda bränderna inträffade i butiker med likartad brandbelastning där det går att göra tydliga jämförelser vad som kan skilja butiker som saknar sprinkler och där sprinkler finns.

Seminariet var ett lokalt initiativ från Innemiljöcentrum där Räddningstjänstens företrädare och brandingenjör Anders Brodell – och en f.d. kollega till mig på Skandia – deltog. Bland åhörarna fanns tre representanter från våra medlemmar från Sydsprinkler och LG Sprinklerkonsult. Bra initiativ att delta!

Stort intresse följde för att diskutera sprinklertekniken avslutade mitt inlägg i Växjö!

#### **5. SBF seminarium ”Brandlarm & Sprinkler” – Stockholm den 22-23 april**

Glöm inte SBFs seminarium den 22-23 april. Inbjudan har jag tidigare skickat ut till samtliga medlemmar.

Undertecknad har ett eget inslag i programmet för att presentera Varbergs kommuns beslut att boendesprinkla samtliga äldreboenden i kommunen, som skall vara slutfört senast den 30 juni 2008. Intressant initiativ och där jag bl.a. kommer att presentera kommunens erfarenheter, både från installationerna och hur personalen vid anläggningarna uppfattar de installationer som slutförts.

Gösta Holmstedt

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Minutes of 5<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting  
Renaissance Brussels Hotel  
3<sup>rd</sup> March 2008

## 1. Call to Order

The fifth Annual General Meeting of the European Fire Sprinkler Network was held at the Renaissance Brussels Hotel on Thursday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2008, beginning at 13:00.

The following Members were in attendance:

Gordon Biezeveld	UL
John Blackwood	Clarke UK
Alan Brinson	European Fire Sprinkler Network (reporter)
Gert Catsburg	Tyco Fire & Building Products
Tom DeNooij	Marsh
John Diamant	Victaulic
Sinikka Freidhof	Lubrizol
Nick Groos	Viking Corporation
Torsten Habeck	Reliable
Mike Hagen	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service
Gösta Holmstedt	Sprinklerfrämjandet
Stefaan Ketels	Centerparcs
Rolf Köhler	TÜV Rheinland
David Leonard	Reliable
Edward Lister	Tyco Fire & Integrated Solutions
Brendan MacGrath	FM Global
Rick van Meesen	Anvil
Roland Murr	Global Asset Protection Services
Frank Oerlemans	Erico
Keith Plater	Rapidrop
Alex Playfair	SPP Pumps
Ton Pruyssers	ACE European Group
Simon Quillish	Hall & Kay Fire Engineering
Karl-Heinz Stahl	VdS Schadenverhütung
Paris Stavrianidis	FM Approvals
Laurens Swennenhuis	Tyco Fire & Building Products
Juergen Teschner	Job Bulbs
Peter Thomas	Tyco Fire & Building Products
Jesús de la Torre	Globe Europa
Didier Vassal	Victaulic
Rudi Velders	Victaulic
Alain Verhoyen	ANPI
Michel Walhof	VSI
Andrew Was	FM Approvals

Apologies were received from:

Peter Armstrong	Armstrong Priestley
Mike Green	Hall Fire
Keith MacGillivray	Scottish Executive
Stewart Kidd	BAFSA
Pascal Pfeiffer	AXA
John Viniello	IFSA

The meeting was chaired by the Chairman, Michel Walhof (MW). He welcomed all those at the meeting and thanked them for coming.

## **2. Bernadette Hartley**

Following a short fight against lung cancer Bernadette Hartley died on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2008. For years she had promoted sprinklers without asking for payment but in recent years had been paid as a consultant by the EFSN. Alan Brinson (AB) briefly reminded the meeting of her achievements and informed the attendees that she had left her financial affairs in a poor state. There was no legal requirement to pay her estate anything beyond her death. However, the Council had previously voted to pay her until 30<sup>th</sup> June, even if due to illness she were not actively campaigning for sprinklers. Several members had expressed a wish to make some form of ex gratia payment. AB informed the meeting that an ex gratia payment would not have any tax implications for the EFSN. After a brief discussion, Tom DeNooij (TD) proposed that the sum originally budgeted be paid to her daughters. Dave Leonard (DL) seconded this proposal and it was unanimously approved by a show of hands.

## **3. Approval of Minutes for 2007 AGM**

The next item on the agenda was to approve the minutes of the 2007 Annual General Meeting. A motion to approve the minutes as presented was proposed by Gösta Holmstedt (GH) and seconded by Rick van Meesen (RvM). The minutes were approved by a unanimous vote in favour of the motion.

## **4. Report from Executive Director**

### *State of the Industry*

AB began with a review of the state of the fire sprinkler industry in Europe. The general background is not good with growth in the construction industry slowing from 2% in 2007 to an estimated 1.4% in 2008. Even this may be too optimistic as the current financial crisis unfolds. In Western Europe the construction market is shrinking, particularly following the bursting of the housing bubbles in Ireland, Spain and the UK. By contrast it is still growing strongly in Eastern Europe.

AB reported generally positive sentiments from sprinkler contractors and manufacturers across Europe, with the exception of France. The residential sprinkler markets continue to grow in The Netherlands, Norway, Sweden and the U.K., while water mist systems gain recognition as a viable alternative for certain applications.

Drawing on estimates from the International Fire Sprinkler Association (IFSA) for 2005 and 2006 and other sources for 2007, AB made an estimate of the numbers of sprinklers installed:

	2005	2006	2007
France	1,400,000	1,450,000	1,400,000
Germany	2,200,000	2,300,000	2,300,000
Austria/Switzerland	600,000	600,000	600,000
Italy	700,000	700,000	800,000
Benelux	1,100,000	1,200,000	1,300,000
Rest E. Europe	1,200,000	1,300,000	1,500,000
Spain & Portugal	1,100,000	1,200,000	1,250,000
Scandinavia	1,100,000	1,200,000	1,350,000
U.K. & Ireland	2,000,000	2,150,000	2,250,000
<b>TOTAL EUROPE</b>	<b>11,400,000</b>	<b>12,100,000</b>	<b>12,750,000</b>

AB reported that in recent years the following new markets for sprinklers have developed in Europe thanks to legislative requirements or incentives

- Retrofit of care homes in Finland and Norway
- New care homes in Scotland and parts of England
- High-rise buildings in Austria, Netherlands, Spain and UK
- Warehouses and industrial premises in Spain
- Warehouses in France
- Schools in the UK

In the near future AB also anticipated:

- A new high-rise model building code for Germany. The code requires sprinklers in commercial buildings higher than 22m and in apartment buildings higher than 60m if the windows have balconies.
- New Dutch building codes for prisons and healthcare premises. The Dutch threshold of 70m to require sprinklers in high-rise buildings may be revised downwards.
- A French code for commercial high-rise buildings. There is a requirement to fit sprinklers if the fire load is greater than 480 MJ/m<sup>2</sup>. AB is looking for an opinion on the significance of this clause.
- The official adoption of the draft Portuguese fire safety building code, whose draft requires sprinklers in commercial buildings higher than 28m, in shopping centres with more than 1,000 people and in factories with a fire load greater than 850 MJ/m<sup>2</sup>.
- Sprinklers in new social housing in Finland.

Against this background AB forecast modest overall growth in the European sprinkler market to a new record figure for 2008.

#### *Membership*

AB reminded the members of the mission of the Network and went on to review the list of new members over the past year. There were three Authorities Having Jurisdiction, eight contractors and manufacturers, two insurers and one individual. He then showed the breakdown of current members: 5 Authorities, 6 Insurers, 10 Consultants and Certification Bodies, 5 Trade Associations, 7 Professional

Associations, 25 Contractors & Manufacturers, 3 Distributors and 4 Individuals and Others.

### *General Promotion*

The Network was set up to raise the awareness of the potential for fire sprinkler systems to improve general fire safety. The Council initially set care homes, hotels and tunnels as priority applications for the Executive Director.

To raise general awareness AB set up a web site and distributes regular items of news about fires and sprinkler saves. The web site contains details of building codes from 19 European countries where there is a requirement or incentive to fit fire sprinkler systems. AB regularly writes articles for the trade press, several of which have been translated into other languages. He also writes to the press in response to major fires. The Network has printed a brochure in English, French, German and Swedish which aims to correct the common misunderstandings about fire sprinkler systems. Supported by this information AB regularly meets those who write or who influence the writers of fire safety legislation and gives presentations at fire safety events.

### *Technical Committee*

AB has found that technical discussions cannot be separated from the lobbying of politicians and officials to recognise sprinklers in buildings codes. Before a change is made detailed discussions usually arise around sprinkler system performance, design standards, costs and benefits. Separate to this, some Network members felt disenfranchised from technical standards committees both at a European and national level. In November 2006 the Network Council therefore decided to form a Technical Committee, which would monitor or participate in all technical committees whose work influences the European sprinkler market.

AB reported that despite opposition from Eurofeu, EFSN had been elected as a liaison to CEN TC/191 for representation on Working Group 5, which writes the standards for water-based extinguishing systems. Representing EFSN, Pascal Pfeiffer (PP) had been elected to NFPA 3, the new committee drafting a standard for the commissioning of fire protection systems and Nick Groos (NG) had been elected onto the Nordic residential sprinkler group.

Interest in the EFSN Technical Committee is high with 12-19 attendees at meetings. The next meeting was planned for 4<sup>th</sup> March. Work items included backflow prevention, corrosion and fire engineering.

### *Political Marketing of Sprinklers*

Bernadette Hartley (BH) was coordinating political lobbying efforts. In 2005 she set up the EU Sprinkler Forum in the European Parliament. The Members of the European Parliament, (MEPs) among its members were asking questions of the European Commission and influencing the work of Parliamentary committees. They had inserted a requirement to evaluate the benefits of sprinklers in new workplaces in the European Parliament's five year health and safety in the workplace strategy document. They had also held a debate on hotel fire safety and the benefits of sprinklers, which had led to the European Commissioner for Consumer Safety calling a meeting with the leading hotel operators. The EFSN had a meeting scheduled with her on 5<sup>th</sup> March. Other MEPs had introduced Bernadette and AB to fire safety officials in their countries.

In the UK the new schools policy was becoming established; Glasgow City Council was selling a plot of land for residential development on the condition that sprinklers were fitted and the Welsh Assembly had requested jurisdiction over fire safety so that it could introduce a requirement to fit sprinklers in new housing. In Finland the Government was committed to reducing fire deaths from 100/year to 30/year by 2012 and recognised that sprinklers in housing would be an essential part of the package of measures needed to achieve that.

### *Care Homes*

Many new care homes in Scandinavia are fitted with sprinklers; over 600 have been retrofitted in Finland as have a number in Norway. Scotland requires sprinklers in all new care homes and some local authorities in England have followed the Scottish example. Several care homes in The Netherlands also have sprinklers and there is an opportunity with the revision to the healthcare code to make this more common. The French authorities have said they are prepared to consider sprinklers instead of a second staircase if an existing building such as a large city centre house is converted to this use. France still needs to find a pilot project.

### *Hotels*

AB, two MEPs and some EFSN members would meet Commissioner Kuneva on 5<sup>th</sup> March. New high-rise legislation means that with the significant exception of France, new high-rise hotels are usually sprinklered. There are now 470 sprinklered hotels on the Network web site, [www.eurosprinkler.org](http://www.eurosprinkler.org), which is 70 more than a year ago.

### *Tunnels*

Efforts by AB and others brought a change in the text of the Tunnel Safety Directive, which was published on 30 April 2004. This Directive directly applies to 512 tunnels on the trans-European road network but it is likely to become global best practice for all tunnels. Countries are now reviewing tunnel fire safety and looking for alternatives to the prescriptive measures in the Annex to the Directive. France has paid for water mist tunnel fire suppression tests and is fitting a water mist system in the new A86 tunnel west of Paris. It is also evaluating the benefits of fitting fire suppression systems in existing bi-directional tunnels as an alternative to transverse smoke ventilation and extraction. Already at least one tunnel in Austria, France, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Spain, Sweden and UK either has a fire suppression system or soon will. The position in Germany has also changed in favour of fire suppression. Karl-Heinz Stahl (KHS) said that many different groups were producing tunnel fire test protocols which in most cases only test relatively small fires. Given that the systems are to be manually operated, the fires could reach 200 MW but no suppression system had been tested on a fire of this magnitude.

AB represents the IFSA on the NFPA 502 committee, 'Standard for Road Tunnels, Bridges, and Other Limited Access Highways'. In September 2007 the latest edition of this standard left the decades-old negative comments about sprinklers but added text explaining why they are no longer held to be valid. Another major change was a significant increase in the design heat output for a heavy goods vehicle fire. This means that in most cases a designer will need a fire suppression system or passive fire protection to protect the tunnel structure. A fire suppression system is usually less expensive, protects those in the tunnel and protects lighting and road surfaces so that the tunnel can reopen sooner.

### *Other Areas of Growth for Sprinklers*

Aside from the Council priorities, AB listed six applications where there is a prospect to fit more fire sprinkler systems:

- High-rise buildings in general
- Museums in Germany
- Car parks
- Domestic and residential buildings in Finland, Norway, Netherlands, Sweden and UK
- Schools in Sweden, where a similar problem to the UK has been identified
- Warehouses in the UK. Following the deaths of four fire-fighters in a warehouse fire there is a campaign to see sprinklers fitted in warehouses.

AB then gave an overview of requirements for sprinklers in national building codes for shopping centres, hotels, care homes, housing, high-rise commercial buildings, warehouses and industrial buildings. Lastly, AB noted that like BAFSA in the UK, Sprinklerfrämjandet of Sweden and VSI of The Netherlands now employed sprinkler experts to promote sprinklers to officials. Their experience was very positive and he hoped more national associations or groups would do the same. He was hopeful that Austria would follow this approach. AB could support national initiatives with information, contacts, magazine articles, presentations at events and meetings with officials where appropriate.

### *Next Steps*

Following the death of Bernadette Hartley, AB planned to do the political lobbying. On projected income there would be funds to employ someone, either in a key country or as a Technical Director. Paris Stavrianidis (PS) asked what could be done to secure the support of the French fire service for sprinklers. Didier Vassal (DV) suggested AB ask PP to see if AXA could use its contacts. PS also asked if the EFSN members could do more. AB said that this would always be welcome but in practice for most members any time spent on EFSN activities took second priority to their paid employment. Ton Pruyssers (TP) said that the engineer of the day concept from NFSA would gain contractor support and members but Peter Thomas (PT) said that no individual would have the in-depth knowledge to answer questions from more than one country. Mike Hagen (MH) said that political lobbying was crucial. DV agreed. MW asked who could do the political lobbying. Edward Lister (EL) said that his experience was that paying political lobbyists was very costly and ineffective so it would be better for AB to concentrate on this. DV suggested AB contact politicians whose constituencies experienced major fires to seek their support. MH said that political lobbying was very time-consuming and so it would mean AB would have less time to spend with the fire safety community. Brendan MacGrath (BM) said that for this reason his company had decided to employ someone in China, France, Germany, India and the UK. Laurens Swennenhuis (LS) suggested AB bring together those working for national associations to exchange ideas.

## 5. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer, John Viniello, could not be present so AB presented the profit and loss account and balance sheet, as follows, converting from sterling at £1 = €1.33:

	Budget	Actual	Forecast	Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense	2008	7 Months 2008	2008	2009
<b>Income</b>				
AHJ Membership	€399	€289	€399	€31
IFSA Commitment	€32,500	€65,315	€65,315	€9,750
Associations	€28,595	€2,272	€28,595	€19,950
Individual	€32	€37	€98	€99
Contractor/Manufacturer	€9,850	€4,667	€6,500	€236,740
Professional/Cert Body	€6,717	€12,243	€13,300	€7,781
Insurer Membership	€11,172	€12,213	€19,950	€28,462
<i>Total Income</i>	€439,765	€367,736	€394,857	€394,212
<b>Expense</b>				
Advertising/Public Relations	€11,970	€0	€11,970	€3,990
AGM	€1,330	€0	€1,330	€2,660
Automobile Expense	€9,842	€5,742	€9,842	€9,842
Computer, Software	€0	€153	€153	€65
Dues, Sub & Publications	€3,990	€2,934	€3,990	€3,990
Payroll Expenses	€169,203	€101,008	€169,203	€176,890
Professional Fees	€4,297	€1,095	€4,297	€4,655
Rent	€11,970	€6,983	€11,970	€13,899
Legal/Insurance	€599	€0	€599	€599
Translations	€1,995	€0	€1,995	€1,330
Stationery, Office Supplies	€3,325	€0	€1,330	€65
Telephone	€3,990	€2,817	€4,655	€4,655
Web Site	€1,330	€133	€1,330	€65
Travel & Entertainment	€31,920	€11,064	€29,260	€46,550
Public Relations	€0	€0	€0	€47,215
Ex Gratia Payment	€0	€0	€43,713	€0
HJM Campaigns – Fee	€117,019	€67,999	€72,856	€0
HJM Campaigns – Travel	€23,940	€5,634	€5,900	€0
<i>Total Expense</i>	€396,719	€205,561	€374,393	€318,269
<i>Net Ordinary Income</i>	€43,045	€162,175	€20,464	€75,943
<i>Interest Income</i>	€3,325	€2,357	€3,325	€3,325
<i>Interest Tax</i>	-€98	-€40	-€98	-€98
<b>Net Income</b>	€45,372	€164,492	€22,791	€78,271

<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>28/01/2008</b>
<b><i>Current Assets</i></b>	
Abbey Bank Account	€2,511
Accounts Receivable	€4,921
Deferred Expenses	€98
Deposits	€31
<b><i>Total Current Assets</i></b>	<b>€9,361</b>
<b><i>Fixed Assets</i></b>	
Computers and Equipment	€4,479
<b><i>Total Fixed Assets</i></b>	<b>€4,479</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>€13,840</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	
<b><i>Liabilities</i></b>	
Accounts Payable	€0
Deferred Income IFSA	€0
Accrued Expenses	€0
<b><i>Total Liabilities</i></b>	<b>€0</b>
<b><i>Equity</i></b>	
Retained Earnings	-€0,651
Net Income	€164,492
<b><i>Total Equity</i></b>	<b>€163,840</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>€163,840</b>

The accounts were approved unanimously.

## 6. New Articles of Association

To accommodate the increased number of Contractor/Manufacturer members TP proposed a motion, seconded by RvM, to increase the number of Council members in this category from 3 to 5. The motion was approved unanimously. AB will inform Companies House of the resolution and adoption of the new articles. BM and PS asked that AB also revise the articles to show that a Long-Range Planning Committee was created, as agreed at the 2007 AGM.

## 7. Elections to the Council

At the end of their three-year terms Council Members, with the exception of the IFSA Members, are required to stand down, although they may stand for re-election. This year MH and PP had indicated their willingness to stand for re-election, while EL, RvM and Jürgen Teschner were standing for the first time as candidates. Simon Quillish (SQ) and DL proposed that all these Council Members be elected together. By a show of hands the candidates were unanimously elected. AB congratulated them and said he looked forward to working with them in the future.

The full make-up of the new Council is as follows:

Sinikka Freidhof	IFSA
Nick Groos	IFSA
Mike Hagen	Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service (Authority)
Gösta Holmstedt	Sprinklerfrämjandet (Swedish Trade Association)
Rolf Köhler	TÜV Rheinland (Certification Body)
David Leonard	IFSA
Edward Lister	Tyco Fire & Integrated Solutions (Contractor)
Keith MacGillivray	HM Fire Service Inspectorate for Scotland (Authority)
Rick van Meesen	Anvil (Manufacturer)
Pascal Pfeiffer	AXA (Insurance Company)
Keith Plater	Rapidrop (Distributor)
Ton Pruyssers	ACE (Insurance Company)
Simon Quillish	Hall & Kay Fire Engineering (Contractor)
Karl-Heinz Stahl	VdS (Certification Body)
Laurens Swennenhuis	Tyco Fire & Building Products (Manufacturer)
Jürgen Teschner	Job Bulbs (Manufacturer)
Jesús de la Torre	IFSA
Alain Verhoyen	ANPI (Certification Body)
John Viniello	IFSA
Michel Walhof	VSI (Dutch Trade Association)
Andrew Was	FM Approvals (Certification Body)

## **8. New Membership Fees**

AB informed the meeting that the Long-Range Planning Committee had proposed new membership fees which the Council had accepted at its meeting in Hamburg on 29<sup>th</sup> November. The fees needed to be formally agreed by the membership at the AGM. The change were:

- Increase the fee for sprinkler manufacturers from €7,500 to €20,000
- Introduce a fee of €7,500 for contractors with a turnover above €20 million
- Increase the fee for Authorities from €150 to €250
- Increase the fees for Professional/Certification Bodies and insurers by 20% after no change for five years
- Reduce the fee for contractors with a turnover below €1 million to €300

Rudi Velders (RV) proposed that the new fee structure be adopted. This motion was seconded by Nick Groos (NG) and approved unanimously.

## **9. Any Other Business**

AB reminded those present that the IFSA and EFSN would jointly host the conference and exhibition in Copenhagen on 24-25 June 2008. LS asked if there would be a political presence. John Diamant (JD) suggested that the press be invited and encouraged to attend. Russ Fleming (RF) suggested that companies may like to bring customers to the event.

## **10. Adjournment**

There being no further business to conduct Stefaan Ketels (SK), proposed a motion, seconded by BM to close the meeting. This was passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 15.30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Alan Brinson

Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> EFSN Technical Committee Meeting  
Lubrizol Offices, Brussels  
4<sup>th</sup> March 2008

## 1. Call to Order

The fourth meeting of the European Fire Sprinkler Network Technical Committee was held at Lubrizol offices in Brussels on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> March 2008, beginning at 10:00.

The following were in attendance:

Simon Bird	BRE Global
Gordon Biezeveld	UL
Joachim Böke	Viking Corporation (Chairman)
Alan Brinson	European Fire Sprinkler Network (Secretary)
Ingrid Daneels	Lubrizol
Michel Delruelle	ANPI
Bernard Deneus	Victaulic
Russ Fleming	International Fire Sprinkler Association
Nick Groos	Viking Corporation
Torsten Habeck	Reliable Automatic Sprinkler
Gösta Holmstedt	Sprinklerfrämjandet (Vice-Chairman)
Pierre-Eric Joannon	CNPP
David Leonard	Reliable Automatic Sprinkler
Brendan MacGrath	FM Global
Keith Plater	Rapidrop
Paris Stavrianidis	FM Approvals
Jürgen Teschner	Job Bulbs
Peter Thomas	Tyco Fire & Building Products
Andrew Was	FM Approvals

Apologies were received from:

Pascal Pfeiffer	AXA Insurance
Jesús de la Torre	Globe Europa
Maarit Tuomisaari	Marioff Corporation
Jukka Vaari	VTT
Ragnar Wighus	SINTEF
Jörg Wilms	VdS

The Chairman Joachim Böke, JB, thanked Sinikka Freidhof and Lubrizol for providing the venue. He then welcomed the attendees and asked them to introduce themselves.

## 2. Approval of Minutes of 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007

There being no comments on the minutes, they were unanimously accepted.

## 3. Action Items

### Training Programme

JB presented his draft presentation on EN 12845. Peter Thomas, PT, asked by when comments should be submitted. Later in the meeting responsibility for this subject was passed to Alan Brinson, AB.

Russ Fleming, RF, presented the NFSA approach to online seminars. He recommended that EFSN launch its programme in Copenhagen. In the absence of Jörg Wilms JB said that an online offering would not clash with the training activities of EFSN member VdS since VdS only offers courses in German and based in Cologne. Simon Bird, SB, said BRE does not do training, so there was no clash there. RF said there were no marginal costs to NFSA to offer an EFSN online course since it would run from NFSA's own server. The only cost would therefore be the presenter's time. The presenter could give the course by calling NFSA and then talking through a presentation already on the NFSA server. NFSA's IT people need to be present to support the technology so courses could not start before 15:00 Central European Time. RF asked EFSN to begin with a package of at least six courses. He offered to prepare two on sprinkler systems for earthquake zones. Brendan MacGrath, BM, said the first course to be offered should be an introduction to sprinklers. PT said commodity classifications, ESFR, general storage and hydraulic calculations would be of interest. JB suggested training in how to design according to NFPA 13. AB suggested a course in how to design systems for high-rise buildings. Paris Stavriandis, PS, will ask what FM Global can make available from its range of training courses. The following initial programme and presenters was agreed:

Introduction to sprinklers	AB	8 <sup>th</sup> September
Sprinkler System Hydraulics	PT	13 <sup>th</sup> October
Commodity Classification	JB	10 <sup>th</sup> November
General Storage	JB and PT	8 <sup>th</sup> December
ESFR	BM	12 <sup>th</sup> January 2009
Earthquake	RF	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2009
High-Rise	BM	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2009

The courses will be on Monday afternoons at 15:00 CET and last for 90 minutes. AB will do a dry run of his presentation on 9<sup>th</sup> June. Pricing was agreed at €100 for members and €200 for non-members, with a discount of 25% for signing up for all seven. The participants will be able to buy a certificate of participation for €25 if they pass the ten questions at the end of the course. AB will draft the certificate, including the course name and duration. The member rate will be applied to all members of an association, such as Sprinklerfrämjandet, that is a member of EFSN. The exception to this was BAFSA members, since BAFSA only pays EFSN a modest sum compared to other associations. Nick Groos, NG, would discuss this with BAFSA.

### Web Site Password Access

AB, reminded the committee that there was now a password protected area on the web site for the Technical Committee. He had posted some 50 documents in that area. The password is “stopfire”. JB asked AB to add the operating policy and meeting minutes in this area of the site. This has now been done.

### Representation on Committees

#### *CEN*

JB informed the TC that the EFSN had been elected as a liaison member to TC/191.

#### *CEA*

Jörg Wilms, JW, was not present to ask about the membership status of EFSN in the Prevention Council of CEA.

### Reports from Members of Committees

#### *CEN*

JB reported that TC/191 WG5 will compare NFPA and FM approaches to large drop sprinklers.

NG said that no work has been done on a standard for grooved couplings or residential and domestic sprinklers

#### *CEA*

JB reminded the committee of the CEA water mist draft and asked the TC members to comment. JB was not comfortable with a reference to IMO 800 or VdS for this document. PS said that the FM 5560 standard for the testing of specific application water mist systems is now ANSI 5560. The standard is available free on [www.fmglobal.com](http://www.fmglobal.com). Soon the FM Global datasheets will also be available.

Michel Delruelle, MD, said that CEA was considering the introduction of a maximum area of 200 sprinklers per wet alarm valve in a system designed for life safety. BM said that this made systems less reliable and he would collect data to show this.

#### *APSAD*

Pierre-Eric Joannon informed the committee that the next edition of the APSAD R1 standard will be published in July 2008. It will be more consistent with EN 12845 but not identical. CNPP has also released the 2007 edition of NFPA 13 in French.

#### *Scandinavia*

Gösta Holmstedt said that the Scandinavian (Denmark, Iceland, Norway and Sweden) working group is rapidly developing a common standard for residential and domestic sprinkler systems. The plan is to complete the work in October in Stockholm. NG has joined this committee representing EFSN. The standard considers Type 1 buildings to be single family homes, Type 2 to be buildings up to four storeys and Type 3 to be buildings higher than four storeys. He commented that the market is growing rapidly (70,000 heads in Norway and 25,000 heads in Sweden in 2007). The market data was collected by sprinkler manufacturers and distributors in the first weeks of January sending their shipment data to Gösta. NG would see if he could persuade BAFSA to do the same in the UK.

### *LPCB*

SB said that BRE was preparing a position paper on the issue of using RTI to classify concealed sprinklers. EN 12845 requires quick response sprinklers for life safety systems. A concealed sprinkler cannot obtain a quick response rating so there is confusion about whether concealed sprinklers can be used for this application. Related to this Gordon Biezeveld, GB, asked about the issue of fitting concealed sprinklers in concrete ceilings. To achieve satisfactory response most designs require a flow of air past the sprinkler. PT will draft a position paper on this issue. AB will circulate the BRE paper on this subject.

### *Scandinavia*

At the previous meeting Ragnar Wighus presented the fire test protocol for fire suppression systems for care homes. The expectation is that the systems will be portable units which can be fitted in a home but easily removed if required. AB had forgotten to circulate the protocol for comments. He commented that the units are reported to cost about €3,500 or about twice the cost of fitting a house with a domestic sprinkler system. JB commented that the standard did not specify any component tests. GB said that the aims of the unit could be better achieved by using fire resistant mattresses and bedding.

**Action:** *JB asked all members of the TC to study the protocol and to submit comments to AB as soon as possible.*

### *FM Global*

BM said that FM Global is trialling a system to offer the free download of its datasheets and in April 2008 it will go live. FM Global is still working on a simplification of its datasheet on storage protection, to reduce the huge number of permutations now possible. It is also updating its fire pump standard.

### *NFPA*

RF said that the NFPA 13 sprinkler committee was reviewing proposed changes. There are several regarding record storage and compact file storage. The cultural resources committee has obtained an exemption from the use of quick response sprinklers and has introduced a requirement for a pitch in dry pipe systems in 909 and 914.

### *BSI*

AB reminded the committee that BSI had drafted a standard on actuation systems for pre-action sprinkler systems. Viking had submitted comments but that had not heard back from the committee.

**Action:** *AB will contact the BSI secretariat to learn whether there had been any incorporation of those comments.*

### Backflow Prevention

AB informed the Committee that he had a few more questions of TC members before he would complete his report on this issue. He would issue an update for comments before approval at the next meeting.

**Action:** *NG will provide data for Italy and Luxembourg, Jesús de la Torre for Spain.*

GH said that in Sweden some communities charge a fee for connection to water mains. Many systems are connected this way.

#### Seismic Design

*Action: BM will provide RF seismic maps for Europe.*

#### Corrosion

AB had not found time to draft a report on this subject.

*Action: MD will send ANPI experience. GB will send UL information, AB will ask Lou Grisko for FM experience and JW for VdS experience. BM said that their datasheet 2-81 has some info.*

*Action: AB will draft an article on the subject in time for the next TC meeting.*

#### New NFPA Committee on Commissioning of Systems

Pascal Pfeiffer has been accepted onto the new NFPA 3 committee, which would write a standard for the commissioning of fire protection systems.

#### Comments on BRE Warehouse Report

AB had updated his comments on this report but not yet circulated them. He had received data from insurers for the value of warehouses and their contents, expressed per unit of floor area. These numbers counter the conclusions of a British Government report which used low values to find there was no economic case for the fitting of sprinklers in warehouses.

*Action: AB send out updated report for comments.*

### **4. Any Other Business**

RF reminded the Committee of the IFSA seminar in Copenhagen on 24-25 June 2008.

There was no more business.

### **5. Date and Location for Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held in Copenhagen on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2008, starting at 11:00. This will coincide with the IFSA conference there the next day. The following meeting will be held at 11:00 on Friday, 14<sup>th</sup> November at FM Global offices in Windsor.

JB thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. The Committee adjourned at 15:10.

Respectfully submitted by  
Alan Brinson  
Technical Committee Secretary