

Issue 23 - February 2016

ASFP releases supplement in Construction News



The **Association for Specialist Fire Protection** (ASFP) has produced a 36-page supplement in conjunction with Construction News magazine.

The supplement, *Understanding Passive Fire Protection*, provides an introduction to the vital role of passive fire protection and the services offered by the ASFP & its members. It looks in detail at many of the issues that are important for all those who share responsibility and indeed liability for the design, installation or management of passive fire protection.

It features ASFP news, indepth advice and articles and a series of datasheets covering each aspect of passive fire protection. [Click to view the supplement \(http://digitalissues.emap.com/CN/asfp/html5/index.html\)](http://digitalissues.emap.com/CN/asfp/html5/index.html)

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ARC scoops sustainability award



ARC Building Solutions achieved success in two out of eight categories at the Leeds Beckett University Research Innovation Sustainability and Enterprise (RISE) Awards in 2015.

The ARC T-Barrier® was the winning entry in the Field & Laboratory Research category and the ARC Eaves Insulator was Highly Commended in the category of Enterprise.

Organised by the Leeds Sustainability Institute, the RISE Awards showcase the most innovative and forward thinking products, projects and partnerships and demonstrate the success that can be achieved through industry and academic links.

ARC has been working closely with the Centre for the Built Environment at Leeds Beckett University since March 2013.

Leeds Beckett assisted ARC to carry out thermal calculations on the efficiency of the ARC T-Barrier. These show that the ARC T-Barrier can be 20% more effective than other systems, with further tests showing it offers a more effective seal.

An air tight test on the ARC T-Barrier found it provides three times the pressure differential compared to conventional cavity barrier systems and nearly twice the pressure differential of the airtightness membrane employed by some house builders.

This ground-breaking test using a timber frame rig in ARC's factory, is the only effective test currently available to assess whether products form an effective edge seal.

The RISE awards judges stated:

"ARC are to be commended on their approach to research and development. The construction of a test rig and use of a leading research team to test and analyse the data is a significant step forward in addressing the performance gap and producing energy efficient buildings".

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Sherwin-Williams offers fire design estimator tool



A fire design estimation tool from **Sherwin-Williams** is offering a new calculated solution to the issues of fire engineering safety.

The software in the new Firetex Design Estimator 2.0 offers the capability of providing calculations for coatings thicknesses of all shapes, sizes and combinations of apertures within cellular beams.

It meets the very latest requirements of the Steel Construction Institute (SCI) guidance documents as well as the Association for Specialist Fire Protection (ASFP) Yellow Book Edition 5.

Offering efficient handling of unfilled voids with trapezoidal profiled metal decking systems, project sharing and designs to both British Standards as well as the emerging Eurocodes, the software is independently tested and fully verified under the Exova Certifire scheme.

The estimation and design tool also provides support where a limiting temperature has been specified, removing any assumptions from all parties.

Ongoing updates, guidance and support on all legislative and industry changes are also made available through a new dedicated web download site to ensure the user is always up to date with current codes.

Bob Glendenning, manager for fire engineering for Sherwin-Williams Protective & Marine Coatings said: "We are well aware of the challenges facing estimators and structural engineers on some of the major projects around and we believe this software helps to eliminate any personal interpretations or assumptions.

"Many of the buildings currently being designed present difficulties further down the line in terms of fire protection design and this software supports the industry in keeping pace with advances in design and materials."

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IFC Group makes a difference



IFC Certification (IFCC) is continuing to develop new services for clients while also working to improve fire safety standards.

A number of IFC representatives have been appointed to standards committees. Principal Fire Safety Engineer, Hans van de Weijert, has been appointed Chairman of the Fire Safety Engineering in Fire Resistance Tests Technical Committee ISO/TC 92/SC 2/WG7. With IFC's involvement in TC 92 spanning some two decades, Hans accepted this position following the loss of Peter Jackman, one of the UK's founding fathers of fire safety engineering.

Standards & Compliance Director, Chuck J. Lewis, has been appointed as the Convener for the Fixed Firefighting Systems Technical Committee for Smoke Barriers, which is responsible for hEN 12101-1 under CEN/TC 191/SC 1/WG 1. David Cooper is Chairing FSH/22/07 within British (BS) and European (CEN) Standards committees, developing fire resistance testing procedures and the extrapolation of such results for applications in buildings.

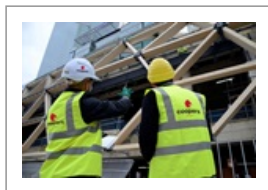
IFC Group has also been active at a range of conferences and exhibitions. At the Build Show 2015, IFCC launched its Enhanced Security scheme, satisfying Secured by Design requirements. Ian Woodhouse delivered a paper on the importance of third party certification to installers. Meanwhile, International Fire Consultants Group had a major presence at Big 5 exhibition in Dubai, meeting with clients and Civil Defence representatives. IFCC supports a number of manufacturers in this growing GCC market.

And in Ireland, Colin Keeley has delivered passive fire safety training at Kilkenny Fire & Rescue Service, with additional courses planned throughout Ireland in spring 2016.

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Assured performance from Coopers Fire



Coopers Fire Limited has a long and successful history of manufacturing fully compliant fire and smoke curtain barrier systems for installation worldwide and is dedicated to advancing fire and smoke barrier curtain technology and improving ways to safeguard life and property.

Such curtains give designers a modern alternative, for example, to non-load bearing fire walls, fire doors, bulkheads, down stand glazing and fire rated glazing, offering them a means to help create modern, open plan environments which are compliant with fire regulations.

When specifying a fire or smoke barrier system, it is essential to consider the whole package, from quality, performance, installation and maintenance, to after sales care.

Coopers Fire smoke and fire curtains and their key components are manufactured within the Coopers Group of Companies, at manufacturing plants in the UK. Every Coopers' curtain is third party accredited to BS, EN and UL standards, and the business is certified to ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 Environment Management.

Coopers Fire recently became the first manufacturer to achieve full compliance to the new British Standard BS 8524 Parts 1 & 2 for active fire curtain barrier assemblies.

In addition, Coopers Fire is the only fire and smoke curtain manufacturer with independent third party accreditation for the installation, commissioning and servicing of fire and smoke curtains.

Specifying Coopers Fire smoke and fire barrier systems is the best way to ensure that every fire or smoke curtain will operate exactly as expected in the event of a fire.

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Ash Fire backs smoke toxicity campaign



Ash Fire Management CEO Paul Evans attended a meeting at the European Parliament to discuss 'future proofing' the Construction Products Regulation (CPR). The meeting was organised by Fire Safe Europe (FSEU), an association of fire industry experts, firefighters, EU policy makers and representatives from the fire industry and associations.

CPR shapes the fire safety standards for buildings products in the EU, yet the testing methods called on by the CPR do not always reflect real life fire behaviour of building materials. They have not been revised since 2002 and are based on data from the 90s, since when the contents of buildings, especially residential, have changed significantly with the increased use of electronic gadgetry and synthetic materials.

"When these belongings catch fire they burn differently, releasing a variety of chemicals and toxic gases," says Paul.

"It is encouraging that the European Commission has commissioned a study into the smoke toxicity of construction materials. We are happy to see that the Commission is seeking to tackle the #1 killer in a fire."

Ash Fire has developed the Naturvent smoke management system. "Although designed with life safety in residential premises in mind, it is proving to be an ideal solution for a variety of buildings," Paul announces.

Recently a school in Hertfordshire has specified the Naturvent system as the school Governors understand that removing the smoke in a fire situation will aid the school's evacuation procedure and considerably enhance the life safety of its pupils and staff."

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Actionair extends CE marked fire damper range



Actionair, a brand of **Ruskin Air Management**, has extended its range of CE marked products by completing the relevant fire damper testing and accreditation for its range of Fire Shield fire dampers.

Fire Shield dampers are installed using Rockwool ablative coated batt penetration seal system, making it easier for ductwork contractors and fire stopping contractors to achieve a CE compliant installation.

Fire Shield dampers are manufactured by Actionair for air conditioning and ventilation systems that need up to two hours' fire protection. They can be installed in standard square, rectangular and circular spiral duct systems where the duct passes through fire rated walls.

Fire Shield dampers are E rated when tested to the European standard EN 1366-2 and are manufactured to BS EN 1506. They come complete with a tested flange system to speed up installation and are available in millimetre increments up to 1,250mm x 1,000mm or up to 1,000mm diameter, suitable for insulated or non-insulated ductwork.

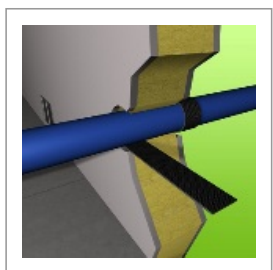
These CE marked curtain bladed dampers are equipped with a fail-safe spring closing and thermal release, cassette mechanism. This unique self-latching, removable release mechanism cassette is patented and tested to ISO 10294-4. It gives single handed reset operation, a distinct benefit over the traditional chain and bar thermal links, especially where access is problematic. The cassette is corrosion resistant and includes a memory metal coil that activates at approximately 72°C.

Fire Shield dampers are suitable for use in HEVAC systems with low to medium pressures and velocities.

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FSi promises further PipeBloc developments



FSi's goal is to continually develop products and provide well tested solutions to the installer. 2015 saw the introduction of the exciting PipeBloc range from **FSi**, which includes PipeBloc PCP, PipeBloc PWP and PipeBloc EL.

PipeBloc EL is an intumescent wrap on a roll that offers versatility to the user. It has been tested around several different types of insulation, achieving EI 120.

The product has been tested in such a way that varying thicknesses and densities of insulation are covered. In addition to the wide range of plastics already tested, PipeBloc EL is now covered for use around elastomeric foam insulation, phenolic insulation, glass and stone wool insulation.

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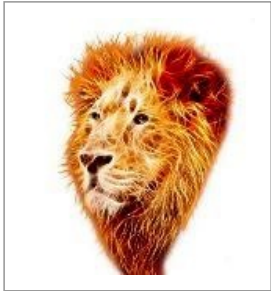
PipeBloc EL was also tested within our Stopseal Batt system in large apertures, both fitted within the aperture, and externally, to extend our 'patress fit' solution for all configurations.

Installation of PipeBloc EL is easy and consistent by simply 'wrapping twice' around each type and size of insulation material.

The PipeBloc range is set to continue its development throughout 2016, with a full test programme already planned. FSi will always improve its product range to ensure it offers the most tested, practical and cost effective solutions in the worldwide market. Please see our website for our full product range.

For more information or if you wish to discuss future testing and developments please contact the team at FSi by emailing sales@fsilttd.com (<mailto:sales@fsilttd.com>) or calling +44 (0) 1530 515130.

Fire-rated ductwork from Airforce H&V



Airforce H&V is a specialist manufacturer and installer of fire rated ductwork. Its SAFE4 range has been in use for over 10 years in the UK and is a result of years of research and development.

SAFE4 has been tested to BS476 Part 24 and to the latest European Standards. All products for which a harmonised standard exists are CE marked.

SAFE4 kitchen extract and smoke extract ductwork has been tested and approved to BS476 Part 24 for insulated and uninsulated applications, to EN 12101-7 for smoke extract and to EN 15871 for kitchen extract, fire-rated ductwork and pressurisation.

BS476 has been superseded as of July 2013 and has been replaced by the new European Standard EN 12101-7 for smoke extract (DW144 pg13 4.3.1). Airforce H&V offers a product to meet these changes in the current market.

The production of SAFE4 is carried out within an ISO 9001, 14001 and OHSAS 18001 quality-approved environment. It is installed by trained and badged installers who must be certified under Firas, or an independent third party certifier in accordance with DW144 pg22 4.6.

As with ductwork, fire dampers test standards are also changing. Dampers must be tested to EN1366-2, have a CE label and must provide a simple mechanism for drop testing. Airforce H&V offers a damper which meets all the above requirements.

Airforce H&V also offers CPDs approved by the Institution of Fire Engineers in the UK. These cover all current and upcoming changes affecting fire duct and damper installations.

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ASFP seeks new Chief Executive Officer



The **Association for Specialist Fire Protection** (ASFP) is seeking a new Chief Executive Officer to develop and drive the strategic direction of the association through the next stage in its evolution.

The move follows current CEO Wilf Butcher's announcement of his intention to retire from full-time engagement within the fire sector. Mr Butcher has led the Association for almost nine years, during which time it has achieved significant growth.

Speaking of Mr Butcher's impending retirement, ASFP Chair Stuart Holmes declared:

"The Association wishes to thank Wilf for his tireless work in promoting the ASFP and representing its views across the wider fire sector and built environment.

"Thanks to Wilf, the ASFP is now recognised as the leading trade association representing the passive fire protection sector of the fire protection industry in the UK and Ireland.

"We are now seeking a new Chief Executive to build on this legacy and meet the sector's aspirations going forward."

[Click here \(http://asfp.org.uk/webdocs/NEWS_CEO_spec.php\)](http://asfp.org.uk/webdocs/NEWS_CEO_spec.php) for further details of the role, or to apply.

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