



# ASFP E-BULLETIN

This news bulletin is brought straight to your desktop by the Association for Specialist Fire Protection (ASFP).

It provides brief, easy to digest information on current 'built in' fire protection advances, developments and issues.

To obtain further information, click the hyperlinks below each story.

[www.asfp.org.uk](http://www.asfp.org.uk)

Issue 13

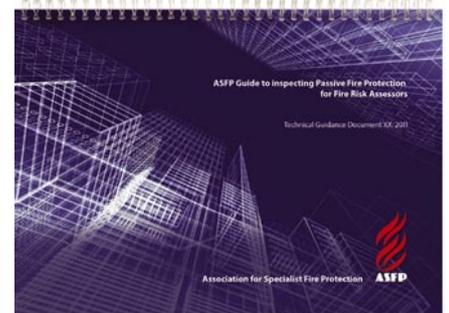
## ASFP LAUNCHES NEW GUIDE FOR RISK ASSESSORS

The **Association for Specialist Fire Protection (ASFP)** has produced a new guide for fire risk assessors which will be available from end-May.

The ASFP *Guide to Inspecting Passive Fire Protection for Fire Risk Assessors* is aimed at fire risk assessors and those directly involved in the specification, installation or maintenance of passive fire protection. It lays out clear, pragmatic guidance to enable the identification and inspection of all types of passive fire protection as part of a fire risk assessment, as required under UK legislation.

The document offers guidance on: passive fire protection - what it is and how it works; building layout and construction; how to assess each type of passive fire protection measure within the context of a fire risk assessment for means of escape. It also provides examples of both good and bad workmanship, example checklists to compile an appropriate risk assessment and describes where to go for further guidance.

The guide is offered in a robust A5 spiral ring-bound hard copy format, for £20.00 plus £2.50 p&p. As part of a 'new membership' introduction package, the document will also be provided free of charge to those professionals joining the ASFP as an Affiliate member. The guide will also be available as a free PDF download from the ASFP website, [www.asfp.org.uk](http://www.asfp.org.uk).



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## FREEDOR ENHANCEMENTS

ASFP member **Fireco Ltd** has announced some important improvements to its award-winning Freedom, wireless, electrically powered free-swung door-closer.

Access has been made smoother by adding an automatic free-swung function, while self-test disruption and noise has been reduced by making the weekly test selectable rather than a default function. The battery life has also been extended from 12-18 months to 18-24 months.

The installation process has also been simplified. The number of components has been reduced and redundant consumable parts removed from the package. The battery lift has been improved, making it easier to activate; there have been improvements to the screw elements; and the latching action has been upgraded through internal modifications and the development of a more robust latch. The environmental performance has been enhanced too, through wider testing in different environments/scenarios.

Wireless Freedom allows users to hold open fire doors at any angle, automatically closing them when the fire alarm sounds to prevent the spread of fire and smoke around the building. Installed at the top of the door Freedom is neat, unobtrusive and easy to install in new buildings as well as to retrofit, with none of the expense and disruption associated with the installation of hard-wired door closers.



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## NEW WEBSITE FOR FIRE PROTECTION COATINGS

ASFP member **Fire Protection Coatings Limited** has launched a new website to celebrate the company's 10th anniversary.

The new site allows customers to find out everything they need to know about the company's services online, as well as providing latest industry news and events for the diary. Also incorporated into the new site is an e-commerce facility.

The new Fire Stopping Shop provides customers with fully tested fire and safety products, backed up by full technical information and health and safety data. The company also provides technical advice over the phone or via email.

Fire Protection Coatings Ltd offers a range of high quality products, including: epoxy intumescent coatings; flame retardants; fabric and insulations; extinguishers; ablatives; fire resistant paints; and fire barriers and sealants. It has a range of specialist workstations to spray, mould or hand apply fire protective coatings onto critical components.

To view the wealth of information available, visit: [www.fireprotectioncoatings.com](http://www.fireprotectioncoatings.com)

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## CHILTERN EXPLAINS FIRE PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS

**Chiltern International Fire (CIF)** is expecting growing demand from manufacturers for its CPD training course, *Fire Protection in Buildings Explained – The Role of Passive Fire Protection Products*.

Launched last year, the course is designed to give clear guidance on passive fire protection (PFP) products and how they work, the test process and what it demonstrates, as well as the legislative framework supporting fire safety in the UK.

"Manufacturers of PFP products have identified the course as a useful training tool, not just for their technical managers, but also for their sales staff. If they fully understand the passive fire protection process and the surrounding issues, they are better equipped to assist specifiers to make the correct choices," said CIF Deputy Technical Manager Mark Cummings.

The course appeals to a wide audience, with delegates at past events coming from many backgrounds, including architects, local authorities, housing associations, contractors, facilities managers and installation companies.

*Fire Protection in Buildings Explained – The Role of Passive Fire Protection Products* will be held at CIF's High Wycombe headquarters on 17 May and 4 October 2012. Delegate fees are £285.00 plus VAT (Standard) and £225 plus VAT (TRADA members). To book online visit [www.chilternfire.co.uk/training](http://www.chilternfire.co.uk/training).



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## DOES IT BURN? No it doesn't! says Rockwool

How do an iPad, a wad of cash, a box of chocolates and a water balloon escape a raging inferno unscathed? A new series of videos produced by ASFP member **Rockwool** demonstrates just how this can be achieved.

The series of films entitled, DOES IT BURN?, see keen DIY-er Peter Halpin place delicate or valuable items into a mini-house created entirely from Rockwool's non-combustible insulation, which is then engulfed in flames.

Once removed from the fire, the items are found to have survived completely unharmed. Rockwool is also challenging viewers to nominate items to brave the inferno – next could it be a tub of ice cream or a teddy?

The videos are hosted on Rockwool's YouTube channel and can be viewed at: [www.youtube.com/user/RockwoolUK](http://www.youtube.com/user/RockwoolUK)

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**Website:** [www.youtube.com/user/RockwoolUK](http://www.youtube.com/user/RockwoolUK)



## INVICTA DURASTEEL PROTECTS NEW DOHA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

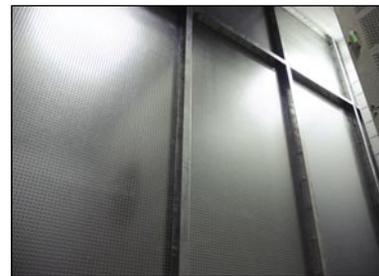
ASFP member Invicta Durasteel's Middle East office has recently completed the installation of extensive fire and blast protection to a series of substations at New Doha International Airport (NDIA), Qatar's new international airport due to open in December 2012.

The external substation buildings, located in close proximity to the runways and taxiways, have been entirely encased with Durasteel barriers and ceilings, providing complete two-way fire and blast protection.

The systems were designed to not only contain any transformer explosion that may occur inside the substation, but also protect the transformers inside from any external fires and blasts. Ground staff and fuel-filled, passenger-carrying aircraft which will be operating in close proximity to the substations present extensive risks.

New Doha International Airport is the latest in a long line of projects in the Middle East to recognise need for extended fire and blast protection and to choose Durasteel as its preferred high-specification fire and blast protection system. At the Jebel Ali Power and Desalination Plant project, 94 separate underground tunnel Durasteel fire barriers were installed to provide effective fire compartmentation in the site's tunnels, cable trenches and basements, which house cables vital to the operation of the plant.

Some 40 demountable Durasteel fire barriers were also installed in 19 separate underground and overground stations on the Dubai Metro Green Line. Each fire barrier was designed primarily to stop the spread of fire in public areas.



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## NEW SPECIFICATION TOOL FROM PROMAT

The new SPEC SELECT online tool from **Promat** aims to simplify the task of specifying the most appropriate passive fire protection system for a particular application.

The tool, which allows different fire protection options to be compared, gives users such as specifiers, contractors and distributors, access to a wide range of specification details, technical information and CAD drawings.

SPEC SELECT offers users a quick and reliable one-step method of identifying the most suitable Promat system for their needs, whether it is for a structural steel, partition, wall, ceiling or roof application. It also offers rapid access to standard CAD details, system specifications, safety data sheets and product information. Products can be searched for according to various parameters, including the length of fire resistance required, the type of application, plus the need for impact and moisture resistance.



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## TRAINING FROM SIDERISE INSULATION

As strong supporters of FIRAS and LPS third party certification schemes, ASFP member **Siderise Insulation Ltd** has introduced a training and accreditation scheme to ensure that its Lamatherm fire and Lamaphon acoustic products are installed to the highest standard by third party certified companies.

The company, a leading supplier of firestopping for curtain wall and rainscreen applications, is concerned that, since these products are often installed by cladding contractors, the seal often carries no independent third party certification.

A number of high profile ASFP members have undertaken the training and obtained accreditation.

A full list of those accredited or information on joining the scheme is available from the company.



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## LPCB RAISES THE ROOF

Fires on or near roofs can threaten an entire home or commercial premises. However, a third-party certificated roofing system can assist in managing this fire risk, says independent third party approvals body **BRE Global**.

The imminent introduction of TS 1187, the European test standard for roof systems, will change the external fire performance classification of roofing systems. While for UK regulatory purposes, the test method will follow the principles of BS 476-3: 2004, it will classify roofing systems and products based on their fire penetration performance only.

However, the UK insurance industry has expressed a preference for a classification system that takes account of flame spread as well as fire penetration in order to limit the extent of fire damage. As a result, the LPCB scheme for approval and classification of roofing systems, LPS 1505: *Requirements for the LPCB approval and listing of external fire performance for roofing products*, will take into account both spread of flame and penetration.

"LPS 1505 will continue to provide classifications, based on BS 476-3, which UK insurers and specifiers are familiar with and which meets their property protection requirements," said LPCB's Certification Scheme Manager for Passive Fire Protection, Tony Baker:

LPS 1505 requires initial type testing and ongoing audit testing of the product supported by factory production control audits to establish consistent quality of production.



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