

Issue 18 - March 2014

ASFP announces Firex International plans



<http://www.asfp.org.uk/webdocs/courses.php>The **Association for Specialist Fire Protection** (ASFP) has confirmed dates for several of its popular series of regional CPD seminars.

The next event, supported by London Fire Brigade, is scheduled to take place at the brigade's Southwark Training Centre in London on 20 March 2014.

This will be followed by similar events in:

- Cardiff, 8 April
- Scotland, 26 June
- West Yorkshire, 8 July.

Held in association with the British Woodworking Federation (BWF) and supported by local fire and rescue services and the Chief Fire Officers' Association, the seminars provide essential advice on all aspects of passive fire protection; its specification, installation, inspection and maintenance.

Aimed at improving awareness of passive fire protection, *Understanding Passive Fire Protection*, offers presentations from technical experts from across the fire sector, including the ASFP, BWF, Glass and Glazing Federation, Guild of Architectural Ironmongers and the fire service.

The events are suitable for anyone who is responsible for specifying or inspecting passive fire protection or those appointing trades that could cause damage to existing fire protection in the process of their work. They should particularly appeal to practising Fire Risk Assessors, Responsible Persons, Local Authorities, Facilities Managers, Building Control, and Care Home Providers.

The price of each event is just **£45 plus VAT**, including lunch. ASFP and BWF members can book at a special rate of **£30 plus VAT**. A donation of £5 from every booking will be made to the Children's Burns Trust.

For further information, to download a programme or to book a place, please visit www.asfp.org.uk/webdocs/courses.php (<http://www.asfp.org.uk/webdocs/courses.php>); or call 01420 471612.

✉ [email \(mailto:info@asfp.org.uk\)](mailto:info@asfp.org.uk)

🌐 [website \(http://www.asfp.org.uk/webdocs/courses.php\)](http://www.asfp.org.uk/webdocs/courses.php)

Tax relief for innovative businesses



hempagroup.co.uk/randdtaxcreditsIf you are improving, developing or adding value to products, services or processes, the financial risks that you take, through staffing costs, consumables and overheads can be offset by using the government's R&D Tax Credits Scheme.

The scheme was implemented to encourage innovation in the UK, and to increase overall research and development activity. Firms are able to claim on all eligible activity from the past two financial years, and the **MPA Group** - a specialist team of industry analysts and accountants - says it is vital that the past two years' investment are not overlooked or missed.

Recent research shows that only 15% of all eligible businesses are taking advantage of this scheme, because many assume they do not qualify, do not see themselves as innovators, or that 'Research & Development' only means R&D departments.

Mike Price, founder and innovation director of the MPA Group, who is also a member of the HMRC advisory committee, says:

'Businesses assume they are not eligible, but this often comes down to their understanding of the scheme. To fully assess what activities qualify, and to make sure you get maximum benefit, you need to understand both the industry you work in and the legislation itself.'

Even if you are already claiming, the MPA Group says it has often discovered that claims are not maximised. To ensure their clients maximise their R&D claim, the organisation employs analysts that specialise in the industry of the business.

For further information, please contact Emyr Wyn James on +44 (0) 1792 720172.

✉ [email \(mailto:emyr.james@thempagroup.co.uk\)](mailto:emyr.james@thempagroup.co.uk)

🌐 [website \(http://www.thempagroup.co.uk/randdtaxcredits\)](http://www.thempagroup.co.uk/randdtaxcredits)

CE marking guidance from BM TRADA

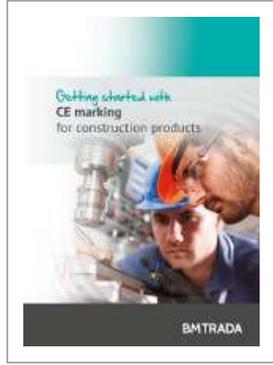
✉ [email \(mailto:testing@bmtrada.com\)](mailto:testing@bmtrada.com)

🌐 [website \(http://www.bmtrada.com/product-certification/ce-mark\)](http://www.bmtrada.com/product-certification/ce-mark)

([http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/424EB880-4744-46C2-8DAD-](http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/424EB880-4744-46C2-8DAD-53E86C72CF26/CE_marking_for_construction_products)

[53E86C72CF26/CE_marking_for_construction_products](http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/424EB880-4744-46C2-8DAD-53E86C72CF26/CE_marking_for_construction_products)) If you're unsure about CE marking then help is at hand.

Getting started with CE marking for construction products is a handy book from **BM TRADA**.



The guide explains what a manufacturer needs to do in order to comply with the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), which took effect in the UK on 1 July 2013. It also provides important guidance for other parties who also need to understand the ramifications of the CPR - such as importers, distributors, designers, specifiers and builders.

This book explains the process for CE marking of construction products. It summarises and compares the various routes to CE marking and explains the differences between the harmonised European Product Standard (hEN) and the European Assessment Document (EAD) routes.

Examples cover Assessment and Verification of Consistency of Performance levels 1 to 4:

- 1/1+ CE marking of firestopping products, such as penetration seals
- 2+ CE marking of timber products, such as plywood
- 3 CE marking of external door and window products
- 3/4 CE marking of fixture and fitting products, such as screws

Other topics covered include product and end use; performance characteristics; responsibilities of manufacturer and Notified Body; test evidence and performance declarations; factory production control; Declaration of Performance; and applying the CE mark. [Click here to order *CE marking for construction products*](http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/424EB880-4744-46C2-8DAD-53E86C72CF26/CE_marking_for_construction_products) (http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/424EB880-4744-46C2-8DAD-53E86C72CF26/CE_marking_for_construction_products)

Another useful publication from the *Getting started with.. series* is: [Factory Production Control for construction product certification](http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/0731AFD2-72F4-41E4-AD63-D265961C74C7/Getting_started_with_Factory_production_control_for_construction_product_certification)

([http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/0731AFD2-72F4-41E4-AD63-](http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/0731AFD2-72F4-41E4-AD63-D265961C74C7/Getting_started_with_Factory_production_control_for_construction_product_certification)

[D265961C74C7/Getting_started_with_Factory_production_control_for_construction_product_certification](http://bookshop.bmtrada.com/bookshop/view/0731AFD2-72F4-41E4-AD63-D265961C74C7/Getting_started_with_Factory_production_control_for_construction_product_certification))

For further information on CE Marking or certification, please contact BM TRADA on (<mailto:testing@bmtrada.com>) 01494 569 800

Innovative 'twist and go' solution from Hilti



(<http://www.hilti.co.uk>) **Hilti** has introduced its 'twist and go' CFS-SL Firestop Speedsleeve which solves the issue of re-penetrating a firestop seal with additional new cables.

The company says that, while traditional firestopping relies on the installer of the new cables reinstating any existing firestop seal that is breached, this CE marked innovation is a simple solution: no additional firestop materials are needed, so there is no need for mixing different manufacturers' firestop products.

A metal housing containing intumescent seals and a glass fibre sealing sock ensures cables are firestopped for up to two hours. Installation of the sleeve is simple: the main body of the sleeve is placed in a cored hole in the floor or wall, and clamping plates are attached. Cables are installed by twisting the sleeve open, revealing a yellow indicator band showing that it is open. The cables are then passed through and the sleeve is twisted closed.

Hilti CFS-SL Firestop Speedsleeve is said to be ideal for advance preparation of cable installation, meaning no messy works are needed, particularly in an occupied building. Cable changes are made simply and cleanly, for example in data or communication centres.

CFS-SL is suitable for cable penetrations (single cables and cable bundles) in flexible wall constructions, rigid walls and rigid floors, and is tested in accordance with EOTA ETAG No 026 – Part 2.

✉ [email \(mailto:gbtas@hilti.com\)](mailto:gbtas@hilti.com)

🌐 [website \(http://www.hilti.co.uk\)](http://www.hilti.co.uk)

Checkmate – 15 and counting!



(<http://www.checkmatefire.com>) **Checkmate Fire** will hold their 15th Free One Day Passive Fire Protection Seminar on Tuesday 11 March 2014 in Hammersmith, London.

The first event was held in July 2011, in association with Leicester NHS and, ever since, the seminars have been run in partnership with other organisations.

Checkmate says that during this time some 1,500 delegates have been 'frightened and enlightened' on the need for compliant passive fire protection in public buildings.

✉ [email \(mailto:kate.cooke@checkmatefire.com\)](mailto:kate.cooke@checkmatefire.com)

🌐 [website \(http://www.checkmatefire.com\)](http://www.checkmatefire.com)

Held throughout the UK, the seminars involve regular participants including Aviva Insurance, BRE / LPCB, Hilti and Lorient. The day provides a 4-hour CPD certificate, and host organisations are able to take as many delegate places as they require.

Rod Harrison, Loughborough University Fire Officer is one of many to speak highly of the seminars.

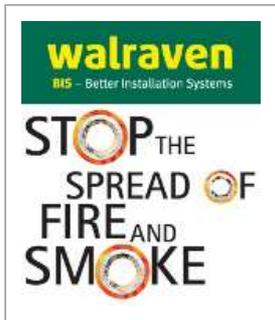
'I would have no hesitation in recommending that other universities host a Checkmate Seminar. They will find that it offers a superb opportunity to educate various personnel, not only in the need for robust fire compartmentation in our buildings, but also how this might be achieved,' he declared.

For information on future events, or if you have an interest in hosting a seminar, please contact Kate Cooke on +44 (0) 7880 385808.

Walraven: your specialist in passive fire protection

(<http://www.walraven.com/asfp>) The BIS Fire Protection System from **Walraven** offers installers a wide range of complete and certified systems for the passive fire protection of electrical and mechanical installations.

The systems consist of fire sleeves, fire collars, fire protection foams, coatings, intumescent sealants and mortar for fire safe, smoke tight and noise insulating installations.



- Complete & certified passive fire protection systems
- Conforms to UK building regulations
- Free technical support and design service available
- Site and installer certificate training

For more information call +44 (0)1295 75 34; email: sales.banbury@walraven.com (<mailto:sales.banbury@walraven.com>);

✉ email (<mailto:sales.banbury@walraven.com>)

➔ website (<http://www.walraven.com/asfp>)

New WCL appointment for Simon Ince



(<http://www.warringtoncertification.com>) Simon Ince, a regular speaker on fire safety issues and a familiar face throughout the industry, has been appointed Strategic Alliance and Partnership Manager at **Warrington Certification Limited** (WCL), the independent provider of both mandatory and voluntary fire certification schemes around the world.

Simon has been with WCL for seven years, and will continue to provide the crucial link between WCL's certificated clients and their own clients, promoting their assured services and products for fire safety diligence.

Paul Duggan, Manager at WCL, said, 'Simon has been instrumental in raising awareness of the need for good fire safety management in the UK, and has built very strong relationships with key trade and industry bodies. His new role allows us to further develop our service offering, supporting our clients by adding value to their third party certification, both in the UK and internationally.'

The company says that Simon's new role makes him well placed to make the most of 'a real push' over the next few years to educate those responsible under UK legislation for fire safety.

'My aim is to help deliver this much-needed message to the right people. By working with industry stakeholders, our certificated clients, and with enforcers, we can help to reduce the potential for fire deaths, and bring down the cost of fire loss in the UK,' concludes Simon

For further information, please contact Simon Ince on 01925 655116

✉ email (<mailto:simon.ince@exova.com>)

➔ website (<http://www.warringtoncertification.com>)

Nullifire launches time saving protection system

✉ email (<mailto:protect@nullifire.com>)

➔ website (<http://www.nullifire.com>)

Sika adds to Unitherm range

(<http://www.nullifire.com>) Passive fire coatings specialist **Nullifire** has developed two new products under the banner of its SC900 series.



The company says that, unlike traditional water-based intumescent coatings specified to protect structural steelwork, the SC900 series can be applied in a single coat of up to 6.5mm thickness. Reducing application and drying times by over 60% compared to similar systems that require multiple applications, the same 120 minute fire protection is achieved, but allows following works to commence far quicker.

SC902 has been formulated for on-site use, where the one-coat application becomes weather resistant within one hour. Nullifire says the new system can take days off the critical path for constructing steel-framed structures, and from a health and safety angle, less time is also spent working at height, cutting the risk of accidents. A number of major projects are already in progress, including the £89m University of Strathclyde Technology and Innovation Centre in Glasgow.

The other new product, SC901, has been developed for off-site fabricators and is touch dry within one hour. It is transportable in just eight hours, freeing up valuable workspace within the factory, while accelerating the overall production process.

Commenting on the product launch, John Gordon, General Manager at Nullifire, said, 'These new products represent the next generation in fire protection technology. Feedback from both clients and main contractors has been phenomenal, as they grasp the time and cost savings that they can make on their projects.'



(<http://www.sika.com>) **Sika** has added the Unitherm Platinum one coat, solvent free system to its Unitherm range of fire protection solutions.

Using epoxy technology, the Sika Unitherm Platinum system is suitable for both interior and exterior use. Certified to BS 476-21 and EN 13381-8, it offers protection for up to 90 minutes and is currently being tested to 120 minutes.

The company says the new product is simple to apply and requires no reinforcement, making it ideal for use on structural steelwork, including columns, girders and frameworks, along with castellated and complex steel building elements. Unitherm Platinum can also be applied to cantered beams without the risk of cracking after installation, thus preserving the aesthetics of the steel structure.

Sika Unitherm Platinum offers fast coating and curing. It is touch dry in 12 hours and, after just 24 hours, the steel can be moved outside for storage without risk of damage from rain or other adverse weather conditions.

High mechanical impact shock and abrasion resistance means the steel does not need additional protection when being transported or assembled on site. The coating is flexible and can tolerate being knocked, banged or bashed, with little or no sign of damage, keeping costly repairs and unsightly flaking of new structures to a minimum.

Sika says that, as a result, Unitherm Platinum offers substantial overall savings in installation time and labour. To watch a video of Unitherm Platinum, please visit

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjqFYkCRjNc> (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gjqFYkCRjNc>)

✉ email (<mailto:parkerwraykerry@uk.sika.com>)

🌐 website (<http://www.sika.com>)

New CE marked products from FSi



(<http://www.fsilttd.com>) **FSi Limited** has announced that it can now offer a wide range of products and systems which are CE marked in compliance with the Construction Products Regulation (CPR).

The company says it has worked hard over the past 13 years to position itself at a level which enables it to offer technically relevant, competitively priced products for fire protection markets around the world, complementing its 25 years' practical experience.

Products to join FSi's CE marked range include Pyrocoustic Fire Rated Sealant, Flexi-Coat, S-Line Pillows, Silverseal HSFM Mortar, Pyropro HPE, PS Coating and Stopseal Coating and Batts.

For further information, please contact FSi Limited on +44 (0)1530 515130.

✉ email (<mailto:sales@fsilttd.com>)

🌐 website (<http://www.fsilttd.com>)

Fire damper maintenance made easy



(<http://www.belimo.co.uk>) Under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, the person responsible for premises must ensure the safety of all employees and visitors. This person must also carry out a fire safety risk assessment, then implement and maintain a fire management plan.

The responsible person must ensure that the premises and any facilities, equipment and devices provided are maintained in an efficient working order and in good repair.

While systems such as fire alarms and fire doors are fairly easy to identify, others such as fire dampers which are hidden are frequently overlooked.

Fire dampers are installed in duct work where it passes through a fire compartment wall or floor and prevent the spread of fire and smoke through the ventilation ducts.

Regulation 38 of the Building Regulations in England and Wales requires that the responsible person is provided with information about all the fire systems within a building, to enable him to implement an appropriate maintenance regime. This should include details of the type of fire dampers installed.

According to BS9999, dampers should be tested by a competent person at regular intervals not exceeding two years and spring-operated dampers (such as curtain fire dampers) should be tested annually.

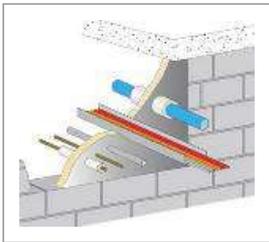
Motorised fire dampers offer an alternative solution for new installations. They make testing and maintenance much easier as they offer the opportunity for remote testing.

For further information on motorised fire dampers contact **Belimo Automation UK** on 01932 260460

✉ [email \(mailto:sales@belimo.co.uk\)](mailto:sales@belimo.co.uk)

🌐 [website \(http://www.belimo.co.uk\)](http://www.belimo.co.uk)

ROCKWOOL adds to its Firepro range



<http://www.rockwool.co.uk> ROCKWOOL has announced the addition of 50mm Ablative Coated Batt to its FIREPRO range of passive fire protection products, in response to market demand.

The company says the new product is designed to reinstate the performance of fire resisting concrete floors, masonry walls and dry wall systems which have been compromised by the passage of services. As confirmed by comprehensive testing, the combination of dense stone-wool insulation and ablative coating also provides excellent air sealing and acoustic performance.

ROCKWOOL 50mm Ablative Coated Batt can also be used as a 'head-of-wall' barrier to extend the fire resistance and acoustic performances of masonry walls finishing at suspended ceiling height, up to the concrete soffit above.

In addition, for dry wall applications where the openings have not been framed and lined, the new product has been tested when face fixed to the plasterboard surfaces.

ROCKWOOL says that, in response to this growing and increasingly important market, it has re-designed and tested ROCKWOOL 50mm Ablative Coated Batt to the latest version of the dedicated European test standard for penetration seals, BS EN 1366-3. The test programme took advantage of the full test configurations to maximise the coverage for the batt, to ensure the product meets the needs of the UK construction market.

For further information, please contact the Technical Solutions Team on +44 (0) 871 222 1780.

✉ [email \(mailto:technical.solutions@rockwool.co.uk\)](mailto:technical.solutions@rockwool.co.uk)

🌐 [website \(http://www.rockwool.co.uk\)](http://www.rockwool.co.uk)

ASFP announces Firex International plans



<http://www.asfp.org.uk/webdocs/exhibitions.php> The **Association for Specialist Fire Protection (ASFP)** will once again be hosting the ASFP Passive Fire Protection Zone at Fires International 2014 at London's ExCel, 17-19 June. This will focus on products, services and best practice in relation to 'built-in' fire protection.

With a strong emphasis on professional expertise and the requirements for approved installers and contractors, the ASFP Passive Fire Protection Zone will provide visitors with exclusive access to industry experts and knowledge on how to make buildings intrinsically safe from fire, using the right materials and approaches to fire safety.

The ASFP's stand, featuring a 12sqm video screen, will be the focal point of the ASFP Passive Protection Zone, offering the visitor a wealth of essential documentation, publications and videos, as well as demonstrating its new iPad App for Fire Risk Assessment.

In addition, the ASFP will be launching its new passive fire protection awareness training programme, designed to up-skill the supply chain involved in the installation of passive fire protection and improving the knowledge base of those involved in the design, supply, inspection and maintenance of passive fire protection.

The ASFP Passive Fire Protection Zone brings together in one location a number of ASFP member companies, representing a cross section of the passive fire protection sector. Experts from each company will be on hand to answer questions and provide detailed advice on particular products and installation matters, as well as details of available third party certification schemes.

The ASFP will also be offering a range of seminar sessions within the two Firex theatres.

For further information contact on ASFP activities at Firex International, please visit www.asfp.org.uk (<http://www.asfp.org.uk/>); call 01420 471612; or email: info@asfp.org.uk (<mailto:info@asfp.org.uk>)

 [email \(mailto:info@asfp.org.uk\)](mailto:info@asfp.org.uk)

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