Looking for common approach to fire safety
The built environment is changing

From this... ...to this
From this…

Time

Energy

…to this

3 07/04/2014
Unwanted consequences may happen
Fires are spreading more rapidly

1950 → 15 minutes

Today → 3 minutes
It is about safety

- New laws to improve the energy performance of buildings could decrease their fire performance
- Test and classification methods have not been adequately updated to address risks from new construction techniques
- Some areas relevant for safety remain out of focus of EU regulations, e.g. external fire spread, toxic smoke
- Fire safety regulations across Europe show major differences in the level of safety to occupants
Progression of Acquired Members 2012/2013

10/2011 04/2012 06/2012 06/2012 02/2013
Our strategy

STRATEGIC GOAL
To reduce the impact of fires in large buildings across Europe by substantially improving and harmonizing the regulatory environment

2013
SHORT TERM GOAL
Agree and articulate FSEU’s key issues and policy recommendations

2016
MEDIUM TERM GOALS
1. EP own-initiative report
2. Harmonized data
3. Revision of EU standards (ETICS/SPs)
4. Active policy player
5. Build our reputation

2018
LONG TERM GOAL
Getting a Fire Safety in Buildings Regulation adopted by the EU
Target audiences

- National Regulators
- The European Commission
- CEN / CENLEC
- The European Parliament
- Media
- Construction Value Chain
- NGOs / Consumer Groups
- Customers
- Our colleagues
Current projects

The FireSafetyFirst Pledge campaign → Facade fire spread → Smoke
FireSafetyFirst is a European pledge campaign asking Members and Candidate Members of the European Parliament to work for a fire safe Europe during the next European Parliamentary term (2014-2019).

MEPs & Candidate MEPs
Submit your pledge here

Become a Partner
Join the Campaign

An 83 year old woman died in a fire in a building in Lisbon
22 March 2014
The building was evacuated. Four people were assisted due to smoke inhalation and transported to the hospital.

How do modern fires differ from traditional fires?
24 March 2014
While the physics of fire development has not changed over time, the fire environment, or more specifically the single-family...
Why Settle for Less?

The aim of Fire Safe Europe is to raise the profile of fire safety in buildings, especially with policy regulators, at both the European and National levels.
Our objective
Action Plan

- Call MEPs to sign the pledge
- MEP questions (Commissioner hearings and other)
- Meeting MEPs and Commission 1-1
- Sensation Fire Tunnel
- MEP Contact Programme in Strasbourg with fire fighters
- Build coalition of Partners
- Identified Champion MEP
- Write report
- Build coalition of MEPs
- File an own initiative report on Fire Safety in Buildings

Resources

- Pledge campaign Website
- Communication materials
- Sensation fire tunnel
- Partners

Partners

- EFFUA - Fire fighters
- ANEC
- ABTA
- Swedish civil Contingencies Agency
- Danish Precast Concrete Association
- Fire Industry Association (UK)
- Insurance Europe
Facade fire spread
The issue:
✿ **What we want:** Harmonised test for ETICS.

✿ **What we need:** A mandate from Commission to CEN

✿ **How we achieve it:**
Action Plan

Letters to the Commission services and new Commissioners & cabinets to outline our concerns (with partners)

Letters to key partners (e.g. participants of façade fire conference) to rally support

Commission Meeting programme

Show and tell e.g. Zagreb

Regular meetings/ initiatives with Member State officials e.g. HU, SE

MEP questions (Commissioner hearings and other)

Mandate

Harmonised test method

Resources

- Issue briefs
- Building Height Study
- Letters
- ETICS fires (tweets/blog)

Partners

- Fire fighters
- Participants of 2013 façade conference
- MEPs
Smoke
The issue: No fire without smoke

Figure 1.6: Fatalities by cause, Great Britain, 2011/12p

- Burns - severe: 25%
- Overcome by gas, smoke or toxic fumes: 34%
- Combination of burns and overcome by gas/smoke: 19%
- Unspecified: 14%
- Other: 8%

‘Other’ includes head/chest or other physical injuries, fractures, shock or other medical conditions
**What we want:** A revision of the fire testing standards and classification scheme currently in place.

**What we need:** An extension of these schemes to include testing for smoke toxicity and incorporating this into the overall fire safety classification.

**How we achieve it:**
Action Plan

Dissemination of FSEU position paper

Build partnership of supportive stakeholders on smoke

Commission Meeting programme

MEP questions (Commissioner hearings and other)

Find a champion member state

Mandate

Revision of the fire testing standards and classification

Resources

- Smoke toxicity position paper
- Smoke Toxicity presentation (Barcelona)
- Q&A
- Smoke issues (Tweets/Blog)

Partners

- Fire fighters
- MEPs
- Patient groups
- Environmental NGOs
So what’s in it for you?
Tools

Q&A – Internal

Q&A – Fire Advisory Board

Presentations

• Modern methods of construction
• Fire load in Buildings
• CTF background presentation
• Smoke Toxicity

Position papers

• Smoke Toxicity Position Paper
• Fire Safety Engineering Position Paper

Research

• Building Height Project
• Fire Safety in Renovation - Summary of regulations and practice in the EU (VTT Study)

Issue briefs

• Renovation
• New Build
Supporting the campaign
Help to get fire on the national agenda