

Tall Buildings

Fire Safety Network

10th International Tall Building HRB Fire Safety Conference

20 & 21st May 2026 | London
1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf

GLOBAL^{HSE}
FIRE SAFETY EXPERTS GROUP

Building & Industry

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SCHAKO Group



6 Hours Per Day
(12 hours total)

www.tallbuildingfiresafety.com

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Welcome to the 10th International HRB Tall Building Fire Safety Conference



Dan Platten
Health, Safety & Wellbeing Director
for Canary Wharf Group

Welcome to the 10th International Tall Building HRB Fire Safety Conference, proudly sponsored and hosted by Canary Wharf Group.

We are delighted to welcome you to the Sandbox meeting space on Level 39 of One Canada Square. Completed in 1991, One Canada Square stood as the tallest building in the UK for 21 years, rising 50 storeys and 236 metres. Here on the Canary Wharf estate, we are home to six of the ten tallest buildings in the UK, making this a particularly fitting location for a conference dedicated to tall-building fire safety.

Looking across the estate, you can see the continued evolution of our skyline. To the north, construction is underway on One North Quay, set to become Europe's tallest purpose-built commercial laboratory—a clear demonstration of our commitment to innovation and modern architectural design.

To the west, as you look toward central London, we were proud to announce in November that JP Morgan Chase has unveiled plans for a 3 million sq ft tower here at Canary Wharf. Once complete, it will be the largest office building in London, marking another exciting chapter in the development of the Estate.

Of course, Canary Wharf is more than just tall buildings. With an abundance of restaurants, bars, cafés, parks, and shops, there is plenty to explore during your visit. Inspired by our Canadian influences, much of our retail offering is uniquely located underground, creating a vibrant and weather-proof retail environment.

If you haven't yet booked accommodation, we are pleased to offer exclusive discounted rates at our Vertus Edit hotel, available using the conference code: TallBuildingHRBV3D1T

We hope you enjoy your time with us—both at the conference and across the Canary Wharf estate.

Thank you for joining us, and I wish you a productive and inspiring event.

Dan



Conference Agenda

Wednesday 20th May

Time	Agenda
08:00	Reception is open
08:45	Delegates to be seated
09:00	Housekeeping
09:05	Welcome to Canary Wharf – Dan Platten, Canary Wharf Safety Director
09:15	Day 1 AM Chair NFCC Phil Garrigan
9:30	Opening Address – Charles-Elie Romeyer, Building Safety Regulator.
10:40	Facade fire testing and flammability: What are we measuring and why? Matthew Bonner MSci (Hons) PhD AIFireE Trigon Fire
11:10	RPEEPS & Awaabs Law: Fire Safety Update Elspeth Grant Triple A Solutions
11:40	Tea Break
12:00	Golden Thread, Governance for Building Safety Risk Management & RPEEPS Ben Blackwood CEng MEng(hons) FIMechE MIFireE Ballymore Asset Management
12:30	AI in Fire Engineering: A Practitioner-Led View from the SFPE UK Chapter. Dr. Simón Santamaria & Gabriel Risco
13:00	Lunch break
13:45	PM Chair – Richard Mills (retired LFB Dep Commisioner)
14:00	'Tech, Trust, and Transparency: Exploring futures for fire safety equity' – Mike Deevy Arup Fire
14:40	Fire Engineering & AI Keith Plowman Global & Dr Ogerta Elezaj – Associate Professor in Computer Science at Birmingham City University and a Fellow of the Alan Turing Institute
15:10	Break
15:25	BIM & Creating digital twins Marcus Holland Matterport
15:55	Latest developments in High Rise Firefighting Brent Brooks Toronto Fire Service
16:25	Question Time Panel Dr Barbara Lane Arup, Elspeth Grant, Charles-Elie Romeyer , Anna O'Donnel
17:30	Close

Conference Agenda

Thursday 21st May

Time	Agenda
08:00	Reception is open
08:45	Delegates to be seated
09:00	Housekeeping
09:05	VIP Opener Kizzy Augustin, Partner at Mishcon de Reya LLP
09:15	Day 2 Chair Dr Gavin Dunn CEO FPA
9:30	Keynote Presentation
10:10	Sponsor Presentation
10:40	Tall Building Design and Construction: Insights from an Expert Witness Christina Knorr, CJK Fire & Safety, Australia, BEng(Mech)(Hons) MFireSafeEng FIEAust CPEng NER NMAS
11:10	Using AI in Fire Safety – Risks and benefits Tom Lawrence Tennyson Suite
11:40	Tea Break
12:00	Preparing Building Safety Cases Emily Harbottle, Cascade Risk Management
12:30	CTBUH Fire & Life Safety Committee Dr Cristian Maluk Technical Director
13:00	Lunch break
13:45	PM Chair Ian Moore CEO FIA
14:00	Predicting toxic species generation resulting from external cladding fires Prof Ed Galea BSc, Dip.Ed, PhD, CMath, FIMA, CEng, FIFireE
14:40	IFE Presentation James Lane International President IFE
15:10	Break
15:25	Update on High Rise Fire Safety Development Work Paul Bussey, Andrew Gausden and Brad Crisp, Steven Atrill
16:25	Question Time Panel James lane, Ross O'Loughlin, Ian Moore, Aman Sharma (chaired by Gavin Dunn)
17:30	Close



High Rise Firefighting Masterclass

Tuesday 19th May 2026

📍 Central London



£99*
For Full Day

With Brent Brooks
Plus Special Guests:
Dave Payton, Iain Evans
& Justin Lange (from Chile)



Agenda:

- + Initial recon & sizeup at high rise fires
- + Water supplies & building systems
- + Staircase protection + Access
- + Bridgehead & Lobby operations
- + Working above the fire
- + Firefighting entry & tactics
- + Smoke control
- + Use of smoke hoods + Q&A

*Serving Firefighters exclusive rate
Does not include refreshments.



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Tall
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Speaker Profiles



Dan Platten

Health, Safety & Wellbeing Director for Canary Wharf Group

Dan Platten is the Health, Safety & Wellbeing Director for Canary Wharf Group, bringing over 20 years of experience across major UK infrastructure and development projects. His career includes senior roles on HS2 and Crossrail, as well as leadership positions with organisations such as Skanska and Lendlease. Dan's background spans strategic health and safety management, operational risk, fire safety oversight and the development of robust safety cultures within highly complex, high-risk environments..

At Canary Wharf Group, Dan leads the Group's Health, Safety, Wellbeing and Building Safety functions across all subsidiaries, covering both construction and operational estates. His remit includes responsibility for the organisation's fire safety strategy and the implementation of Building Safety Act requirements, ensuring that CWG maintains consistent, compliant and resilient standards in line with evolving regulation. As CWG continues to develop Europe's largest urban regeneration project—spanning 8 million sq ft of office space, 1.1 million sq ft of retail, and more than 2,200 homes—Dan's leadership is central to safeguarding people, assets, tenants and the wider public through effective fire risk management and the rigorous application of building safety principles.



Russ Timpson

Founder and organiser of the Tall Building Fire Safety Network

Russ Timpson is the founder and organiser of the Tall Building Fire Safety Network (TBFSN). Started in 2009 the TBFSN seeks to improve fire safety in the Tall Building Environment. RT is a former RN submariner and firefighter. He is a chartered Fire Engineer. On leaving the Fire Service, RT took up the position of Head of Safety for Virgin Atlantic Airways, leading a multi-disciplinary team of safety, health and environmental specialists. RT now works as a consulting resilience engineer. Currently promoting the use of the 'Fire Mark' concept to improved occupant awareness of fire safety in buildings.



Gabriel Risco

Associate Director at Ashton Fire and Vice-President at SFPE UK Chapter

Gabriel is a Chartered Engineer and Fire Safety Engineer with extensive experience delivering projects across a broad range of sectors. He holds a BSc in Civil Engineering and an MSc in Fire Safety Engineering.

In his current role as Associate Director, Gabriel oversees the successful delivery of complex, large-scale projects while also driving business development initiatives. His design experience ranges from developing fire strategies for heritage, commercial and industrial sectors to delivering high-rise residential and mixed-use developments across the UK, including Gateway 2 submissions. Additionally at Ashton Fire, Gabriel leads the Fire Strategies and Risk Technical Skills Group, focused on improving technical delivery.

He is actively involved in several panels and technical committees, including the Institution of Fire Engineers Membership Application Assessment Panel and the BSI FSH/24 committee on Fire Engineering. As Vice-President of the SFPE UK Chapter, Gabriel contributes to the Chapter's strategic development and engages with the wider fire safety community to address novel challenges and provide learning opportunities.



Paul Bussey

RIBA, FIFireE, FASFP, IMaPS

Paul is an architect with 40 years experience of architectural practice including job running experience and consultancy. He has developed a technical expertise in the application of all types of building related legislation and constructional guidance. He represents AHMM Architects Technical Consulting team providing solutions and regulatory compliance to assist project teams to meet their statutory and contractual obligations on all projects.

Paul is particularly interested in how regulations in all "people risk" areas of architecture including fire, safety, and health, integrate with day to day project risk management especially at design stages, in a proportionate manner.

He was involved with the HSE's development of the CDM 2007 and 2015 regulations on behalf of the RIBA. He was a member of the HSE IICC & BS 8671 PD Committees, Chair of both the CONIAC KPWC & CIC Health & Safety Committee, DLUHC Alternative Escape Steering Group and a current member of the RIBA Fire Expert Advisory Group, and assisting their delivery of the previous and forthcoming Principal Designer Course.

Speaker Profiles



Richard Mills

Richard Mills is a distinguished fire service executive with over 30 years in the London Fire Brigade (LFB), culminating in his role as Deputy Commissioner. A transformative leader, he spearheaded critical advancements in high-rise firefighting tactics, emergency response innovation, and firefighter safety. His leadership during major incidents, including the London riots, the Mandarin Oriental hotel fire, and the Grenfell Tower fire, demonstrates his expertise in crisis management and operational resilience.

A driving force behind modernization, Richard led the implementation of the Fire Survival Guidance App, secured the Marauding Terrorist Agreement, and strengthened firefighter mental health support. His strategic oversight was pivotal in navigating LFB through the COVID-19 pandemic and shaping the future of fire service leadership.

Since retiring in 2022, Richard has become a sought-after keynote speaker, guest lecturer, and corporate advisor. He specialises in leadership, organisational performance, operational resilience, and emergency preparedness, advising both public and private sector organisations on best practices in crisis leadership and strategic transformation.



Professor ED Galea

Professor ED Galea is the founding director of the Fire Safety Engineering Group (FSEG) of the University of Greenwich in London where he has worked in the area of Computational Fire Engineering (CFE) research since 1986. FSEG are developers of the EXODUS suite of evacuation software and the SMARTFIRE fire simulation software. He is the author of over 300 academic and professional publications and serves on a number of standards committees concerned with fire and evacuation for organisations such as; IMO, ISO, BSI and the SFPE Task Group on Human Behaviour in Fire.

He also sits on several UK Government committees concerned with civil defence. He has served on several major Inquires and legal cases as an expert in fire and evacuation including: the Paddington Rail Crash, the Swiss Air MD11 crash, the Admiral Duncan Pub bombing and is currently an expert serving on the Grenfell Tower Fire Inquiry. His work is applied to the building, aviation, maritime and rail industries.



Matthew Bonner

Matthew is a senior fire engineer and research lead at Trigon Fire Safety, with 3 years consulting experience and 8 years research experience in fire safety. They have design experience across a range of buildings including offices, hotels, student accommodation, assembly buildings, and reviews and conversions of existing/historic buildings. Their research interests include facade flammability and standard testing, machine learning and statistical inference, and computer vision.

Matthew graduated in 2016 from University College London with a First Class MSci in Theoretical Physics.

From 2016–2021 they completed a PhD in Mechanical Engineering at Imperial College London on the topic of fire safety in building facades. Their thesis studied the possibilities of using data from commercial facade fire safety tests (such as BS 8414 in the UK) to predict the flammability of different facade systems. The work was funded by EPSRC and Arup and involved deep collaboration with Instytut Techniki Budowlanej (ITB) in Poland. The research was awarded the SFPE Student Scholar Award in 2020 and the SFPE UK Chapter Award for best research project in 2021.

From 2021–2022 they worked as a Research Associate at Imperial College London, further studying the fire performance of building facades. The project compared five facades containing increasing amounts of combustible material, tested across five different national facade fire test standards (UK, USA, Germany, Poland, and ISO). The work was funded by Berkeley Group and involved further collaboration with ITB. This work was awarded the Top Abstract Award at the 2025 SFPE Europe Conference.

In 2022 they began working at Trigon Fire Safety as a Fire Engineer and Research Lead, supporting the company to continue to deliver high quality fire safety consultancy services.



Elsbeth Grant

For over 18 years, Elspeth has managed programmes on complex workplace legislation, including fire safety, fire risk assessments and equality and diversity. Her experience includes working with fire engineers and housing providers, advising architects on major social housing refurbishment projects and developing evacuation plans for disabled residents in complex settings such as high-rise and assisted general needs accommodation.

She is a member of the Building Advisory Committee and works closely with Disabled People's Organisations on the legal obligations relating to the evacuation of vulnerable and evacuation-impaired people. Elspeth is also a qualified trainer and has played a key role in designing Triple A Solutions' suite of Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) recognised eLearning courses.

How to book

Tall Buildings
Fire Safety Network

10th International Tall Building Fire Safety Conference

20 & 21st May 2026 | Canary Wharf, London

Full Delegate | 2-day pass

10th International High Rise/Tall Building Fire Safety Conference (UK) | 20-21 May 2026

£695.00

+ 23.94 fees + 139.00 tax

Serving Firefighter Rate (proof may be required) | 2-day pass

10th International High Rise/Tall Building Fire Safety Conference (UK) | 20-21 May 2026 (limited places)

SOLD OUT

£295.00

+ 15.47 fees + 59.00 tax

Visit www.events.bookitbee.com
or scan the QR code to book online.

Or Contact Russ Timpson

+44 07951 190 576

russ.timpson@tallbuildingfiresafety.com



Speaker Profiles



Christina Knorr
BEng(Mech)(Hons) MFireSafeEng
FIEAust CPEng NER NMAS

Christina Knorr is the founder and director of CJK Fire & Safety, a specialised fire safety consultancy operating across Australia. CJK Fire & Safety is involved in a broad range of building projects, including fire safety engineering, cladding risk assessments, construction litigation support, and expert witness services.

A nationally accredited and a highly regarded chartered fire safety engineer, Christina is listed in the National Engineering Register. She is a Fellow member of Engineers Australia and a member of various national and international technical and advisory committees. She actively contributes to the development of national and international guidelines and university programs.

Christina's extensive experience and currency in the construction industry, coupled with her attention to detail and ability to explain technical matters succinctly and efficiently, have established her as a much sought-after expert witness and fire safety consulting specialist. She has been engaged to provide expert witness services on over 50 matters, authoring expert reports, expert determinations and joint reports for court hearings, arbitrations, expert determinations and mediations for various tiers of the court system and tribunals.

These matters have involved disputes over life and safety defects, combustible cladding, post-fire investigations, consultant liability, and risk analysis—including cladding claims for large residential complexes comprising up to four towers of 30 storeys each.



Ben Blackwood

Ben Blackwood is an Engineer focussed on the technical management of challenging high-rise construction projects, including HRBs and the Skypool. Specialising in building safety risk management, Ben is experienced in all phases of project life-cycle. Understanding the needs to construction and asset management data users has been key to the successful delivery of challenging projects from Planning to asset management.

London Construction Specialist of the Year 2022 and active Member of the IMechE and IFE, Ben has shared learning and tools on the subject of the Golden Thread and building safety risk management.



Aman Sharma
MBE, Chief Executive Officer, Totus Digital

Aman is a recognized industry leader having played a key role in transforming fire safety across the built environment. With a background as both a former fire and rescue service officer and a fire engineer, Aman combines extensive operational and technical expertise with a commitment to advancing fire safety through digital innovation and information management.

Between 2019 – 2023, Aman served as Deputy Chair of the Building Regulations Advisory Committee (BRAC), providing strategic guidance to the Secretary of State on building safety standards and regulations. In 2023, he was appointed as one of the inaugural members of the Building Safety Regulator's Building Advisory Committee (BAC), where he currently leads the Approved Document B Technical Review and serves as Chair of the BAC Higher Risk Building Thematic Working Group. In this role, Aman is instrumental in implementing the new regulatory regime for higher-risk buildings and operationalizing the "golden thread" of building information.

Aman is Chair of the British Standards Institution (BSI) committee FSH/0, where he oversees the strategic direction and ongoing development of fire safety standards.

For his services to building and fire safety, HM King Charles made Aman an MBE in the 2025 New Years Honour List.



Charles-Elie
Head of Technical Policy

Charles-Elie is head of technical policy on fire and structural safety standards in the Building Safety Regulator where he leads the development of Approved Document A and B and oversees the development of wide-ranging research projects.

He is an experienced fire engineer who practiced both in the private and public sector before starting work as a regulator. In his various roles he has participated in the development of several major national policy projects and technical standards and is involved on several national committees.



Ross O'Loughlin
Director, Head of Global Technical Servicesal

With an extensive and impressive background having been involved in fire for 25 years, Ross has worked in numerous senior positions within fire safety, training, and operations; in the military and the local authority.

He now heads up our Global Technical Services division, focusing on Quality, Competence and Compliance.



Gavin Dunn

Gavin assumed the role of Managing Director of the FPA in 2024, having previously been Chief Executive of the Chartered Association of Building Engineers (CABE) for 6 years. . Originally an architect, Gavin boasts a wealth of experience in the testing, inspection, and certification markets in the sectors of construction, real estate, and sustainability, both in the UK and internationally.

Prior to leading CABE, Gavin was Director of Building Performance at the Building Research Establishment (2013-2018), where he oversaw globally leading environmental assessment methods for the built environment including BREEAM and CEEQUAL. From 2006-2013, Gavin was Group Operations Director for Elmhurst Energy Systems, where he contributed to the development of some of Europe's leading building energy certification systems. He also served as Chairman of the Future Homes Standard Working Group during his membership in the UK Government's Building Regulations Advisory Committee from 2015-2022.



Dr Barbara Lane
FREng FIAE FRSE CEng

Dr Barbara Lane is a chartered engineer and specialises in fire safety engineering.

She is a Fellow of fire safety at Arup, and has worked on complex projects around the world over a period of 30 years.

Since her role as Expert to the Grenfell Inquiry finished in 2024 Barbara has become particularly interested in policy making to produce fire safety equity and complex fire risk management. She is a passionate advocate for the importance of social justice as a governing parameter in the work of fire safety engineers.



Phil Garrigan
OBE KFSM

The National Fire Chiefs Council (NFCC) is the professional voice of the UK fire and rescue service and the membership body for all 50 UK fire and rescue services, Chief Fire Officers and senior managers.

Phil Garrigan became NFCC Chair on 1 April 2025, following a long and successful career in the fire and rescue service (FRS). He is a former Vice-Chair at NFCC and was previously NFCC's National Lead for Children and Young People.

Having joined Merseyside Fire and Rescue Service in 1990, Phil progressed from the role of Firefighter to Chief Fire Officer during a career spanning 35 years.

He brings a strong community focus to his role as NFCC Chair, recognising the unique position of trust and respect in which the FRS is held, and the professionalism of fire and rescue service staff in tackling the underlying factors affecting risk.

His leadership has brought the work of the fire and rescue service with regards to children and young people to the forefront of sector delivery, allowing the FRS to transform the lives of hundreds of children and young people across the UK.

As Chief Fire Officer in Merseyside, Phil was a member of the Operations Coordination Committee, with Merseyside FRS overseeing National Resilience capabilities on behalf of the Home Office. He was a National Strategic Advisor overseeing a number of national events and major incidents, including his leadership of the UK's response to COVID-19, Merseyside's response to the terror attacks in Liverpool and Southport as well as the international deployment of fire engines into Ukraine.

In addition to his role within the fire sector, Phil is a Trustee and member of the Board at both the Hive Youth Zone, Rainbow Trust Education foundation and the Liverpool FC foundation, as well as being an Ambassador for the Cash for Kids Charity.

Speaker Profiles



Emily Harbottle

Emily Harbottle is the founder of Cascade Risk Management and the driving force behind Cascade, a purpose-built digital safety case platform transforming how organisations manage HRB risks. A former British Army helicopter pilot, instructor and aviation regulator, Emily further developed her expertise in system safety and risk management during her time with the UK Military Aviation Authority.

Following her military career, Emily launched a consultancy focused on aviation safety, working globally with the International Civil Aviation Organisation to deliver training on Safety Management Systems. Her work has since extended into healthcare, maritime, nuclear and housing, giving her a cross-sector understanding of how complex systems fail and how they can be made safer through proactive, structured risk management processes.

Emily is currently supporting the IStructE as the chair of the recently formed Risk Skills Panel and has been involved in writing the upcoming guidance for assessing risk in existing structures.



Andrew Gausden

Andrew has over 40 years of experience working in a diverse range of engineering disciplines, which includes a 30-year career in the fire service as a fire protection engineering specialist. He has worked on the design and commissioning of a wide range of residential, commercial, industrial and infrastructure projects, including leading the National review of higher-risk residential premises in East Sussex in 2020-21.

He recently completed an MSc in Renewable Energy and a research project which focused on the deployment of alternative fuels and emerging energy sources, including hydrogen and lithium batteries, which are critical to support the transition to Net Zero.

Andrew worked on the national large-scale waste fire tests and the publication of WISH-28 and continues to work closely with the waste & recycling industry. He provides a leading role on several National fire safety committees and working groups.



Brent Brooks

Brent Brooks is an international speaker and hands on instructor. Brent teaches HighRise Tactics and large diameter hose movements. Brent is currently a Captain with Toronto Fire Services. His 28 year career with firefighting started at Pearson Airport, with continuing duties at (De Havilland) and Bombardier Aero Space Crash Fire Rescue teams. He is assigned to Toronto's High Rise Unit. Brent has developed the IMS, training and RND for High Rise Operations. Brent's experience includes serving on numerous committees all related to High Rise Firefighting. He continues to travel the world attending conferences, symposiums, and hands on training. He has spoken on complex building systems, help run the 2019, 2020 Canadian HighRise conference, Started the HighRise Round Table in Toronto, hosted the Toronto & Montreal HighRise Summit and is a member of the Council Of Tall Buildings based out of Chicago. He also represents Canada as a member of the T70 Tall Building Safety Committee based out of London England. Brent shares information with Fire Departments from all over the world and has developed a network with subject matter experts related to High Rise Firefighting. Brent has spoke at Firex, Tall Building Conference in London England and "Makin' The Stretch" Conference Colonial Park, PA. Brent continues his education by attend 4 firefighting conferences yearly and never misses HROC in the USA. Brent presents to numerous Fire Departments. Proud retired member of the Canadian Armed Forces.



Tom Lawrence

Director and Fire Safety Lead,
Tennyson Suite Limited

Tom Lawrence is the Director and Fire Safety Lead at Tennyson Suite Limited, a role he has held since 2013 after joining the company in 2011. With over a decade of leadership in the fire safety sector, Tom has driven innovation and operational excellence in the high-rise residential safety space.

He was mentored by Pat Scott, a renowned pioneer in fire engineering who, alongside Russ Timpson, was among the first to undertake a formal degree in Fire Engineering. This foundational guidance shaped Tom's forward-thinking approach to fire safety.

Tom has led the digital transformation of fire risk assessments within the company, introducing bespoke artificial intelligence systems to support the drafting of Fire Risk Appraisals of External Walls (FRAEWs) and Fire Strategies. These tools have significantly improved the speed and consistency of reporting for high-rise residential buildings across the UK.

Under his direction, Tennyson Suite has become a key partner for clients seeking compliance with the latest regulatory changes. His AI-led processes have proven instrumental in expediting successful new build and retrofit cladding submissions to the Building Safety Regulator, supporting alignment with the Building Safety Act 2025.

Children's Burns Trust are Celebrating 25 Years of Life Changing Support

Children's Burns Trust is dedicated to providing rehabilitation support for burned and scald injured children and their families as well as leading on burn prevention and awareness campaigns.



We have been working in the UK for 25 years, and make a positive difference in three ways:

- Working with others to raise the awareness of burns and scalds including **PREVENTION** campaigns such as National Burn Awareness Day
- Working with professionals to provide direct help and funding for **REHABILITATION**
- Giving direct financial **SUPPORT** to families and hospitals and providing advice on how to access burn related information

We don't receive any government funding, and any donation big or small would help in supporting our work in helping raise vital awareness, preventing burns to children from happening and supporting burn survivors and their families.



Speaker Profiles



Brad Crisp | Sertus
Commercial & Specification Manager

With over a decade of experience in the smoke ventilation industry, Brad combines technical expertise with strong commercial awareness to help clients design and deliver compliant, high-performance smoke control systems. Before joining Sertus, he worked with Elta Fans, where he gained extensive knowledge of mechanical smoke ventilation across a wide range of complex and high-rise projects.

At Sertus, Brad plays a key role in supporting contractors, consultants, and specifiers throughout the project lifecycle — from early-stage design through to installation — ensuring that every system aligns with the latest standards and best practice. Known for his practical approach and clear communication, Brad is passionate about making smoke ventilation simpler and more effective across the built environment.



Steven Attrill

Pressure Differential Systems Specialist at Novenco Building & Industry Limited, designing smoke ventilation systems including the design and development of pressure differential systems. Previously leading building performance work, at a global technical consultancy, specialising in stack effect and wind impacts on buildings, with over 10 years of experience in tall building design and on-site mitigation through the Europe, Asia, Australia and North American continents.



Dr Mike Deevy

Dr Mike Deevy is a Chartered Fire Safety Engineer and Associate Director at Arup. He has 20 years' experience of fire safety engineering on complex buildings and infrastructure projects.

In recent years, Mike has played a key role in developing Phoenix—Arup's AI-powered assistant for engineers and technical specialists—and in shaping the firm's approach to managing fire safety information within BIM.



Dr. Simón Santamaria
Chartered Fire Engineer and Technical Development Director at Stantec

Simón is a Chartered Engineer with extensive experience in fire safety engineering for tall and complex buildings. He holds an MSc and PhD in Fire Safety Engineering from the University of Edinburgh, where his research advanced understanding of material behaviour and fire dynamics. His early career included technical support to the Grenfell Tower Inquiry, contributing to the analysis of façade fire development mechanisms.

At Stantec, Simón leads technical development within the Fire Engineering division, focusing on competence, quality, and performance-based strategies for high-rise projects in the UK. His work spans Gateway 2 submissions, façade risk assessments, remediation strategies, and integration of advanced modelling approaches to demonstrate performance.

Simón is actively involved in shaping the profession as President of the SFPE UK Chapter and a member of BSI drafting panels, including the emerging BS 9994 on fire safety strategies. He advocates for transparent, defensible engineering judgement and the Golden Thread as essential components of high-rise safety.

For this conference, Simón will deliver, jointly with Gabriel Risco, the perspective from the SFPE UK Chapter on artificial intelligence in fire engineering, exploring how AI can enhance design, review, and modelling workflows while addressing critical questions around competence, validation, and professional judgement. Together, they will outline opportunities, boundaries, and practical pathways for responsible adoption of AI in tall building safety.



Anna O'Donnell
General Manager, Colliers International Property Consultants

Anna O'Donnell is a seasoned Facilities and Property Management professional with over 20 years of experience leading operational, compliance, and ESG performance across major commercial assets. As General Manager of a 1.5 million sq ft multi-occupier campus, she delivers data-led maintenance transformation, large-scale capital projects, and effective stewardship of an £8 million service charge budget, consistently improving efficiency and service quality. A specialist in life-safety excellence, Anna holds NEBOSH General and Fire Safety certifications and the Tall Buildings Fire Safety Management qualification. She embeds rigorous fire safety standards across all operations and maintains a proactive, ongoing commitment to the Building Safety Act, strengthening safety case development, golden-thread information management, and transparent governance to ensure robust building safety outcomes. Her career spans senior positions at Colliers, JLL, Savills, and DTZ (now Cushman and Wakefield), where she has managed diverse portfolios with a consistent focus on operational excellence and compliance integrity.

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Speaker Profiles



Dr. Ogerta Elezaj | BridgeAI
Independent Scientific Advisor

Dr. Ogerta Elezaj is a BridgeAI Independent Scientific Advisor at The Alan Turing Institute and a Turing Fellow, contributing to national efforts in advancing responsible and impactful AI.

She is also an Associate Professor in AI at Birmingham City University (BCU), leading research, enterprise, and curriculum development in AI and data science. Her work focuses on Generative AI, Semantic Web, Knowledge Graphs, and Cyber Security, with applications in construction, data integration, and AI fairness. Dr. Elezaj has secured and led multiple UKRI, Innovate UK, and European-funded projects. A former Director of IT and Methodology at Office of national Institute of Statistics in Albania, and consultant for the UN and European Commission, she brings a cross-sector perspective to building transparent, explainable, and socially responsible AI systems.



Keith Plowman
Fire Safety Consultant

Keith Plowman is a fire safety consultant with over 22 years' experience across operational firefighting, military aviation, and technical consultancy.

Holding a BEng (Hons) in Engineering Design and Associate membership of the Institution of Fire Engineers, Keith works across complex, higher-risk buildings, integrating fire strategy, façade risk, passive protection and risk-based remediation within multi-disciplinary project teams.



James Lane
International President, IFE

Currently James Lane BEng (Hons) CEng FIFireE is the Director at Wintech Group and the International President of the Institution of Fire Engineers.

James began his career in fire safety in 1990 as a test engineer at the London facility of Warrington Fire Research Centre (as it was then). After graduating with a BEng (Hons) degree in Fire Safety Engineering he moved into fire consultancy with Arup Fire in 1996 producing fire strategies on a wide spectrum of buildings including the iconic Sage music venue in Gateshead, now one of the venues for the X Factor auditions.

In 2000 he broadened his fire consultancy experience with Tenos, before accepting an Associate Director position with SAFE fire consultants, part of the Whitby Bird group and now Rambol Fire. In May 2008 James was invited by Hilson Moran to expand their existing fire system design skill base to include fire consultancy and fire engineering as their Principal Fire Consultant.

James joined BB7 as Head of Fire Safety Engineering in 2014 and is responsible for the consultancy services within the Fire Engineering group.

He has participated in BSI review panels for BS9999, BS9991 and parts of the BS7974 suite of standards. As well as contributing to the MHCLG review group for the clarified version of Approved Document B.

James has been a member of the IFE Registrants Group since 2016, reviewing and interviewing prospective CEng registrants and the IFERG Board Director.

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