

inFire Conference Program

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

SUNDAY
3 MAY, 1998

5.30 - 7.30pm **Conference Get-Together** at the Melbourne Fire Museum, 48 Gisborne Street, East Melbourne. Taxi from hotels (only 10 minutes)

MONDAY
4 MAY, 1998 - THEATRE, 1st FLOOR

8.00am **Registration Desk opens**
9.00am **Official Welcome - Commander Terry Hunter, MFESB, Melbourne, Australia**
9.15am **Official Opening - Michael Kroll, Fire Science Library. Safety Engineering Laboratories. Michigan. inFIRE Advisory Committee member**

Chair : Rob Fleming

9.30 - 10.30am **Keynote speaker - Initiatives for Emergency Services Organisations - a National Perspective.**
Roger Jones. TEM Consultants. Victoria. Australia.
Roger will focus on the significant changes which have occurred in the 1990s in the political, physical and human environment with which emergency services operate, and in the emergency services themselves. He also will touch upon some aspects of the on-going information/communication 'revolution' which are posing problems for those organisations in undertaking their roles in emergency management.

10.30 - 11.00am **Morning Tea - Canteen, 1st Floor**

11.00am **Information Needs for Risk Management Decision Making**
Dr Paul Barnes, Queensland Fire & Rescue Authority. Australia

11.45am-12.30pm **Peoples' Response During Structural Fires: An Overview of Research**
Patricia Brennan. Centre for Environmental Safety and Risk Engineering, Victoria University of Technology. Australia

12.30 - 1.00pm **Lunch - Canteen, 1st Floor**

1.00 - 1.30pm **STATIC DISPLAY OF VARIOUS FIRE APPLIANCES IN LOWER YARD**

1.30 - 2.00pm **Need for Risk Management by Governments : a challenge for the 21st century**
Tom Wilmot and Tony Paish, World Fire Statistics Centre, England
The work of the World Fire Statistics Centre provides an example of how the collection, collation and analysis of the total costs of each of everyday hazards such as fire. Integration of the risk management/hazard minimisation activities of different government departments and/or public institutions would next need to be considered, together with the possibility of increasing efficiency through privatisation of some activities (such as the Danish example of the Falck organisation).

2.00-3.00pm **Fire Fatalities In Australia**
Judy Newton, Department of Emergency Services, Queensland. Australia
The "Fire at Risk Groups" project represents a critical step in the development of enhanced strategies to reduce the number of fire fatalities in Australia and hence the overall cost to the community of fires

3.00 - 3.30pm **Afternoon tea - Canteen, 1st Floor**

3.30 - 4.15pm **Real Time Information in a Decentralised Fire Service**
Stephen Walls, Manager CFA State Operations Management Plan. Victoria. Australia
Stephen will explain a unique computerised information system called the Operations Management System (OMS) which runs on a client-server computer system and provides information on predicted and actual weather, fire spread, resources in use and fire control strategies. Integrated into the system are fuel curing information from satellites and real time weather information from a network of remote automatic weather stations

4.30 - 5.30pm **Optional Activities**

- Discussion and demonstration of the FireCD and other information products by Jill Bennett, Editor FireCD, UK, and Tessa Sampson, Product Manager Electronic Media, DA Information, Melbourne - **Theatre, 1st Floor**

- Discussion with Sandra Lunardi, Melbourne, Australia (Australasian Fire Authorities Council) on the AFAC Learning Manuals and Australian Firefighter Competency Modules - **Theatre, 3rd Floor**

- Paper by Jeanine Driessens, ANPI, NVBB Service Documentation, Belgium on the importance and value of the EN Standards and European Legislation - **Room 301, 3rd Floor**

6.30 - 9.30pm **Evening dinner at nearby Vietnamese restaurant - Loi Loi**
364 Victoria St, Richmond
Banquet \$18/person

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

TUESDAY
5 MAY, 1998

Theatre - 1st floor

Chair: Jill Don

9.00 - 10.00am **Assessing the Impact of Fire Risk Communication**
Bernd Rohrmann, University of Melbourne, School of Behavioural Sciences
Bernd will elaborate on methodological considerations, dealing with evaluation approaches, assessment criteria and study design for risk information / communication / education about fire hazard prevention, focussing on the socio-psychological factors which influence community safety campaigns.

10.00 - 10.30am **Partners in Protecting the Community**
Commander Wayne Bradborn. MFESB, Melbourne, Australia
Wayne's presentation will be on the installation of active fire protection equipment in the Community Residential Units in Victoria. Also how the Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services has partnered with the Human Services in developing a self-paced learning package to prepare carers to firstly prevent fires from eventuating and if the need did arise, the ability to initiate the correct procedures to help guarantee the safety of the occupants

10.30 - 11.00am **Morning tea - Canteen, 1st Floor**

11.00 - 11.45am **Fire Behaviour Prediction. Information in Anticipation, Through Coupled Meso-Meteorological Models**
David Packham, Department of Geography & Environmental Sciences. Monash University, Victoria. Australia
Video presentation on a joint project between the National Centre for Atmosphere Research in Boulder, Colorado, Monash University, Department of Applied Mathematics, Australian Research Grants Commission and Country Fire Authority, Victoria

11.45 - 12.30pm **Realistic Hot Fire Training to Deal Safely with Flashover and Backdraft**
Shan Raffel, Station Officer, Queensland Fire & Rescue Authority, Australia
Shan will discuss the need for realistic training methods to teach firefighters how to safely deal with flashover and backdraft

12.30 - 1.30pm **Lunch - Canteen, 1st Floor**

FPAA - Display of fire information resources in lecture room adjacent to canteen. Meet Bob Sutcliffe, Manager - Sales, Fire Protection Association Australia

1.30 - 2.15pm **Vehicle Mounted Data Systems**
Ian Taylor, Station Officer on an Exchange Program from UK now stationed at the ACT Fire Brigade

Following a large fire in a factory in the county of Hereford & Worcester in UK, where two firefighters lost their life, the Health & Safety Executive found that insufficient information was available to oncoming crews of the risks they may face on arrival at such an incident. To overcome this, CFO David O'Dwyer threw down the gauntlet to industry to provide a vehicle mounted computer system which could provide data on mobilisation, on route and at the scene of the incident. In March 1996 all 37 front-line fire appliances were installed with these computers and one Home Office Official described it as the greatest advance in the fire service for 20 years
Includes a short video and computer aided presentation

2.15 - 3.00pm **Community Fireguard : Creating Partnerships with the Community to Minimise the Impact of Wildfire**
Jon Boura, Municipal Programs Officer, Country Fire Authority, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Community Fireguard recognises that on days of extreme wildfire danger, suppression capabilities are limited and CFA cannot guarantee protection of each property. Enabling residents to accept responsibility for their own safety, means that CFA is not only reducing wildfire threat, but also transferring risk to those best able to manage it - the residents. Jon will describe the principles to empowerment on which Community Fireguard is based and the efficacy of the program in reducing losses in recent wildfires

3.00 - 3.30pm **Afternoon tea - Canteen, 1st Floor**

3.30 - 4.30pm **High Rise Fire Pattaya Thailand Investigation**
Garry Martin, Inspector, AFSM, MFESB, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia
Garry will talk about the history of building legislation in Thailand, the history of the Royal Jomtien Hotel, detail relative to the fire investigation, the problems of investigating in a non-English speaking country and the lessons learnt from the investigation

4.30 - 5.30pm **Optional Activities**
- Internet Demonstration Sessions of Fire Information Library Catalogues around the world

7.00 - 9.00pm **Bon Bons Cafe**
Mid-level, Southgate Complex, South Melbourne

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY
6 MAY, 1998

Jeff Godfredson Theatre - 3rd flr

Chair: *Nora Jason*

- 9.00 - **Focusing on the Front Line**
9.45am *Anne Pickles, Brigades Information Co-ordinator. NSW Fire Brigades. Australia*
Anne will provide an overview of the NSW Fire Brigades Information Management Policy which includes Intranet supporting an Operational Information System, a new system for recording Australian Incident Reporting System data, Competency Based Training manuals and access to standard information resources.
- 9.45 - **Knowledge Management : What is it and what do we do about it?**
10.30am *Janet Green, Manager, Technical Information Center, Factory Mutual Research Corp. Norwood, Massachusetts, USA*
Janet will discuss the definitions and examine the components of knowledge management to determine what skills and resources are necessary to successfully manage knowledge. Included will be examples of organisations who actually have knowledge management programs currently in operation. The role of the library and tradition library charge of collecting, organising and disseminating information and how this relates to knowledge management will be investigated.
- 10.30 - **Morning tea - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
11.00am
- 11.00am - **Panel Discussion. Putting Your Library on the Internet/Intranet. What are the Issues Involved?**
12.30pm *Rob Fleming, Emergency Management Australia.*
Nora Jason, National Institute of Standards & Technology, USA.
Patricia Roddick, University of Canterbury, New Zealand.
Mike Culhane, National Research Council, Canada.
- 12.30 - **Lunch - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
1.00pm
- 1.00 - **Coach trip to Country Fire Authority Computer Information Centre, Tally-Ho Technology Park, Burwood East for a demonstration on Geographic Information Systems and then to the beautiful Dandenong Ranges National Park William Ricketts Reserve. In the reserve there are sculptures depicting Australian Aborigines and bush creatures. Afternoon tea provided at Churinga Cafe.**
5.30pm
Bus transport to Central Melbourne.
- 7.00 - **Dine at the hotel or one of the nearby cafes.**
10.00pm
You may need a rest night. Optional visit to the new Melbourne Casino.
Tram or taxi (10 minutes)

THURSDAY
7 MAY, 1998

Jeff Godfredson Theatre - 3rd flr

Chair: *Anne Pickles*

- 9.00 - **The Australian Institute of Police Management and Information Literacy Programs for Professionalism**
9.45am *Margaret Davson. Manager Library & Information Services. Australian Institute of Police Management. Sydney. Australia*
Margaret's paper looks at how more than ever, it is vital for emergency management professionals to have skills in using libraries and information gathering (intelligence). The development of library & information skills into the curriculum of courses held at the Australian Institute of Police Management will also be presented.
- 9.45 - **A Customer-defined Library Service for Emergency Services Personnel**
10.30am *Jill Don, Librarian-in-Charge, Department of Emergency Services, Queensland. Australia*
Jill's paper summarises the review process of the Queensland Department of Emergency Services Library and presents some of the options for providing information to a diverse group of emergency service personnel.
- 10.30 - **Morning tea - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
11.00am
- 11.00 - **Panel Discussion on Teaching Information Searching Skills to Emergency Services Professionals**
11.45am *Rob Fleming EMA, Australia*
Margaret Davson Police, Australia
Nina McPherson Fire, Australia
Paul Bladen, CSIRO, Australia
Patricia Roddick University, New Zealand
- 12.30 - **Lunch - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
1.00pm
- 1.00 - **Optional Activities**
1.30pm
- Discussion and demonstration of the FireCD and other information products by Jill Bennett, Editor FireCD, UK, and Tessa Sampson, Product Manager Electronic Media, DA Information, Melbourne **Library, 3rd Floor**
- Discussion with Sandra Lunardi, Melbourne, Australia (Australasian Fire Authorities Council) on the AFAC Learning Manuals and Australian Firefighter Competency Modules - **Theatre, 3rd Floor**

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

THURSDAY (cont'd)
7 MAY, 1998

- 1.30 - **Preservation and Restoration of Library Collections from Fire**
2.15pm
Nora H Jason, National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA
One of the roles of library collections is to preserve and protect the universal knowledge from natural and unnatural disasters whether they be housed in large copyright libraries (e.g., the Library of Congress in the United States), or in small specialised collections (e.g., the Fire Research Information Services). The first step is to develop a plan of action before there is an earthquake, fire or other type of disaster. A disaster plan includes but is not limited to fire protection systems, fire department activity, and management and staff responsibilities. Rehabilitation of items exposed to excessive water and/or smoke damage will be highlighted. The elements that such a plan should include will be discussed together with appropriate response.
- 2.15 - **New Parents : the Intranet at the Fire & Rescue Service of Western Australia**
3.00pm
Elizabeth Hides, Library Manager, Fire & Rescue Service of Western Australia
Elizabeth's paper will explain how Intranet was piloted at the Fire & Rescue Service of Western Australia through two projects : the internal telephone directory and circulars that contain information of operational relevance and job vacancies.
- 3.00 - **Afternoon tea - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
3.30pm
- 3.30 - **Group photograph & networking**
4.00pm
- 4.00 - **Optional Activities**
5.30pm
- NIST BFRL Publication 1997 CDROM : demonstration by Nora Jason - **Theatre, 3rd Floor**
- Discussion and demonstration of the FireCD and other information products by Jill Bennett, Editor FireCD, UK, and Tessa Sampson, Product Manager Electronic Media, DA Information, **Melbourne Library, 3rd Floor**
- 6.30 - **Conference dinner : a Zoo-B-Cues in the Rainforest Room. (Taxi to the Melbourne Zoo - 10 minutes from hotel)**
11.00pm

Dr David Ranson, Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine - guest dinner speaker

Michael Kroll, Fire Science Library, Safety Engineering Laboratories, Michigan will make some presentations on behalf of the inFIRE Advisory Committee

FRIDAY
8 MAY, 1998

- Jeff Godfredson Theatre - 3rd fl** **Chair: Nina McPherson**
- 9.45 - **CSIRO InfoBuild : Information Brokering in the Construction Industry**
10.30am
Gaye McDermott, Manager, CSIRO Building Information Resource Centre
Gaye's paper addresses the marketing of InfoBuild, the difference in kinds and levels of information required by the industry and impediments and opportunities available to information brokers operating in such a market
- 9.45 - **Beyond the Walls to Where**
10.30am
Rob Fleming, Assistant Director, Information Services, Australian Emergency Management Institute
A case study of the development of the Information Centre at AEMI and how it met the information needs of the internal and external clientele and how it has strategically placed the role of the library within the organisation for future development
- 10.30 - **Morning tea - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
11.00am
- 11.00 - **Risk Management in CFA and the Response of the Information Service**
11.45am
Heather Wood, CFA Manager Information Centre, Melbourne, Australia
Over recent years, the Country Fire Authority has progressively adopted risk management principles as a core business activity. With this change there has been a shift of emphasis in the traditional role of the library service, with the (now) Information Service being seen more clearly as a contributor to corporate information. This paper examines the shift in emphasis in responsibilities to meet these goals and reports on a risk assessment carried out on information services functions and services
- 11.45 - **Closing Comments**
12.30pm
Nora H. Jason
- 12.30pm - **Lunch & Networking - (lounge : rear of canteen, 1st floor)**
onwards