



# Solutions on Fire

Issue 12, February 2011

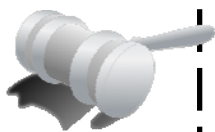
Hi there and Welcome to Solutions Fire Safety's February Newsletter. This month there has been a massive amount of fire safety in the news. For any further information on any topics in this newsletter please do not hesitate to give me an email and I will endeavour to respond to you as soon as possible. *Thank you! Solutions Fire Safety*

- Formal restaurant owner has been order 250 hours of community service after he breached a total of 13 regulations

- Angry residents of housing association have been given bill for fire safety in their flats

- New law in Wales for all new homes built will now have to be fitted with automatic fire sprinklers

In the **news this month** there has been a horrendous amount of incidents regarding fire safety breaches in the workplace. To mention a few:



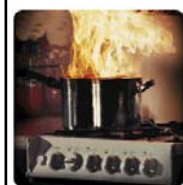
Who: A care home, Fine: £18,750, Costs: £1,600 Reason; Fire Safety officers found no suitable fire risk assessment, an unsafe external escape route, lack of compartmentation (fire spread) and a nailed shut and padlocked fire exit door.

Who: Recycling Firm, Total Costs; £60,000, Reason; The Fire & Rescue Service found a poor means of escape, blocked fire exits, a disabled fire alarm as well as other breaches.

Who: Property Management Company, Fine: £6,400, Costs; £1,410, Reason; Follow up from an inspection in 2009 found that nothing had been acted on.

Who: Poundland, Total Costs; £20,000, Reason; The problems were so bad the outlet was evacuated until they were fixed. Inadequate fire safety training and fire exits were not clear.

## CHIP PAN WEEK - 21ST - 27TH FEBRUARY 2011



*'More than half of accidental fires at home are started by cooking. Many kitchen fires happen when people are not paying attention or they leave things unattended.'*

Cooking oil fires burn hotter than other typical combustible liquids. Attempts to extinguish oil fires with water result in a boil over: an extremely hazardous condition where the flaming oil is violently expelled from the fryer.

*Please click on this video link to see how devastating a chip pan fire can be. The reaction, or shall I say explosion is massive and not something you want to happen in your home.*

## Why Safety Signs & Signals?

*Every organisation has them—but why are they so important and even more so, why is it vital to ensure you have the correct signs in the proper locations?*

Signage is a part of our everyday lives; they are everywhere and whether we notice these or not we should mechanically understand what they mean. All signs are there to provide us with the information we need. When we are driving and need to know which route to take, deciding which toilet to walk into or pointing out an electrical hazard in our office, each sign is there for a reason. Whatever the sign may be, signs are incorporated into our everyday living to offer us what we need, from warnings, instructions or identification.

## Safety Signs used in Workplaces

There are 2 pieces of legislation that need to be followed when using signs in the workplace. Health & Safety (Safety Signs & Signals) Regulations 1996 and secondly, The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. We all know that it is a legal requirement for signs to be placed within the workplace. The way a signs looks is extremely important when it comes to recognition to the human brain. Comprehension of graphical symbols, colours and supplementary text all provide the basis of how we read safety signs.

## Why ISO 7010 to ISO EN 7010?



The International Standard; ISO 7010 is a recommendation of best practice of *Graphical Symbols—Safety colours and safety signs—Safety signs used in workplaces and public areas*. Since it's introduction in 2004, it has sought to harmonize the graphical symbols used in safety signs. Comments regarding it's usefulness and suggestions for improving a consistent message mean that ISO 7010 is now to become a European Norm (ISO EN 7010). This means that not only will all safety signs be consistent in design but also the contents of will be written into UK and EU Law.

This is only a smidgen of the full story. Please click on this link to be directed to our website for the full article. The article will also be on the Means of Escape Website. Alternatively, why not attend our Free Technical Presentation for further info. (see below)

## Free Technical Presentation

Tuesday 15th March 2011 in Basildon, Essex.

This 1—2 hour presentation is intended to provide information regarding the forthcoming adoption of ISO 7010 as a European Norm (ISO EN 7010). We seek to disseminate this information amongst professionals in an effort to promote best practice. It is also suggested that in doing so we can save professionals and their organisations from buying signs containing motifs and diagrams that will no longer conform to standards. In additions we will also provide information on cost savings to be achieved, particularly in relation to emergency lighting.

**As a platform for those standards and as advocates of best practice we offer this presentation at no charge to yourselves.**

*To attend please fill in the attached booking form.*

