



Hello and welcome to Solutions Fire Safety May Newsletter. This month there is a various amount of news bulletins that have occurred this month, some shocking and interesting, click on title for full story. Also this month some information on the benefits of photoluminescence and why it could help you evacuate quickly and easily from a burning building (worst case scenario). I hope you find the articles of interest and I look forward to any comments and questions you may have, please do not hesitate.

## When the lights go out...what you never knew you needed to know!

Standard ISO 7010 was published to confirm the correct design for safety signs for the purposes of accident prevention, fire protection, health hazard information and emergency evacuation, and will apply generally to all types of premises, particularly workplaces, and all premises where there is a requirement for safety information to be communicated by way of safety signs. As an authorised distributor of JALITE's AAA range of photoluminescent signs we know that it satisfies these new standards.

### What is photoluminescence?

Photoluminescence is a special kind of phosphorescence. The energy needed to activate it is supplied by common light sources such as daylight, tungsten filament and fluorescent lights.

### How does it work?

Under sudden power loss situations, the material is conspicuous at some distance, providing an effective, bright contrast for text and graphical symbols and ensuring that safety messages are quickly recognised. This assists people to orientate themselves so that they can react effectively and evacuate efficiently.

### Will Photoluminescence replace traditional lighting?

JALITE photoluminescent materials were originally designed to complement existing emergency lighting systems but continuous improvements in luminance performance mean that in certain circumstances high quality photoluminescent products can replace emergency lighting.

### Why Photoluminescent Signs?

When an emergency occurs, the time between the lights going out and the emergency lights coming on, coupled with the sound of the fire alarm is the time when panic and confusion can set in. Photoluminescent safety signs emit a strong light source under sudden power loss situations. This helps people to orientate themselves to ensure that they can evacuate efficiently and effectively.



Our FREE Fire Safety Management Workshops have proved such a success we have arranged more dates for the year with our consultant.

**Our available dates for the next few months are: 16th June, 15th July & 19th Aug**

Take a morning from work, we will offer you practical advice, meaningful insight and an open forum. This is not a hard sale at all, far from it! Our presenter knows what he's talking about after 32 years experience in the fire brigade, and thereafter as a fire inspector, trainer and consultant, you can learn a lot from him! Click here for your invite

## NEWS

- ⇒ Shop owner of West Lancashire was fined £12,576 after 3 year old girl received second degree burns from a heater which set fire to her dress
- ⇒ A mother was charged with murder after there was fire in their home in which two of her children died, in Derbyshire
- ⇒ A businessman has been fined £130,000 after repeatedly refusing to carry out essential fire safety work
- ⇒ In Dubai, a court has confirmed death sentence against a woman who allegedly killed 57 women and children in an arson attack
- ⇒ At least 27 buildings were set ablaze in Bangkok, watch the video here
- ⇒ Landlord jailed after fire caused a 19 yr old girl 90% burns & 1% chance of surviving
- ⇒ New Fire Minister has been announced
- ⇒ Boy 8 who had a fascination for flames caused a blaze in his home that killed him and his 15 year old sister

## The Importance of Being Noticed

In the building and construction arena, crowd control at football matches and in every arena where authority figures need to be designated and noticeable, identification is key. Companies have developed hi-viz material, retro-reflective material and latterly clothing and guidance systems incorporating photoluminescent properties.

Research has always concluded that occupants react more quickly when an evacuation is supported by an authority figure who give good verbal instructions. Bengston, et al (2001) in a study of a fire in a Gothenburg night-club, suggest survivors viewed the initial warning messages as ambiguous and had not taken the first indication of a fire seriously. Kushigian (2001) suggest that the selection of an exit is dependent on the cognitive map of the individual and overall is a fuzzy and random process. This is where a well trained Fire Warden or Marshal can fulfil their role and save lives. Adding clarity to the situation with strong verbal instructions and identified by the appropriate clothing, confusion can be avoided.

Photoluminescent way guidance systems in the building can enhance this procedure and photoluminescent markings on the Wardens clothing can assist the emergency services in locating the Wardens as they will be the last to leave.



## Fire Kills 1 & Destroys Victorian Hotel

A fire ripped through a listed Victorian hotel this month in Harrogate which left a man found dead in staff accommodation. Other guests and staff were evacuated from the premises at approx 5am. No one else is visibly injured yet the hotel has suffered extensive damage including the ornate Grand Dining Room. The fire is thought to have started in a bedroom.

Click here for full story and to watch video.