

Solutions on Fire

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It Can Happen to the Best of Us



It has been reported that the UK Fire Service College failed to have an up to date fire risk assessment after a blaze caused more than £1m of damage when all 11 of their fire engines were destroyed in May last year. Following the fire, an inspector carried out a fire safety audit on the garage which was destroyed. The college, where fire fighters from England and Wales are trained, had no updated fire risk assessment however they had carried one out 5 years previously under the old Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulation. The college has responded to media reports this month confirming their lack of fire risk assessment on the building but say that the process they had in place was adequate enough to ensure no risk to life. They have dealt with all other issues

noted by the inspector and have since carried out a full fire risk assessment under the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. No further enforcement action has been considered appropriate. Click here for the full response from the college.

How much do we really know? Chief Executives ask

The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 was presented to us 5 years ago - you would think we'd have got a grip of it already, apparently not, according to chief executives and officers.

A London Assembly inquiry into building fire safety was held on the 19th March after recent high profile fires have occurred in the capital, involving tall and timber frame construction. Chief Officer, Ron Dobson says, 'People don't understand what the right requirements are.' Paul Overall, Chief Executive of Local Building Control says, 'I remain to be convinced whether this legislation is really up and running properly yet, and whether building owners are taking seriously their requirements and legislation.' So now business owners are being urged to familiarise themselves with legislation and their responsibilities within this. Commander for London Fire Brigade says, 'The law places the responsibility for fire safety in the hands of employers so having an understanding of fire safety is at the heart of good business management.' The final report will make recommendations to the government bodies where appropriate. For full story, click here

Get Your FREE Solutions Fire Safety Pack

Our packs are designed to aid the person responsible for health and safety to develop a culture of fire safety awareness by the implementation of effective fire safety management in the everyday practice of an organisation.

Know anyone who has an interest in fire safety? Is there someone you know who has a responsibility for health and safety in the workplace? Pass on their contact details to me and I will send you out your free pack!

Our packs include:

- Fire Safety Sign Guide
- Pocket Guides
- Photo-luminescent key-ring and pocket guide

Packs are limited, so email (below) for your pack to be delivered.

This month owners of a London Hotel have been ordered to pay in excess of £21,000 in fines after pleading guilty to 6 offences under the RRO. This prosecution was brought by the London Fire Brigade after they inspected the building in April last year. The officers found inadequate fire detection and alarm system, defective fire doors and problems with the external means of escape. They were issued with an enforcement notice yet failed to act on the findings once the officers had returned. The company closed shortly after the enforcement was issued.

Click here for full story.

'It's not Rocket Science', Solutions say!

Do we really need further legislation for the performance of a fire risk assessment? Have we really got organisations that are employing people that are not competent to carry out that which is required? Is there thousands of people at serious risk from rogue traders? Do we really need a legal register for fire risk assessors?

The answer has to be a resounding NO.

What is required is more adoption of the principles of fire risk assessment by managers, supervisors and people who have control over individual assessment areas and are stake holders within the organisation.

Solutions believe that what is really required is the engagement and training of the people within an organisation who have real opportunities to prevent incident, tackle bad practice, careless behaviour and maintain prescribed passive and active fire safety arrangements written their own working environment. The process is not rocket science It just requires basic management principles, good appreciation and adequate resources corresponding with the importance to that organisation.

Welcome to **Solutions Fire Safety Monthly Newsletter.**

Good Morning all! This month focuses greatly on the responsibilities of a fire risk assessment. A big story this month was the UK Fire Service College that failed to have an updated risk assessment on their building, also a London Assembly inquiry has been made as to whether we really understand the RRO. Also below are our training dates, if interested. Any further comments or questions feel free to contact me. Enjoy.

Solutions Training Dates

½ Day Free Fire Safety Management Workshop:
15th April and 17th May

2 day Responsible Person course: 28th & 29th April,
18th and 19th May

½ Day Fire Warden Training:
11th May and 24th June