



FIA ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Fire Industry Association

Foreword from the CEO



Ian Moore,
Chief Executive Officer of the FIA

As we reflect on the journey through 2024, it's clear that our mission; to promote the highest standards in fire safety through education, technical excellence, and industry collaboration, has never been more crucial. In the face of evolving fire safety challenges, the FIA remains dedicated to advancing professionalism and competency across the sector, ensuring that every professional is equipped with the skills and knowledge needed to protect lives and property.

The latest Grenfell Tower Inquiry report continues to underline the urgent need for enhanced fire safety standards, and greater accountability across the industry. In response, the FIA has remained at the forefront, advocating for the adoption of new regulations and working closely with the government to shape policies that drive meaningful change. Our focus has been on raising the bar for competency and certifications, ensuring that fire safety professionals meet the highest standards, particularly in light of the tragic lessons from Grenfell. We have made significant strides in updating our training programs to reflect these new legislative demands, strengthening the industry's ability to prevent such devastating incidents in the future.

As Europe's largest fire safety trade association, our strength comes from our shared vision; to lead, influence, and shape fire safety standards across the globe. Through the unwavering dedication of our members, we continue to improve fire safety methods, foster innovation, and ensure that every fire safety professional can uphold the highest level of competency.

Training and Development

2024 has been an exceptional year for FIA Training. We've once again broken records, training over 6,000 delegates across the UK, a 26.9% increase from the previous year. This isn't just a number; it's a reflection of our commitment to delivering world-class education, no matter the format.

Our Northwich Centre of Excellence has played a pivotal role, expanding hands-on practical training opportunities. This state-of-the-art facility has enabled us to meet the growing demand for real-world, industry-relevant experience, something that truly sets FIA training apart. We've also rolled out new courses, such as Fire Safety Awareness of Lithium-Ion Batteries, addressing one of the most pressing issues in the industry today.

Looking ahead, the launch of our Fire Risk Assessment (FRA) course and the development of our Hampton practical training facility will ensure we continue to stay ahead of the curve, offering comprehensive, practical education that fire safety professionals need to excel.

Expanding Membership – Growth with Purpose

Membership has continued its upward trajectory, with 159 new companies joining our ranks, a 63% increase from last year. This growth isn't by chance. It's driven by the tangible value that FIA membership offers them. Access to high quality training, the ability to shape industry standards, and the benefit of being part of a collaborative, innovative and forward thinking community.

With a 92.5% retention rate, our members can see the value we provide, and we remain committed to expanding and enhancing our offering to meet their evolving needs. Certification and competency have been central to this growth, as companies seek to align with the updated standards required by the BS5839-1 and other evolving regulations.

Technical Expertise

One of the great strengths of the FIA is our ability to influence change, both through collaboration and leadership. This year, our Technical Councils and Working Groups have continued to drive critical discussions around standards, regulations, and best practices.

We've made significant progress in updating our course offerings to reflect changes in BS 5839-1, ensuring that our training remains the benchmark in the industry. This is part of our continued mission to improve the competency of fire safety professionals and ensure that certification requirements are not just met but exceeded.

Our success has also extended beyond training. We've had a strong presence at industry events, including our AGM and Annual Lunch, FIM Expo, and The Fire Safety Event. This year, we expanded our reach with the FIA Fire Safety Summit in Dublin, fostering invaluable dialogue with professionals in Ireland. The success of this event has further cemented our role in shaping fire safety practices across borders and strengthened calls for more international collaboration.

Moving Forward Together

As we reflect on the successes of 2024, we do so with a sense of gratitude and optimism. Gratitude for the incredible work of the FIA team and our members who continue to push the boundaries of what we can achieve together. Optimism for the future, knowing that despite the challenges we face as an industry, the opportunities for progression and innovation are vast.

The ongoing work stemming from the Grenfell Inquiry reminds us all of the serious responsibility we bear. But with collaboration, a commitment to excellence, and a focus on continual improvement, we are leading the industry through this period of change, not just navigating it. The FIA will continue to be a driving force in advancing fire safety standards, enhancing professional competency, and shaping the future of fire safety both in the UK and internationally.

Thank you for your continued support and trust in the FIA. Together, we will make 2025 another year of growth, leadership, and impact.

Ian Moore

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian Moore". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief Executive Officer, Fire Industry Association

Contents

Membership	6
Route to Certification	12
Training	13
Marketing	19
Councils	32

Membership

Membership Growth

Within the last 12 months the FIA continues to build on the previous year by with one of the strongest periods of growth in its history. In the last year 159 companies have come into membership. This is up 63% on the previous year and is the 2nd highest number of companies joining ever reported. Of the new members, the most common type of company are fire and security service companies and when asked why they joined, the top answer was to ensure their training records complied with the BS 5839-1 and BAFE SP203-1 scheme requirements.

The new requirements which were published in October 2023 stated a need for at least the lead technician of each company to hold a level 3 qualification. Level 3 qualifications were introduced to the industry by the FIA in 2018, and currently the FIREQUAL Fundamentals in FD&A Level 3 qualification is the number one course undertaken by FD&A technicians in the UK. This helps to explain the driving force behind the membership growth over the last 12 months.

On the cancellation front, 86 member companies left FIA membership over the same period. Of these, only 20 companies left due to some form of dissatisfaction. In a membership of 1140 companies that equals a 1.75% dissatisfaction rate. The remaining cancellations consist of a mixture of memberships cancelled by the FIA and those who had to resign due to uncontrollable changes in circumstances or mergers and acquisitions. Whenever a member company is acquired, it is almost always acquired by another member company and therefore absorbed





Membership

Membership Growth

into their membership. If that is not the case, then the standard practice of the FIA is to approach the acquiring company with the membership offering.

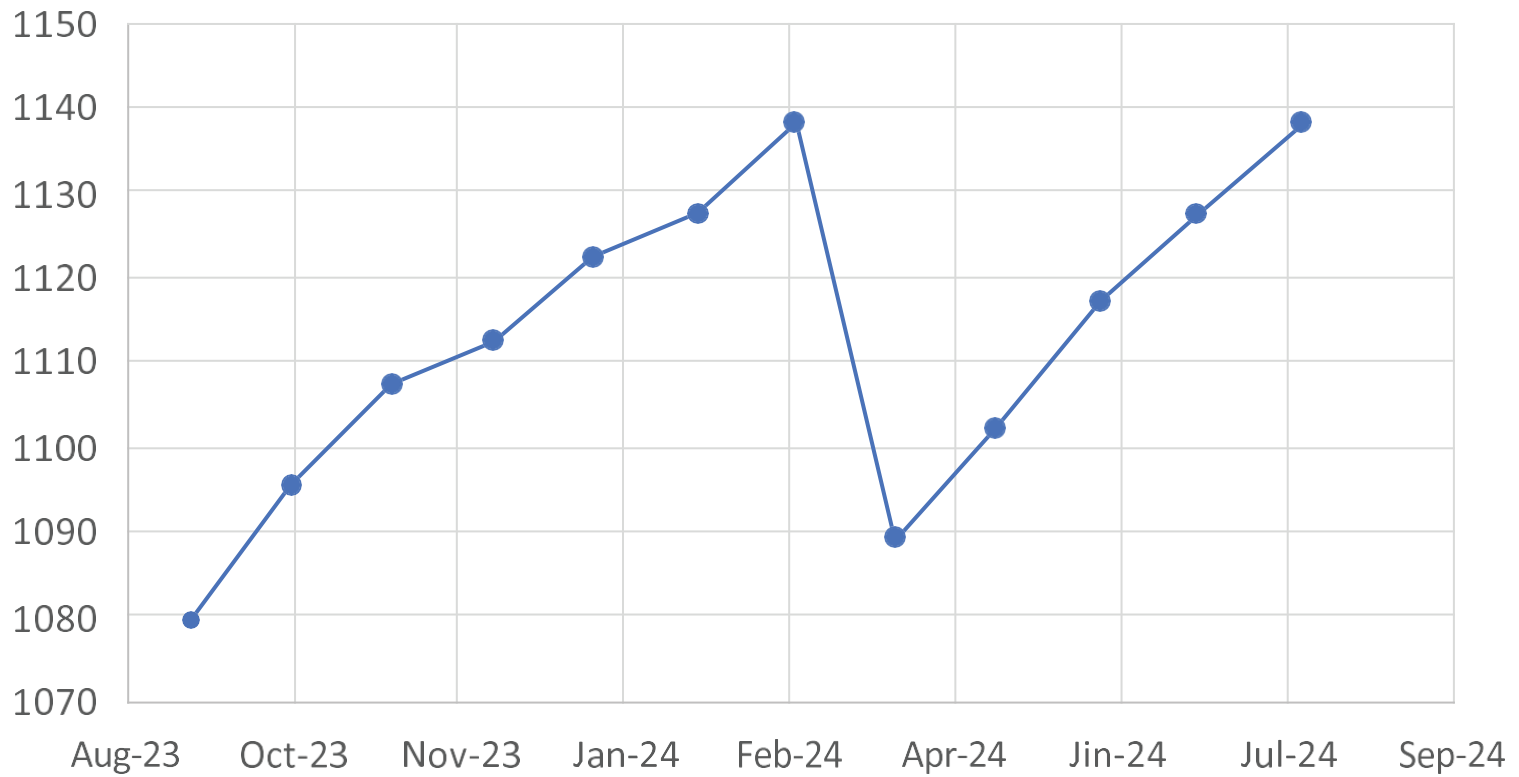
The reasons vary for those members that have been cancelled by the FIA; The cancellations are due to payment issues, or lack of third-party certification. It is always important to note that the FIA takes an active role in checking its membership base to ensure FIA members still hold the relevant third-party certifications for the type of work they carry out within the industry. This is a core message of the FIA and a mechanism for raising the bar of professionalism and competency within the industry. Whenever it becomes apparent that a member no longer holds relevant certification, the FIA approach the company to offer assistance in re-gaining the certification. However, if this offer is refused, the FIA is left with no option but to cancel the membership until such a time as the company is willing.

Taking everything into account, the net gain this year is 73 companies which is 59% higher than the previous year which equates to an overall growth of 5.5%; This means the rate of growth has increased by 1.1%. However, more importantly, The Trade Association Forum reports that it is common for trade associations to have a retention rate of 90-95%. The Membership Team are pleased to say that over the last 12 months the FIA figures show a strong retention rate of 92.5%. If this was purely based on satisfaction however that figure rises to 98.25%

Membership

Membership Growth

Total Members Sept 23 - Aug 24

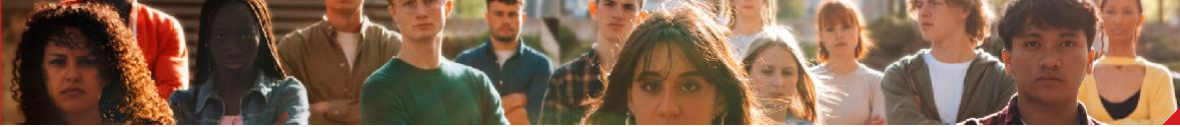




Membership Benefits

This year the FIA has continued to add to the portfolio of third-party benefits available to FIA members. Members have access to discounted rates and services provided by our partners, all of whom are specialists in their field. This past year has seen a strengthened partnership with BSI, as well as management consultants, sales and marketing advisors, fuel card providers and much more. The FIA have joined forces with these partners to increase the value of our membership offering.





FIA's Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

In 2024, our CPD Certification Centre continues to offer an exclusive, free service for the fire industry, providing FIA-approved certification for CPD sessions. This benefit saves companies thousands and ensures their content meets industry standards. As Europe's largest fire-related trade association, the FIA leverages its extensive technical and training expertise to assess and enhance CPD presentations, guaranteeing both technical accuracy and educational quality.

By certifying CPD content, we help raise the bar across the fire industry, improving the quality of advice delivered to customers. So far, we've certified over 100 hours of presentations. Additionally, our in-house CPD presentations are available for use, covering a wide range of key industry topics. Alongside this service, we also developed our in house CPD offering. All of our presentations are now available for our members to use when presenting to their customers.



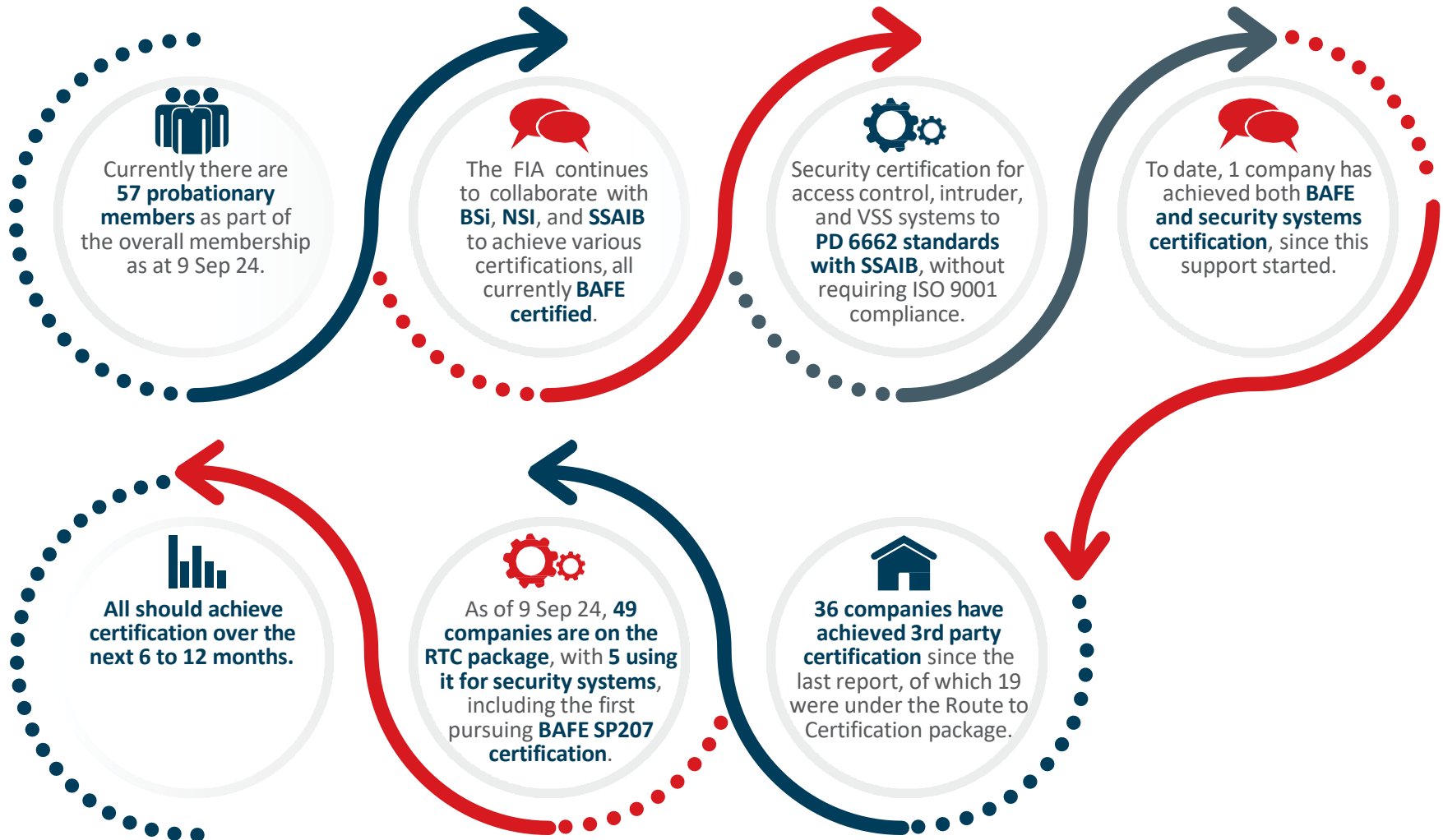
FIA's Continuing Professional Development (CPD)

These include presentations on, but not limited to:



Route to Certification (RTC)

Since the last AGM update in August 2023, the following figures are of note:





Training

Reflections on the Past Year

The last 12 months have marked a significant period for the FIA Training department, boasting as the most successful year to date. The FIA team's dedication and the unwavering support of members have propelled the FIA to new heights, positioning the FIA as the leading fire safety training provider in the industry. With a record-breaking number of delegates and an expanded range of training offerings, we are well-prepared to continue this upward trajectory in the year ahead.

Success at Northwich and Beyond

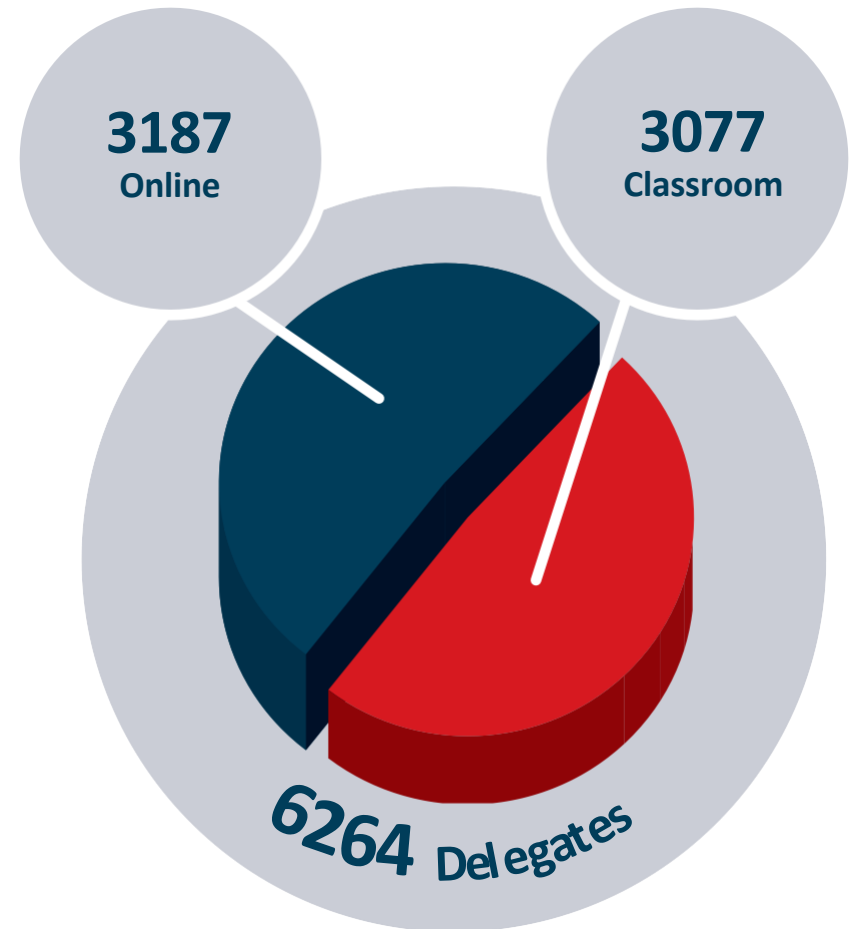
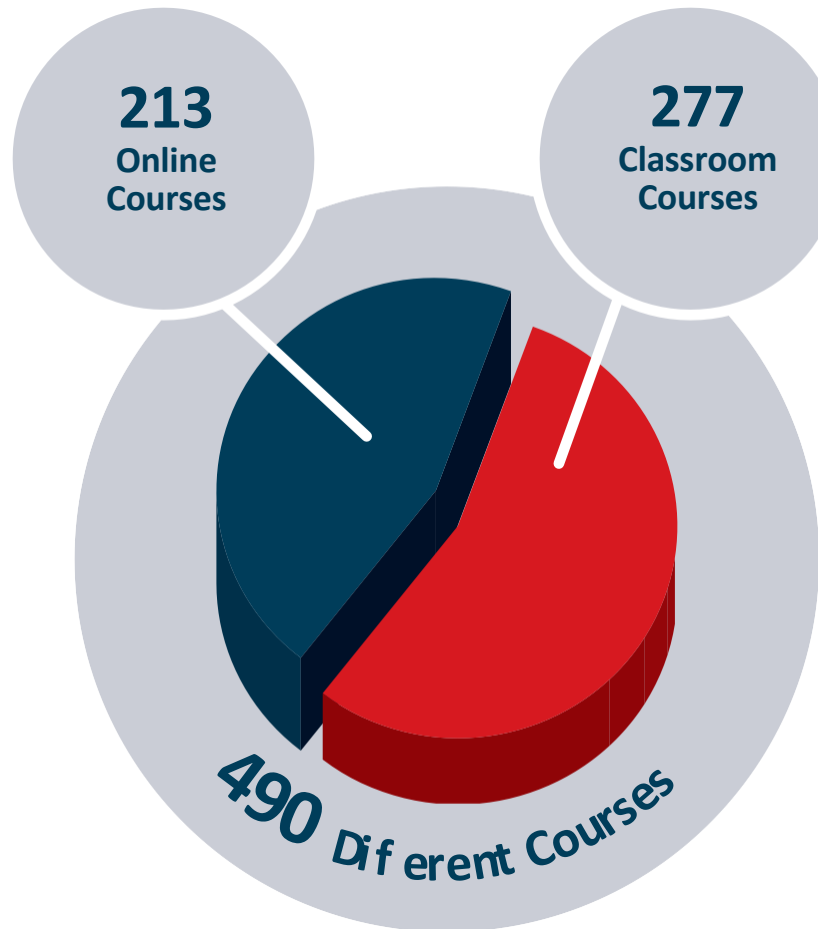
A major milestone of the year has been the full operationalisation of the FIA Northwich facility. This state-of-the-art centre includes a newly completed practical area, expanding the FIA's ability to deliver high-quality, hands-on training. As we look ahead, further expansions of the Northwich facility are planned, ensuring that the FIA continue to meet the evolving needs of the fire safety industry with cutting-edge resources.

Record-Breaking Achievements

The past year has seen unprecedented growth across all areas of FIA Training with 490 courses delivered, representing a 26.3% increase from the previous year; This included 213 online courses and 277 classroom courses. The FIA qualification courses continue to lead the way, driven by the updated requirements of the BAFE SP203-1 scheme. The FIA have trained a total of 6264 delegates, a 26.9% increase from the previous year, with 51% opting for online training.

The statistics over the last 12 months

September 1st 2023 – August 31st 2024



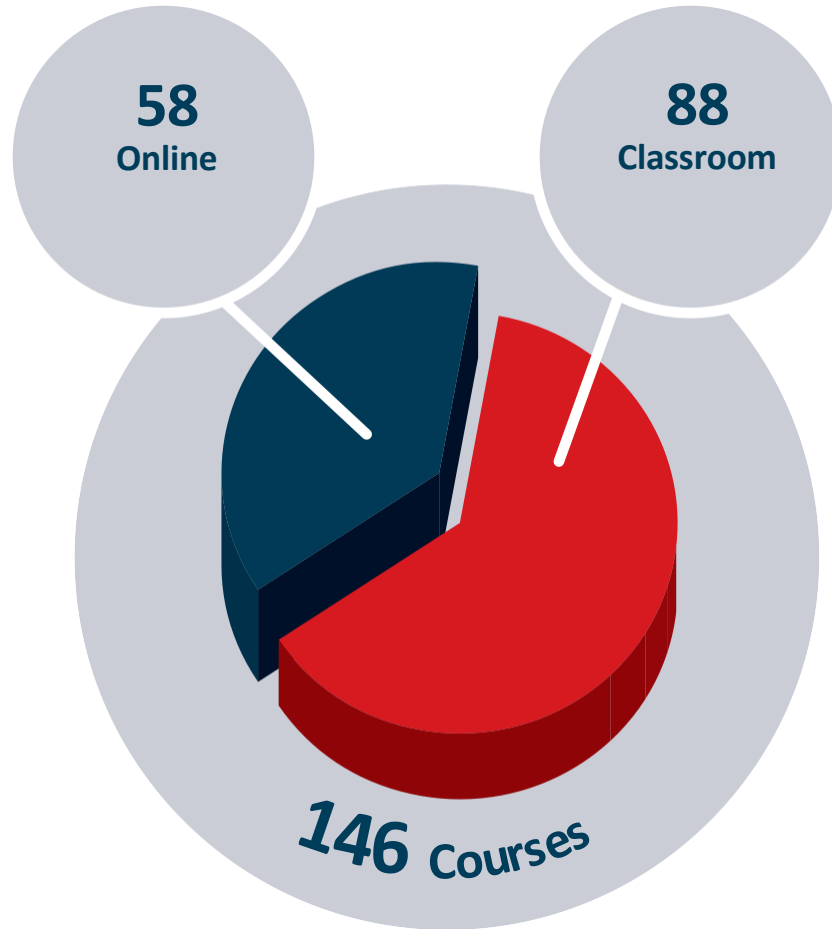
51% of all delegates in the last 12 months took their training online 2% down on last year

897 Days training in the last year

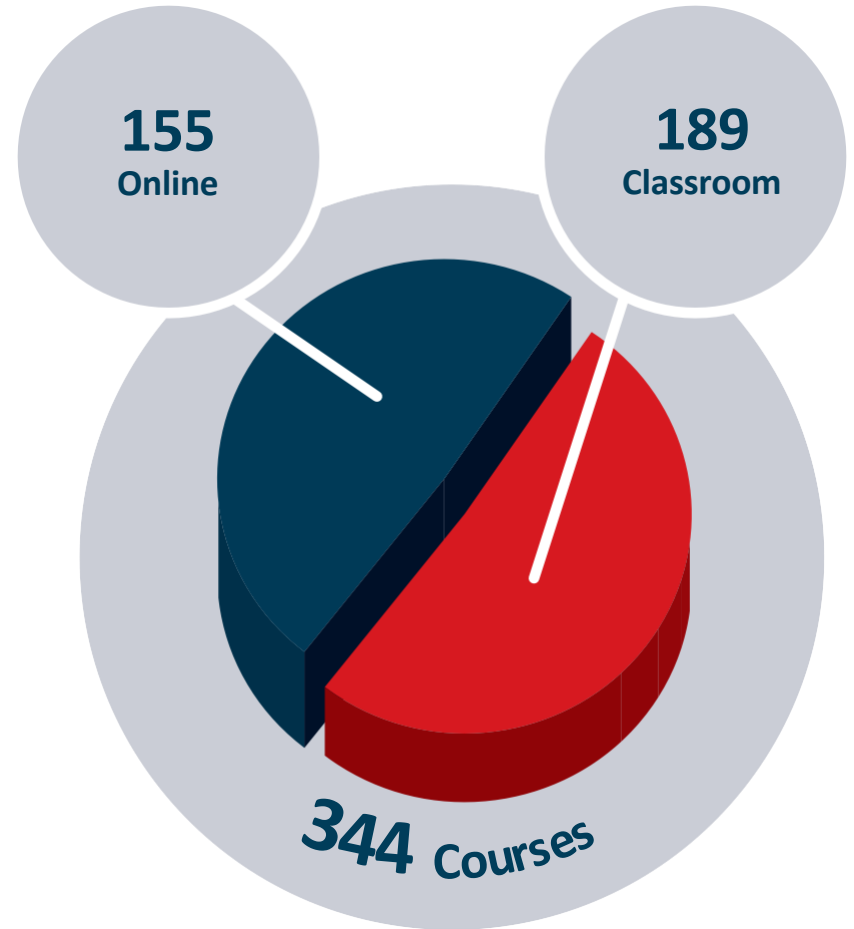
On average 15 people per online course and 11 per classroom course

The statistics over the last 12 months

September 1st 2023 – August 31st 2024



Non-Qualification Courses



FD&A Qualification Courses

897 Days training in the last year

On average 15 people per online course and 11 per classroom course

The statistics over the last 12 months

September 1st 2023 – August 31st 2024

30% Increase in Companies Engaged
(1282 companies booked training)

897 Days of Training Provided



897 Days training in the last year

On average 15 people per online course and 11 per classroom course



Expanding the FIA's Offerings

This year, the FIA successfully launched two new courses: Fire Safety Awareness of Lithium-Ion Batteries and Equipping Your Managers for Higher Performance. Both have been well-received, addressing key emerging trends in the industry. The FIA also have several new courses in development, including Fire Risk Assessment, FESS Experienced Worker, Dry Riser Training, VR Training, and Hose Reel Training. Additionally, The FIA foray into online modular self-paced training is set to offer delegates even greater flexibility.

Continuous Improvement and Future Outlook

The FIA's commitment to providing up-to-date and relevant training continues with the forthcoming update to BS 5839-1, which will have widespread implications across many courses. The FIA will be actively incorporating these changes to ensure that FIA training remains the most comprehensive and current available.

The FIA have also continued to refine the online platforms and course delivery, ensuring that the online training is as engaging and effective as the classroom-based offerings. Positive feedback from delegates highlights the success of these efforts, and the FIA remain committed to enhancing both the content and delivery of FIA courses.

Sustainability Initiatives

Sustainability remains at the forefront of the FIA's efforts. The FIA are pleased to report that over 70% of delegates who took online training opted for digital materials, a 3% increase from last year. Moving forward, the plan to transition even more of the FIA training materials to digital formats, reducing environmental impact while continuing to offer high-quality training.

Looking Ahead

As we move into 2025, the FIA Training department is poised for continued growth. With the launch of new courses, the expansion of the FIA Northwich facility, and the introduction of self-paced online training, we are well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of the fire safety industry.

The year ahead promises to be another record-breaking one for FIA Training. The goal remains clear; To equip fire safety professionals with the skills and knowledge they need to protect lives and property.

Thank you to all the FIA members, partners, and delegates for the continued support. Together, we are making a lasting impact on fire safety, and can look forward to the achievements of the coming year.





Marketing

The FIA's Marketing team is experiencing a period of dynamic growth, with several exciting developments unfolding in 2024. One of the key milestones is the appointment of a new Head of Marketing, which significantly enhances the team's capabilities and strategic direction. This move underscores the organisation's dedication to cultivating internal talent and building a strong, innovative team culture. By investing in leadership and skill development, the FIA is positioning itself to achieve even greater success in its marketing efforts, driving forward new initiatives and continuing to raise the bar in the industry.

The FIA is embarking on an exciting digital transformation journey, and the Marketing team is at the forefront of this process, helping to steer new and innovative initiatives that will help further strengthen partnerships and meet the evolving needs of the sector. These changes enable the FIA to adapt and show flexibility to the growing demands of the fire industry, while ensuring that FIA members have access to the best tools, resources, and information available.

By providing timely, relevant content and updates on key issues, the FIA remain the leading news source and trusted thought leaders for fire professionals, keeping them informed of the latest government guidance, regulatory changes, and industry developments. The FIA Marketing team is dedicated to delivering the right messages to the right audiences with precision and expertise, ensuring we support the industry effectively during this period of transformation and growth.



FIA Website and Systems

In parallel with the digital transformation, a brand-new website is being developed, which will be designed to significantly enhance the user experience and create a more intuitive and user-friendly journey. This new platform is being carefully crafted to meet the evolving needs of our diverse community, with a focus on delivering a smoother, more efficient digital experience. One of the key features of the upcoming site will be improved navigation, making it easier for users to find the information they need quickly and effortlessly. Whether it's accessing technical documents, browsing certification options, or signing up for training courses, everything will soon be more streamlined and accessible.





E-Communication

A key part of the digital evolution for the FIA was the implementation of a new Microsoft Customer Insights platform (CRM), which has revolutionised how FIA members and non-members interact with key information. This advanced platform enables the FIA to enhance communications, streamline processes, and leverage data-driven insights to offer more personalised support and services. This transformation is set to modernise the internal operations and create a more efficient and responsive organisation.

The e-newsletters provide subscribers with up-to-date industry news, essential member benefit information, the latest technical guidance updates, and event announcements for crucial networking opportunities. There is also the opportunity to utilise valuable advertising space, helping members maximise their visibility within the fire industry. In 2024, the FIA readership has grown to an impressive 7,205, reflecting the continued trust and engagement from our community. These updates ensure subscribers stay informed and connected to key developments, opportunities, and resources within the sector.

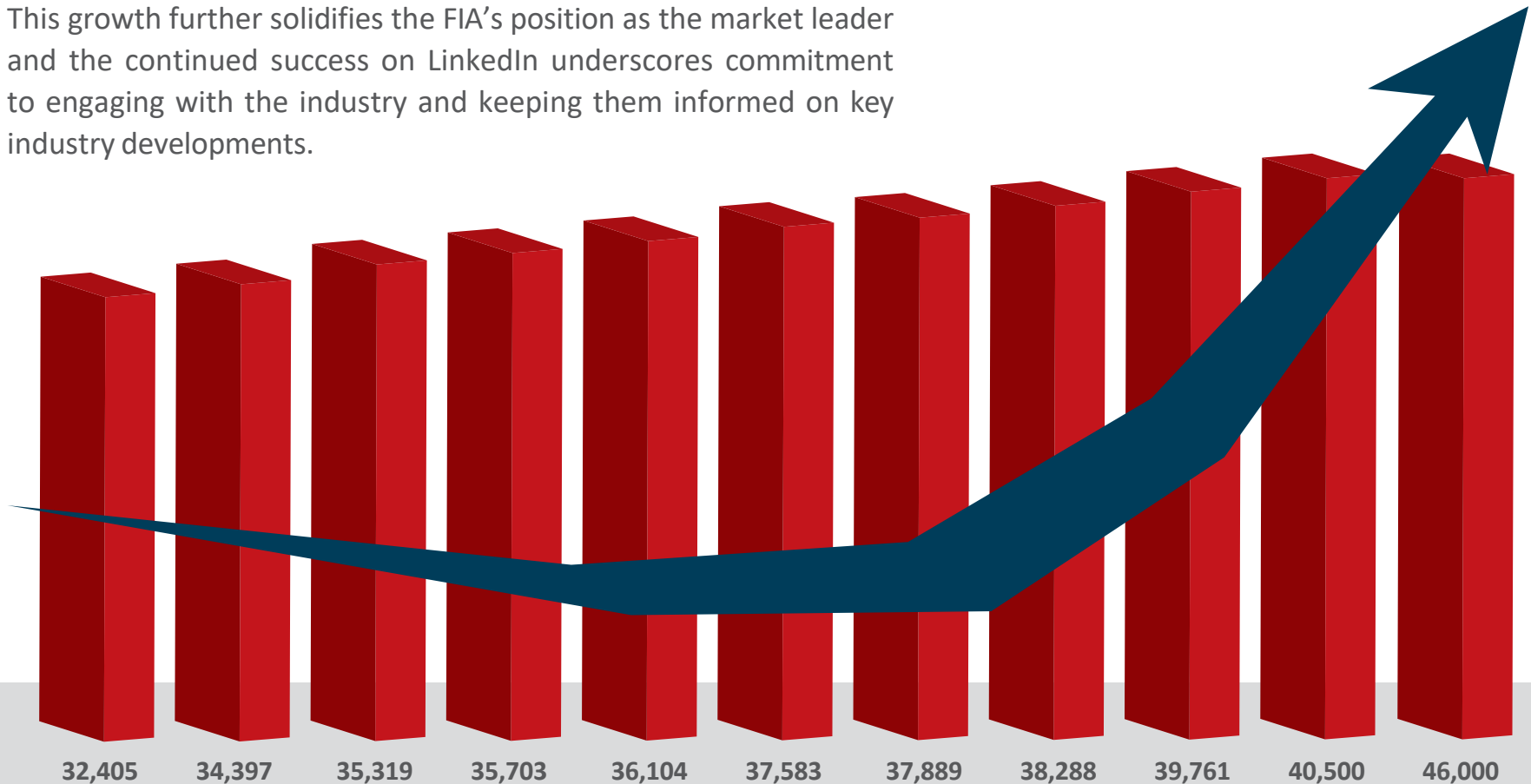


Social Media

All of the FIA's social media channels have continued to see growth in 2024, with LinkedIn remaining the strongest and most active platform. LinkedIn's ability to connect businesses and professionals in the fire industry has made it a key channel, second only to the website and e-communications. As of 2024, the FIA now boasts over 46,000 followers, reflecting a 13.6% increase from 40,500 in 2023. This growth further solidifies the FIA's position as the market leader and the continued success on LinkedIn underscores commitment to engaging with the industry and keeping them informed on key industry developments.



LinkedIn Company Page Followers 2023-2024



Public Relations

In 2024, the FIA CEO, Ian Moore, has continued to lead efforts in representing FIA members across a wide range of vital industry areas. One of the major highlights of this year is Ian's collaboration with Independent Television News (ITN) on an upcoming programme; Fire Safety: Prioritising Prevention and Protection, which is due to launch on the ITN Business Hub in October this year. The FIA is playing a key role in this initiative, contributing to critical topics such as:

- How important is competency within the fire sector?
- How can we tackle this?
- How is the FIA supporting its members and the sector?
- What does the future look like?

Another big success has been the creation of the 'Fire Future Today' anthology brochure, a significant contribution to the ongoing dialogue surrounding the future of fire safety. Featuring articles from twelve prominent leaders in the fire sector, this collection offers valuable insights into the evolution of fire safety and preparedness. The anthology, available free of charge, is a vital resource for professionals looking to stay ahead of industry advancements. As the FIA continues to publicise the contributors and their thought-provoking work in our regular e-news, this document stands as a crucial tool in shaping the future of fire safety standards and innovation.



Customer Engagement

**FIA
Articles Read**



197,826

**FIA
Newsletter**

FIA Focus
Newsletter
Subscribers



7,218

**Social
Media**

in
46,922
LinkedIn Overall
Company Page
Followers

7,052
Overall Twitter
Followers

f
1,763
Overall Facebook
Followers

**FIA
Website**



283,752
Unique Website
Sessions

836,427
Total Website
Page Views

Events

Introduction

2023 has been the FIA's most active year of events to date. With the opening of the Northwich Centre of Excellence the FIA now has the facilities to host a range of events including CPD days, networking events, and small-scale exhibitions. In addition to this we have also hosted multiple member events free of charge.

This year's events have been incredibly successful. We have improved the long running events such as the AGM & Annual Lunch and FIM Expo, as well as taken new steps, exhibiting for the first time at the Fire Safety Event and hosting the first ever event in the Republic of Ireland.

The Fire Industry Association (FIA) AGM and Annual Lunch

The FIA Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Annual Lunch took place on 9th November 2023. Whilst technically two separate events, they effectively combine as one to form the most significant date in both the FIA's and wider industry's calendar. The most recent AGM and Annual Lunch was held at The Brewery in central London, a venue that has become synonymous with the event. This was the largest event to date hosting over 535 industry leaders, and for the first time ever featuring a post lunch drinks reception, enabling guests to continue conversations and enjoy an extended opportunity to network.

The morning AGM, held exclusively for FIA members, presents the highlights of the FIA's activities over the



Events

past 12-month period. This gives the FIA members an insight into the achievements realised throughout the FIA and encompasses detail around the work transacted within the FIA's seven Councils: the Fire and Rescue Suppliers [FRES] Council, the Export Council, the Fire Detection and Alarm Council, the Fire Engineering Council, the Fire Risk Assessment Council, the Extinguishing Council, and the Services Council.

The results of the FIA Board and Council elections are announced during the AGM. In the 2023 elections, the Board witnessed the addition of one new member: Stacey Adams, Market Development Manager at Apollo Fire Detectors and two re-elections: James Jones, Managing Director at VimpeX and Andy Spence, Joint Managing Director at Britannia Fire.

During the Annual Lunch, Tony Hanley, Managing Director at FirePro UK Ltd was presented with the FIA's prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2023 we introduced the new 'Young Technician of the Year Award' as we seek to highlight the fantastic achievements of young people in the fire industry. Harry Henderson-Park of Siemens Plc was the first winner.



Events

FIM EXPO

Organised every year by the FIA, FIM Expo features an exhibition showcasing many of the UK's leading manufacturers and the latest products and developments across the industry, as well as a CPD certified conference that runs parallel. With 25+ exhibitors, a regional focus, and high-quality delegates from the industry, FIM Expo provides a unique offering from other larger exhibitions in the major cities.

In March 2024, FIM Expo took place at the Historic Dockyard in Portsmouth. The event brought together 25 exhibitors and over 160 delegates providing a platform for industry leaders to network and connect, as well as offering delegates the chance to place orders with exhibitors and gather crucial information about market leading products.

The conference, running alongside the exhibition featured keynote speakers such as Iain Bowker, Director at Ensure Safety and Compliance, Stew Adamson, Deputy Chief Fire Officer at Hampshire and Isle of Wight FRS and Robert Thilthorpe, Technical Manager at the FIA. In addition to this, the conference also included engaging panel discussions, focusing on lithium-ion battery fire issues and fire safety information. All conference sessions were CPD certified, adding significant value to the attendees' professional development.



Events

The Fire Safety Event

The 2024 Fire Safety Event was the first that the FIA have attended. It was fantastic to be part of this event which stands as a premier gathering for industry practitioners, professionals, and organisations committed to upholding the highest standards of fire safety management. The show was highly successful for the FIA with vast amounts of interest and conversations.

The FIA stand was dedicated to promoting the training we provide and gave attendees the opportunity to explore the FIA's industry-leading training programs tailored to meet the evolving needs of fire safety professionals.

The Fire Safety Event also serves as a fantastic opportunity to catch up with many FIA members, who are either attending or exhibiting at the show, flying the FIA flag on their stands.

It is a delight to say that we will be back in a much bigger way at next year's event, with the launch of the groundbreaking Guidance Theatre. Showcasing interactive workshops, the Guidance Theatre offers immersive, hands-on learning experiences designed to enhance fire safety knowledge. In addition to this there will also be live interactive demonstrations.



Events

FIA Fire Safety Summit - Dublin

The first ever FIA Fire Safety Summit in Dublin in June 2024, united industry leaders from the UK and Ireland. The event featured an exhibition and conference, showcasing the latest industry advancements and provided networking opportunities. Keynote sessions and panel discussions provided attendees with rich insights and professional development opportunities. The event was a resounding success with over 145 delegates in attendance.

The combined exhibition and conference provided a platform for industry leaders from the Irish market to network and connect. Attendees were able to gain invaluable knowledge and insights from key figures in the industry and explore the diverse array of products on display.

The conference featured keynote sessions from FIA Board Director, Michelle Agius who opened the day and gave an overview of the FIA. Commercial Manager, Chris Tilley delivered a presentation on competency and compliance frameworks, and Technical Manager, Will Lloyd updated the audience on the work of the FIA's Lithium Ion Battery Working Group. The conference also included a range of engaging panel discussions enabling representatives from both Ireland and the UK to discuss a range of topics important to the Irish market. All conference sessions were CPD certified, adding significant value to the attendees' professional development.

Feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive with many calls from the Irish market for the FIA to host more events in the Republic of Ireland.



Events

FIA Northwich Practical Launch Event

This launch event followed the successful opening of the Northwich Centre of Excellence last year, which has become a pivotal hub for fire safety training and events in the region. The new practical training facilities represent the next step in the FIA's mission to elevate industry standards and provide comprehensive support to FIA members.

This event showcased state-of-the-art resources, continuing to show commitment to providing top-tier training for the fire industry. In addition to this, the event also featured a CPD session titled 'What does competence look like', delivered by FIA Technical Manager Will Lloyd, and a tabletop exhibition featuring member companies who have supported the FIA at FIA events consistently over the last 10 years.



Market Conditions Survey 2024 – Wave 16

FIA Annual Market Conditions Survey Summary

The 2024 Fire Industry Market Conditions Survey Report (Wave 16) is now available and offers an insightful overview of the current state of the UK fire safety sector, exploring how businesses are navigating a challenging economic landscape characterised by inflation, supply chain disruptions, and increasing regulatory demands.

This comprehensive analysis focuses on key areas such as market demand, workforce development, tender opportunities, supplier relations, and export performance, providing a detailed look at how the sector is responding to these pressures while continuing to grow.



FIA's Councils

Our industry-leading councils have been and always will be at the very heart of the FIA and this section is clear evidence why that is the case.



Extinguishing Council

SIG Lithium

The SIG on Li-ion Battery fires which is looking at drafting guidance on fire protection of batteries – almost 200 members from all areas of business/government/Universities.

The group initiated the project with Newcastle University on extinguishing media on LiB fire.

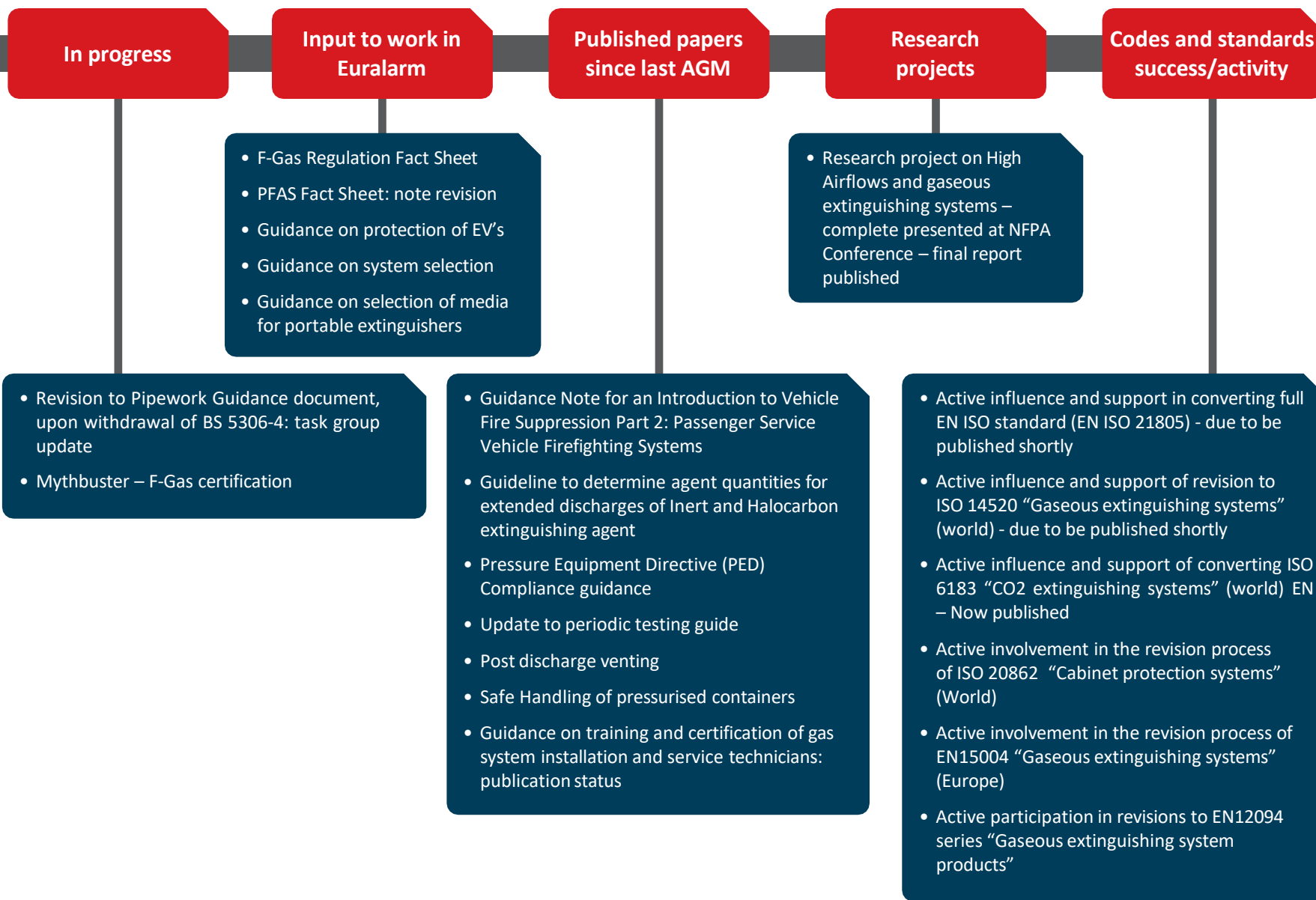
SIG on Photovoltaic Systems was initiated in January 2024 and has been drafting guidance on the fire issues related to these systems which are finding increased usage in the UK.

Activities since last AGM

- In January 2024, the Special Interest Group (SIG) on Photovoltaic Systems was formally established with the aim of providing comprehensive guidance on the fire safety challenges posed by these systems.

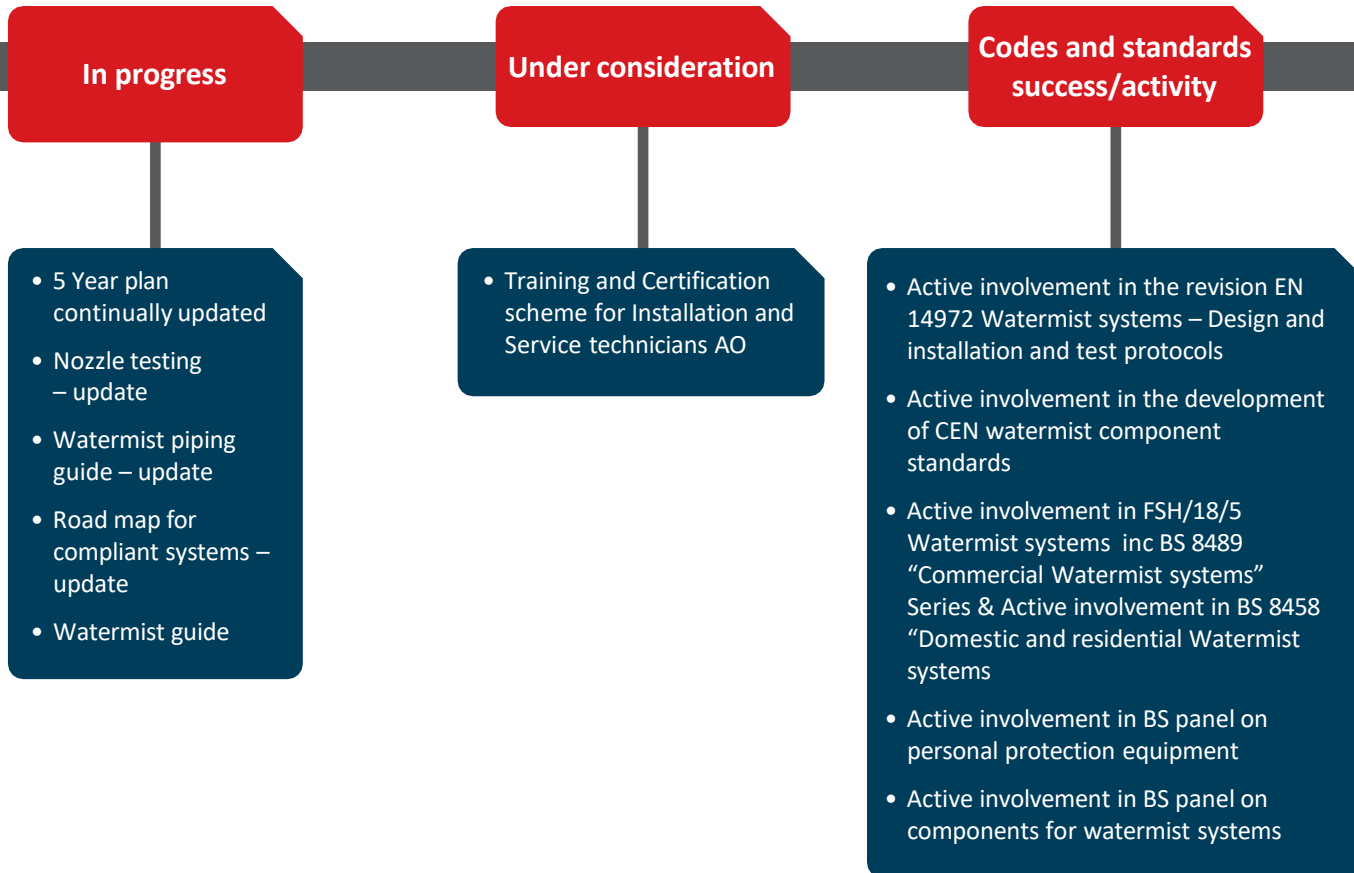
Extinguishing Council

Working Group Gases



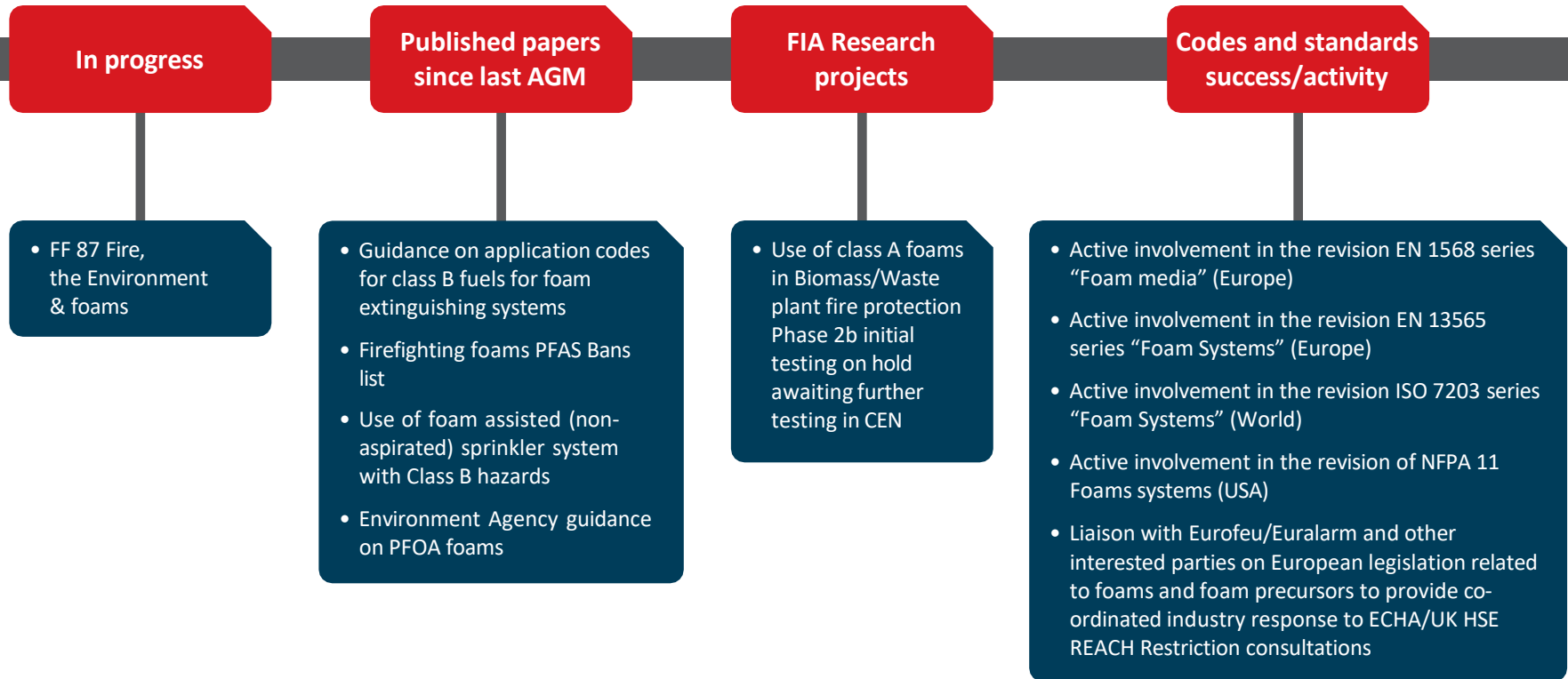
Extinguishing Council

Watermist



Extinguishing Council

Working Group Foam



Extinguishing Council

EMTC (Extinguisher Manufacturers Technical Committee)

In progress

- Definition of multipurpose fire extinguishers

Published papers since last AGM

- FIA Fact File 92 - Marking of New Refurbished equipment in relation to pressure equipment
- FIA Fact File 93 Portable Fire Extinguishers under the ADR.pdf
- Fact file 97 Di-Electric test
- Fact File 98 – class F

Codes and standards success/activity

- Input into EN 3 “Portable Fire Extinguishers” revisions
- Input into BS 6165 “small Disposable Extinguishers”
- Input into BS 7863 “Colour coding for fire Extinguishers” revision
- Input to revision of ISO 3941 Classes of fire to include LiB

Fire Detection & Alarm Council

FDWG02 – Fire Alarm Communications

Ongoing work

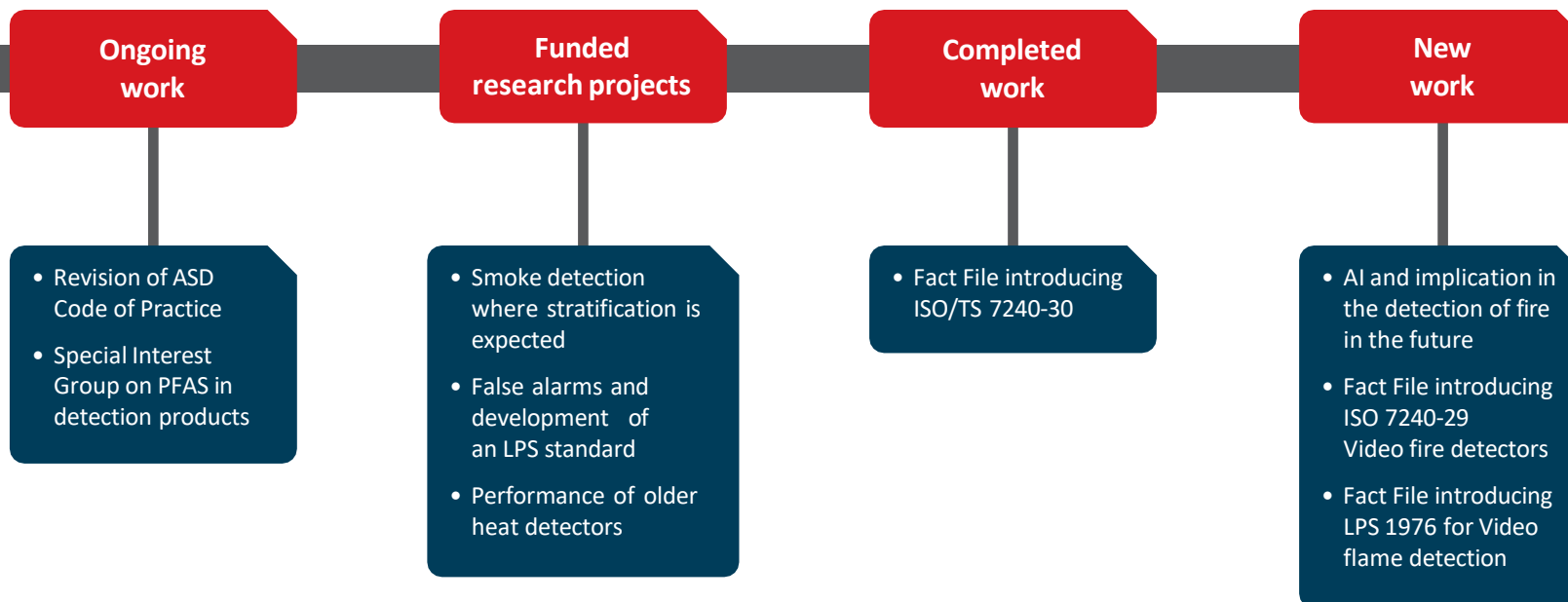
- Guidance on IP connectivity and remote services
- Guidance on PD 6669
- Monitoring ECHO progress
- Monitoring of EN 54-21

New work

- Guidance on PSTI Act

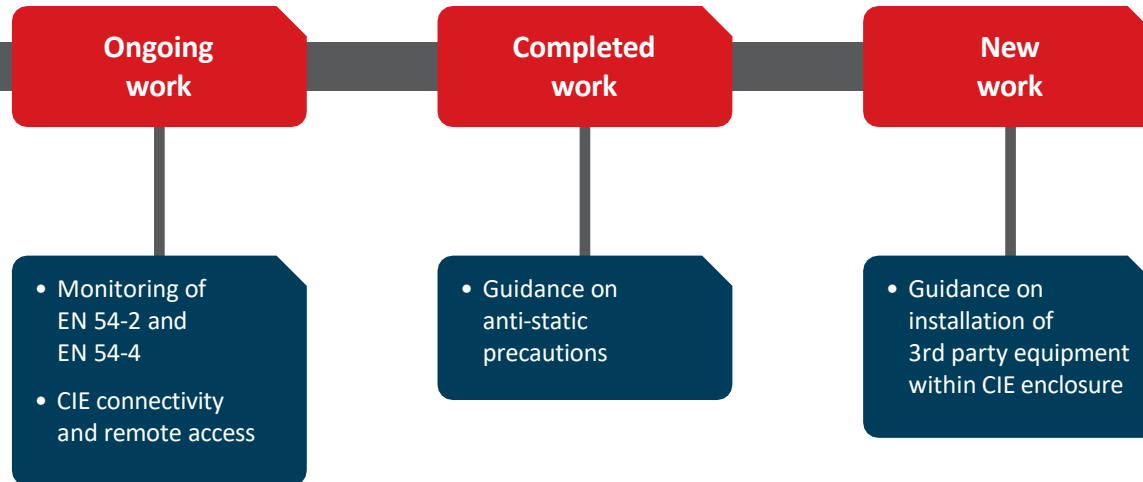
Fire Detection & Alarm Council

FDWG03 – Fire Detectors



Fire Detection & Alarm Council

FDWG05 – Control and indicating equipment



Fire Detection & Alarm Council

FDWG24 – Wireless systems

Ongoing
work

- Monitoring & guidance on SRD frequencies allocated by ETSI
- Monitoring & guidance on EN 54-25

Fire Detection & Alarm Council

FDWG27 – Alarm Devices

Ongoing work

- Revision of joint FIA/BRE CoP 0001 on VADs
- Research with LFB and SFRS on the effectiveness of sounder frequencies
- Application guidance on BS 7273-4

Completed work

- Funded research project EN 54-23 VAD effectiveness
- Guidance on the installation of tactile vibrating devices

Fire Detection & Alarm Council

FDWG SAD (Smoke Alarm Devices)

Ongoing work

- Monitoring of EN 14604, BS 5446-2, BS 5546-4 & ISO 12239
- Research with LFB and SFRS on the effectiveness of sounder frequencies
- Liaison with the National Caravan Council
- Liaison with the Boat Safety Scheme

Completed work

- Guidance on thatched roofs

Fire Detection & Alarm Council

ELWG – Emergency lighting

Ongoing work

- Monitoring of British and European Standards

Completed work

- Frequently asked questions for designers and maintainers

Services Council

PSC (Portable Servicing Committee)

Training Courses in progress

- Hydrant/Riser testing – practical area in Northwich

Published papers since last AGM

- FIA Fact File 94 Portable fire extinguishers in HMOs
- PowerPoint: PSC BS 5306-8 Changes
- FIA Fact File 96: The 2023 revision of BS 5306-8
- Extinguisher use survey
- Business without premises guides – Caravans and camp sites
- Business without premises guides – petrol station forecourts

Papers in progress

- Extinguisher use survey – rolling project

Codes and standards success/activity

- Active involvement in the revision BS 5306-8 “Selection and installation of Extinguishers”
- Active involvement in the drafting of BS 5306-10 Colour coding to indicate the extinguishing media contained in portable fire extinguishers. Code of practice
- Active involvement in the CEN/TC70/WG 7 “maintenance standard”

Services Council

I&MS (Installers & Maintainers Section)

Published papers since last AGM

- Low Voltage Directive requirements for fire retardant batteries
- Battery Regulation Guidance

Papers in progress

- Myth Buster – Fire alarms and invacuation
- Guidance on fire alarms systems in HMO's

Codes and standards success/activity

- Active involvement in the revision of BS 5839-1 "Fire detection and alarm Systems"
- Active involvement in the development of the European standard on Remote servicing of fire and security systems



Fire Risk Assessment Council

The Fire Risk Assessment Council represents the FIA member companies that offer fire risk assessment services. The Council's key role is to present the collective views of this sector of the industry, including negotiation and discussion with government and other external bodies. As well as representing members' interests, the Council monitors and influences the development of relevant standards, legislation and regulations. It also commissions research. In addition, it provides guidance for product-related marketing, communications and training issues.

With the impact on legislation and guidance still happening after the Grenfell tower tragedy, there have been many government consultations on the new legislation and the forthcoming guidance documents, as well as on the future of fire safety legislation. This is very much an ongoing situation, and with the legislation already published and enacted, there are still many guidance documents to assist and support the Fire Risk Assessment community that are still to be published. With The Fire Safety (England) Regulations 2022 and implementation of The Fire Safety Act, any residential property that is not a house, is now within the scope of The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005.



Fire Risk Assessment Council

Work happening in the FRA council

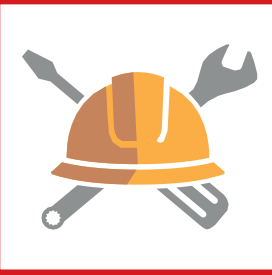
MythBusters published

Comments provided to BSi on the following standards

- BS 8476 Built environment - Framework for competence of individual fire risk assessors - Code of practice
- BS 9792 Fire risk assessment – Housing – Code of practice
- BS 8684 Technology enabled care – Assessment of user needs and risks, system design, installation and maintenance – Code of practice
- BS 5839-1 Fire detection and fire alarm systems for buildings. Part 1: Design, installation, commissioning and maintenance of systems in non-domestic premises - Code of practice

With a new Building Safety Regulator (BSR) and the Implementation of Section 156 The Building Safety Act, there has been a focus on the competence of Fire Risk Assessors. The council has been involved with the Fire Sector Federation on the development of the Benchmark Standard for risk assessors, leading to the formulation of the new Risk Assessor Qualification by FireQual.

Fire Engineering Council



Following the Grenfell Tower tragedy, legislation has changed significantly, including the introduction of the Building Safety Regulator (BSR). This has brought in a new planning process for High-rise Residential Buildings (HRB), known as the Gateway Process, which includes three distinct “gateways.”

The three gateways are:

- Land use planning matters related to fire safety (gateway 1)
- Building control approval for higher-risk buildings (gateway 2)
- Completion certificates (gateway 3)

The Fire Engineering Council have been engaging with the BSR along with the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE) to help liaise with the BSR and Fire Engineering Companies on the new planning requirements.

In conjunction with the IFE, the Fire Engineering Council and the joint facades special interest group look at the existing buildings that have cladding on them. This Special Interest Group was created to raise awareness of the issues involved and to provide support to the many fire engineers who work in this area.

Approved Document B (ADB) has been updated to include a new requirement for two staircases in new tall residential buildings. The requirement will come into effect from September 30, 2026, for all residential buildings that are over 18 meters high.

Further changes in guidance and legislation are expected following the publication of Phase 2 of the Grenfell Tower Inquiry.



Representing FIA suppliers to the Fire and Rescue sector, we continue the involvement within the Fire and Rescue landscape and beyond in the wider fire safety environment. Liaising with a number of government departments, the NFCC and a host of other stakeholders, we are able to contribute to and influence the changes occurring in the sector.

Highlights over the last year include:

- Responding pro-actively to the evolution of the Fire and Rescue Services
- Growing liaisons with central and local government, NFCC and the Fire Service College among many others
- Participation in exhibitions and other key industry events
- Focus on procurement and product innovation
- Practical assistance to Ukraine
- Progressing the PPE and Events Working Groups

Export Council



The FIA Export Council represents over 60 'FIA Exporters' in its efforts to grow the global placement of UK fire sector products and services. We continue to work with partners including DIT UK DSE (Department for International Trade, Defence & Security Exports), overseas fire trade bodies and exhibition organisers to develop tangible opportunities for FIA exporting member companies.

Latest DSE figures from the DIT show that the Fire Safety sector is incredibly strong. Within security exports, fire equipment exports are second only to cyber security exports. The latest analysis put the size of UK fire equipment exports at £575 million, however the export councils own internal estimates put this figure much higher.

Over the last 12 months the Export Council has renewed its commitment to targeting and organising overseas trade missions. The first of these occurred in Cyprus alongside the launch of the FIA's Cyprus branch office and took place in the form of a fire summit in Nicosia on Thursday 19th October 2023. The summit included an exhibition featuring the best of British and Cypriot companies, alongside a conference focussing on 'Best Fire Safety Practices in High-rise Buildings', 'The Future of Fire Safety', 'Challenges and Solutions for Fire and Rescue Services' and 'The Role of Competence'.

In May 2024, we followed up on the success of the Fire Summit by taking a small group of UK manufacturers back to Nicosia for a product focus day. This was arranged in close collaboration with the FIA Cyprus team and was delivered entirely by FIA UK members, giving them a platform to talk about a variety of British and EU standards, issues within the industry and their solutions.

Export Council



In addition to this, the FIA secured a discount for FIA member exhibitors through the FSAI (Fire Security Association India) for the 2024 FSIE event in Mumbai. This is part of a closer working relationship between the FIA and the FSIE, based on a pre-existing MOU between the two organisations.

In June 2024 the Export Council instigated the FIA to run its first ever event in the Republic of Ireland. The Dublin Fire Safety Summit brought together a variety of elements from the Irish fire safety sector for a one day conference and exhibition. The theme of the day was raising the bar of competency across the Irish Fire Industry and this proved to be an interesting and highly engaging topic amongst the attendees. The FIA has plans to evolve its involvement in the development of the Irish market, more on which will be released over the coming months.

In the upcoming year, the FIA, via the Export Council, has committed to attending a range of overseas shows with an 'FIA Member' stand. These will be available on a first come first serve basis to any companies that wish to be included on the stand, which in turn will act as a base for members to explore overseas shows and markets without the cost and energy of having to secure a full stand.

The FIA Team



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Fire Industry Association

Leading Excellence in Fire Since 1916

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