



INSTITUTION OF FIRE ENGINEERS, SINGAPORE

THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATION FOR FIRE PROFESSIONALS

Issue No. 32 | JUL – SEP 2023

Management Council 2022 – 2024

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A WORD FROM THE EDITOR

Greetings from the heart of IFES as we stand on the cusp of a new chapter in 2023! As the year begins to gracefully draw to a close, we can't help but feel the excitement in the air for the possibilities and developments that lie ahead in the upcoming quarter.

In this edition of the IFES newsletter, we are delighted to bring you a comprehensive update on both the ongoing and upcoming activities within our institution.

Our members' presence in our community is not just appreciated; it's indispensable. We are immensely grateful for the strength and vitality you bring to the IFES family. Together, we're shaping the future of fire engineering, and it's a journey we are honored to undertake with each and every one of you.

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EVENTS & NEWS

Visit to Health Sciences Authority's Forensic Medicine Division (FMD)

14th July 2023

As part of our ongoing commitment to fostering knowledge exchange and professional development, IFES organized an educational visit for the Fire Investigation Special Interest Group (FI-SIG) to the Health Sciences Authority's (HSA) Forensic Medicine Division (FMD).

This division plays a pivotal role in conducting autopsies for coroner's cases, led by expert forensic pathologists and forensic technical officers.

During our visit, we gained valuable insights into the intricate work they do, often dealing with cases related to unnatural deaths caused by fires, explosions, electrocutions, and more. This firsthand experience will provide us with a deeper understanding of the forensic processes and methodologies employed in such critical situations.

Senior Consultant Forensic Pathologist, Dr George Paul brought us through the daily routine of a forensic pathologist, and shared case studies of various types of deaths from his own varied experience.

Due to the security protocol, the participants could only take a virtual tour of the Mortuary and the patented Biological Safety Level (BSL4) laboratory. National duties of FMD during normal times and times of national emergency such as a mass casualty situation were also touched upon.

The highlight of the visit was the Q&A portion - questions ranged from understanding the distinctive characteristics of electrocution and fire-related deaths to the intricate details that forensic pathologists scrutinize during their examinations, and also to the technology and procedures involved in working within the BSL4 laboratory.





Photograph: Visit by FI-SIG to the Health Sciences Authority's (HSA) Forensic Medicine Division (FMD).

EVENTS & NEWS

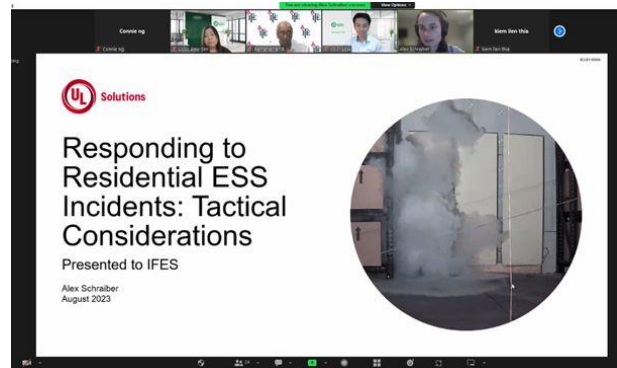
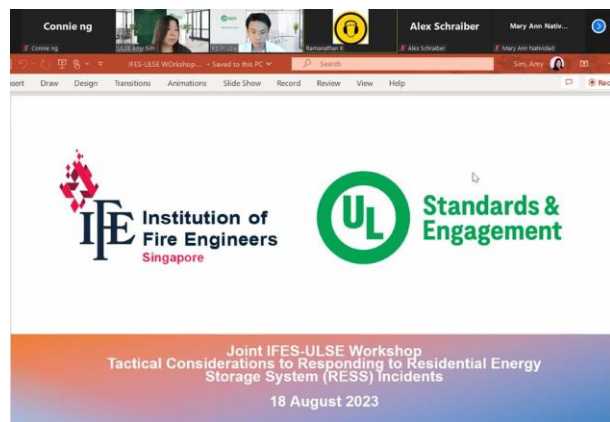
Joint IFES-ULSE Workshop: Tactical Considerations to Responding to Residential Energy Storage System (RESS) Incidents

18th August 2023

A virtual workshop was jointly organized by the IFES and UL Standards & Engagement (ULSE) and attended by 33 participants on tactical considerations to responding to Residential Energy Storage System (RESS) incidents, particularly those powered by lithium-ion batteries.

The increased adoption of residential energy storage systems poses unique challenges for the U.S. Fire Service, and this workshop aimed to provide insights and strategies for responding to such incidents.

The workshop featured Alex Schraiber as an invited speaker, who provided an overview on two research projects aimed at establishing guidelines for size-up and tactical considerations when responding to RESS incidents.



Photograph: Attendees at the virtual workshop

EVENTS & NEWS

IFES Fire Code Seminar 2023: Key Changes to Fire Code 2023 and Fire Safety Regulations

21st September 2023

IFES held a comprehensive event aimed at disseminating information about the new Fire Code 2023 (launched on 25th August 2023) and updates to fire safety regulations.

The diverse range of over 450 attendees, including Fire Safety Engineers, Professional Engineers, Registered Architects, Fire Investigators, SCDF representatives, Fire Safety Managers, safety officers, government officials, fire product suppliers, building owners, developers, contractors, facility managers, lawyers, and maintenance personnel, indicates the broad impact and relevance of the seminar.

IFES President Mr. Ramanathan initiated the event by extending a warm welcome to the participants. He outlined the objectives of IFES, emphasizing its commitment to supporting ongoing professional development within the fire engineering industry. This would set the tone for the seminar, underlining the importance of continuous learning and growth in the field.

The Keynote Address by Guest of Honour, Deputy Commissioner Ling Young Ern (Future Technology and Public Safety), was a significant part of the event. DC Ling provided insights into the development of the Fire Code 2023 and its collaborative approach between the regulatory body and stakeholders in the built environment. This keynote is crucial in setting the context for the regulatory changes and fostering dialogue between the SCDF and the industry.

Breakdown of topics included:

- Relevant changes in the Act & Regulations that would help building owners better manage their premises with a focus on changes mainly on Fire Safety Manager Scheme, Company Emergency Response Team, Fire Certificate and Temporary Permit scheme.
- New fire safety requirements for wall-integrated PV installations on buildings.
- Key changes to the fire safety requirements pertaining to the circulars issued by SCDF on “Amendments to Fire Code – 12th batch of amendments” issued to the building industry on 1 Mar 2023 and the rationale for such changes. Sea-based farm building requirements to help owner better manage their premises.
- Review of the revised Minor Addition and Alteration (MAA) lodgment scheme.
- Sharing on the enforcement workflow, common fire hazards and fire safety offences and Fire Hazard Mitigation Plan (FHMP).
- Summary of key changes in the Fire Code 2023 and its impact
- Joint presentation on statutory responsibilities of professionals to the various acts governing their conduct and responsibilities.



Photograph: IFES Fire Code Seminar 2023



Photograph: IFES Fire Code Seminar 2023

EVENTS & NEWS

IFES Technical Visit to Hilti Learning Centre Singapore

29th September 2023

A technical visit was jointly organized by Hilti Learning Centre Singapore and IFES, attended by 26 members. The visit had a particular focus on providing valuable insights to Civil and Structural and Mechanical and Electrical engineers and to offer hands-on experience and a deep understanding of the challenges faced at job sites, along with showcasing the tools and products used in these scenarios.

The presentation and sharing session on "Passive Fire Protection - Saving Lives, Protecting Assets" is particularly relevant and crucial in the construction and engineering industry. Passive fire protection is an integral aspect of building safety, and understanding innovations in preserving compartmentation during a fire is essential for engineers.





Photograph: Attendees at the Hilti Learning Centre Singapore

EVENTS & NEWS

IFES Member's Nite and Golf Challenge

12th October 2023 at Orchid Country Club

Both old and new friends of IFES came together for a half-day tournament at Orchid Country Club. It was a great opportunity for networking, friendly competition, and camaraderie among participants.

With 60 golfers participating, it was a lively and competitive atmosphere. The anticipation for the Champion, 1st Runner-up, and 2nd Runner-up, as well as the Near-to-Pin prizes, added an exciting element to the event.



Photograph: Golfers at the half-day tournament at Orchid Country Club

The evening continued to be a grand affair with the Member's Night following the conclusion of the golf tournament. IFES President Mr Ramanathan gave a warm welcome speech setting a positive tone for the evening and fostering a sense of camaraderie among the attendees.

This was followed by the technical talk by Lingjack Engineering Works on their newly launched Halotron BrX Extinguishers and COMBAT Water Mist Extinguishers with Green Label.

The diverse array of entertainment, including music, singing, games, and lucky draws, surely added to the festive atmosphere, creating a memorable experience for the 75 IFES members and guests in attendance.

The evening ended on a joyous and everyone had a great time. Such moments celebration create lasting memories and bring together the collective members of the fire engineering community.



Photograph: IFES Member's Night



Photograph: IFES Council 2022-2024 in attendance

UPCOMING EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

Servicing and Maintenance of Fire Extinguishers (Next Run)
22nd to 30th January 2024

Published quarterly by the IFES, we are always looking for members contributions. To provide any articles or feedback, please contact – admin@ife.org.sg



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