

FSI 2018 Speakers



Magnus Arvidson

Magnus is a Fire Protection Engineer with a degree from the University of Lund. He has been working at RISE Research Institutes of Sweden since 1991, mainly responsible for activities related to water mist and sprinkler system testing and research. He served as a member of the NFPA 750 technical committee on water mist fire protection systems from 1993 to 2000, has been active in the Sub-Committee on Fire-Protection at the International Maritime Organization, and has been involved in a technical committee at CEN developing a standard for water mist systems. He is currently a member of the Scientific Council of the International Water Mist Association.



Olof Axelsson

Olof is the CEO of the fire and risk consultancy firm OAX Brand- & Riskkonsult AB. He has extensive experience of the application of performance-based engineering for complex infrastructure, assembly, city development, industrial and high-rise projects in the Middle East, Africa, UK and Sweden. Olof has worked with NFPA codes, British Standards and the BBR suite of documents. His projects include the Dubai Trade Centre District, the Presidential Palace and National Museum within Abu Dhabi, Nya Slussen, Ostlänken and many high-rise projects. Olof holds an B.Sc. in Fire Protection Engineering and M.Sc. in Risk Management Engineering and is a certified Fire Protection Engineer.



Anders Bergqvist

Anders Bergqvist is the Secretary General of the Fire Protection Association Sweden. He has more than 25 years of experience in the field of accident and crisis management with various senior positions in the Swedish Rescue Services Agency, Greater Stockholm Fire Department, RISE Research Institute of Sweden and the Swedish Fire Protection Association. Anders has experience in operational fire and rescue services, planning and construction issues, accident and injury research, executive corporate management and executive board work. He has also studied and worked in international contexts. Anders is a Fire Protection Engineer from Lund University of Technology.



Matilda Bjälkefur

Matilda is a fire protection consultant from Stockholm, Sweden. Her main work concerns the fire protection of buildings with a focus on the Swedish building codes. She has been involved in several building projects in Sweden with most types of occupancies and has four years of experience as a fire protection consultant along with project management competence. Matilda has an M.Sc. in urban development, fire and safety.



Alan Brinson

Alan is the Executive Director of the European Fire Sprinkler Network. On graduating from Cambridge University he worked for Shell and Proctor & Gamble as a research process engineer. He joined Tyco in 1992 and held a series of European fire protection business and product management roles, culminating in responsibility for the European sprinkler components business. In 2003 Alan set up the EFSN, for which he has led and participated in successful sprinkler campaigns in many European countries, working with EFSN members, fire chiefs and officials to ensure that new buildings are fitted with sprinklers. Alan is a member of committees for BSI, CEN and NFPA. He is a chartered chemical engineer.

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Gaetano Coppola

Gaetano is the Managing Director of Jensen Hughes srl in Milan, responsible for Jensen Hughes' business in continental Europe and North Africa. Gaetano is a member of the S.F.P.E. and of its Italian chapter, A.I.I.A. Within the Italian standardization body (UNI), Gaetano is a member of the committees for active fire protection systems and water-based fire protection systems. He is also their liaison to the UNI committee on cultural heritage. Within CEN, Gaetano is a member of the working group for sprinkler systems and is the liaison for CEN/TC 191 *Fixed firefighting systems and extinguishing media* to CEN/TC 346 *Conservation of Cultural Heritage*



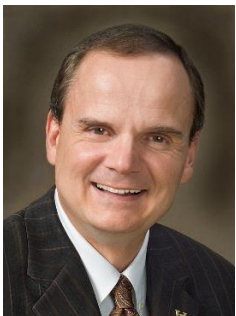
Andrea Dusso

Andrea achieved a master's degree in Environmental Engineering and a PhD in Environmental and Energy Engineering Sciences at the University of Udine. Currently he is a professional engineer and works with Safexpertise – a spin-off of the University of Udine - operating in the field of protection against natural and man-made risks by integrated safety solutions. His work focuses mainly on seismic design of sprinkler and MEP systems and on fire engineering.



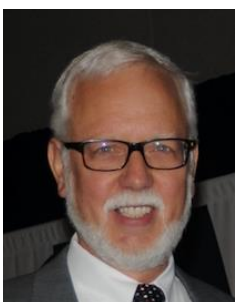
Witali Engelhardt

Witali is a Business Development Senior Engineer for FM Approvals in Europe. Based in Frankfurt he develops and enhances relationships with local manufacturers in Europe, Turkey and Russia. He also audits manufacturer's quality assurance systems, witnesses tests and is involved in standards committee work. Witali has been with FM Approvals for 10 years. Before joining the New Business Development team at FM Approvals in Europe he held various positions in the fire protection industry, including project management, business development and branch management. Witali is a mechanical engineering graduate from the University of Applied Sciences in Darmstadt, Germany.



André Filiatrault

André is a Professor in the Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering at the State University of New York at Buffalo in Buffalo, NY, USA and a Professor of Structural Engineering at the School for Advanced Studies IUSS Pavia, Italy. He was previously a Professor at the Université de Montréal and University of California, San Diego. Professor Filiatrault is a former Director of the Multidisciplinary Center for Earthquake Engineering Research and the president of the International Association for the Seismic Performance Of Non-Structural-Elements. He has published textbooks and over 300 peer-reviewed scientific articles, winning awards from the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the Research Foundation of the State University of New York.



Russ Fleming

Russ is the Managing Director of the International Fire Sprinkler Association and a former technical director and head of the National Fire Sprinkler Association in the United States. He has over 30 years of service on the NFPA 13 Sprinkler Committee, is a former member of the NFPA Board of Directors, and past chairman of the NFPA's Standards Council. A Fellow and past president of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, he has served as an adjunct in the fire protection engineering program at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and his publications include hundreds of articles about automatic sprinklers and other water-based fire protection systems, as well as chapters in NFPA and SFPE technical handbooks.

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Stefano Grimaz

Stefano is Professor of Engineering Seismology and of Safety and Civil Protection and UNESCO Chair in Intersectoral Safety for Disaster risk reduction and Resilience at the University of Udine. After the earthquakes in Italy in 2009, 2012 and 2016, he provided scientific support to the Italian Fire Brigade on short term countermeasures for damaged cultural heritage and industrial sites. He also led the Italian government work group on guidelines to reduce the seismic vulnerability of fire protection systems. He is a UNESCO consultant for the assessment of seismic safety of schools in developing countries and the author of more than 140 papers on industrial, civil and territorial safety and risk prevention.



Louis Gritz

Lou is vice president and manager of research with FM Global, responsible for FM Global's team of scientists, the Research Campus, and participation in codes and standards. He was previously manager of fire science and technology at Sandia National Laboratories. Lou serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Innovation Research Interchange and on Advisory Committees for several universities. He has served as chair of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Heat Transfer Division Executive Committee, on the Governing Board of the Global Earthquake Model, and on the NFPA Research Advisory Committee. In 2015 he was an invited panellist at the UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Management. Lou has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Texas Tech University.



René Hagen

René is Professor of Fire Safety at the Fire Service Academy of the Institute for Safety, Chair of the advisory board of the National Fire Prevention Week Association and member of the government advisory board on fire safety regulations. After studying civil engineering, René graduated as a fire-officer and spent 30 years in the Dutch fire service. He studied law at the Open University and has a Master's degree in Public Administration. René worked on the investigations of the fireworks disaster in Enschede, the pub fire in Volendam and the fire in the detention centre at Schiphol-Oost. He lectures on fire prevention, enforcement and building regulations and initiated the introduction of home sprinkler systems in The Netherlands and non-combustible TV sets in Europe.



Jens Hjort

Jens began working with fire-fighting systems in 1981 and since 1997 as a technical expert at the Swedish Fire Protection Association. There is mainly works with national guidelines for extinguishing systems. He chairs the Swedish mirror committee for CEN/TC 191 and has participated in the work of CEN/TC 191/WG 6 on gas extinguishing systems and CEN/TC 72/WG 11 on fire detection systems. He was secretary in the work for producing the Nordic standard for residential sprinkler systems, INSTA 900-1.



Bo Hjorth

Bo is the owner of AlbaCon AB, which offers inspection and survey services for fire protection systems. He is a member of the Swedish Fire Protection Association's Committee for fire suppression systems and represents Sweden in the European committees for sprinkler and water mist systems. Bo is also a member of the discharge criteria sub-committee within the NFPA 13 sprinkler systems standard committee. He was the Chairman of Sprinklerfrämjandet from 1998 to 2000 and has been on the European Fire Sprinkler Network council since 2009.

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Gösta Holmstedt

For 11 years Gösta was the Operations Manager for Sprinklerfrämjandet. In his long career he spent 10 years as Chief Fire Officer of a Municipality Fire Brigade outside Stockholm, three years as a fire protection engineer with the Swedish fire Protection Association and 14 years with Skandia Insurance Group in management positions. Gösta also spent two years in Kuwait and six in Bahrain in top management positions. Back in Sweden he worked for three years as a senior advisor with the leading Swedish fire engineering consultancy group. Gösta has had many fire engineering articles published in Swedish and international magazines. He was previously involved in CEA sprinkler committees and for a number of years has been an invited speaker for the fire engineering students at Lund University.



Gary Howe

Gary Howe is a senior fire protection engineer with Zurich Risk Engineering. His role involves the evaluation, analysis, assessment and on-site testing of fixed fire protection systems. These include sprinkler systems, water mist, kitchen extinguishing systems, gaseous fire suppression and automatic fire detection systems installed across a broad range of industrial, manufacturing, educational and commercial premises. His work supports customers and insurance underwriters.



Geir Jensen

Geir Jensen is a Senior Advisor on Fire Protection at COWI, a multi-disciplinary consulting group. He is focused on improving fire protection designs using active, passive or systematic measures. He does application research and often works across multi-disciplines. He is also an inventor.



Jan Johansson

Jan is the Director of Business Development, Asia Pacific & Middle East for Tyco Fire Protection Products. He joined Tyco Fire & Security Services in 1991 and held a number of senior positions in Europe. Moving to Singapore in 2001 he became responsible for the development and expansion of Tyco's fire contracting and services businesses in Asia. Prior to his current role, Jan headed a global team responsible for the successful negotiation and implementation of an Enterprise Frame Agreement for Fire Protection awarded to Tyco by Shell Oil. Before joining Tyco, Jan spent ten years with RISE in Sweden working on fire testing, research & development. He also spent several years as a firefighter with the Swedish Fire Brigade.



Karim Karzazi

Karim is the head of the Technical Board at AXA MATRIX Risk Consultants. He has been involved in the development of European standards for over 15 years. He is the convenor of the CEN task group drafting changes to the European sprinkler installation standard EN 12845 and of the supervisory CEN working group which sets priorities for all the CEN sprinkler standards task groups. Karim has a degree in mechanical engineering and is a graduate of the National Institute of Fire Safety, INSSI. Before joining AXA he worked for five years as a loss control manager and sprinkler expert at ALLIANZ AGCS. He began his career at CNPP, rising to become head of the inspection department, where he was also responsible for updates to the French APSAD R1 sprinkler installation rule.

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Ruediger Kopp

Ruediger Kopp completed his studies of Chemical Engineering and Safety Engineering at the University of Dortmund as Diploma-Engineer. Since 22 years he is involved in development, fire testing, approval and marketing of high pressure water mist systems.

At present he is General Manager for fixed water mist systems at the company FOGTEC Fire Protection based in Cologne, Germany. He is member of various international water mist guideline working groups (e.g. NFPA 750, APSAD D2, FIA/bafsa) as well as foundation member of the International Water Mist Association (IWMA). He has published numerous articles about water mist technology and has held papers at many conferences around the world.



Jochen Krumb

Jochen began his career following his degree in civil engineering by creating fire protection conceptual designs and conducting fire safety inspections. In 2007 he joined VdS in Darmstadt. In 2012 he became a state approved expert for fire protection systems.



Ryan McCreadie

Ryan specialised in fire engineering in 1994. Since then he has gained experience across a variety of sectors including fire testing, research, insurance and consultancy. Ryan holds a PhD in a fire engineering-related topic and is a Chartered member of the Engineering Council. During employment in the consultancy sector Ryan has gained extensive experience of providing fire safety advice to clients of different types including developers, designers, contractors and estate managers. His role centres on ensuring the project is compliant with fire safety legislation, whilst being mindful of architectural, commercial, operational and construction objectives.



Markus Melin

Markus is a fire protection consultant from Stockholm. He has a degree in fire protection engineering and a master's degree in risk management from Lund University. Markus has been working in the field of fire protection engineering since 2013. He has worked on several different building projects in Sweden, ensuring that the Swedish building regulations are fulfilled. The projects include most types of occupancies, spanning small to large buildings.



Mark Middleton

Mark is a Senior Risk Engineer with Swiss Re Corporate Solutions. Initially qualifying as a chemical engineer, Mark started his career in industry, then focusing on the assessment and management of major accident hazards within onshore chemical plants. Following a long-term secondment to the Major Hazards Division of WorkSafe Victoria in Melbourne, Australia, Mark has spent the last fifteen years within the insurance industry, providing property risk engineering services within the UK and overseas. This has included the assessment and review of customer facilities around the world, the development of risk insights to help manage risk and the training of hundreds of risk engineers working around the world.

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John Olav Ottesen

John Olav is the Managing Director and co-founder of Dafo Fomtec AB, a manufacturer of foam concentrates, fire-fighting powders and hardware for mobile and fixed foam systems. He has 26 years of experience in the foam industry. He started his career with 10 years at Tyco in Norway, where he gathered broad experience of fire protection products and systems in a number of different roles. He then started up Fomtec in Sweden in 2001. John Olav was caught by the foam bug from the get-go and has a deep interest in the all aspects of the foam industry.



Julian Parsons

Julian joined Wiltshire Fire Brigade as a firefighter in 1994 after a career in the Royal Air Force as a sonar operator on Nimrod maritime patrol aircraft. He has qualifications in fire engineering and post-graduate diplomas. After also serving in Oxfordshire Fire Service he returned to Wiltshire, heading several functions, before joining Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service as Head of Service Development. Julian on the Executive Committee of the National Fire Sprinkler Network. He also advises the National Fire Chiefs Council on sprinkler policy and has been its lead on Academic Research. Julian is a Fellow of the Institution of Fire Engineers and the Institute of Leadership and Management.



Erik Sävmärk

Erik is a fire protection consultant from Stockholm. He has a degree in fire protection engineering and a master's degree in risk management from Lund University. Erik's main activity is the fire protection of buildings with a focus on the Swedish building codes. Erik has been involved in several building projects in Sweden with most types of occupancies.



Jens Stubenrauch

Jens has worked for Dr. Sthamer since 2011 and is its Technical Adviser for foam concentrates in fixed extinguishing systems. Jens is a mechanic with a deep practical experience. He has been a traffic planner and from 1992 to 2007 was a specialist consultant for automotive technology. During this period he followed a distance learning course in webmaster and visual communications. Since 1979 Jens has been active in his local fire brigade in Jena, where he is a Group Leader. He has been on the board of the Thüringian Company Fire Brigades Association since 1999 and is active in the German Fire Protection Association (vfdb).



Eric Trznadel

Eric was an Officer in the Paris Fire Brigade for 18.5 years, where he specialised in fire safety, fire prevention and control. Since 2007 he has been Fire Safety Director and Insurance Coordinator at Unibail-Rodamco, the European leading retail real estate developer. Eric has a degree from the Conservatoire national des arts et metiers in Paris.

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Maarit Tuomisaari

Maarit has a PhD and a background in technical physics. She has 27 years of experience in active fire protection, beginning at VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland. She has been closely involved in the development of high pressure water mist technology and in water mist standardization, both for marine and land applications. She joined Marioff Corporation 20 years ago and is its Senior Manager for Research, Testing and Approvals.



Koen van Herpe

Koen Van Herpe manages the advanced fire safety engineering services of VK Engineering; a Belgium multidisciplinary engineering consultancy active in high rise buildings, industrial facilities, infrastructure, leisure and healthcare projects. He was among the first to receive the fire safety engineer diploma at Ghent University and, together with other enthusiasts, he founded the Benelux chapter of the SFPE. He was previously active in fire protection contracting. His passion for sprinkler technology led him to contribute to the development and the FM approval process of vacuum sprinkler technology. Koen also represents the sprinkler design software Autosprink (MEPCAD) outside the USA.



Ruud van Herpen

Ruud van Herpen is Professor of building fire safety at Saxion University of Applied Sciences, Fellow in Fire Safety Engineering at Eindhoven University of Technology and Technical Director of Nieman Consulting Engineers. He has led fire safety design and research projects for Shell Pernis refinery, Schiphol airport, hospitals, football stadiums, museums, entertainment and retail centres. His research for the Dutch government and Dutch standards body, NEN, has supported the development of Dutch fire safety regulations, building codes and fire engineering standards, including for the Dutch application of the Eurocodes. He is a member of many national and international standards committees.



Bo Wahlström

Bo Wahlström is a fire protection engineer and Deputy CEO of Brandskyddslaget. He has been working in fire safety for 30 years. His broad experience includes being Head of Fire Prevention for Stockholm City Fire Brigade as well as the design of sprinkler systems. Tunnel fire safety has been the main interest for Bo through the years and he been involved in most tunnel projects in Sweden, including train, metro, road and utility tunnels. He has been involved in several fire research projects as well as the development of regulations and handbooks in the field of fire safety. Bo is one of the founders of BRA, the Swedish fire consultants organisation.



Guy Watson

Guy is Director of Technical Services for Europe, Middle East and North Africa for Reliable Fire Sprinkler. Prior to joining Reliable, he worked for a major insurance broker as a senior risk engineering consultant, advising global clients on the fire protection of highly protected property and business risks. He has also worked as a sprinkler system inspector for a major UK insurer, and before that was a sprinkler system designer. Guy is a member of the Institute of Risk Managers and a Graduate Member of the Institution of Fire Engineers.

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Michael Wenger

Michael works in quality assurance for Wuppermann Austria. Following his degree in environmental and plastic technology at the Federal Higher Technical Institute Kapfenberg he completed an M.Sc. in Metallography at Montan University in Leoben. His specialism is the corrosion behaviour of high frequency welded pipes. He has worked in a chemical laboratory at Zellstoff Pöls, in quality assurance and metallography at Frauenthal Automotive and since 2014 at Wuppermann Austria.