

**Fire Sprinkler International 2025
Conference Programme, 2-3 April**
Protecting society from fire

Wednesday, 2nd April

07:30-09:00 Registration Desk Open

09:00-09:15 Welcoming Remarks

Welcome from the Chair of the Plenary Session

Alan Brinson, Executive Director of the European Fire Sprinkler Network

Welcome from the city of Salzburg

TBC

09:15-10:45 Keynote Speakers

More than standard – extinguishing systems in Germany

Martin Wilske, Wacker Chemie, Germany

References to sprinklers in Austrian codes

TBC, Austria

Smart sprinkler protection

Johannes Falk, Vinci & Claas Baier, VdS, Germany

10:45-11:15 Break

11:15-12:45 Session 1 – Plenary – Introduction to conference themes

BESS firefighting in warehouses

Björn Maiworm, Munich Fire Brigade, Germany

More sprinklers for climate change mitigation?

Werner Hoyer, Hoyer Brandschutz, Austria

Testing Regulation and Model Publication Procedure for Technical Building Regulations (MVVTB)

Jörg Wilms-Vahrenhorst, BVFA, Germany

Wednesday, 2nd April continued

12:45-14:00 Lunch

14:00-15:30 Session 2

Storage

Chair – John van Lierop, EFSN

Understanding Loss Prevention Strategies for a Wide Range of Automatic Storage and Retrieval Systems

Wes Baker & Ben Ditch, FM, USA

Testing Autostore for the future

Ingunn Haraldseid, Autostore, Norway

Development of fire protection recommendations for low-pile storage using large-scale fire testing

Sitki Ulcay & Stephanie Thomas, FM, USA

Sustainability

Chair – Alfredo Álvarez, EFSN

Environmental product declarations

James Fisher, BRE, UK

Life cycle analyses show benefits of sprinklers

Hanna Nauckhoff, Bengt Dahlgren, Sweden

Sprinkler tank as part of a heat pump circuit

Ruben de Bruijn, Sprinkler Energy, The Netherlands

Foam

Chair – Inge Devalez, BFSN

Conversion to fluorine-free foam

Matthias Prall, Minimax, Germany

Panel

Simon Barratt, Viking, UK; Matthias Prall, Minimax, Germany; Martín Serrano, Komtes, Spain; Gerard Visser, Johnson Controls, Netherlands

15:30-16:00 Break

16:00-17:30 Session 3

Standards I

Chair – Björn Schaumburg, EFSN

An update on progress with EN 12845-1

Karim Karzazi, AXAXL, France

TRVB 127S – An Austrian complementary standard to EN 12845

Johann Ettl, Adsum, Austria

Quality

Chair – Giorgio Franzini, IFSN

Availability of sprinkler systems

Chris James, Royal Sun Alliance Insurance, UK

Victaulic training programme

Dieter Wettel, Victaulic, Germany

How VdS assesses installed sprinkler systems

Claas Baier, VdS, Germany

Renewable Energy Protection

Chair – Piotr Tofiło, POLIG

Photovoltaic panel protection

David Bell, Viking, UK

Data centre protection

Dirk Laibach & Erik Klemenz, JCI, Germany

Protection of battery energy storage systems

Rüdiger Kopp, Fogtec, Germany

Thursday, 3rd April

09:00-09:05 Announcements

Chair of the Plenary Session

Jan Witte, Minimax, Germany

09:05-10:30 Session 4 – Plenary – Research & Innovation

Update on suppression research from the Research Foundation

Jacqueline Wilmot, Fire Protection Research Foundation, USA

Fuse, a platform for remote testing of sprinkler systems

Bas-Jan Walhof, Aqua+ Sprinkler Systems, The Netherlands

Demonstration of remote testing

André Lickefett, Minimax, Germany

10:30-11:00 Break

11:00-12:30 Session 5

Inspection and Remote Services

Chair – Alan Brinson, EFSN

FM 1330 certification of automated testing of fire pumps

Witali Engelhardt, FM Approvals & Alex Derksen, Mecon, Germany

Remote inspection and testing as codified within NFPA standards

Travis Montebault, Peerless Pumps, USA

Panel

Wouter van Beers, KIWA, Netherlands; Tahani Berge, Firemesh, Norway; André Lickefett, Minimax, Germany; Jason Webb, Potter, USA

Ignitable Liquids

Chair – Giorgio Franzini, IFSN

Automatic sprinkler protection of ignitable liquids

John LeBlanc & James White, FM, USA

Protection of unlisted IBCs containing ignitable liquids using fluorine-free foam

Eike Peltzer, E.P. Fire, Germany

Water Mist

Chair – Max Lakkonen

Reconstruction of Notre Dame – protected with water mist

Florence Casas, Marioff, France

Recent advances based on fire testing

Bogdan Raciega, Baltic Fire Laboratory, Poland

Water mist as an alternative to sprinklers

Ludger Tegeler, FM, Germany

Thursday, 3rd April continued

13:45-15:15 Session 6

Building with Wood

Chair – Alasdair Perry, BAFSA, UK

Sprinklers and wooden buildings in Sweden

Oscar Löfgren, Brandkonsulten, Sweden

Potential design freedoms with sprinklers in wooden buildings in Germany

Knut Czepuck, Ministry for Housing, Communities, Building and Equality, North Rhine Westphalia, Germany

Sprinkler design to protect modern methods of construction

Dale Kinnersley, The FPA, UK

Standards II

Chair – Youcef Ouammou, EFSN

Updates to NFPA 13

Bob Caputo, AFSA, USA

Applications

Chair – Alfredo Álvarez, EFSN

A combined FM and VdS approval for a new shuttle storage system

Johannes Zimmermann, SSI-Schäfer, Germany

Large-scale fire testing of electric vehicles in tunnels

Phil Friday, Reliable, USA

Musikverein & W&H Dentalwerk – interesting water mist projects in Austria

Michael Bindreiter, Aqasys, Austria

15:15-15:45 Break

15:45-17:15 Session 7 – Plenary

Chair of the Plenary Session

Alan Brinson, EFSN, UK

A review of water mist technology

Max Lakkonen, IWMA, Finland

Large-scale fire testing to develop a pick tower protection concept

Stefan Falk, Vinci, Germany

Tesla Ecosystem and the fire service – an overview of Energy Storage Systems to Electric Vehicles and their charging

Christina Francis, Tesla, USA

Closing Remarks

Volker Bechtloff, EFSN Chairman

19:00 Optional Gala Dinner – Stiegl-Keller