

IFE Members Worldwide Invited to US Branch Forum/Meeting

An International Forum

FIRE: A Universal Problem with International Solutions

Presented by
USA Branch, Institution of Fire Engineers

1:30-5:00 pm. Thursday, August 23, 2007

The US approach to the overall fire problem has been the butt of many anecdotal jokes, articles and arguments in the worldwide fire service community. Fire-Rescue International attendees will have first person look at some solutions being used in other fire service organizations as they address the common enemy—FIRE. International experts will make their presentations during this international forum and then participate in debate and discussions with attendees about the value of their programs.

1:30-2:15 The World Fire Statistics Centre, an affiliated organization of The Geneva Association in the United Kingdom, is encouraging countries to adopt a national fire strategy aimed at reducing fire costs. In addition, this Centre tracks fire statistics in over 20 countries and reports these findings to a United Nations Committee. Tony Paish will make this presentation.

2:15-3:00 From national strategy to national service, New Zealand has been developing an national organization to address their fire problem. It's been in underway now for almost 10 years and Fire-Rescue International attendees will get a first-hand update on how it's working. Rich Hall will bring his analysis of their program to the forum.

3:15-4:00 The United Kingdom has developed and implemented an Integrated Risk Management Plan to manage fire risks and provide better value for money. It also recommends deployment of resources (personnel and equipment) differently. Assistant Station Officer Jim Marsden, Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service, a fire officer who has to make the plan work at the brigade level, will provide insights into how it is working and how others could profit from it.

4:00-5:00 Notwithstanding the National Fallen Fire Fighters Foundation 16 points for firefighter safety, Sweden has had only one firefighter death in the last seven years. Dr. Stefan Svensson, Swedish Rescue Services Agency, will outline how they do it and why Sweden is a safe haven for firefighters.