The BAFSA biennial conference will this year be held in the sleek and fully sprinklered surroundings of the 5-star St David’s Hotel in Cardiff which overlooks the sparkling waters of Cardiff Bay just along the quay from the Senedd... the uber modern Welsh Parliament building.

The one-day conference will seek to cover a host of topics relevant to any professional whose daily role encompasses the protection of people, property and the environment from fire.

Plenary sessions will cover Housing & Residential Care Premises; Scottish Building Standards Review; Welsh Measure; Insurance; Europe; Standards; Water Mist; Forces Employment with a series of parallel Workshops on Heritage, Educational premises & student accommodation and Technical matters.

To complete our audience’s experience there will be an exhibition of all that the sprinkler industry has to offer. 18 organisations will be on hand to discuss the challenges facing delegates and the solutions available.

Experts from diverse disciplines will address our delegates and we are delighted that the following people have agreed to speak:

Neil Gibbins: Chief Executive, The Institution of Fire Engineers
Ann Jones: Deputy Speaker, The Welsh Assembly
Bob Bantock: Heritage Fire Safety Specialist, The National Trust
Dr. Graham Spinardi: University of Edinburgh
Des Tidbury: Welsh Government Fire Adviser
Damian Corbett: HSE HM Inspector of Health and Safety
Alan Brinson: Chief Executive, European Fire Sprinkler Network
Dr. Debbie Smith OBE: Managing Director BRE Global
Thomas Roche: FM Global
Sarah Lyons: Principal Officer, National Union of Teachers
Simon Rooks: Operations Director, Tyco Oil and Gas

Anyone booking before 1st October can take advantage of an Early Bird Discount go to http://www.bafsa.org.uk/fs201616novcardiff.php to learn more and book your space.

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from the desk of the Chief Executive

The summer of 2016 has produced some real surprises, a European Referendum the result of which seems to have taken everyone by surprise, including those who campaigned to leave the European Union.

The European Football Championships, which produced an unlikely winner in a team that had failed to show any real class throughout the competition. However, the UK teams produced some surprising results both good and bad throughout the competition.

Lastly, Wimbledon has just seen the UK have one of its most successful seasons for many decades in all categories of the competition.

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Lastly, Wimbledon has just seen the UK have one of its most successful seasons for many decades in all categories of the competition.

What will the next six months bring for the UK in terms of success both in industry and commerce and in terms of stability for the country?

Certainly for the sprinkler industry, the uncertainty of leaving the European Union and the timescales involved in this process are not helpful.

Construction and manufacturing industries need certainty in order to promote investment and growth. The early appointment of a new Prime Minister is helpful, although the immediate aftermath of that decision is calls for a general election, which only produces more uncertainty. We now need some certainty over the withdrawal process and what that means for the UK?

Travelling to events around the country I have listened to many installers, manufacturers and suppliers to the sprinkler industry. In the main the feedback has been positive for the last twelve months, with most reporting sales increases but not to previously reported record levels.

This seems to be supported by the British Chamber of Commerce survey of the second quarter of 2016, where it noted, “the findings signal low levels of growth in both manufacturing and service sectors.”

While this survey did include the period leading up to the European Referendum, it does not include a significant period post-result.

There are also continuing reports of skills shortages particularly from installers, BAFSA continues to support the Level 2 Courses being run in Manchester, Neath-Port Talbot and Llandrillo. Training and qualifications for the workforce in the sprinkler industry will continue to be a priority for BAFSA to ensure that our Members remain competitive and produce high quality installations.

Greater support for the sprinkler industry from central government would be warmly welcomed, however this seems unlikely in the current climate.

The latest draft of Building Bulletin 100 (BB100) sees automatic fire sprinklers being removed as even a recommendation for schools. How can a government negotiate for a united UK out of Europe when it cannot produce a single safety standard for schools in the UK?

Scotland continues to require automatic fire sprinklers in all new built and converted schools, Wales recommends sprinklers for all new and converted schools however England goes in the opposite direction, claiming structural fire protection is sufficient!

There have been some significant results from the domestic housing markets including Wales, with increasing numbers of houses being built despite the predictions of house builders in Wales foreseeing the end of house building if sprinklers were required.

There are also clear indications of local authority housing providers and housing associations installing more sprinklers both in new built housing and retro-fitting in existing housing.

The publication and launch of BAFSA’s report on the retrofitting of sprinklers into low rise housing in Sheffield was well received and a number of housing providers have requested copies.

Likewise the launch of a guide to retrofitting sprinklers into existing housing by Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service indicates that a number of authorities are moving in this direction.

The recent research carried out by BRE Global on behalf of Lewisham Council on the protection of mobility scooters by sprinklers is also a very positive step.

There will be some difficult times for the sprinkler industries over the next few years, however with excellent quality, design and installation, BAFSA Members will be able to keep the industry in a confident position and ensure modest economic growth.

BAFSA as an organisation will continue to produce high quality information on the value of sprinklers to protect lives and property and continue to lobby on your behalf to ensure sprinklers are considered at every opportunity within the construction industry.

It is pleasing to note that for the first six months of 2016 we received seventeen applications for Membership of BAFSA across all sectors of the industry.

The best advocates for Membership of BAFSA are its own Members; please encourage other companies from your sector to join us.

The greater the Membership we have from the industry, the better we can lobby and support the industry.

Keith MacGillivray
Chief Executive
BRE Global has carried out a series of fire experiments on mobility scooters on behalf of Lewisham Homes. The experiments showed that the sprinkler system was able to effectively suppress the fire before it reached critical stage.

Lewisham Homes ongoing commitment to manage fire risk to its properties has led to a programme of fitting sprinklers within its sheltered accommodation. The general increase in use of mobility scooters has presented certain challenges around how the risk of fire is managed. Of particular concern is the scooter storage and charging arrangements. The recent use of lithium batteries instead of lead acid batteries to power scooters has added further risks because of their unpredictable and adverse reaction when subjected to fire.

A number of solutions for storage have been reviewed and implemented but there is still an ongoing difficulty because external areas do not have the closeness which residents want or require for ease of access to their scooters.

Lewisham Homes decided to fund cutting edge research that has not previously been carried out anywhere in the world to assess the effectiveness of domestic sprinklers suppressing or extinguishing a mobility scooter fire. The outcome of the experiment would assist Lewisham Homes in the decision on whether to allow the internal storage and charging of mobility scooters within their sheltered schemes.

BRE Global was duly commissioned by the Lewisham Homes to carry out ad-hoc fire experiments of mobility scooters when subjected to sprinkler suppression. Lewisham Homes required BRE to mimic conditions on their properties where mobility scooters are going to be stored in sprinkler protected rooms/lounges. Lewisham Homes was looking for reassurance that if a fire develops in one of the scooters then the sprinkler system will be able to at least contain the fire.

The first experiment involved a single mobility scooter with lead acid battery and the second experiment involved three mobility scooters, with one scooter fitted with Li-Ion battery. The purpose of the experiments was to understand the fire behaviour when fires starting in a mobility scooters are subjected to sprinkler suppression.

In both experiments, the sprinkler system activated and suppressed the fire. In the first experiment (involving one scooter), the sprinkler activated at about 6 minutes 25 seconds from ignition when the temperature of the gas layer near to the sprinkler head reached 63 °C. The fire spread from the battery compartment to the seat but did not significantly affect the remaining body of the mobility scooter.

In the second experiment, the fire spread from the battery compartment to the seat much more quickly resulting in sprinkler activation at about 2 minutes 25 seconds from ignition when the temperature of the gas layer near to the sprinkler head reached 63 °C. The fire spread from the battery compartment to the seat but did not significantly affect the remaining body of the mobility scooter.

The two experiments showed that even if two similar mobility scooters are ignited at similar points using identical ignition sources, the fire behaviour and the speed of temperature rise can significantly be different. The experiments also showed that in the experimental compartment used in this project the sprinkler system was able to effectively suppress the fire before the fire reached critical stage.

The findings from this project, in particular the “raw” experimental results, will provide a data resource for the fire safety engineering of flats, care homes and sheltered accommodation and other types of occupancies where mobility scooters may be expected to be found.

BRE REPORT : p102574-1000 Issue 3
Proposal to withdraw Clause 21 of BS EN 12845:2015

In this article, Stewart Kidd considers the recently published iteration of BS EN 12845¹ contains a new requirement which places a significant burden on the owners or occupiers of buildings fitted with automatic fire sprinkler systems.

The clause requires that: ‘The sprinkler system shall be periodically inspected at least once a year by a third party. The inspection report shall assess whether the system is in accordance with this standard, with regard to maintenance, operation and adequacy for the risk involved. A list of deviations shall be issued for action.’

This requirement was introduced late in the revision process and appears to have been overlooked by the UK delegates to CEN TC191/WG5 and the members of FSH/18/2, the UK mirror committee to CEN. The clause is in addition to the existing maintenance requirements in Section 20 which hitherto had been generally accepted as being adequate. In fact, owners and occupiers frequently complain that they are excessively onerous!

No evidence had been adduced to justify the inclusion of the new requirement and enquiry reveals that this was not asked for by UK regulators nor insurers. If the UK insurers believe that sprinkler systems are not being properly maintained in good working order, then a remedy for this already exists in the shape of TB203 of the LPC Sprinkler Rules. It is widely agreed that Para 20.3.2.2² which already contains requirements for a periodic review of the system to ensure that it remains adequate for the building and contents is adequate.

Widespread concern and misinformation has arisen as a result of the inclusion of the new Clause 21. Not least by some firms of solicitors and property management companies who have issued circulars claiming that implementation of Clause 21 is a legal requirement. Some of the circulars seen by BAFSA suggest that owners of sprinklered properties who do not comply are at risk of prosecution.

Perhaps the most controversial part of the new Clause is the requirement that the additional, annual inspection should be undertaken by ‘a third party’. This term is not defined in Section 3 (or indeed anywhere) in BS EN 12845 nor in any other CEN document known to BAFSA. It is understood that other parties consider the reference to ‘Third Party’ itself to be outside the scope of CEN documents and are progressing a remedy independently.

It is the view of BAFSA and the FPA among others that the wording and intent of the Clause prohibits the inspection being carried out by the system owner, building occupier, system installer or service and maintenance provider undertaking the work. It would also appear that insurers should not undertake this work where they have an interest in the building.

In the absence in the UK of any sprinkler inspection bureau or agency (as exists in some other countries) it is therefore far from clear who is to undertake this work. It’s also clear to parties in the sprinkler industry, at least, that the new requirement is potentially divisive and likely to result in litigation where a sprinkler installer (and it’s hard to see who else is qualified for this work) undertakes an inspection which is then reported as being critical of the original installer or designer. The Clause makes no mention of its application to older systems but merely says ‘the sprinkler system’. The situation is further complicated by both present UK fire safety legislation which already mandates the need for regular maintenance for all fire protection systems installed to protect life. In England & Wales, this is defined as the need to ensure that such systems are: ‘subject to a suitable system of maintenance and are maintained in an efficient state, in efficient working order and in good repair’. Critics of the Clause cite this as evidence of a legal duty which overrides a non-harmonised European standard.

Another issue which arises is the question of sprinkler systems installed to a standard other than BS EN 12845:2015. It is widely acknowledged that a significant number of UK sprinkler systems are installed in accordance with NFPA 13, FM Global Datasheets and hybrid/in-house design standards. In the UK, additionally, there is a well-established standard³ covering sprinkler systems in domestic and residential systems. In none of these cases will the new Clause 21 apply.

An equally substantial objection arises from the long life expectancy of sprinkler systems. It is well established that sprinkler systems installed more than 50 and more years ago are still functioning satisfactorily to protect their buildings – and occupants. If the wording of the Clause is to be complied with, the annual inspection could be deemed to apply even to systems installed to the FOC Rules (which were in effect from 1892-1990). It is patentely obvious that even systems installed to BS 5306 Part 2 (1990-2004) are likely to fall short of the requirements of BS EN 12845:2015.

It is therefore concluded that Clause 21 is neither needed nor desired, is liable to generate ill-will and litigation and will be impossible to comply with both technically and in terms of the skilled resources needed to undertake the inspections. FSH/18/2 has been urged to take all necessary steps to have the clause be deleted and to issue a statement in the interim suggesting that the clause need not be complied with.

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¹ BS EN 12845: Fixed firefighting systems – Automatic sprinkler systems – Design, installation and maintenance
² The effect of any changes of structure, occupancy, storage configuration, heating, lighting or equipment etc. of a building on hazard classification or installation design shall be identified in order that the appropriate modifications might be carried out.
³ BS 9251:2014
The new draft of BB100 Fire Safety Design for Schools is out for consultation and BAFSA is encouraging Members to reply to the consultation individually and also to copy the Chief Executive into their replies in order that he may include their views in a BAFSA response.

Building Bulletin (BB) 100 advises on how to design school buildings so that they satisfy Building Regulations Part B, “Fire Safety”. It is referred to in Approved Document B, which says that Part B will typically be satisfied where the life safety guidance in BB 100 is followed.

The Building Regulations do not require the installation of sprinklers in schools for life safety and neither does BB 100. However, the use of sprinklers as a property protection measure is highlighted in the guidance, which also advises on how to reduce the risks and effects of arson, as schools have a history of being targeted.

Published in 2007, BB 100 advised on how to design school buildings so that they satisfy Building Regulations Part B, “Fire Safety”. It needed revising for a number of reasons, but particularly because some of its content was out of date, it needed simplifying and it was far too long. These changes had to be made without diminishing or compromising the overriding importance of ensuring the safety of pupils, staff and visitors if a fire does occur in a school.

The main point BAFSA wishes to comment on is the removal of the recommendation for sprinklers in new built schools.

The survey closes on 14th August: https://consult.education.gov.uk/capital/6b8c2667. You are invited to also send your replies to ce@bafsa.org.uk

Since 2012, Derbyshire Fire & Rescue Service (DFRS) has been committed to the installation of domestic sprinklers and raising awareness regarding their life saving benefits; this commitment followed several serious fires with tragic loss of life within Derbyshire.

Through the contacts made by our Fire Safety Inspectors conducting building regulation consultations and with our Primary Authority Scheme partners; the Service is succeeding in driving the sprinkler agenda forward in commercial buildings, schools and medical facility developments too.

In 2012, with the full support of its Fire Authority who pledged £200,000 for match funding, the Service agreed to match fund £20,000 with of our local authorities undertaking to fit domestic sprinklers in its properties; as such the Service now has agreements with almost all local authorities within Derbyshire for both retro-fit and new installations of sprinkler systems.

DFRS Chief Fire Officer, Terry McDermott is now the CFOA lead on sprinklers and continues to drive this essential initiative forward.

‘By building homes and commercial properties with sprinklers; builders, architects and planners are not only safeguarding the lives of those who live and work in these properties, but also future-proofing the design for communities and commerce’.

In April 2016, DFRS hosted an awareness day for students studying Architecture and Building Design at Derby University. Recognised as the key influencers of the future, the students were given a presentation by fire protection officers regarding the need to incorporate fire safety solutions in their initial design and build projects and the role sprinklers can play in that engineered solution.

The day concluded with a technical workshop which showed the design advantages of sprinklers as well as dispelling the myths surrounding them.

Speaking about the success of the day, one of the lecturers said ‘I think that pretty much all of the students will be going back to their project work to see if they can include sprinklers in their designs’.

For more information regarding DFRS’s Think Sprinkler campaign visit www.derbys-fire.gov.uk or alternatively contact GM Gary Platts on gplatts@derbys-fire.gov.uk

Watch Manager Rob Leverton from DFRS’ Protection department explaining the principles of compartmentation, fire development and smoke travel to Derby University students.
The New British Standards for Water Mist Fire Protection Systems

By Bob Whiteley, Chairman FSH18/5 and Joint FIA/BAFSA Water Mist Working Group

The wider use of land-based Water Mist systems in the UK has been hindered by the lack of consensus design and installation standards. While CEN had, for many years produced a ‘Technical Specification’ this has had little credibility (TS 14976) and which did not address UK needs and concerns. The other alternative document NFPA 750 Standard on Water Mist Fire Protection Systems is not helpful to the designer of mist systems.

BS therefore set a new committee under FSH/18, Fire suppression systems, to develop two Water Mist standards. These were published as Drafts for Development in 2010/11 as BS DD 8458 covering residential properties and the BS DD 8489 series covering industrial and commercial properties.

The DD’s, as the name implies, created a provisional standard to allow information and experience to be obtained. Two expert groups were then formed to adopt industry best practice and end-user experience to convert the DD’s into full British Standards in their own right. BS 8458 was published in 2015 and the BS8489 series in 2016.

The standards promote a responsible approach to protecting the interior of buildings and BS 8489 Part 7 covers the use of Water Mist to protect low hazard occupancies. Note that Part 1 contains the greater part of the design and application protocols. Parts 4, 5 and 6 are concerned with local application systems and specialist use of mist to protect combustion turbines. The test protocols must be representative of actual conditions, thus:

- Similar fuel
- Comparable compartment volume
- Compartment height is comparable
- Similar ventilation conditions

In some instances, these have been carried out in-house by Water Mist suppliers. However, it is desirable for an independent view of the suitability of Water Mist for a specific application not specifically covered by the standard to be obtained. The standard also requires third parties to carry out any testing and certification. The test facilities are expected to operate a quality system with Water Mist in their scope of accreditation. The test protocol should be recognised and/or agreed by all interested parties.

The successful test results/test report would include details of components and parameters used in tests; maximum and minimum nozzles heights and spacing; and minimum flows and pressures to be met or exceeded. These would then be incorporated into manufacturer’s design manual to replicate the system as tested.

These requirements, in themselves, represent a major step forward in providing the information needed for decision makers to make an informed choice regarding the use of Water Mist and those suppliers with the necessary capabilities.

Water Mist systems may be engineered to provide either local application or volume protection with design parameters established by representative fire tests.

**Local Application:** extinguishing systems designed for object protection with design parameters established by representative fire tests. This enables protection of discrete hazard objects within a larger, and possibly, unprotected enclosure.

**Volume Protection:** (either via open nozzles or automatic, frangible bulb-operated nozzles) are systems designed for hazards within a volume i.e. creating a protected enclosure. Depending upon the application and testing the systems may be designed to provide fire suppression of ordinary combustibles, or fire extinguishment of flammable liquid fires.

Four fire test protocols have been included, as part of the BS8489 series, as protocols which will be of general interest and value, however, other, third party accredited protocols may be used with this standard.

BS8489, and its sister standard BS8458 provide, for the first time in the UK marketplace, a series of standards which reflect the best industry practices in Water Mist fire engineering. They will assist specifiers, users and fire protection companies by ensuring that Water Mist is used effectively and appropriately and where the technology is viable and been validated.

**IN SUMMARY**


BS 8489: 2016: Fixed fire protection systems. Industrial and commercial Water Mist systems. Code of practice for design and installation

Part 1 Code of practice for design and installation

Part 4 Fire performance tests and requirements for Water Mist systems for local applications involving flammable liquid fires

Part 5 Fire performance tests and requirements for Water Mist systems for the protection of combustion turbines and machinery spaces with volumes up to and including 80 m³

Part 6 Tests and requirements for Water Mist systems for the protection of industrial oil cookers

Part 7 Tests and requirements for Water Mist systems for the protection of low hazard occupancies
Celebrating the Sheffield Low Rise Report

A celebration of the launch of the report into the Sheffield Low Rise Sprinkler Installation project was hosted by South Yorkshire FRS on 24th May at their Training Centre. Over 100 delegates registered to attend this event which not only focussed on the project but also covered other vital aspects of how sprinklers will protect the elderly and vulnerable from fire.

BAFSA members Armstrong Priestley and Applications Engineering supported the event with literature stands and technical advice where requested.

The report confirms that sprinklers offer effective solution to fire protection of residents particularly where there are significant structural design or fire protection failings which cannot be addressed without significant expense. They are cost effective, more robust, as there is no need to decant tenants to temporary accommodation whilst the installation takes place.

This project highlighted the importance of effective ongoing communication with residents/tenants and that all trades involved should work in a co-ordinated fashion ensuring a high level approach to customer care, demonstrating the ability to communicate with residents, have a patient attitude and pleasant personality and to remember they are working in people’s homes not a building site.

“I am very pleased with the level of commitment and team work shown by the client team, Morgan Sindall and Armstrong Priestley and the partnership with South Yorkshire Fire. We have been able to successfully deliver the programme with a high level of customer satisfaction and proven that this type of work can be achieved”

Mark Beeley
Project Manager for the contract Sheffield Low Rise Sprinkler Installation

The Sheffield Low Rise Report is available in hard copy on request from ce@bafsa.org.uk or can be found online at http://www.bafsa.org.uk/pdfs/publications/6/00000146.pdf

A guide to sprinklers in the home

Over 60 fire officers, local authorities, housing providers and industry experts came together in Washington for an event to promote the life-saving benefits of domestic fire sprinklers on 25th May when Tyne and Wear FRS (TWFRS) hosted its ‘Think Sprinkler’ event in partnership with BAFSA. Applications Engineering and IPS Flow Systems, both BAFSA members were on hand to provide additional information and support.

The motivation for the day long event was to enable TWFRS to launch its own guide to fire sprinklers “Sprinklers in the Home”. Since TWFRS launched its Domestic Sprinkler Partnership in 2012, more than 1,200 homes across Tyne and Wear have had or are due to have sprinklers fitted. The service is calling on local authorities and housing providers to do more to increase these numbers.

Assistant Chief Fire Officer John Baines, Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service, said: “Sprinklers offer the best protection to those who need it most; children, older and disabled people and those who have a drug or alcohol dependency. They control a fire immediately when it breaks out, affording Keith MacGillivray, chief executive of BAFSA said: “The work carried out by TWFRS with its Domestic Sprinkler Partnership goes a long way to meeting the needs of vulnerable people in the North East. The new guide provides excellent guidance and advice for housing partners to fit and retrofit automatic fire sprinklers into their housing stock.

Sprinklers in the Home can be downloaded from here http://goo.gl/1Zv4f5
**sprinkler saves**

**April**

**9th – underground car park : Oxford**

Oxfordshire County Council FRS were called to a reported car fire. Upon arrival at the incident crews were faced with dense smoke issuing from the building and the sprinkler system flowing. 

Crews in breathing apparatus, utilising thermal image cameras, battled through the poor visibility to find the affected vehicle and fully extinguish the fire, which had earlier been controlled by the sprinklers. 

"the sprinklers had clearly restricted potentially serious additional fire losses"

**11th – office block : Glasgow**

A small fire occurred in an electrical circuit inside a light fitting in a fifth floor corridor of a 100x125m, 6 storey premises comprising of stone floors and staircases and having multiple access & egress points. 

Scottish F&RS mobilised 3 Rescue Pumps, 1 Aerial Appliance & 1 Station Manager to the incident. 

As a result of the fire, one sprinkler head activated on the mains fed system and this, combined with the use of a dry powder extinguisher, ensured the fire was swiftly extinguished. 

Fire damage was limited to 2m² and smoke staining to 20m². The total cost of the fire was estimated to be less than £5k. 

None of the 150 occupants of the building was reported to have been injured and disruption lasted about one hour.

**May**

**31st – Office block : London**

London Fire Brigade mobilised two pumps to a fire in a ground floor brasserie at a multi-purpose group occupancy. The 10 storey (plus basements) building has retail outlets at lower levels and the fire had developed in electrical cabling in a refrigeration unit in the coffee shop area. It was extinguished by one head on the buildings wet pipe sprinkler system. 

Fire damage is reported to be 5% of the refrigeration unit. There were an estimated 1100 persons in the building at the time of the fire and all evacuated safely.

**17th – commercial hatchery : Grantham**

Lincolnshire F&RS mobilised two fire appliances from Grantham Fire Station following the report of a fire. 

The seat of fire was discovered to be a commercial tumble dryer with a laundry at the hatchery, the alarm having been raised by the automatic fire alarm. 

The fire had developed sufficiently to also activate the sprinkler system, with a single head nearest to the tumble dryer operating automatically to control and contain the fire, preventing it from spreading from the dryer. F&RS personnel were able to extinguish the fire using a CO2 extinguisher and they sent the ‘stop’ message at 05:13.

The room in question is of sandwich panel construction and without the sprinkler activation it is thought likely that the fire would have spread from the dryer to the room panels and possibly beyond to the full factory.

**20th – Industrial Laundry : London**

London Fire Brigade received a call to a report of fire in an industrial dryer at a 2 storey laundry building measuring 50m x 100m and 4 appliances were mobilised to the incident. 

Crews located the seat of the fire as being in the drum of the machine. A towel had become entangled in the drum machinery causing it to catch alight through friction. The fire then spread to the rest of the load in the tumble dryer. 

Fortunately the fire was contained to the dryer and immediate vicinity by the presence of a single sprinkler head nearby, fed via storage tank and pump. Crews extinguished the fire and were on site for a total of just over two hours. The amount of damage caused was listed as between 11 and 20 m² and none of the 70 occupants at the time of the fire are reported to have been injured.

**27th – dwelling : Corby**

A fire involving a wok in the kitchen of a house in a sprinklered development set back from the main road. 

The report says that 'last Friday night our customer was cooking with a wok, things got out of hand and the wok caught alight setting off the kitchen sprinkler. The customer turned off the sprinkler system as the wok fire was out in moments, redecorated the kitchen ready for a family event the following evening.'

**8 – sprinkler focus**
premises were evacuated and the fire was contained to just one machine, which was badly damaged.

Fire service watch manager Glyn McGann said: “The sprinklers were activated and we used thermal imaging cameras and fans to help extinguish the remainder of the fire and make the premises safe for the workers to return inside. There was some fire damage to the equipment, but it was contained to the one machine.”

A city centre department store had to be evacuated after fire crews were called to the fire in a stock room on the third floor of the building at just before noon.

A spokesperson for Greater Manchester FRS said: “The fire was in a third floor stock room but sprinklers inside the building were activated by the fire and put out the flames. “Fire crews remained at the scene for several hours to ensure all was safe inside the building. A fire investigation involving the police is ongoing to determine the cause of the fire.”

Drivers are reported to have fled after a vehicle went up in flames inside the Dartford Tunnel. People abandoned their cars after they spotted smoke billowing out of a vehicle. Drivers were told to leave their cars and evacuate the tunnel as firefighters worked to battle the blaze.

A spokesperson from Kent FRS said: ‘Kent Fire & Rescue Service along with colleagues from Essex Fire & Rescue Service. The tunnel’s automatic fire safety suppression system activated, quickly knocking back the small fire, and preventing it from spreading to other vehicles or damaging the tunnel. There were no reports of any injuries.”

Globe Theatre Incident: the facts

On 8th June the London Evening Standard reported an incident at the Globe Theatre where the ‘sprinkler’ system reportedly malfunctioned causing the shows to be cancelled.

Thanks to Nick Coleshill of LFB it now appears that the theatre has a drencher system which covers the thatched roof and this automatically activates if the fire alarm panel is not attended to within 5 minutes. On this particular occasion the time taken to respond to an activated break glass call point was longer than the five minutes and the drencher system therefore operated.
NFSN / CFOA collaboration

The NFSN continues to strengthen its links with CFOA with Julian Parsons, a strong sprinkler advocate, being elected to NFSN Executive at the March AGM in Essex.

One important aspect of the CFOA/NFSN collaborative work has been the collection of Incident Data from F&RS’s across the UK and this is intended to form an analytic appraisal of sprinkler actuations over the past five years, hopefully to be published in time for CFOA Sprinkler Week in the autumn.

As BAFSA is an important contributor to the work of the NFSN, an open invitation extends to BAFSA members to attend NFSN meetings, the autumn one being in Shrewsbury on November 2nd. If you would like to do so please contact me at nfsn@btconnect.com

Danny Doherty
Scotland Adviser

SCOTLAND

Scottish event in September

With construction in Scotland reaching a new high of £2.3bn in the housing sector alone, the importance of fitting sprinklers to protect both the occupants and the capital investment has never been greater. The value of this will be highlighted at the forthcoming sprinkler event to be held at Scottish Fire & Rescue HQ in Cambuslang on 21st September.

The event will also focus on the key area of protecting the most vulnerable within our society and how sprinklers can play a significant role in keeping those most at risk safe. Now that the Scottish elections are past, the seminar will be opened by Clare Adamson MSP, the newly appointed Chair of the Scottish Governments Cross Party working group on Accident Prevention and Safety Awareness. Clare is a strong supporter of the Sprinkler Industry and has been fully supportive of the wider adoption of sprinklers.

Steve Mills
Fire & Rescue Services Co-ordinator

Sprinkler effectiveness

In 2015 it was good to record and share 70 incidents where sprinklers were involved. This was up on the previous year and again highlights that networking is so important to this aspect of proclaiming the worth of sprinklers to a wider audience. My personal thanks to everyone who has sent me information or shared these events with others. So far in 2016, to the end of June, we are up to 35 incidents which is encouraging.

In January there was a notable save when a mobility scooter was set alight at the newly completed Sheffield Low Rise project and the sprinklers undoubtedly helped preserve the life of the occupant. In May, the Glasgow School of Art (Reid Building) suffered a fire which was extinguished by sprinklers, this being in stark contrast to the past devastating blaze at the Mackintosh building and as recently as the 26th June there was a sprinkler save at a London leisure complex housing a gym and night club which had 400 occupants at the time.

Steve Mills
Fire & Rescue Services Co-ordinator

Varied technical queries

Many and varied technical queries have been received by Joe McCafferty, BAFSA Technical support. Here is an illustration of those queries received since the last FOCUS

- Anti-Ligature sprinklers
- Sprinklers in ceiling voids
- Power supply to pump
- Plastic Pipe for sprinklers
- Equivalent Lengths for fittings
- Power supply to pump
- Sprinklers in loft conversion
- Sprinkler in lift shaft
- Dry Riser query
- In-Rack sprinkler query
- Sprinkler tank cleaning
- Approved Contractor Certification
- Sprinklers in lift shaft
- Sprinkler pipe drain query
- Dry pipe sprinkler activation delay
- Dry riser boxes
- Pneumatic testing of dry riser query
- New ISO standard for wetting agents
- LABC Approval
- Pipe insulation in attic
- Train Tunnel fire mains
- Clearance to storage
- Flushing underground Mains
- Dry Riser testing - licensing
- Implications for UK Standards after EU Referendum
- Hydraulic calculations of domestic sprinkler water supplies.
- Dry riser underground pipe
- Sprinkler type/location for office ceiling
- Sprinklers in school ceiling void
- Tyre Storage
- Sprinklers in electrical rooms
- Priority Demand Valve
- 2S Sprinkler pipe inspection
- Reinstating redundant sprinkler system
- Sprinklers above services in school classroom
- Domestic Sprinkler Tank – Water recycling

Report round-up

In 2015 it was good to record and share 70 incidents where sprinklers were involved. This was up on the previous year and again highlights that networking is so important to this aspect of proclaiming the worth of sprinklers to a wider audience. My personal thanks to everyone who has sent me information or shared these events with others. So far in 2016, to the end of June, we are up to 35 incidents which is encouraging.

In January there was a notable save when a mobility scooter was set alight at the newly completed Sheffield Low Rise project and the sprinklers undoubtedly helped preserve the life of the occupant. In May, the Glasgow School of Art (Reid Building) suffered a fire which was extinguished by sprinklers, this being in stark contrast to the past devastating blaze at the Mackintosh building and as recently as the 26th June there was a sprinkler save at a London leisure complex housing a gym and night club which had 400 occupants at the time.

Steve Mills
Fire & Rescue Services Co-ordinator

Varied technical queries

Many and varied technical queries have been received by Joe McCafferty, BAFSA Technical support. Here is an illustration of those queries received since the last FOCUS

- Anti-Ligature sprinklers
- Sprinklers in ceiling voids
- Power supply to pump
- Plastic Pipe for sprinklers
- Equivalent Lengths for fittings
- Power supply to pump
- Sprinklers in loft conversion
- Sprinkler in lift shaft
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Visitors to two sprinklered sites

Five members of the CTIF (International Association of Fire and Rescue Services) fire safety commission visited Wales in June to learn about the implementation of the Sprinkler Regulations, hosted by the EFSN. They visited two sprinklered sites, courtesy of Bron Afon Homes and the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service. The visit was a great success and a webinar is planned for later this year which will include an item on the Domestic Fire Safety (Wales) Regulations. We continue to receive enquiries from potential entrants to the domestic sprinkler market, the majority of whom are interested in the upskilling award.

Ritchie O’Connell
Wales Adviser

Building Regulations and sprinklers in single-storey retail premises

Questions often arise from developers, consultants and sometimes fire safety officers, as to why there should be any need to sprinkler protect retail stores in excess of 2000m². The following notes may therefore be helpful to members.

For England & Wales, the current guidance contained in the latest edition of Approved Document B (ADB) Volume 2 recommends limiting the compartment size of single-storey shops to a maximum of 2000m²; however, where sprinklers are provided there is no compartment size limit.

The compartment size for single-storey shops was restricted as a result of a number of high-profile fires in large supermarket and DIY-type outlets, which led to concerns about public and firefighter safety. This was based on the increased potential for loss of lives in fires in shops as:

a) There are significant numbers of occupants present who were unfamiliar with their surroundings.

b) The levels of managerial control placed on members of the public are somewhat different to that which can be placed on staff in other types of buildings such as warehouses.

c) This therefore increases the likelihood that firefighters will have to enter the building for rescue purposes.

Furthermore, because goods need to be accessible to customers, a volumetric figure was not used in ADB for shops (unlike other parts of ADB) as it was assumed that the height of stored goods would be low level. However, shops have now evolved and low level fire loading is not always the case. It is therefore recommended that where fire loading is proposed to exceed a height of 4m above floor level - even in stores smaller than 2000m² - this should be justified in the fire strategy unless an appropriate fire suppression system is installed.

BAFSA is currently working with the fire Sector Federation Enforcement Group to produce up to date advice in relation to this topic and will particularly focus on the issue of extensions to existing stores.

Ian Gough
Technical Adviser

A new BAFSA Preferred Training Provider

BAFSA are pleased to announce Llandrillo College, based in Rhos on Sea, North Wales has been appointed a BAFSA Preferred Training Provider offering:

Agored ‘Installation and Maintenance of Fire Sprinkler Systems in Domestic Dwellings’ Award Agored ‘Inspecting the Installation of Fire Sprinkler Systems in Domestic Dwellings’ AwardIQ Level 2 Certificate in Fire Sprinkler Installation (QCF).

The College is currently taking bookings for the ‘Installation and Maintenance of Fire Sprinkler Systems in Domestic Dwellings’ Award. The structure of the Agored Award will be based on the current BS9251:2014 and standards and assessment will combine knowledge based test and practical assessment.

It is envisaged that the L2 Certificate in Fire Sprinkler Installation will commence in Oct 2016 with six places being available.

Working on Standards

We are working through the 550 comments on the first draft of EN 16925. British participation has been strong and has ensured that the standard will not disrupt a market used to BS 9251. Regulators in the UK and other countries have already decided what design criteria should be used for certain types of residential building and of course have not chosen the same values. We have resolved this by introducing flexibility, so that national annexes can specify different values for criteria such as density and number of heads. In view of the many changes we are making to the draft, CEN has agreed to our request that a second draft be circulated for enquiry. We hope to have it ready by the end of the year.

BS 9999, which is a code for the fire safety design of buildings, is under review. We are working through 630 public comments on the draft. While the changes have little impact on the many incentives for sprinklers, they help keep the standard current and so encourage its use, which for many buildings will lead to a fire safety design that includes sprinklers. I expect to complete the comment review by the end of September and that the revised standard will be published in December.

BSi is considering a proposal to draft a standard for fire safety in rail networks, both underground and overground. Existing national guidance is very dated. We would wish to see the benefits of sprinklers recognised in this standard.

Alan Brinson
Chief Executive, ESFN
“Much hard work has been done in developing and launching the L2 qualification and it could be that that perhaps members feel the job was done and we can sit back. The reality is however that the hard work is ensuring that the qualification is used and kept alive. Whilst there is a core of member companies that are investing money in the course by enrolling students and whilst verbal support is appreciated, we now need to see more companies enrolling student. Failure to do this now will result in a missed opportunity for the industry to create a firm foundation for the future.”

Mike Green
Managing Director of Hall Fire Protection and Chair, Skills & Development Committee

Level 2 Qualification

employer support

The first national qualification courses for sprinkler installation (Level 2, Certificate in Fire Sprinkler Installation) being delivered at Neath Port Talbot College and The Manchester College are now nearing completion with 20 students expected to achieve completion of the qualification having evidenced the industry competence required. Companies supporting this important pilot course are: AD Sprinklers, A&F Sprinklers, Armstrong Priestley, Domestic Sprinklers, FVS Limited, Hall & Kay, Hall Fire Protection Limited, JM Sprinklers, RSP Limited, Staffordshire Fire Limited, Thermotech Solutions and Tyco. These two pilot courses have allowed us and other employers to evaluate whether the course meets the agreed learning outcomes and learning objectives so that changes and improvements can be made before the live roll out in October 2016. As part of the improvement process BAFSA members will be assisting Colleges with delivery of the training via Masterclasses to ensure that specialist knowledge is delivered by specialists with advice based on experience.

A course handbook is to be developed by the Colleges, working together as a consortium, which will clearly explain the requirements of the course, including the work experience required and the portfolio building capturing the evidence of the learning outcomes. To date Rapidrop and IPS Flow Systems are two companies who have assisted The Manchester College with bespoke training.

Fire Sprinkler Career Pathway

This document will help people identify the career options that are available to them and illustrate the knowledge and skills people need to equip themselves for different roles. Further details will appear on the BAFSA Skills & Development webpage shortly.

Skills Card

An IQ Skills Card will be launched later this year. The card contains key information about the learner and is intended to act as a verifier of qualifications held by the learner, but it also includes a profile page of the learner that the learner could customise to include contact details and highlight skills.

“If you would like to participate in the activities of the Skills & Development Committee then please contact me”

Ruth Oliver
Skills & Qualifications Adviser
qualifications@bafsa.org.uk
BIF Update

A new revision of BIF 2 ‘Fire Sprinkler Systems in Dwellings’ has been published. The revised document underlines the case for the wider use of sprinklers in dwellings and in particular to ensure the safety of vulnerable members of society. It also contains information on the more recent 2012 BRE report on the cost benefit analysis of fitting sprinklers in residential premises and the lessons learnt from the increasing number of residential installations particularly Callow

Mount and the Sheffield Low Rise projects. The BIF outlines the implications of the Domestic Fire Safety (Wales Measure) 2011 and associated guidance and includes a number of case studies. The information contained within the BIF will be useful for BAFSA members in discussions with potential clients and for those non-members seeking information on the potential use of sprinklers to protect those living in residential accommodation.

BIF 13: Sprinklers and Water Supplies has also been published and an important part of this BIF looks at Liaison with water companies. The Water Liaison Group was established in 2002 to facilitate liaison between the water and sprinkler industries together with representatives from fire and rescue services. Their role is to provide a forum to discuss the provision of water for sprinkler systems and to develop guidance to support the installation of sprinklers whilst satisfying the requirements relating to water provision.

Since its inception it has sought to identify and encourage good practice for both the water and sprinkler industries.

In 2004 the water industry, in conjunction with a number of stakeholders, produced a policy position statement providing guidelines for designers, installers and water companies on the supply of water to these systems. In 2015 this document was revised by Water UK and adopted by the chief executives of member companies. In its introduction the document indicates that:

- Water UK supports the provision of a water supply for fire fighting and in particular to a well designed domestic fire sprinkler system.
- Water UK will engage with the interested parties to agree standards, good practice, guidelines and frameworks for the water supplier, the system designer and installer, the system user and the system maintainer.
- Water UK recognises the vital role that fire sprinkler systems have in controlling fires in commercial and domestic properties and the benefits that they have in terms of preventing loss of life and minimising property damage. In addition, a fire controlled by a sprinkler will generally have a much lower demand on the water network than one controlled by water taken from a fire hydrant thus reducing the risk of quality or supply problems to other network users. Although the number of systems installed in domestic properties has been low, the scope for proliferation of domestic fire sprinklers is high. In Wales fire suppression sprinklers are now enshrined in legislation for all new properties.

The adoption of the Water UK Policy Position statement by the chief executives of individual water companies has provided a strategic way forward for both the water and sprinkler industries. As a result member companies have provided a named primary contact for the provision of water for sprinkler installations and the majority have published new or revised policies. A current list of contacts and web links is maintained on the BAFSA website www.bafsa.org.uk/links.php

It is important that developers and sprinkler installers liaise with the relevant water company to ensure at an early stage that appropriate mains and supply pipes, pressures and flows are provided. If this is not the case the use of booster pumps (where permitted) and if necessary tanks may be necessary.

A most useful document to consult prior to asking for a water connection to a residential or domestic sprinkler system is the GUIDELINES FOR THE SUPPLY OF WATER TO AUTOMATIC FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEMS published on 13 December 2013. http://www.bafsa.org.uk/publications/guidelines-and-codes-of-practice.php

A number of other BIFs are currently being revised and will be published shortly their current status is listed below:

BIF 16B: Sprinkler Systems Maintenance to BSEN 12845 – Approved for publication but held pending discussions with FPA regarding Clause 21 of BSEN 12845 and TB 203.
BIF 15: Types of Sprinkler Systems – Final draft due July
BIF 17: Hospitals and Healthcare premises – First draft under review
BIF 20: Third Party Certification – First draft partially completed
BIF 1: Schools – Drafting commenced
BIF 8d: Use of CPVC – Drafting commenced
BIF 16A: Sprinkler System Maintenance to BS9251 – Drafting commenced
BIF 24: Training – Drafting commenced
BIF 9: Water Mist – Revision required following introduction of BS 8458 and 8489

It is anticipated that all of these documents will be published before the end of 2016. Steve Seaber who manages the preparation and revision of BIFs is grateful for the assistance of those BAFSA staff and members who author and proof these documents and is always looking for new volunteers to assist in the process. He can be contacted on steve.seaber@bafsa.org.uk
Delighted to play our part

Paul Wright, IPS Business Development Manager and qualified Instructor in CPVC installation, agreed to attend a recent open day at the Manchester Wythenshawe Campus. The open day was for the Manchester College to promote sprinklers as a career and invited various parties along to drive this.

One of these was “Walking with the Wounded”, a charity which looks to raise funds to re-train and re-skill ex-forces personnel, some of whom have been wounded during military service. This new course and the qualification it offers can be truly described as a “Win-Win” situation. It offers an excellent opportunity for ex-military personnel in finding new careers outside the Military. Plus, it attracts much needed candidates to a worthwhile and valuable UK Industry.

Paul said: “IPS Flow Systems are long time members of BAFSA, being an Associate company in the Manufacturing sector and as such welcomed the opportunity to assist Manchester College and are delighted to play our part”

Access and assess

Shawston are delighted to announce the launch of a new Brochure Centre – aimed at contract engineers and purchasing staff to easily access key product information or assess Shawston as a credible supplier. Just click on http://www.shawston.co.uk/brochure-centre/, our range of Victaulic Heads are in stock and show in the Victaulic Fire PDF.

Access key product dimensions /weights & description at the click of your mouse & easily navigate the thumbnail images/titles to see products you can add to existing Shawston purchases and negotiations.

The individual product brochures will soon amalgamate into one master brochure. Our next step is to offer online search for more detailed product information...watch this space! It will be made available in hard copy Shawston are a business with over 35-years heritage and proud to be a market leader in supplying Fire Sprinkler Contractors on a National, next-day delivery basis.

Encouragement for ex-service personnel

Hall Fire Protection, AD Sprinklers and Hall & Kay are working in partnership with The Manchester College and Walking with the Wounded and RFEA, the Ex forces employment compass programme and JobCentre Plus, to encourage ex-service personnel into employment within the fire sprinkler and protection industry.

This programme, backed by the Scottish Power Foundation, is looking to give the fire protection industry an employment pool of potential employees which have the core basic skills linking to employment, core health and safety knowledge and will have completed the CSCS Green Card to allow them safe access to industrial sites thereby closing the labour market shortage within the fire sprinkler and protection industry.

This will be a 14 week programme with the first four weeks based at the Manchester College where the learners will be starting their Pre-Employment course and completing the health and safety elements of the Traineeship. This will be followed by a ten week work block shadowing BAFSA member companies over four days per week with the fifth day back in college to complete their employability, mathematics and English courses.

Workshop training days

To support an ever-changing industry, Reliable Automatic Sprinkler Company gives their customers the opportunity to expand their knowledge on Reliable’s products with training workshops. Recently we held six workshop training days on their full line of valves, including the E/E3 wet alarm valve, EX dry pipe valve, preaction systems, DDX Stainless Steel and DDX deluge systems. Reliable have also held workshops on CPVC plastic pipe and more. Held in our international headquarters by Michael Billstrom, Reliable’s Director of International Technical Services, customers receive a welcome gift pack, refreshments, lunch and an attendance certificate. To know when Reliable’s next training workshop sign up to our e-updates: email hgriffin@reliablesprinkler.com, follow the link to: https://www.reliablesprinkler.com/contact-us/eupdates or follow us on twitter at RASCOUK.
Something for everyone

Hydrotech Fire & Mechanical already sell into the market place one of the most popular models of Residential Sprinkler Test Valves which are sold via distributors such as Rapidrop and Tyco.

We have seen contractors asking for new designs that would accommodate the switch on either the left or right of the unit to assist with difficult installations. This unit is termed as a twin port and we have just finalised design and tooling for both popular sizes in 25mm and 32mm and these versions are now available to order. In addition to this we have developed additional switch solutions, we introduced a switch into the market earlier this year which again was driven by contractors wanting something basic but fit for purpose. In answer to this we produced a CE manufactured switch with delay function pre-set for the residential market, we have now just finalised the design for a premium switch with retard function that will be available in September. Beyond this we are looking at monitored solutions which will happen in the not too distant future.

Our residential valve solutions are flexible in the fact that they can come fully built and ready to install with pre-set switch or customers can order without switch and add their own to suit their requirements.

We now have 12 units available for the residential market so we feel we have something for everyone.

Changes to the Board

In preparation for the retirement of Peter Armstrong the current Managing Director and the founder of Armstrong Priestley Ltd a number of changes have been made to the Board of Directors. Anne Marie Cable, the current Financial Director and Steve Bailey the current Operations Director have been appointed as Joint Managing Directors.

The present Commercial Director, Terry Bennett and Technical Director, Barry Ebbs will be joined by the current General Manager, Karen Taylor who has been appointed to the Board to complete the team to take the Company forward as it celebrates its 40th Anniversary.

The new joint Managing Director positions came into force on 1 June 2016. Peter Armstrong will remain with the Company taking on the role of Chairman.

Specificially designed for offices

Tyco Fire Protection Products has developed a new AquaMist Ultra Low Flow (ULF) fire suppression solution specifically designed to protect offices. Providing rapid, dependable fire suppression for working environments with limited and concealed spaces, including above-ceiling and below-floor void areas, containing electrical and data cables.

The system is further supported by components, which are FM and VdS Approved, including customised low-pressure nozzles producing a range of water droplet sizes which are best-suited for the control of Class A fires. Providing rapid suppression and a high cooling effect, the FM Approved AM-27 and AM-29 closed automatic nozzles and VdS Approved AM-28 and AM-30 nozzles give protection for high coverage areas.

For more information on AquaMist ULF for Offices and the complete AquaMist range of Water Mist solutions contact aquamist@tycoint.com or visit www.tycoaquamist.com

New boys in town

Fire-mech is a new company formed in Oct 2015 specifically to supply specialist brackets and pipe supports to the Fire Sprinkler Industry. We supply several main brand suppliers from stock. We have brand new, state of the art fabrication and painting facilities for any bespoke equipment. Fire-mech is headed up with a wealth of knowledge by Paul Hollis, who has been in the industry for over 25 years. We offer a rapid response, excellent service including pipe & fittings if required.

We are currently based in Rochdale, sat on the A627M/M62 motorways, but we can deliver nationwide including our own transport. Alternatively, you can collect and we will soon be opening a trade counter too.

Improving green credentials!

Although fire protection can potentially save tons of CO emissions into the atmosphere for their clients. After moving to their new facility just over 2 years ago, A&F Sprinklers have also been improving their own CO footprint.

Since moving in, we have replaced the old inefficient oil burning boiler with a new highly efficient Biomass version, which is a clean, low carbon renewable energy source which can provide high grade heat and significant cost savings. Biomass produces a fraction of the carbon emission of fossil fuels.

As the wood is burned in a biomass boiler, it releases Carbon Dioxide (CO2), but it only releases the same amount of CO2 as was absorbed by the trees as they were growing. Therefore, over the couple of decades or so from planting the tree to harvesting and burning the wood, the process is effectively ‘carbon neutral’.

We have now replaced all the old fluorescent tube lighting with modern, energy efficient lighting, throughout our entire office and production facility. These light fittings have reduced our energy bills by nearly 70% and as an added bonus, should be maintenance free for years to come.

On top of the above cost and CO reducing measures, we’ve also had installed 200 solar panels to our nearly perfect warehouse roof, which is only a couple of degrees from south and at the perfect slope to generate 50KWP of energy. You might question the amount of sunshine we get in Rochdale? Well, Direct sun is actually not the best for generating power which is happen a good job!

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We are currently based in Rochdale, sat on the A627M/M62 motorways, but we can deliver nationwide including our own transport. Alternatively, you can collect and we will soon be opening a trade counter too.
The 2016 BAFSA Challenge Day was blessed with amazing weather; 87 registered competitors in 9 teams; challenges ranging from Human Table Football to Archery to Blindfold Tent Pitching and the most popular challenge of the day, Segway; followed by an evening barbecue which went on into the early hours of the next morning.

**Results**

**BAFSA Challenge 2016**

**Champions:** Hackers & Knights  
**Quiz:** Pump It Up  
**Segway:** Sprinkler Good Guys  
**Cornhole:** Fire Killers  
**Archery:**  
**Hackers & Knights**  
**Mission Impossible:** Value, Set & Match  
**Pistol Shooting:** The Tycoons  
**Blindfold Tent Pitching:** Fire Killer  
**Human Table Football:** Pump It Up

**Blood Sweat & Tears,**  
Halls Angels (the only all-ladies team) and Rapid Attack were all fiercely competitive on the day just missing out on wins in the Archery, the Blindfold Tent Pitching and the Human Table Football.

**“the human football seemed to have tipped me over the edge! Pulled every muscle in my body. Absolutely worth every bit of pain though”**

Halls Angels
The BAFSA Challenge 2017 will happen. Date to be announced shortly.

Thank you to our much valued “team” sponsors in 2016. If you would like to sponsor a team or a “Challenge” in 2017 please be in touch. Email me at marketing@bafsa.org.uk. Your sponsorship matters and all involved benefit from your support.
Having played golf courses around the world and sporting a handicap of 4, Danny Doherty was the obvious choice to become BAFSA’s Golf Day Director. His passion and knowledge shone through on the day and we look forward to his positive influence on this increasingly popular event. Here he reflects on the morning’s action.

Mottram Hall provided an excellent venue for the 2016 BAFSA golf day. 30 players in 8 teams made the early start on a fine sunny morning. The course was in lovely condition with the greens running nicely.

The team event was won by team Applications Engineering with team Vipond running them a very close second, only missing out by 1 shot. The longest drive at the 9th hole was won by Chris Cocklin, Applications Engineering. A drive that would have rivalled a Pro. The nearest the pin winner at the difficult 11th hole was Gary Ackroyd from Hall & Kay Fire Engineering.

This year we introduced the yellow ball competition which caused no end of laughs and curses. Highlight of the day was George Hepburn from team Vipond who lost his teams yellow ball with the first shot from the first tee!! Team Rapidrop, despite several attempts to lose it, were the only team who managed to nurse their ball around the course to win a prize.

All in all a great morning’s golf was had at what proved to be an excellent venue. Next year I am sure it will be even bigger and better.

A great morning’s golf
To receive Sprinkler Focus by email please contact BAFSA at info@bafsa.org.uk and ask to be added to the subscriber list.

BAFSA is happy to receive suggestions for topics to be covered in future issues and welcomes contributions from all BAFSA members. Please make contact via marketing@bafsa.org.uk

For further information on anything in this issue of FOCUS or to learn how you might benefit from joining BAFSA please email info@bafsa.org.uk