ANNUAL REPORT 2017

egolf

The European Group
of Organisations for Fire Testing,
Inspection and Certification

EGOLF Members in Trondheim, April 2017

FINANCIAL REPORT

	2017 €
INCOME	
Membership subscriptions	153,750
Courses	34,100
Other income	9,349
Total income	**197,199**
EXPENDITURE (inc. VAT)	
Secretary General	82,203
Secretariat FSG of GNB-CPR	10,019
Executive & TC Chairmen (travel expenses)	14,223
Plenary & TC meeting costs	8,000
Round robins, courses & workshops	43,272
Website hosting & developments	12,533
Printing costs	4,558
Company Registration services	1,500
Annual audit	2,532
Other expenses (including membership visits)	10,339
Total expenditure	**189,179**

A VIEW FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members, Partners and Stakeholders

2017 has been an active year for EGOLF. At the end of 2017 there were 56 members, and during the year we received enquiries and applications from a number of potential members. This should be regarded as a sign that EGOLF is an important organization in the European field of fire safety.

During the Autumn, it was decided that, from now on, regular EGOLF meetings will be arranged once a year instead of the traditional bi-annual meetings. This means that we need to find new ways of working together in EGOLF. There are many possibilities for collaboration: smaller groups can use video conferencing for discussions, workshops concerning different topics can be arranged, and one-day meetings for the technical committees can be held if necessary. Money has been set aside in the 2018 budget to facilitate such initiatives, so it is now up to the EGOLF members to propose activities that will benefit the organization and our vision. Our internal website is a tool that can be used more extensively for discussions and exchange of information, especially the helpdesk forums where members can ask for help on all problems, large and small, regarding fire testing, classification, inspection and certification. For a trial period of one year, the EGOLF helpdesk forum will also be used for questions concerning test standards other than those under the Construction Products Regulation (CPR), provided that these standards are related to European fire safety legislation.

These include, for example, the maritime IMO test procedures, European fire tests for furniture, and fire tests for railway applications. I think this will be a valuable extension to EGOLF's activities.

Communications with the standardisation organisation CEN through CEN/TC 127 Fire safety in buildings are under discussion. It is very important that results from EGOLF round robins and statements in EGOLF agreements and recommendations which may lead to changes in the standards are brought to the attention of the relevant task groups in CEN. Identification of EGOLF documents which are related to CEN standards under revision has therefore now been introduced as a regular agenda point in our TC meetings.

I also take this opportunity to warmly thank all of our Members, including our Executive Committee members Gary Blume, Paolo Mele and Marek Łukomski, and also Technical Committee Chairmen Lars Boström, Rupert Ehrlenspiel and Andrzej Borowy, for all the good work that is being done in and between the meetings. And last but not least I want to thank our Secretary General, Christine Roszykiewicz, for her efforts in the day to day management of EGOLF.

Let us together continue the good work for a fire safe society.

Anne Steen-Hansen

EGOLF MEETINGS 2017

Author: Christine Roszykiewicz, EGOLF Secretary General

Plenary meetings

The bi-annual meetings of EGOLF 2017 were hosted by RISE Fire Research AS in Trondheim, Norway and the Instytut Techniki Budowlanej (ITB) in Warsaw, Poland.

In October, a special welcome was extended to the following new Plenary representatives: Mikko Malaska from Tampere University of Technology in Finland, Gergely Kakasy, from ÉMI, Hungary, and Luis Madariaga, from GAIKER in Spain.

Main topics at the meeting included a decision by the Members to extend the scope of EGOLF activities beyond construction, in order to cover standards such as marine fire testing (IMO), transportation, machinery and cables. This will commence in 2018 for a trial period of one year and will involve standing items for discussion during Technical Committee meetings, as well as questions and solutions posted on the EGOLF Member helpdesk forum. Topics raised will concern fire tests performed within Europe to international standards and European regulations, with the proviso that Members' principle activities lie in construction products, which will remain EGOLF's first priority.

Work continues apace on drafting of the EGOLF Health and Safety guidelines which are expected to be published in the second half of 2018. The guidelines will be "dynamic" and continually updated with contributions from the Members, as they share new information about aspects of health and safety in the workplace. In future, adherence to these guidelines is likely to become an EGOLF minimum membership requirement and threshold level for new applicants.

Health and Safety will also play a key part in EGOLF "Steps to Excellence", which is an ongoing, internal evaluation of Members' performance and progress toward annual goals and targets for continuous quality improvement and technical competence. In 2017, a formal Resolution was endorsed to update the EGOLF Quality Policy, ensuring that all members continue to apply a systematic and disciplined approach to quality which demonstrates they consistently meet their technical and organizational objectives and the declared expectations and needs of their clients.

Last year also saw the launch of a new mobile friendly EGOLF website at https://www.egolf.global/. This now boasts an improved document referencing system to assist searching of EGOLF recommendations, agreements and position papers, together with a user friendly internal photo gallery.

Plenary meeting hosted by ITB, Warsaw

EGOLF meetings in Trondheim

EGOLF Technical Committees

TC1 (Reaction to fire)

In 2017 work was completed on the review and updating to the most recent version of the relevant standard, of thirty EGOLF reaction to fire recommendations and agreements. All these documents can be downloaded from the Publications folder of the EGOLF website. EGA (EGOLF Agreement) is the abbreviation used for technical guidance which has been formally endorsed as mandatory for all Members; EGR (EGOLF Recommendation) denotes best practice guidance and EGP (EGOLF Position Paper) deals with situations where EGOLF discovers errors or problems in a standard which prevent members from resolving problems which they have raised in helpdesk items.

Following the SBI round robin which was completed in 2017, a theoretical round robin will be performed on the calculation of PCS values for classification and an online workshop is to be organised on the ETICS fire performance test.

New reaction to fire recommendations and agreements in 2017 included proposals to deal with premature SBI test termination due to excessive heat release, protection of the SBI trolley with aluminium foil, and the SBI test for non-flat products.

TC2 (resistance to fire)

Work continues on the review and updating of fifty recommendations and agreements to the most recent version of the relevant standard. Last year, TC2 completed a theoretical exercise on how to mount, set up and test a door in accordance with EN 1634-1. A follow up workshop was organized in June, to investigate any difficulties with interpretation of the test standard, or deficiencies in the standard which were subsequently brought to the attention of CEN TC 127.

TC4 (Accreditation, Certification and Inspection)

The subject of accreditation for classification and EXAP continues to dominate discussions amongst the Membership, since national accreditation bodies continue to have different opinions across Europe. EGOLF's firm position is that testing laboratories must be responsible for EXAPs and that the goal is to have the same harmonized single package of accreditation for testing, EXAP and classification throughout Europe. The Chairman of EGOLF TC4 Andrzej Borowy will be liaising closely with the Task Force which has been established by EA (European Accreditation) to establish guidelines on how to proceed with accreditation to classification and EXAP standards.

NEW EGOLF MEMBER 2017

In 2017, EGOLF was delighted to welcome TAMPERE UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY (Finland).

EGOLF APPOINTMENTS 2017

Re-appointment Chairman TC1, Spring 2017

Rupert Ehrlenspiel of the HFM Holzforschung München at the Technical University of Munich was re-elected Chairman of TC1 (Reaction to Fire) for a second term of three years commencing March 2017.

Election of Internal Auditor, Autumn 2017

Jordi Mirabent of APPLUS+Laboratories (LGAI Technological Center S.A.) in Spain was elected one of two Internal Auditors. Jordi will serve a minimum period of two years commencing 2018. The President thanked Jacques Mertens for his contribution as an Internal Auditor during the past three years. Jordi will commence office in 2018 alongside Donatas Lipinskas of FRC in Lithuania.

EGOLF HARMONISATION COURSES 2018

Course title	Test standard	Date & location of course	Course fee	Registration contact
Test methods for external fire exposure to roofs - test method 2 with burning brands and wind	CEN/TS 1187:2012 t2	9 April RISE in Borås, Sweden	Members €890 Non-members €1190	http://www.conferencemanager.dk/EGOLFCENTS1187 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö (linnea.hemmaro@ri.se)
REACTION TO FIRE series of courses in ENGLISH language				
Reaction to fire: Floorings	EN ISO 9239-1	9 April RISE in Borås, Sweden	Members €890 Non-members €1190	http://conferencemanager.events/EGOLF2018 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö (linnea.hemmaro@ri.se)
Reaction to fire: Ignitability of building products – single flame source test	EN ISO 11925-2	10 April RISE in Borås, Sweden	Members €890 Non-members €1190	http://conferencemanager.events/EGOLF2018 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö (linnea.hemmaro@ri.se)
Reaction to fire: Single burning item	EN 13823	11 April RISE in Borås, Sweden	Members €890 Non-members €1190	http://conferencemanager.events/EGOLF2018 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö (linnea.hemmaro@ri.se)
Reaction to fire: Single burning item and Determination of heat of combustion & non combustibility	continue EN 13823 & EN ISO 1182 (starts at 11.00)	12 April RISE in Borås, Sweden	Members €890 Non-members €1190	http://conferencemanager.events/EGOLF2018 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö (linnea.hemmaro@ri.se)
Reaction to fire: Determination of heat of combustion	EN ISO 1716	13 April RISE in Borås, Sweden	Members €890 Non-members €1190	http://conferencemanager.events/EGOLF2018 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö (linnea.hemmaro@ri.se)
REACTION TO FIRE series of courses in GERMAN language				
Reaction to fire: Floorings	DIN EN ISO 9239-1	9 April MPA NRW, Erwitte, Germany	Members €890 Non-members €1190	Hendrik Rademacher rademacher@mpanrw.de
Reaction to fire: Determination of heat of combustion & non combustibility	DIN EN ISO 1716 & DIN EN ISO 1182	10 April MPA NRW Erwitte, Germany	Members €890 Non-members €1190	Hendrik Rademacher rademacher@mpanrw.de
Reaction to fire: Ignitability of building products – single flame source test	DIN EN ISO 11925-2	11 April MPA NRW, Erwitte, Germany	Members €890 Non-members €1190	Hendrik Rademacher rademacher@mpanrw.de
Reaction to fire: Single burning item	DIN EN 13823	12-13 April MPA NRW, Erwitte, Germany	Members €890 Non-members €1190	Hendrik Rademacher rademacher@mpanrw.de
SUMMER 2018				
FIRE RESISTANCE				
Penetration seals EN 1366-3 and linear joint seals EN 1366-4	EN 1366-3	7th and 8th June 2018 Peutz Laboratory for Fire Safety, NL	Members €890 Non-members €1190	Harm Leenders h.leenders@peutz.nl
Ducts and multi-compartment smoke extraction ducts	EN 1366-1,-8 & -9	19th & 20th June MPA NRW, Erwitte, Germany	Members €1000 Non-members €1300	Tanja Hilger hilger@mpanrw.de
AUTUMN 2018				
Fire dampers and non-mechanical fire dampers	EN 1366-2, EN 15882-2 and EN 1366-12	14th to 15th November RISE Safety & Transport, Borås, Sweden	Members €1150 Non-members €1450	Online registration at http://www.conferencemanager.dk/EGOLFEN1366-2 Contact: Linnéa Hemmarö linnea.hemmaro@ri.se
Curtain walls	EN 1364-3, EN 1364-4 and EN 15254-6	15th & 16th October 2018 Efectis NL, Bleiswijk, Netherlands	€850	saskia.nieuwendijk@efectis.com

TUT FIRE LABORATORY, FINLAND

Author: Anu Aaltonen

The Fire Laboratory of Tampere University of Technology (TUT) has had professional experience in fire engineering research and testing since 1997. The subject has been offered to Master's level for over 35 years and doctoral degrees are also awarded. Our research explores the fire safety of buildings and the fire resistance of building elements and products. We offer expertise and testing services for product development, approval testing and fire safety assessment. Our active involvement in international and national standardisation work ensures access to the latest information.

Within the Department of Civil Engineering, the TUT Fire Laboratory is an independent expert organisation and strict confidentiality is respected in all our activities. The laboratory testing procedures and quality management system comply with SFS-EN ISO/IEC 17025, which demonstrates our competence in producing reliable test results. The testing procedures meet the requirements of EN standards.

The current scope of our accredited fire resistance test methods consists in testing non-loadbearing walls, doors, shutters and openable windows. We also provide EXAP and fire classification reports for said products. The detailed scope is available on the website of the National Accreditation Body FINAS, www.finas.fi. The laboratory reference code is T300 (EN ISO/IEC 17025).

The TUT Fire Laboratory specialises in the fire resistance testing of products used in the construction industry. Our combination furnace allows fire testing of large-scale vertical (3 m x 3 m) and horizontal (3 m x 4 m) specimens. We carry out both load-bearing and non-loadbearing tests on horizontal test specimens. Even some more unusual structures, such as loaded steel hollow section joint configurations, can be tested. In addition to the main furnace, a small-scale electric oven and a cone calorimeter are available for material testing.

FIRE PROTECTION: INAUGURATION OF FACADE TEST FACILITY UNPARALLELED IN EUROPE

Thomas Beutner, MPA Dresden GmbH

Flames lick along the facade – the resulting heat is clearly felt. Yet before the fire has spread, it is quickly and effectively extinguished. Not by a fireman but by an MPA Dresden employee. That's because the fire hasn't broken out in a real building – it was started deliberately in Europe's most modern facade test facility recently inaugurated in Freiberg, Saxony.

The widely visible tower is impressively dimensioned. It is 22 metres high, 15 metres long, 12 metres wide and at this size is indeed unique in Europe. The MPA Dresden specialists conduct fire tests here for the testing and certification of facades, glass facades and components or integral facades. The stand-out feature is the usable height of the test facility. "We can construct up to 15 metre high facades here", explains Thomas Hübler, managing director of MPA Dresden. "So we can also subject external thermal insulation composite systems (ETICS), as they are used on high-rise buildings, to particularly realistic and accurate tests." The continuing tragedy of the high-rise fire in London, amongst other things, have underlined just how important such tests are.

The hall has fire-proof walls and two large doors. The roof can be opened so that on the one hand, tests can be performed in any weather and on the other, the resultant dense smoke can be drawn off quickly. Hi-tech is deployed in the interior. Over 200 temperature measurement points enable a precise analysis of the fire development in addition to cameras recording events from every angle. The horizontal and vertical spread of the fire is recorded seamlessly. This enables us to evaluate the tested materials very precisely.

In planning the test facility, at a cost of around one million euros, great emphasis was placed from the start that it be particularly versatile in its utilisation. The experts at MPA Dresden can not only test the effects of plinth fires but fires with fire chamber and fires on facades with attached and built-in elements such as photovoltaics are also possible. Test procedures are used in accordance with the Standards E DIN 4102-20, DIN EN 13501, DIN 18089-1, BS 8414-1, SP FIRE 105 and Austrian Standard B 3800-5. "The great flexibility of the test field also enables special tests. We can simulate some fires in high-rack warehouses, in wind turbines or even the sides of ship hulls", Hübler emphasises. MPA Dresden tests, classifies and certifies building products to national and European Standards and has an accredited test laboratory for fire extinguishing equipment and extinguishing media. A further focal point is fire safety evaluation, the fire protection planning of new and existing buildings and expert opinions on fire protection. More information at: www.mpa-dresden.de.

NEW TESTING CAPABILITIES ADDED IN DUBAI

Author: Abhishek Chhabra, TBWIC, Dubai

Member lab. Thomas Bell-Wright International Consultants (TBWIC) recently added a few more test methods in order to support the growing need for testing capabilities, not only in the Middle East but also in Europe, UK and Asia.

As well as adding reaction to fire testing for Euroclasses (as per EN 13501-1) along with EN 13823, EN ISO 11925-2, EN ISO 1716, EN ISO 1182 and EN ISO 9239-1, the lab. also now offers large scale fire propagation tests as per BS 8414-1 and BS 8414-2. These additions have been done to support the new regulations in the Middle East region as well as requirements for testing originating from other parts of the world.TBWIC also plans to obtain accreditation for the Australian version of the standard which uses the same test rig. Images 1 and 2 are of the test rig during calibration testing.

CODE INDEPENDENT CLADDING FIRE RISK EVALUATION TOOL

Author: Abhishek Chhabra, TBWIC, Dubai

TBWIC supported an NFPA (National Fire Protection Association) sponsored façade fire risk assessment research project by sharing their knowledge of reaction to fire testing of façade materials and large scale testing of façade assemblies. The input of TBWIC and the test data shared helped the project team to better classify the potential hazard posed by existing combustible façade systems. Arup, who took on the project, developed a tool for Authorities Having Jurisdiction (AHJs) to address hazards in high-rise buildings. The research and tool details how AHJs can use both resources to prioritize buildings in their jurisdiction, conduct initial fire risk assessments of each building, and identify those buildings that have the highest priority for inspection. The tool, which can be used to asses risk, irrespective of the location or jurisdiction, is called Exterior Facade Fire Evaluation & Comparison Tool (EFFECT™). More information is available https://www.nfpa.org/exteriorwalls.

TESTING PROJECT TO EVALUATE THE PERFORMANCE OF EXTERNAL BUILDING FIRE PROTECTION SYSTEM

Author: Abhishek Chhabra, TBWIC, Dubai

TBWIC recently completed the testing and evaluation of a unique and innovative solution for the fire protection of tall buildings installed with combustible cladding material. The SPRAYSAFE Autonomous Fire Suppression (AFS) System, an innovation introduced by Johnson Controls International (JCI), required a different approach to testing and evaluating the performance and functionality of the system. RISE developed a testing sequence to evaluate and quantify the performance of this solution. SP Method: 5483 used SP 105 to develop a protocol detailing sequence of tests.

TBWIC constructed a large-scale testing rig apparatus which is 25 meters high and 35 meters wide to represent the building exterior in their laboratory in Dubai. The AFS System from JCI was installed and operated successfully and conducted a series of tests and evaluations to document the efficacy of the system.

THE NORWEGIAN RESEARCH COUNCIL ANNOUNCES FUNDING FOR FIRE RESEARCH

Author: Anne Steen-Hansen, RISE Fire Research, Norway.

In March 2018 the Norwegian Research Council announced research funding for the establishment of two research centres for fire safety in Norway. The research centres will be active for five years, with the possibility of an additional three year extension. Research groups at RISE Fire Research in Norway, the research organization SINTEF and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) have joined forces aiming at being awarded funding for one of the research centres.

The initiative has been given the name BRANNSIKKERHET (Norwegian for Fire Safety) and will contribute to a long-term and more efficient and knowledge-based fire safety level in society through the establishment of strong and interdisciplinary research and innovation centres. The focus will stimulate long-lasting fire research, build strong professional environments, and ensure more and better collaboration between the research communities, funders and user groups. National and international collaboration will be important in the centres.

The call focuses on six research topics:

- Fire dynamics
- Management, collaboration and learning in fire services
- New energy carriers and energy systems, technology for smart buildings
- Fire safety for vulnerable groups
- Health risks for fire fighters
- Fire prevention, detection and extinguishment

The deadline for the final application is September 12th 2018 and the research centres will start their work early in 2019. "The chances are good that one of these centres will be established in Trondheim. It will really mean a great boost for the discipline of fire safety research, both in Norway but also internationally" says Paul Halle Zahl-Pedersen, CEO of RISE Fire Research in Norway.

REACTION TO FIRE ROUND ROBIN FOR CABLES TO EN 50399

Marina C Andersson, RISE Institutes of Sweden

This study was undertaken to investigate the compliance of a number of laboratories' equipment and their testing procedures to EN 50399, and to determine the repeatability and reproducibility using ISO 5725. The project took place under the responsibility of the Fire Sector Group of Notified Bodies for the CPR - SH02/WG10 on cables. The steering committee was made up of Interscience Communications Ltd, Efectis France, the EGOLF Secretary General, RISE, ECBL, ISSeP, VDE and L.S Fire Testing Institute SRL.

32 laboratories participated in the round robin. These laboratories were from both Notified Laboratories and cable manufacturers' laboratories. Out of the 32 laboratories, 18 submitted test data, among them eight notified testing laboratories and ten cable manufacturers' laboratories.

The objectives of the project were to:

- determine how well laboratories are able to perform testing according to EN 50399 in a proper way,
- give information about the reproducibility and repeatability of the test method,
- determine how well laboratories are able to calibrate according to EN 50399
- give information about the correctness of evaluation software used by participating laboratories,
- give an indication of each participating laboratory's performance regarding the test method,
- give information regarding possible improvements to the test method.

The results of the round robin can be considered satisfactory (i.e. the results of the 18 participants) in comparison to the previous round robin (under the CEMAC project) and other round robins for reaction to fire tests (e.g. the SBI round robin). A general conclusion from the round robin is that there is a need for training and a general understanding of reaction to fire testing, for example the importance of heat release rate calibration of the test equipment.

One power cable and two copper communication cables were tested in the round robin. To the left is a copper communication cable mounted before test. On the right is a photo showing a burning cable during test.

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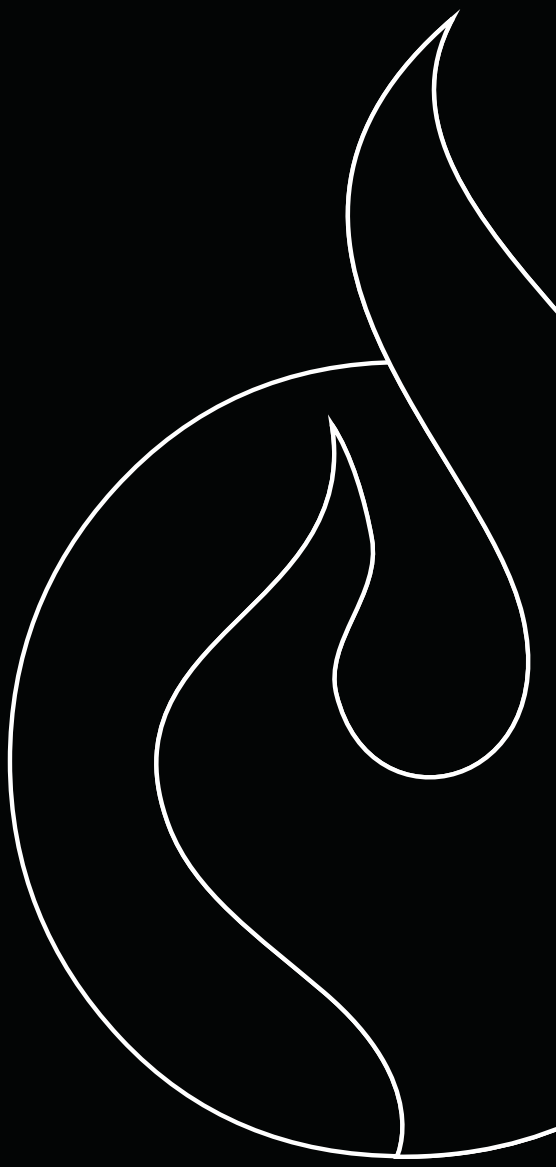

Artwork: The desert on fire © Munimara

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