



## Innovation and Emerging Technology Working Group

### Meeting Report – March 9, 2017

**Present:** Seth Sienkiewicz (Working Group Leader), Haavard Boehmer, Luca Fiorentini, Bryan Klein, Ruben Rodriguez Negro, Greg Baker (Subcommittee Chair) and Chris Jelenewicz (Staff).

#### The following was discussed:

1. **Charter** – It was agreed that the working group's charter will be:

*The Innovation and Emerging Technology Working Group (IETWG) was established to monitor innovation and emerging technology trends in the international fire safety and fire protection community, and keep SFPE International abreast of such developments in industry, academia, and governmental institutions.*

2. **Working Group Structure within SFPE** -- The IETWG was created as a working group within the Subcommittee on Research and Innovation (SCRI), which is structured under the SFPE Standing Committee on Research, Tools, and Methods (RTM). The scope of work for the RTM committee is to identify, develop, and oversee SFPE's technical products and research work, review new innovations, and help to establish the research agenda for the fire safety engineering profession. The SCRI is comprised of members with a research or technology development background, a desire to help chart future research priorities for the profession, and an interest in working with other groups, companies, and associations to obtain input for, and communicate back, SFPE research priorities and directions for the future.
3. **Types of Emerging Technologies** – The working group identified two primary types of innovations or technologies to monitor. The first is related to new Hazards that pose a risk to fire protection or life safety. The second is regarding new Products/Solutions that are entering the market for use by practitioners. Within new Products/Solutions would be information sources for modelling or new engineering techniques.

There was a discussion on the need for monitoring changes in regulatory environment. It was agreed that the working group will monitor changes in the regulatory environment if these changes are within the Charter.

4. **Sources of Information** – The working group identified several sources of information that may be useful in identifying new innovations or technologies. These sources include publications, articles, news stories, advertisements, presentations, other media, or simply a topic of interest without a well-established background. The intent of the IETWG is to provide a system of reporting this information to the working group for collection, assessment, and ultimate recommendation for action to the SFPE Board.
5. **Social Media/Webpage** -- The primary repository of information will be a dedicated to the internal SFPE social media site within the SFPE International database. This social media site will have introductory text describing the IETWG and its goals, fields for entering information and generating a discussion thread, and instructions for use of the site as needed. These threads and subsequent

discussions shall be the primary source of information that will be compiled by the IETWG and communicated to the SFPE International Board.

The establishment of the IETWG will be rolled out simultaneously through multiple channels. Common to all channels will be a brief statement about the IETWG, similar to the primary website, and a link for direct access to the IETWG webpage. Communication of existence of the IETWG and social media webpage will be distributed by SFPE International through established outlets such as Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Newsletters, and the primary SFPE International website. The IETWG will also have its own webpage on the SFPE website. Additionally, the link can be directly distributed to the Corporate 100 sponsors and the SFPE membership to generate interest.

6. **Communication of Results** -- Once reviewed and compiled, the best method of communication of the results will be determined, and may be on a case-by-case basis. Infographics or other data summary and presentation methods should be considered to provide the most effective message. This effort should also be coordinated with the Communications Working Group.
7. **Publications for Monitoring** – The following documents have been identified as potential sources of innovations or emerging technologies that may be of interest to SFPE International. Regular monitoring of these publications is recommended. This list should continually be reviewed and updated as necessary:
  - IAFSS Newsletter
  - SP Newsletter (Brandposten)
  - Fire Technology
  - Researchgate.net
  - Others?
8. **Action Items** – The working group will focus on the following action items moving forward:
  - Incorporate edits and finalize Scope and Charter Document of IETWG (**Seth**)
  - Creation of Page on SFPE Website (**Headquarters**)
  - Author statement about IETWG (**Seth**)
  - Instructions for Use (**Seth**)
  - Create social media site and URL (**Headquarters**)
  - Group access or permissions needed? (**TBD**)
  - Author statement about IETWG for distribution (**Seth**)
  - Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Newsletters, email blast, etc (**Headquarters**)
  - Creation of Original Content (**Greg**)
  - Monitoring of Publications (**TBD**)
9. **Next Meeting** – CJ will schedule the next meeting via Doodle Poll for early May.

**End of Report**