

INTERNATIONAL KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

First Release



Dame Judith Hackitt FREng FIChemE

Independent Adviser to the UK Government on Fire Safety

A chemical engineer who has spent more than 20 years in the chemical industry. A former President of The Institution of Chemical Engineers and a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineering.

Throughout her career she has championed the importance of engineering in delivering solutions which benefit society. She cares deeply about safety in the workplace and more broadly.

From 2007 to 2016 she was Chair of the UK Health & Safety Executive and in 2017 conducted an independent review for the UK government into building regulations and fire safety in the wake of the Grenfell Tower tragedy. Her recommendations for radical reform received Royal Assent in the Building Safety Act 2022. In January 2024 she was appointed interim Chair of the UK Office for Nuclear Regulation.



Dr Wojciech Węgrzyński Prof. ITB

Head of Fire Automation, Smoke Control and Signalling,
Building Research Institute (ITB)

Dr Wojciech Węgrzyński is with ITB, that is the Polish Building Research Institute in Warsaw. He currently holds the position of the Deputy Head of Fire Research Department and the Professor of the Institute, and a Director at SFPE Europe.

He is an Author of 40 peer-reviewed papers published in all of the primary FSE journals. His main area of interest is the fundamentals of compartment fire dynamics and standardized fire testing, and also: use of computational fluid dynamics in fire, wind and fire interaction and evaluation of the effects of the spread of smoke in buildings. His research is focused on the impact of the architectural context of the building on the smoke control performance, as well as finding solutions to make the smoke exhaust systems cheaper and more efficient.

Member of the MAC and Vice-Chair of Sub-committee for Research of the IAFSS. 2018 NFPA Harry C. Bigglestone Award Recipient; 2019 Jack Watts Award Recipient; 2020 SFPE 5 Under 35 Award Recipient. Member of Editorial Board of 'Fire Technology'. Hosts a fire podcast at www.firescienceshow.com

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TĀKINA, WELLINGTON
23-25 OCTOBER 2024



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Hayley Burgess CFIOSH MIFireE C.BuildE MCABE MSc Managing Director, HSBC Ltd

Hayley Burgess is a distinguished leader in fire safety and health, currently serving as the Managing Director of HSBC Ltd. Notably, she holds the esteemed position of being the first woman elected as the International President of the Institution of Fire Engineers.

With extensive credentials as a Chartered Health & Safety Practitioner and Chartered Building Engineer, Hayley boasts over a decade of pivotal experience in consultancy.

Over her illustrious career, spanning 12 years as a Principal Fire Safety & Health and Safety Consultant, Hayley has refined her expertise through engagements in both private consultancy and local government sectors. Her early work conducting Fire Risk Assessments for government-occupied buildings laid a solid foundation for her subsequent endeavors.

Presently, Hayley leads projects with a diverse clientele, specializing in the development of Fire Strategy Designs, comprehensive Fire Risk Assessments, and Fire Safety Inspections. Her consultancy services cover a broad range of fire safety aspects, reflecting her unwavering commitment to upholding stringent safety standards. Hayley's particular focus lies within the Social Care Sector, where she offers invaluable guidance to clients in navigating complex Fire Safety Standards, including the NIHTM 84 framework. Her keen understanding of the sector's nuances has positioned her as a trusted advisor in fortifying fire safety protocols.

In her capacity as a Chartered Safety and Health Professional (CFIOSH), Hayley brings a wealth of knowledge to her role as the Chair of the Northern Ireland IOSH Branch. Her leadership underscores her dedication to advancing safety practices and fostering professional collaboration within the community.

Beyond her organizational commitments, Hayley actively contributes to the field as a member of the Fire Expert Panel for Collaborative Reporting for Safer Structures UK (CROSS UK). Her involvement underscores her commitment to promoting safer structures and sharing insights for the benefit of the broader safety community.

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