



# Briefing

Promoting Quality in Fire Safety

## Welcome to BAFE Briefing

*Specially produced for International Firex*

**BAFE has again been working on many fronts and you will read about new and existing schemes, launches, marketing events and new initiatives – all with the clear aim of raising quality standards in the fire protection industry.**

As a truly independent body, with no other income than that which we earn from registering companies who meet our scheme requirements, we are committed to raising the profile of third party certification and those companies who invest their time and resources to meet these standards. We now have well over 750 companies registered to BAFE schemes. They range from very small to very large and operate across all corners of the United Kingdom. We have also seen growing numbers of portable extinguisher Technicians being registered – now over 1050.

BAFE works hard to ensure that registration is a true mark of quality which can be relied on by specifiers and end users. During 2010 we had 82 complaints of which 56 were about the misuse of the logo. All registered companies received a CD-rom update on our logo and how to use it, and we will pursue companies who promote themselves with schemes that they are not registered to and especially those who falsely claim BAFE registration. We have also delisted three companies who failed to meet BAFE standards and whilst this is always regrettable it is vital that we maintain the integrity of the growing number of companies who proudly do meet and maintain their BAFE registration.

As you will read, we launched our new Emergency Lighting Scheme (SP203-4) at the Houses of Parliament in March with an excellent attendance from senior figures in the fire and lighting industries. This scheme is now actively growing and has been backed up by an extensive

promotional campaign to both potential companies and end users.

We will also have our new scheme (SP205) for companies who provide Fire Risk Assessments, available for public consultation. Copies can be obtained from the BAFE website.

I strongly recommend that you study the technical section of BAFE Briefing as Tony Maskens and our scheme monitoring groups (to whom we are ever grateful for their time and commitment) have been working hard both on the introduction of the new scheme, and also on reviewing and developing existing schemes. This is an ongoing task and one that is vital to the value and integrity of the schemes. More work is yet to be done, especially on SP101/ST104 Maintenance of Portable Fire Extinguishers, to ensure that it provides a real measure of the excellence of those companies and their technicians who meet the scheme standards.

As always we value the input from all those in the industry who want to see ever improving quality standards – please let us know your thoughts and keep looking at the website to see what we are doing.

Regards



Tony Maskens



Stephen Adams  
General and Marketing Manager

## Formal Launch of much needed SP203-4 – Emergency Lighting scheme

The official launch of the BAFE scheme SP203-4 took place in March at the Houses of Parliament with over 60 guests present, including Sir Ken Knight, the Government Chief Fire & Rescue Advisor who spoke about the challenges facing the fire industry and the value of third party certification. Other speakers included Iain Cox, CFO of Royal Berkshire FRS, Bernard Pratley and Chris Watts from ICEL and the Geoffrey Clifton-Brown, MP for the Cotswolds, who highlighted the value of the Fire Service College and



how organisations such as BAFE made such a valuable contribution to community safety. Chris Watts gave a strong endorsement to the value of ensuring that all aspects of an emergency lighting scheme are properly designed, installed, commissioned and maintained, using quality products to meet current standards. Senior figures from the Fire

Industry, trade associations, insurers and certification bodies were present, together with Lord Lindsay the Chairman of UKAS and members of his team who had worked with BAFE to accredit the scheme.

Presentation of first SP203-4 certificate. Following the speeches, Sir Ken was delighted to present Brian Camps of Babcock Dynacorp with the first BAFE registration certificate for SP203-4.



# BAFE Technical Round up

## Using the BAFE logo correctly

In December last year all BAFE registered companies were sent a new CD and guidelines as to how they should show the BAFE logo in all their publicity and company literature. This has received a good response and correct use of the BAFE logo makes it easier for us to spot fraudulent misuse of our trademarks.

If you haven't yet looked at your company's website and literature in the light of the

clarified guidance now would be a good time to review them. We have also asked all the Certification Bodies covering our schemes to review use of the BAFE logos on our behalf.

**Non adherence to the guidelines will be viewed as a non compliance.**

If you have mislaid your CD or it didn't arrive please contact the BAFE office on: **0844 3350897**



## BAFE SCHEME NEWS BAFE SCHEME NEWS BAFE SCHEME NEWS

### Updated Fire Alarm scheme documents

A new version 5 of SP203-1 for the Design, Installation & Commissioning & Maintenance of Fire Detection and Fire Alarm Systems should have been published by the time you read this newsletter.

Major changes within this new version include:

1. The addition of management system requirements for the control of sub-contracting and non-conforming products
2. Consolidation of the requirements relating to Surveillance Audits for single sites and multi-site organisations
3. A new requirement for components used during the installation to be Third Party certified
4. The introduction of new BAFE Logos for Maintenance only organisations, and,
5. The addition of claims of conformity requirements.

Item 3 above represents a significant change and covers all the major components used in the installation of a system. To enable companies to clear existing stocks of components and to complete existing contracts, a lead time of four months from time of publication will be allowed before full implementation of these particular clauses (7.3.1 & 7.3.2).

An updated version of the SP101/ST104 Maintenance of Portable Fire Extinguishers scheme document has also been issued.

The document has been revised editorially, the main changes being to:

- Bring the references to the technical standards and BAFE address etc up to date.
- Help clarify the position over when new technicians should be registered
- Clarify the requirements for UKAS and Certification Bodies carrying assessments to SP101
- The application forms have been removed and are now available on BAFE's website
- The Certification Body list has also been removed and is also now available on BAFE's website

### Please help us to keep your registration up to date

Our new IT System, Registrar, makes it much easier for us to record when ISO9001 certificates, Technicians exams and refresher certificates are out of date. To ensure your BAFE certification remains in date all companies are asked to submit copies of all relevant certificates as you receive them.



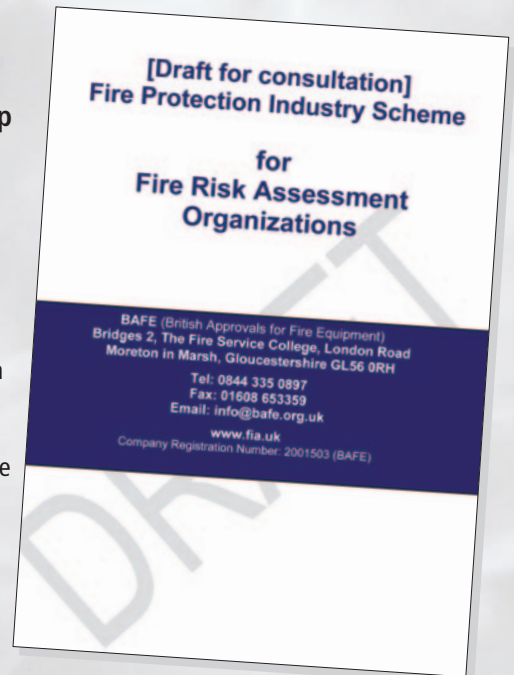


## Fire Risk Assessment - SP205 now out for consultation

In our last BAFE Briefing we reported on the progress being made to develop a scheme for companies who provide Fire Risk Assessment services. We are delighted to report that Malcolm Kelly and the working group have made significant progress.

The group is made up of representatives from the industry, certification bodies, end users, professional and trade bodies and BAFE is grateful to them for devoting their time and expertise to this important topic. We have also been in regular consultation with the Competency Council, headed by Iain Cox, CFO of Royal Berkshire FRS, which is developing an assessment scheme for individuals who carry out fire risk assessments. Sir Ken Knight, Government Chief Fire and Rescue Advisor, and Iain Cox both highlighted the value and necessity of such schemes at the recent launch event for the BAFE Emergency lighting scheme and the value has been recognised by the Scottish parliament following the enquiry into the Rosepark care home enquiry.

BAFE has now placed SP205 BAFE scheme for Fire Risk Assessment organisations on its website for public consultation. We hope that all interested parties will contribute to the creation of a robust scheme and will welcome comments.



## NEWS BAFE SCHEME NEWS

### Other Standards News

Companies working towards the new SP203-4 scheme for the Design, Installation & Commissioning & Maintenance of Emergency Lighting Systems may like to note that BSI have recently published a new draft for public comment of BS 5266-1 Emergency Lighting. The draft is available from BSI, ref. DPC: 11/30227604 and comments have to be received by BSI before the 30 June 2011.

Companies expecting a new version of BS 5306-8 Fire extinguishing installations and equipment on premises: Selection and installation of portable fire extinguishers - code of practice, are advised

that this standard is still at the 2000 version although moves are now being made to complete the overdue revision of the Standard.

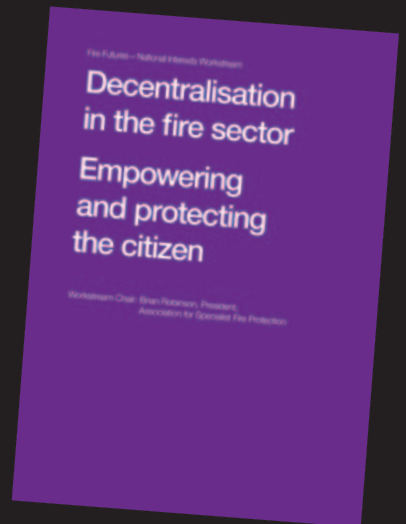
BAFE have also been asked to participate in the Steering Group for the revision of PAS 79:2007 Fire risk assessment. Guidance and a recommended methodology should be sent out for public comment later in the year.

## Fire Futures

In July 2010 the Fire Minister Bob Neill MP challenged the fire sector to consider future options for the Fire and Rescue Services. BAFE, together with a wide range of statutory and representative organisations, submitted an initial response with the aim of reinforcing the value of third party certification at every stage of a building's design, construction and ongoing operation.

This was well received and BAFE has continued to be represented on the relevant sub-groups both prior to and after the submission to the Fire Minister. The submission from the National Interests group stated that "There is undoubtedly an important role for industry-endorsed third party certification schemes. But the schemes must themselves be fit for stated purpose and properly accredited" and we are keen to reinforce this to end users and specifiers. The Government response in April 2011 acknowledged the role of such accredited schemes and we will continue to promote the value of third party certification on the Fire

Community Partnership group which has been set up to take forward the proposals made. The submission and responses can be found on the CLG website.



**SP203-4** BAFE registers companies to a range of approved schemes, delivered in partnership with a number of UKAS accredited Third Party Certification Bodies. Using BAFE registered companies will assist and assist to meet the requirements of the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order and can be used in a wider range of circumstances to meet requirements in industry and specifications.

**SP203-4 For the Design, Installation, Commissioning and Maintenance of Emergency Lighting Systems**

This important new scheme is launched in 2011 for Emergency Lighting systems. It has been developed by an expert industry group in close co-operation with ICS, Industry Committee for Emergency Lighting.

SP203-4 is a modular scheme with certification and registration available for one or more modules, according to the company's requirements.

It is delivered through BAFE registered UKAS accredited Certification Bodies and requires the competencies required for each of the 4 modules.

BAFE considers that all of the modules are important, but that virtually the maintenance of existing Emergency Lighting systems has been overlooked.

The first registered companies will be listed from April 2011.

The scheme has been developed to permit companies involved in the Design, Installation, Commissioning or maintenance to obtain 3rd party certification and BAFE registration. It covers systems in industrial, commercial premises, communal areas and apparatus to property where a fire risk assessment, fire design and fire risk assessment and signposts, often require specialist competence for all modules. The applications for certification are available for the BAFE Certificate of Competence are detailed as well as for modifications and maintenance reports.

BAFE registered companies will have an annual surveillance audit from their Certification Body. They will be allowed to use the BAFE logo, applicable to their registration and their details will be available on the BAFE website: [www.bafe.org.uk](http://www.bafe.org.uk)

**What does this offer to assess and specify?**

When looking for a company to carry out Emergency Lighting work in one or all of the modules listed on the BAFE website for a registered company, then you can be sure that they are 3rd party certified and are competent to meet your requirements. You will be able to see the name of the company and the details of the BAFE registration.

**What does this mean for Emergency Lighting Companies?**

If you design, install, commission, maintain or repair Emergency Lighting systems, then you should be considering BAFE registration. You may already be BAFE registered if you provide the design or service provide competence? There are more specific on-line regarding BAFE as a key element of their tendering procedures and so this will be a significant benefit to your business. To get complete information visit one of the Certification Bodies listed on the BAFE website as named for this scheme. They will provide you with the information you require to achieve BAFE registration.

Details of these and other BAFE schemes, together with a list of approved companies, are available on the BAFE website: [www.bafe.org.uk](http://www.bafe.org.uk) or by email to: [info@bafe.org.uk](mailto:info@bafe.org.uk)

BAFE has produced a new range of leaflets, including a general schemes description, emergency lighting and an updated version of the popular 'Practical Guide to Fire Extinguishers'.

These are available free to registered companies.

We have also produced a range of 'pop up' style stands for use at presentations or in demonstration areas. These can be seen on the website and purchased through the BAFE offices.

There have been a number of BAFE advertisements placed in user magazines with the message: 'You need BAFE'. These include Government, health, FM, Architects and electrical publications and we will be continuing to promote the importance of using BAFE registered companies to a wide range of markets.

## Recognition for BAFE - Constructionline

Constructionline is Government recommended and the UK's largest register for pre-qualified contractors. BAFE has been in discussion with them and BAFE registration will be the primary criterion for inclusion in the appropriate fire protection categories.



We recently met with LABC the membership organisation for Local Authority Building Controllers. Phil Hammond, the LABC Deputy Chief Executive says:

*"LABC shares the same concerns as BAFE and we are keen to work together. Local authorities prefer to work with organisations that have a systematic approach to achieving standards and compliance. We are especially keen on schemes that have a registration process "with teeth" backed by an audited and recognised quality system."*

*We look forward to formalising our relationship with BAFE and sharing knowledge to benefit customers and building users."*

BAFE has exhibited at the LGA Fire Conference in Gateshead in April and in the series of roadshow seminars organised nationally by ADI. We will be exhibiting at 'Healthcare Estates' in Manchester on 1-2 November.



[www.bafe.org.uk](http://www.bafe.org.uk)

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**New Pop up stands available!**