



FPASA TECHNICAL DIVISION

Insurer projects and representation

About the Technical Division and Insurer Services

The Associations Technical Division provides fire specific consulting services through two main work streams, namely, fire safety management consulting services and insurer specific projects.

Utilizing a team of qualified professionals, with national and international fire safety management consulting experience, we presently offer a range of insurer specific projects and representation activities specifically tailored to help reduce potential insurer fire losses.

Supported by our extensive technical library which provides access to local and international standards, codes and best practice, we are able to offer a comprehensive service aimed specifically at improving fire safety legislation, legal compliance, codes/standards and best practice regarding legal compliance, fire safety management, manual intervention in the workplace and professional fire service preparedness.

To ensure that participating insurers have suitable input regarding the insurer services offered, the FPASA recently formed an Insurer Project Advisory Committee (IPAC) which provides input, guidance and monitoring of insurer projects and research work conducted.



Insurer specific services offered

Fire brigade classification project

Fire brigades are reviewed, classified and thereafter monitored on an annual basis through weight and speed of response performance indicators. Re-auditing takes place every three to five years depending on the size and type of brigade and the annual weight and speed of response performance reviews.

The review process involves site visits to brigades during which their level of preparedness and service delivery capability is evaluated using SANS 10090 as the benchmark.

A risk-based approach is however used. As a result, brigades that have used other standards and models will be recognized in terms of their ability to meet the weight and speed of response targets in SANS 10090.

Access to the classification list and supporting information is available to qualifying insurers through the FPASA web site.

Summaries of the assessment processes with particular attention to the key deficiencies and challenges experienced by the fire service are shared with other relevant forums or organizations such as the SAIA Fire Service Investigation Steering Committee and the Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

National fire loss statistics

Working with local authority fire brigades, insurers and other relevant sources, the FPASA collects and processes relevant data to collate National Fire Loss statistics on an annual basis.

The National fire loss and other statistical studies are disseminated through the Association's journal 'Fire Protection' and the Association's web site.

Research projects

Projects are undertaken to provide clarity, guidance, advice and information on topics deemed to be of interest to insurers.

Meaningful research projects undertaken in the past include the:

- ▲ Development of an evaluation document and classification system for fire brigades on which the present SANS 10090 is based.



- ▲ Drafting of guidance documents for insurers regarding the understanding of SANS 428 and the Euroclass system for construction products used in building finishes.

The scope of research projects undertaken has recently been extended to include an independent review of large loss fires in South Africa and the lessons to be learnt.

Research project outcomes are shared with all qualifying insurers.

Insurer specific technical enquiries and requests for information are also undertaken by the FPASA library.

Representation

Insurer representation regarding legal compliance/legislation, codes/standards, best practice and fire safety and risk management in business is achieved by participation on suitable forums including:

- ▲ Various SABS Technical Committees, Sub-Committees and Work Groups.
- ▲ The Fire Brigades Board and National Fire Service Advisory Committee.
- ▲ SAQCC (Fire).
- ▲ Relevant training/qualifications Standards Generating Bodies.
- ▲ Collaboration with relevant government departments such as the Department of Labour and Department of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs.

Insurer services funding

All insurer projects and representation activities are funded from a subsidy received from stakeholder members as determined annually by the Associations Board of Directors.

As a result, with the exception of the national fire loss statistics and certain SABS representation activities, the circulation of all other insurer project reports, updates and fire brigade classification information is restricted to stakeholder members only.

‘Reducing insurer fire losses through meaningful research, projects and representation’





FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

(Incorporated Association not for Gain.Reg. No. 1973/000022/08)

For any further information about the insurer projects and representation services offered or to enquire about becoming a stakeholder member of the FPASA, please contact:

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