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Working Group members:

- Howard Passey**, FPA;
- Adair Lewis**, FPA;
- Robin Till**, NFU;
- Richard Champion**, RSA;
- Ian Coulson**, Ecclesiastical;
- Steve Elgar**, Zurich;
- Andrew Friend**, RSA;
- Simon Gale**, Ageas;
- Dan Wilkins**, AXA;
- Nick Smith**, Covea;
- Sarah Hughes**, NIG;
- Paul Johnson**, AIG;
- Graham Jukes**, Chubb;
- Andy Miller**, Allianz;
- James Morrell**, QBE;
- Philip Smith**, CNA Hardy;
- Simon Norton**, MS Amlin;
- Allister Smith**, Aviva;
- Mike Stones**, UMAL;
- Gary Tinnams**, Allianz;
- Peter Whalley**, Tokio Marine.

2017 Meeting dates

- Friday 4 March
- Thursday 30 June
- Thursday 1 December

The primary purpose and remit of the Working Group is to oversee and direct the development of loss prevention / risk control guidance for industrial and commercial processes and systems whilst ensuring that existing advice and guidance remains current and fit for purpose. The information produced, primarily through the RC document series is designed to be in a form that is suitable for use not only by insurance industry professionals but also other end users.

Maintaining that balance between a focus on the new (horizon scanning and monitoring of related issues that may affect loss experience) and upkeep of the existing suite of documents is key to the Groups work and a key feature of regular meetings and liaison. It is effectively monitored through the upkeep of a prioritised work programme using a simple traffic light system.

The existing suite of RC documents comprises 57 current guidance publications (RC1 through to RC63 with anomalies due to numbering inconsistencies, re-numbering, withdrawn, superseded titles, for example:

- RC2: *Builders or contractors operations* (1980) – now the *Joint code of practice – Fire prevention on construction sites*;
- RC20 a, b and c – now RCs 55, 56 and 57;
- RC6: *Storage, use and filling of LPG in containers* (1989) – withdrawn.

In addition to the RC document series, other publications which fall under the WG remit include:

- *Joint code of practice – Fire prevention on construction sites*;
- *Code of practice for the protection of empty buildings*;
- *Fire risk management guidance for the food industry*;
- *E-cigarettes briefing note*.

Some of the **new projects recently completed** include:

- RC62: *Recommendations for fire safety with use of PV panels* (correlated with IET guidance);
- RC63: *Recommendations for minimising the impact of legionella in fire fighting systems* (supported by BAFSA);
- RC60: *Recommendations for fire safety with food smoking kilns*.

Plus, updates to:

- RC8: *Recommendations for the storage, use and handling of industrial gases and cylinders*;
- RC49: *Acetylene cylinders involved in fires*.

Work currently in progress includes:

- RC44: *Recommendations for fire risk assessment of catering extract ventilation*; to reflect changes to HVAC publication TR/19;
- RC64: *Fire safety in the manufacture, storage, use of biomass fuel pellets*;
- RC65: *Fire safety in 3D printing*;
- RC66: *Competency – End user guide*.

As described above a proactive approach is maintained to ensure that existing documents remain current and fit for purpose. Those **currently prioritised for update** include:

- RC26: *Organic thermal fluid heating systems*;
- RC15: *Use of portable and transportable space heaters*;
- RC37: *Control of fire hazards arising from electrical lighting*;
- RC61: *Recommendations for battery hazard controls* (update proposed to better consider the issues associated with lithium battery hazards).

A **proposal** for a **new document recently considered and approved** by the Working Group, focuses on maintaining fire safety in electrical installations, including cabling and associated concerns for fire fighter safety.

Other work that the Risk Control Working Group have been engaged in include working with BRE via a small working group of industry professionals towards the development of an LPCB certification scheme for **extract ductwork cleaning**.

This project was initiated by the Risk Control Working Group and very much driven by them following concerns raised that existing pseudo certification schemes operated by trade associations were failing to achieve the necessary standards of work and incidence of associated fires increasing. At the time of writing, all site research trials have been completed and BRE are considering validation of the scheme following feedback and amendment resulting from consultation.

The Working Group are **also supporting**:

- The DECC solar PV fire statistics and investigation project by the IET, which is being headed up by BRE;
- The development of the *IET Code of practice for electrical safety management*;
- The development of an approvals/certification scheme for thermographers.