RISCAuthority

RISCAuthority Benefits

Supporting the property insurance supply chain with state-of-the-art risk analysis and control resources

"RISCAuthority is an essential component to writing property risk in the UK"

David Williams, AXA Insurance and RISCAuthority Chairman

Insurer

Broker

Loss Adjuster

Re-Insurer

RISCAuthority: an introduction

RISCAuthority is committed to responding to the needs of its members by providing invaluable support to the property insurance supply chain to create conditions for improved and robust risk control. With a membership covering 90% of the UK's commercial insurance market, RISCAuthority (Risk Insight Strategy and Control Authority) is firmly established as the insurance industry focal point for research, standards setting, resource provision, training and lobbying, in pursuit of raising resilience standards within the business community.

The scheme provides an understanding of Fire, Security, Environmental and Business Interruption risks to support underwriting and risk management strategies allowing members to keep pace with developments, emerging risks and protection technologies.

In the UK, legislative responsibility is limited to matters of life safety only. There is no other organisation other than RISCAuthority which seeks to extend the remit to specifically consider business and property protection.

RISCAuthority is administered by the Fire Protection Association, the UK's national fire safety organisation. Established in 1946, FPA works to identify and draw attention to the dangers of fire and the means by which potential loss is kept to a minimum.

David Williams,
AXA Insurance and
RISCAuthority Chairman

Headline Benefits

- Improve loss ratios
- Increase profitability
- New business acquisition
- Client retention
- Reputation security
- Strategic government and industry influence

- Market insight
- Priority access to experts
- Corporate branding of outputs
- Value for money
- Improve internal communication of risk
- Portfolio benchmarking

RISCAuthority members include:

ageas · AXA · RSA · QBE · Allianz · ASPEN

AVIVA · NFU Mutual · COvea Insurance · CHUBB · HDI GERLING · AIG

Liberty Mutual INSURANCE · UMAL · Ecclesiastical · MS Amlin

NIG · TOKIO MARINE EUROPE · ZURICH · TRAVELERS · CNA / HARDY

Structure and Governance

Executive Committee
Setting of high-level strategic scheme objectives and budget scrutiny

Members' Forum
Approves programme of work, reviews progress and exploitation paths

Stakeholders' Forum
Bi-annual member seminars covering key member concerns and emerging trends

Working Groups

Active
Develop and oversee all work pertaining to the active fire suppression systems and technologies

Business Continuity
Develop, publish and maintain best practice guidelines and tools in relation to BCM systems and techniques

Escape of Water
Seeking to reduce insured losses from escape of water claims

Flood
Develop guidance and provide insurer representation at key flood resilience forums

Intervention & Monitoring
Create data models and toolkits to assist members to understand the UK better from a risk perspective

Passive
Manage and implement insurers' strategic policy in respect of the passive fire protection of buildings

Risk Control
Develop and maintain loss prevention guidance for industry and commerce

Security
Initiate research and report on current/emerging crime trends and new security solutions

Software and Data Toolkits

Our exclusive suite of software and data toolkits are used extensively by members to reduce risk and increase resilience to improve loss ratios. Our 'big data' models assist members and their customers to understand the UK better from a risk perspective and support our substantial lobbying efforts.

Access is open to all member company employees, whilst core data sets and derivative tools can be supplied to the membership in full for embedding within your IT systems.

Business and Property Protection Portal

With rising survey thresholds, the Business and Property Protection Portal is aimed at those members' customers who may no longer benefit from a surveyor visit. The portal utilises all of our business and geographical data resources to automatically and intelligently ascribe the extensive RISCAuthority library, and other valuable unbiased, quality and free resources. The system allows for customisation of both website and delivered report to members' logos and corporate colours with extensive end-user reporting capability.

Automatic Fire Alarm Analysis

Each of the 45 UK Fire and Rescue Services have adopted different policies for their response to automatically generated fire alarms (AFA) ranging from doing nothing, to full turn out. These policies have been driven by the exceptionally poor performance of AFA systems in respect of false alarming. Knowledge of local policy is essential for both underwriting and risk control provision purposes.

Informer Database

The INFORMER database reconciles approximately 700 risk control appropriate factors to each and every one of the UK's 1.8 million postcodes to assist members remotely understand geographical risks. Covering crime, flood, infrastructure, Fire and Rescue Service response, census data and many more fields INFORMER is an exceptional and unique resource that can be used to improve the efficiency of risk control provision focussing valuable resource where rewards will be greatest.

Large Loss Statistics

The Large-Loss Statistics dataset and analysis tools allows members to view current and emerging trends in fire losses and benchmark their own claims experience against the industry with real-time statistical analysis. Populated on member insurers' behalf by loss adjusters and claims staff, the data upload site includes financial data including unpaid loss sums, causation and building construction/materials description. The statistics are regularly queried to support lobbying efforts, identify emerging trends and determine RISCAuthority research programme.

ROBUST Business Continuity Software

ROBUST is a free business continuity planning software toolkit designed specifically to help small to medium size enterprises (SMEs) produce an effective plan and recovery strategy in the event of a disruptive incident. The software is compatible with all major Windows operating systems and requires no additional training or infrastructure outlay.

Fire and Rescue Service Response Modelling

With support of the UK Fire and Rescue Services (FRS), this state-of-the-art interactive mapping tool accurately describes appliance arrival at any UK postcode for each hour of the day and day of the week. Using modern routing algorithms attendance is described in terms of weight, time, and probability with and without traffic modelling, enabling members to properly attribute FRS benefit and apportion related risk control advice accordingly.

Web Published GIS System

The Informer geographic information system (GIS) provides map-based visual access to the datasets that sit behind the INFORMER database. The system enables deeper interrogation of the core data which overcomes postcode boundary constraints and assists geographical risk understanding.

"As a leading property insurer, we firmly believe that RISCAuthority membership provides Aviva with valuable research, guidance, insights and tools that can help inform underwriting and risk management processes, helping minimise volatility and assisting with underwriting discipline."

Paul Sullivan, Head of Commercial Underwriting, Aviva

To enquire about joining the scheme, call 01608 812500

Standards and Guides

UK building codes, standards, and F&RS response support life-safety ambitions only with no regard for business and property protection. This extensive document library assists the insurer, designer, architect, owner and end-user embed resilient measures into their businesses and process operations.

Insurer Property Protection Guide

Annotated edition of the UK's commercial building code, Approved Document B: Fire Safety, co-published by RIBA, offers the construction design community technical guidance about how to protect commercial buildings from fire with a view to improving overall business resilience.

Business Sector Risk Review Reports

These double-sided A4 reports have been designed to highlight the claims loss history for particular business sectors, which in turn will help inform insurance and risk control choices and provide tailored, best-practice guidance. Financial statistics are drawn from the large-loss database with case study and risk control guidance on the reverse to help address the challenges the statistics describe.

Need to Know Guides

A succinct library of one-sided A4 documents that describes every geographical risk trigger, statistical trigger, over-rider and business type delivered through the Business and Property Protection Portal. The guides are designed with the end-user in mind listing bullet point recommendations to address know issues.

Risk Control Guides

A suite of over 60 documents that oversee and direct the development of loss prevention / risk control guidance for industrial and commercial processes and systems.

Security Guides

A continuously developing and expanding library of 32 guidance documents examining current crime and security challenges and state-of-the-art security solutions. Best practice is identified for risk avoidance, management controls, the avoidance of pitfalls and risk improvement implementations.

Building Design Guides

This suite of RISCAuthority building design guides describe measures that should be taken in addition to the mandated life-safety requirements, to ensure that protection of commercial property and the resilience of businesses are suitably addressed.

Exclusive Insurer Insight Reports

A growing suite of member-only reports covering a diverse range of topics including modern methods of construction, fire and rescue service operations and response policy to automatic fire alarms.

Fixed Firefighting Systems

Sprinkler systems continue to be well standardised, mature and highly effective technology in most built-environment scenarios. However, there are a growing number of other extinguishing and control systems available. In the absence of proven standards and with justified concerns about performance, RISCAuthority has published guidance and questionnaires aimed at equipping users with tools to understand and improve such propositions.

LPC Sprinkler Rules

The LPC Rules for Automatic Sprinkler Installations is published by the FPA with technical authorship drawn through the RISCAuthority scheme. A committee of member insurers oversee upkeep and development of the document.

"At NIG we find the wide range of RISCAuthority resources to be an invaluable aid to providing our customers with best practice guidance that helps protect their business and make them more resilient."

Duncan Calder, Head of Risk Control, NIG

For more information or to become a member call 01608 812500

Events

Member engagement is at the heart of the opportunities RISCAuthority membership can offer. The scheme values member participation, attendance and insight at all events and works closely with members on the development of future activities. The scheme offers a comprehensive and varied programme of events covering a wealth of topics and in formats to suit individuals and groups, recognising the value placed on face to face, live events as much as the convenience and wide appeal of regular webinars.

Annual RISCAuthority Seminars

The RISCAuthority biannual seminar is now firmly embedded in the UK insurance calendar of events presenting invaluable opportunities for the discussion of emerging concerns and recent issues. Members may extend invitations to their key customers and broker networks.

Webinars

RISCAuthority members benefit from monthly CII accredited webinars that may be accessed live on-line or as stored recordings. These very popular sessions seek to keep user skills current by having industry and topic experts tackle technical and strategic issues whilst additionally providing an opportunity for Q&A. Webinars may be open to all where it is in member's interest to have wider audience appeal, or restricted exclusively to the membership so that candid discussion of more sensitive issues may take place.

Access to FPA's Large-Scale Fire Laboratory

The FPA's Fire Testing, Research and Training Laboratory is equipped with all the necessary infrastructure to support large-scale evaluation of insurance challenges and demonstration of mitigation systems. The facility is commonly used for insurer training, event re-enactment, client demonstration and guidance development.

FPA Laboratory Open Days

FPA welcomes RISCAuthority members to attend its regular laboratory open days where demonstrations of emerging issues, established mitigation methods, and new technologies are given. These practical demonstrations can assist with determining RISCAuthority annual priorities.

Working Groups

The RISCAuthority working group structure ensures effort remains focussed on insurer benefit and that outputs are meaningful to their intended audience. Formed from experts within the membership itself, augmented by FPA and externally commissioned consultants, the Working Groups cover all relevant perils from Fire, Flood, Security and Escape of Water issues.

Fire Sector Summit

RISCAuthority member organisations are entitled to a number of conference passes to the FPA's flagship event, the Fire Sector Summit. This event is now established as the leading industry forum for key decision makers and influencers from across the fire sector. The Summit features a high calibre of speakers and key stakeholders from across the industry, in a mix of plenary and workshop style sessions and offers delegates the opportunity to pose questions directly to those in authority.

"With ever increasing innovation in the built environment, complexity in supply chains and businesses facing a multitude of industry wide risk challenges, the RISCAuthority scheme and its full range of services fulfil a very important role not only to the benefit of Allianz and our customers but to the entire sector."

Stuart Daws, Risk Control Survey Manager, Technical

For more information, visit www.riscauthority.co.uk

Training and Engagement

RISCAuthority enables members to maintain a high degree of involvement and influence in the works undertaken by the only dedicated research and development body for the UK insurance industry. We provide the industry with a recognised and credible voice in influencing and lobbying government, trade organisations and certification bodies on key technical issues.

Expert Advice Assistance

Our multi-disciplinary technical team are on hand to offer expert advice via a helpline service on a broad spectrum of topics including fire, flood, security and legislation.

Standards Development

RISCAuthority acts as a representative on behalf of its members to influence and undertake the development of industry guidance and standards.

Government/ Industry Lobbying

RISCAuthority represents its insurer members across a range of industry platforms, sitting on committees and working groups to influence and steer the direction of Government and leading establishments for the benefit of the membership and greater good of the wider industry.

Resources for Members' Customers

The scheme develops and disseminates insurer advice, guidance and toolkits to the wider market, essentially providing a distribution service on behalf of insurer members direct to their end user customers.

Fire Protection Association (FPA) Membership

RISCAuthority membership automatically entitles each member organisation to FPA membership too, offering a wealth of benefits from training and video access to free places at our Fire Sector Summit event.

Industry Engagement

The scheme seeks input and engagement at all levels for all projects from the wider industry. We value our wide spread network of relationships across all sectors of the industry.

Training

Our events and webinars are CII CPD accredited and attending members are awarded CII CPD points for every member seminar and webinar they attend.

Presentations at Internal Conferences and Training Events

Members are entitled to request RISCAuthority experts to deliver regular presentations to their Underwriting, Risk Control, and Surveying teams. This may be requested to keep abreast of general emerging issues, tackle specific relevant topics, or provide technical deep-dive insight into the release of a new resource.

Annual Performance Report

Each year we produce a customised report detailing the outputs of the scheme and the level of engagement from each member, ranging from the loss analysis data through to the attendance levels of webinars. These reports assist members understand scheme utilisation and ensure they extract maximum benefit from what it has to offer.

Customisation of RISCAuthority Outputs

We recognise that our members value their branding on resources their customers may use so we can customise the documents and resources for both print and digital distribution. RISCAuthority members also benefit from bespoke Business and Property Protection Portals populated with members' own resource libraries.

Local Resilience Forum Representation

In helping LRFs consider the resilience of local businesses the scheme aims to feed back locally relevant information to help members manage the risks of their customers at those flood locations.

Fire & Risk Management Journal

All members receive multiple copies of the industry-leading magazine, published by FPA. Fire & Risk Management journal offers an independent perspective on a wide range of risk and resilience subjects and is contributed to by leading industry professionals and experts.

Ability to Influence Research Projects

The outputs of RISCAuthority are driven by the members themselves. All insurer members are entitled to have representation on each of the working groups, and the scheme's outputs are scoped, specified and steered by members.

For more information or to become a member call 01608 812500

RISCAuthority

For more information about RISCAuthority membership or to arrange a meeting and demonstration of our resources, contact us at:

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"Membership of RISCAuthority enables our underwriting, pricing and technical teams to have access to quality technical and risk management detail that informs underwriting and pricing decisions for our commercial insurance products."

Simon Gale, Commercial Technical Risk Manager, Ageas

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Reducing insurable risk through research, advice and best practice

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