



# London Seminar Programme

## Thursday 1 November

**1 Great George Street  
Westminster  
London SW1P 3AA**

**08:45** Registration and Coffee

**09:20** Welcome by the Chair

**David Williams**, Technical Director, AXA Insurance and Chairman, RISCAuthority

**09:30** Toxicity of building products

Compared with natural materials (wood, wool, leather, etc.), widely used synthetic polymers (derived from oil) burn more quickly; they also generate more smoke and toxic effluents. Richard will look at the effects of material and fire condition for a wide range of common materials/products, providing a generic understanding of the factors underlying fire toxicity.

**Richard Hull**

Professor in Fire Chemistry and Toxicity,  
University of Central Lancashire

**10:00** Fire risks of modern timber construction

Engineered timber, and in particular cross laminated timber, presents an opportunity to revolutionise how we build the world around us. The benefits include quicker and easier construction, and the capacity to store carbon thereby having a positive effect on the climate. However, there is a fundamental challenge with this material: timber burns. This talk will explore the current state of the art and present a view as to the new knowledge required to enable safe use of timber.

**Dr Rory Hadden**

Senior Lecturer in Fire Investigation,  
University of Edinburgh

**10:30** Safe storage of lithium-ion batteries

Carsten will set out the broad risk profile of Li-ion batteries in industrial applications and the ever increasing demand for safe storage standards. This demand was driven initially by the large European automotive OEMs, but the absence of European or US standards has also left most other industrial users asking how they should store their batteries of widely varying size, design and composition safely.

**Carsten Heumann**

Technical Applications Manager, DENIOS AG

**11:00** Q&A

**11:15** Coffee and Refreshments

**11:45** Transformation of UK telecommunication infrastructure

Between now and 2025 the UK's telecommunication infrastructure, commonly referred to as the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN), will see a transformational re-engineering from yesterday's analogue technology, based on copper connections, to an all-IP digital fibre network. This huge project, already underway, will steer the transition of our network, designed for voice communication, to a state-of-the-art telecoms infrastructure. Sodhi and Ruth will look at how protection systems such as fire and intruder alarm systems will be impacted.

**Sodhi Dhillon**

Digital Voice Industry Engagement, BT

**Ruth Sanders**

Enterprise All IP Programme, BT

**12:15** The growing use of synthetic DNA to combat serious acquisitive crime

Human DNA has long been used by Police to convict criminals, but now synthetically manufactured DNA is proving just as powerful a tool in the fight against crime. Businesses and individuals are protecting themselves against theft, burglary and robbery, by using a DNA marker to tag valuable possessions and offenders. The Police are even using it to tackle the national moped crime epidemic.

**James A Brown**

Managing Director,  
Selectamark Security Systems plc

**12:45** The emerging world of drones in the UK

This presentation will provide an overview of the current UK drone services market, its participants and working practices. It will then examine how the quality, format and range of images sourced by drones is rapidly changing, and explore the regulatory landscape in which UK drone companies operate, the current threats that arise and risk management options available, and consider the risk implications from the predicted rapid expansion in this industry.

**Shane Jones MBE**

Co-Founder and Co-Owner, Iprosurv

**13:15** Q&A

**13:30** Closing Summary

Closing statement and summary by the Chair

**David Williams**

Chairman, RISCAuthority

**13:35** Lunch and Networking