The Safety Symposium – Proudly supported by Emergency Services Health Forum

Date: Thursday 7 September 2017
Venue: Sydney International Convention Centre
Time: 9:00am–3:00pm
Cost: $180 + GST for members / $200 + GST for non-members

To register, please visit www.afaconference.com.au.

Forum overview

The Safety Symposium is a gathering place for members of the global fire and emergency community to focus on safety. Participants will discuss significant events and trends in safety, promote best practices in safety training, equipment and operations, reveal safety related research findings, and explore new approaches to safety. In a world that is increasingly volatile, uncertain, complex, time pressured and ambiguous for emergency managers, the forum is themed on decision making in high risk and high consequence environments.

The Safety Symposium will attract everyone involved in decision making - from front line firefighters to incident managers and fire and emergency executives. We will be addressing topics through the Symposium through presentations, panels and networking opportunities. AFAC President and Commissioner FRNSW, Paul Baxter QSO will introduce the forum, providing an overview of the AFAC perspective on safety.

Program highlights

Euan Ferguson AFSM is a forester and fire emergency manager with 40 years experience in fire and fuels risk management, community engagement and emergency management leadership. In 2015 Euan retired after 5 years as Chief Officer with the Victorian Country Fire Authority. Euan is an advocate for firefighter safety through better decision making and promotes the philosophy of intent based leadership.

Jian Xiang, Global Fire Service Technology Guardian, DuPont Protection Solutions will present on the development of DuPontTM Nomex® Nano technology, a nano based nonwoven material that mitigates metabolic related heat stress and smoke particulate overexposure.

Heather Bancroft, Clinical Psychologist and PhD student, University of Melbourne & Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC will discuss her research into firefighter mental health and wellbeing, including what factors contribute to better or worse mental health outcomes.

Dr Anthony Walker, Thermal Physiologist, University of Canberra & ACT Fire & Rescue will provide a practical example for fire services to understand the need to work at the research to practice interface and ensure human factors are considered in design standards and procurement to ensure safety at work.

Nathan Stamkos Project Coordinator - Ultralite Tanker Fleet and Nick Appleton, Senior Project Officer, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning will present on the installation of Falling Object Protection to DELWP’s Ultra Light and Heavy Tankers to reduce risk of falling objects and maintain the safety of operational firefighters.
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Event outline

9:00am  AFAC President and Commissioner Fire & Rescue NSW, Paul Baxter QSO
Welcome and introductions

9:10am  Jian Xiang, Global Fire Service Technology Guardian, Dupont Protection Solutions
Game changing technology for next gen firefighter PPE

9:45am  Dr Anthony Walker, Thermal Physiologist, University of Canberra Research Institute for Sport and Exercise, ACT Fire & Rescue
Human factors in PPE design – a case study of design impacts on the injury risk of operational firefighters at work

10:20am  Morning tea

10:35am  Nathan Stamkos and Mick Appleton, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
Three dimensional protection: falling object protection for forest firefighting appliances

11:10am  Emmanuel Varipatis, Executive Director Logistics Support, Fire & Rescue NSW
Topic TBC

11:30am  Arthur Tindall AFSM, Chair AFAC PPE Technical Group
Strength in numbers – the AFAC Collaboration Model

11:50am  Q&A facilitated by Alan Goodwin AFSM

12:15pm  Lunch

12:45pm  Presentation: Emergency Services Health

1:00pm  Euan Ferguson AFSM Keynote address

1:40pm  A/Prof Ben Brooks, Australian Maritime College, University of Tasmania
Identifying lessons from exercising and training for strategic emergency management decision making

2:00pm  Gillian Andrews, Leadership Development Specialist, Fire & Rescue NSW
Emotional intelligence in emergency services - drivers and barriers to collaboration

2:20pm  Heather Bancroft, PhD student, University of Melbourne & Bushfire and Natural Hazards CRC
Firefighter mental health and wellbeing

2:40pm  Panel discussion

*Program subject to change prior to event