

International Fire Instructor's Workshop - Sweden 2008

The 'brain-child' behind IFIW was Stefan Svensson. He had a vision to bring together leading fire instructors and researchers from across the globe to just, 'sit in a room and talk' and see what eventuates. The following text and images are copied from a 2008 report written by John McDonough on his return from the first IFIW. As one can imagine, there has been many changes since then...

Scope of IFIW : The scope of the International Fire Instructors Workshop is that it should be an inspiring and informal meeting between leading instructors and scientists. Based on presentations, discussions and practical experience, the workshop should develop into a dynamic and fruitful event, giving the attendees inspiration to push the fire service forward into the future, based on sound science and approved experience in concord.

Objective of IFIW 2008 : The objective of the International Fire Instructors Workshop is that it should be the starting point for a resolute development of the fire service on the international arena. Through a group of internationally well-recognized and reputable scientists and instructors, development of the fire service should be made on a broad front.

Swedish Rescue Services Agency - Raddningsverket

Revinge is one of four National Colleges that provide training for all firefighters and fire service officers within Sweden.

Revinge College is situated in the South of Sweden, only one hour from Copenhagen International Airport in Denmark, via the Oresund Bridge. The college was founded in 1986 and has about 4,000 students per year. Various courses include CRBN, Fire Behaviour & Suppression, Hazmat, USAR, Fire investigation and Command & Control.



The Workshop Participants

Stefan Särdaqvist (Sweden – Revinge)

Fire protection Engineer with a PhD from Lund University and 19 year's experience in Fire and Rescue. Author of 'Water and other Extinguishing Agents'. Currently an Instructor and Fire training coordinator at Revinge fire College.

Workshop Topic: 'There is no Fire Triangle'



Steve Kerber (USA - Maryland)

Fire Engineer with NIST (National Institute of Standards and Technology).

Workshop Topic: PPV in High-rise

NIST fire protection engineers turned an abandoned New York City (NYC) brick high-rise into a seven-story fire laboratory last month to better understand the fast-moving spread of wind-driven flames, smoke and toxic gases through corridors and stairways of burning buildings.

Shan Raffel (Australia – QFRS)

Internationally recognised CFBT & firefighting expert. Joint author of '3D Firefighting'. Currently a S/O with the QFRS.

Workshop Topic: Reading the Fire. Shan discussed the use of SAHF (Smoke, Air-track, Heat & Flame) as key indicators in reading the fire behaviour.



Jürgen Ernst (Germany – Boblingen)

First person to deliver CFBT training in Germany. Provides training to many Brigades in the South of Germany. Also provided training to Croatian, Dutch and Swiss Fire Services.

Workshop Topic - German CFBT. Jürgen discussed the implementation of CFBT in Germany and the adaptation of equipment and technique.

Also showed how ‘door blankets’ are utilised to control the ventilation profile within structures.



Stephane Morizot (France - Yvelines FB)

Pioneer of French CFBT. Head of the Yvelines FB CFBT program which trains many Brigades in the Paris area.

Workshop Topic: French CFBT

In depth discussion about the evolution of French CFBT which was implemented only after the deaths of five firefighters in a small Paris unit fire.

Stefan Svensson (Revinge – Sweden)

Internationally recognised Fire Engineer and lecturer. Head of Dept. Revinge College - Doctorate from Lund University, Sweden. Organiser of the Fire Instructor’s Workshop 2008.

Workshop Topic: Small scale PPV demo. Demonstrated the effects of PPV & PPA via small scale lab props.





Majcek Maczkowski (Poland)

Majcek introduced CFBT into the Warsaw Fire Service.

Workshop Topic: Polish CFBT

Majcek discussed the implementation of CFBT into his Fire Service. During his presentation Majcek described the techniques and props used for CFBT in Poland.

Kriss Garcia (USA - Salt Lake City Utah)

Internationally recognised PPV & PPA expert. Author of 'Positive Pressure Attack for Ventilation and Firefighting'

Workshop Topic: Positive Pressure Attack

Kriss discussed the ways in which PPA can be utilised during fire attack. His presentation included SOG's, Outlet & Inlet size and S&R.



Ed Hartin (USA - Gresham Fire & Rescue)

Head of Training at Gresham Fire & Rescue, Oregon USA. Joint author of '3D Firefighting'. Pioneer of CFBT in the USA.

Workshop Topic: Ventilation Profile

During his presentation Ed talked of the fire behaviour knowledge required to effectively use PPV, both during and after fire attack. Also discussed in detail the concept of 'ventilation induced flashover'.



Juan Carlos Compana (Spain - Madrid)

CFBT Instructor with the Madrid Fire Service. Instrumental in the introduction of CFBT into Spain

Workshop Topic: Madrid Fire Service CFBT

Juan Carlos discussed the implementation of CFBT into his Fire Service.



Peter McBride (Canada - Ottawa)

Safety Officer with Ottawa Fire Department. Lectures at FDIC on Reading Smoke and Ventilation Profile.

Workshop Topic: The Ventilation Profile

Peter discussed key areas of Firefighter safety with regards to:

1. building construction
2. ventilation profile
3. fire behaviour indicators

Paul Grimwood (UK – London)

Internationally recognised CFBT & firefighting expert. Author of 'Fog Attack', '3D Firefighting' and 'Euro-firefighter'. Served with both London Fire Brigades and internationally.

Workshop Topic: Terminology

Paul talked about the need to standardise terminology to better exchange knowledge and resources. Is it critical that everyone is actually describing the same phenomenon. Example: 'Smoke Explosion' or 'Fire Gas Explosion'?



John McDonough (Australia - Sydney)

Introduced CFBT into his Fire Service. Joint author of '3D Firefighting'. Currently a S/O with the NSWFB.

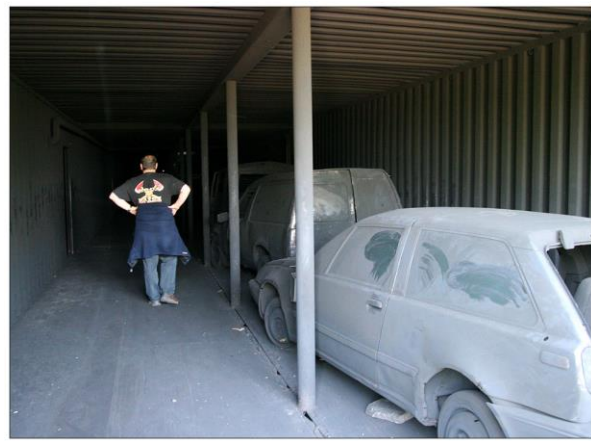
Workshop Topic: How firefighter behaviour effects tactics and strategies.



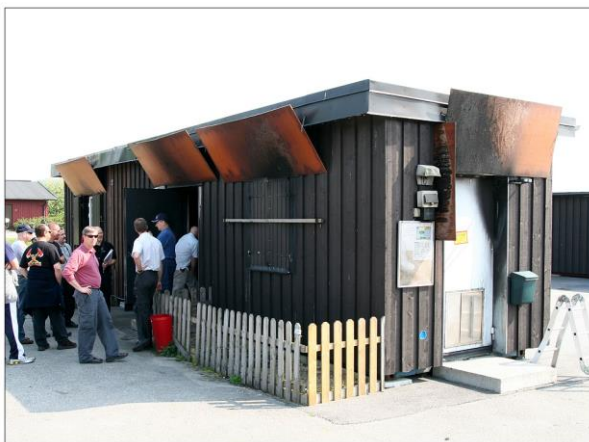
The Facilities – Revinge Fire Training



Engine Bay



Car tunnel fires



Fire investigation



Multi-level



Roof operations



Live Fire multi-level



Live Fire multi-cell



Ship firefighting



Service Station fires



Chemical spillage incidents



Railway incidents



Road transport incidents



SCBA training



Light-weight structures



Running liquid simulations



The Training Centre

The Practical Sessions



LPG nozzle practice



LPG nozzle practice



Backdraught cell



Small scale ventilation simulation



CAFUS unit



Cobra demo



Backdraught cell



Demo cell



Cobra abrasion particles



Lecture room & fire observation

End - 2008