



KINGFELL CASE STUDY

KINGFELL CHOSEN TO WRITE BSI FIRE SAFETY ENGINEERING STANDARD



THE CHALLENGE:

Following the introduction of DD240, a completely new British Standard Draft for Development in the 1990s covering the application of fire safety engineering techniques, the British Standards Institution was keen to expand on this by introducing an updated suite of standards for the new millennium. The suite would comprise a base British Standard, supported by a range of detailed technical documents, each covering a different aspect associated with fire safety engineering.

THE SOLUTION:

The British Standards Institution decided that the preparation of the seven supporting fire safety engineering documents would be undertaken by external organisations. One of the most crucial was the standard covering fire detection and the activation of fire protection systems. This was eventually to be Part 4 of the series.

The drafting of this standard was awarded to Kingfell. Paul Bryant, Kingfell's CEO, believes that this was because of the consultancy's in-depth knowledge of the standards-making process, as well as its background as an authority in the application of fire detection. Paul Bryant was also Chairman of BS Committee FSH 12/4 that produced the BS 7273 series (Code of Practice for the operation of fire protection measures), and BS 6266 (Code of Practice for fire protection for electronic equipment installation), which gave him a unique insight into the best way in which to develop the standard. Other parts in the series are:

- BS 7974 Application for fire safety engineering principles to the design of buildings - Code of Practice.
- Part 0: Guide to design framework and fire safety engineering procedures.
- Part 1: Initiation and development of fire within the enclosure of origin (Sub-system 1).
- Part 2: Spread of smoke and toxic gases within and beyond the enclosure of origin (Sub-system 2).
- Part 3: Structural response and fire spread beyond the enclosure of origin (Sub-system 3).
- Part 5: Fire service intervention (Sub-system 5).
- Part 6: Evacuation (Sub-system 6).
- Part 7: Probabilistic risk assessment (Sub-system 7).

Kingfell introduced new ideas and concepts into the draft standard, including a series of time formula, allow-

THE OUTCOME:

PD 7974-4: Detection of fire and activation of fire protection systems (Sub-system 4) was published in 2003, following a rigorous review by a special British Standard editorial group, as well as the relevant British Standard Committee. Many of the ideas developed by Kingfell were accepted and now form part of the assessment criteria for fire safety engineering in the UK and overseas, when using the BS 7974 approach. Additionally, Paul Bryant and Kingfell are formally recognised in the Foreword of the Standard.

Kingfell Plc operates as two separate divisions – Kingfell Consulting and Kingfell Fire Engineering.

Kingfell Consulting is, as the name implies, the consulting arm of the company, while Kingfell Fire Engineering might best be described as the contracting side of the business. However, both are independent operations.