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## Fire protection seminar is a must at BEST

David Sugden, Chairman of the Passive Fire Protection Federation (PFPF), will be delivering a seminar at the Built Environment Solutions & Technologies show (BEST) which takes place 18- 20 October 2010 at the NEC. The PFPF presentation aims to promote better understanding of a range of issues relating to residential and commercial properties and current regulations governing fire safety, and is aimed at local authorities, specifiers, contractors and installers. The seminar starts at 2.30pm in the Retrofit Hub on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October.

"Retrofit services and maintenance can seriously compromise built-in, or passive fire protection," comments David, "with sometimes disastrous results. In Lakanal House the built-in fire protection is said to have been eroded over the years when alterations were made to the original structure and specification with tragic consequences.

Investigations into several major fires have made the news in recent years and revealed a lack of understanding of the basic principles of fire protection, and who has responsibility under the RRO. Large fines and prison sentences have already been imposed for serious breaches of the code.

To register for free entry to the BEST show visit <a href="http://tiny.cc/mgxqu">http://tiny.cc/mgxqu</a>. On the door entrance will be £20.

The PFPF is offering, in addition to the seminar at BEST, a series of regional roadshows to draw attention to national and local fire safety issues. For more information and reports on the first of these road-shows visit PFPF's website at <a href="https://www.pfpf.org">www.pfpf.org</a>.

## **END**

## 244 words

Image attached: Installers refurbishing an apartment building

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Editors' notes: The PFPF (www.pfpf.org) is the body for the built-in fire protection industry, and is dedicated to growing awareness on fire protection, and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005. Membership includes the Chief Fire Officers Association, the DCLG, Local Authority Building Control and the Fire Test Study Group (UK) Ltd.

The PFPF Strategy Group includes members who were involved professionally in previous disasters such as the Summerlands Leisure Centre, Kings Cross, write for the trade and fire service media and recently appeared on television commenting on the Channel Tunnel fire and the tragic fire at Lakanal House. For informed, unbiased and professional comment please contact Jane Rigby at MRA Marketing on <a href="mailto:jane@521621.com">jane@521621.com</a> who will put you in touch with the relevant person.

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