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PFPF welcomes new insurers' guide to ADB

Risk Insight, Strategy and Control Authority (RISC Authority) has published an enhanced version of Approved Document B: Fire Safety (Volume 2) - Buildings Other Than Dwellinghouses. The new document includes insurers' requirements for property protection with technical guidance for construction professionals. Additional text, tables and diagrams cover relevant property protection and business interruption issues.

Mike Wood, Deputy Chair of the Passive Fire Protection Federation, says the guide is much needed and supported by the industry: "Fire safety has to work harder than ever now. Losses due to fire are too high and more can be done. As developments have become more complex, with a mix of different functions, design is often influenced by several competing objectives and fire protection can be pushed down the priority list as a less immediate requirement. Modular construction is also more common, with increasing use of innovative materials and techniques, leading to lighter, less robust structures against the threat of fire. RISC Authority's guide is an invaluable tool for architects, specifier, engineers and contractors to provide a sharper focus on both life safety and protection of property I'd advise anyone involved in construction, design, specification and supply to use this guide and recommend it to others."

Highlights of the new guide include advice on compartmentation, arson protection, penetration seals and the wider use of insulation with integrity fire performance to provide better protection for the building and contents. The new Appendix J covering fire engineering is particularly appropriate given trends in design, especially with its reminder of the importance of bringing insurers into the design process from the beginning.

RISC Authority (formerly InFiReS) develops and promotes best practice in risk control and loss prevention through investment in research. The scheme is funded by a group of UK insurers and brokers.

Approved Document B: Fire Safety (Volume 2) - Buildings Other Than Dwellinghouses *Incorporating Insurers' Requirements for Property Protection* is available from www.ribabookshops.com priced £25.00

For advice and guidance on built-in, or 'passive' fire protection visit www.pfpf.org.

END

337 words

Image attached: Mike Wood, Deputy Chair of the PFPF

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Editors' notes: The Passive Fire Protection Federation (PFPF - www.pfpf.org) is dedicated to growing awareness and giving advice on fire protection, and the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 (RRO). The Federation brings together the collective expertise of the passive fire protection industry and provides a central forum so that the Industry speaks with one voice to articulate the benefits and value of passive fire protection in the achievement of fire safe building design and construction.

Passive fire protection is the primary measure integrated within the constructional fabric of a building to provide inherent fire safety and protection by responding against flame, heat and smoke to maintain the fundamental requirements of building compartmentation, structural stability, fire separation and safe means of escape.

Passive fire protection measures achieve their intended purpose by raising the fire resistance of the structure, protecting the structure against the effects of fire, reducing fire spread

through secondary ignition, limiting the movement of flame and smoke, and minimising the danger of fire-induced collapse or structural distortion.

Passive fire protection design, incorporating passive fire protection materials, systems and assemblies, serves by fire containment to protect life, safeguard the building structure, protect assets, maintain building serviceability after fire, minimise rebuild costs, and facilitate quick business recovery and continuity.

Our website www.pfpf.org carries advice on what to check and best practice in all passive fire protection measures.

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