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English Version

Fire safety engineering in Europe - Review of national requirements and application

L'Ingénierie de sécurité incendie en Europe - Revue des exigences nationales et application

Brandschutzingenieurwesen in Europa - Übersicht der nationalen Anforderungen und Anwendung

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European foreword

This document (CEN/TR 17524:2020) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 127 “Fire safety in buildings”, the secretariat of which is held by BSI.

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Introduction

On 1 May 2001, the Benefeu project started with a consortium managed by Warrington Fire Research (UK) composed of CTICM (activity transferred to Efectis France), DIFT, IST, RUG and TNO (activity transferred to Efectis Nederland).

The programme was financed by the European Commission (EC contract EDT/01/503480).

With a duration of one year, the programme aimed to identify the potential benefit of Fire Safety Engineering in the European Union.

The CEN TC127 WG8 dedicated to Fire Safety Engineering identified a need of updating the work performed within the BENEFU programme as a benefit for European standardization work and European member states.

1 Scope

This document gives an overview of the evolution of regulations and application of Fire Safety Engineering (FSE) in Europe. Based on work performed in 2001-2002, a full update of information has been done. A global survey based on questionnaires defined in 2001, the evolution and possible perspectives of the FSE practices within two perimeters are presented:

- The first perimeter is the same perimeter analysed in 2001 corresponding to the European Union defined in 2001 extended to European countries with European Union agreement (Switzerland, Norwegian and Iceland).
- The second perimeter is the European Union perimeter of 2016 extended to European countries with European Union agreement (Switzerland, Norwegian and Iceland).

Conclusions and initiatives of the 2001 proposals were analysed 15 years after, with and without the extension of European Union. New initiatives have since been proposed.

In addition, the state-of-the-art of Fire Safety Engineering is updated.

2 Normative references

There are no normative references in this document.

3 Terms and definitions

For the purposes of this document, no terms and definitions are listed in this document.

ISO and IEC maintain terminological databases for use in standardization at the following addresses:

- IEC Electropedia: available at <http://www.electropedia.org/>
- ISO Online browsing platform: available at <https://www.iso.org/obp>

4 The Benefeu programme

4.1 Organization and tasks

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The programme was financed by the European Commission (EC contract EDT/01/503480).

With a duration of one year, the programme aimed to identify the potential benefit of Fire Safety Engineering in the European Union.

To satisfy this aim, this programme was organized in three key tasks:

- Task A – Current regulations in member states;
- Task B – State of the art in FSE;
- Task C – Possible initiatives and cost benefit analysis.

The final report [1] dated 19 July 2002 was presented to the European Commission.