A joint initiative of the Fire & Security Association of India (FSAI) and NurembergMesse India, Fire & Security India Expo (FSIE) has been the first ever event to be held on such a large platform in the fire and security industry of India, at Greater Noida between 23-25 February 2017. As a member of Build Fair Alliance (BFA), FSIE brought together architects, fire officials, MEP consultants, builders, developers etc. and provided a platform for debating and exchanging ideas on current scenario of fire safety and security in different industries, and a wide range of products and solutions with innovative technologies exhibited at various stalls.
FSIE 2017 was inaugurated by Chief Guest Mr. Prakash Mishra, Director General – Fire, Civil Defence Guard, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India. Other eminent dignitaries included Mr. N R Markandya, Director Fire & Emergency Fire Service, Mr. P S Rahangdale, Director Maharashtra Fire Service, Mr. Ashok Menon, Director Goa Fire & Emergency Services, Mr. Uwe Kirchner, President, Fire and Rescue, IDEX, Mr. Manoj Shenoy, Business Line Director IDEX, Mr. Peter Ottmann, CEO NuernbergMesse Group, Mr. Ashish Dhakan, COO Prama HikVision India, Mr. Ashish Rakteja, MD, AEON Integrated Building Design Consultants, New Delhi, besides Mr. Pankaj Dharkar, National President FSAI, Mr. Ajit Raghavan, General Secretary FSAI and Mr. Rakesh Arora, Chairman FSIE.

In his Inaugural Address, Mr. Pankaj Dharkar spoke about making FSIE as a strong platform, consisting of 3Ds – Display, Demonstration and Dialogue. He said, "The FSAI is all set to address these three Ds, by way of product display at exhibition; live demonstration of new technologies and a dialogue amongst national and international players at the concurrent symposiums!"

In his Keynote Address, Mr. Uwe Kirchner, President, IDEX Fire and Rescue, talked about the significant development in India over the years. He reiterated the need for continual reforms, along with spreading awareness and employing innovative strategies with a singular purpose to save lives.

Mr. Prashant Mishra expressed his views on the importance of discussions over fire security and solutions in India. He also spoke about the need for rigid certification process, strong fire fighting equipments, greater workforce and civil defense organizations to train people in basic fire fighting.

Mr. P. S. Rahangdale added that the expertise lies in the back plan to provide emergency response, through manpower, technical support and mitigation.

This was followed by the Lighting of the Lamp Ceremony by dignitaries on dais, and unveiling of the Special Issue of FSAI Journal, an informative tool, giving insight into various topics covering fire, security and surveillance by experts in their respective domains.

Mr. Ajit Raghavan gave Vote of Thanks and concluded the Inaugural Ceremony.

Then after, the show opened doors for presentations, panel discussions and technical sessions that served as knowledge sharing platform, suggesting pioneer solutions and invaluable insights by eminent industry experts on various fire safety and security topics.
The FSAI is all set to address these three Ds, by way of product display at exhibition; live demonstration of new technologies and a dialogue amongst national and international players at the concurrent symposiums!
With increasing high rise buildings becoming a distinct feature in most cities, it poses severe threats, and multiple issues need substantial consideration in terms of safety and security grounds. This was the underlined thought behind this Panel Discussion. Mr. Sumit Khanna from FM Global was the Moderator of this Panel Discussion, whereas the panelists included Mr. P. S. Rahangdale, Director, Maharashtra Fire Services, Mr. Ashok Menon, Director, Goa Fire Service, and Dr. G. C. Misra, Director, Delhi Fire Service.

Mr. Sumit Khanna, FM Global, was the Moderator of the Session. He set the pace for discussion putting forth the issues of unavailability of land, growing population, vertical growth of cities, and changes in design parameters to keep buildings safe.

Mr. P. S. Rahangdale initiated the discussion talking about high rise buildings in Mumbai, posing safety challenges for residents with its enormous heights. Fire fighting departments along with the masses need to engage in powerful strategies and effective implementation techniques towards preventing fire accidents. Working in cohesion, following stringent guidelines, aims and objectives, is the only effective means of saving lives, he concluded.

Dr. G. C. Misra raised a very valid point about the housing societies built for the economically poor sections of society, which serve as severe threats in terms of safety, as they lack proper planning and precautionary measures. He gave multiple suggestions including emphasis on smoke management and compartmentalization at the planning stage, regular updating of building fire systems, and a well planned layout of firefighting devices in buildings to avoid hazardous incidents.

The Panel Discussion concluded with a note that sharing responsibility should be a joint venture between the architect, the occupant and the consultant of any given building to avoid future accidents.
The revised National Building Code (NBC) of India is bound to be a step ahead in the direction of absolute transparency in terms of fire safety. If these codes are taken as norms and abided upon with strict vigilance, very little room will be left in terms of casualties to occur.

**Mr. Sanjay Pant**, Director, Civil Engineering, BIS, presented a general overview of the National Building Code (NBC). **Mr. S. K. Dheri**, Chairman & Convenor, NBC Part IV & Group Head (Fire Safety), DLF Limited, **Mr. V. Suresh**, Co-Chair, NBC and **Mr. Sandeep Goel**, Director, Proion Consultants, collectively educated the audience about 'Part IV in NBC', which deals specifically with fire security in building and construction. They answered questions from the audience about the protocols, backup plans, and the need for specific codes and manuals in buildings.

Closing Remarks were given by **Mr. D. K. Shami**, Fire Adviser, Ministry of Home Affairs, Govt. of India, about the ability, efficacy and efficiency of the NBC, if put in proper practice and implemented accurately.
**Smoke Control Requirements in High Rise Buildings**

This important presentation on ‘Smoke Control Requirements in High Rise buildings’ was made by Ms. Shamim Rashid-Sumar, P. E. Director of Business Development, Jensen Hughes (Middle East). She focused her talk on the overall concepts of smoke control and the complexities involved in solving it. The requirements at the time of a fire incident are: Fire Safety Concept Trees, Smoke Control requirements, Smoke Control Design and System Performance Evaluation. Understanding the design intent of smoke management is crucial and it should be able to achieve a good functionality aspect.

**Basic Extinguishing Principles**

Mr. Jeff Van Meter, Product Manager, Pumps, Hale Products, Florida, talking on ‘Basic Extinguishing Principles’ addressed the audience about M.A.R., Minimum Application Rate, which is the least amount of water needed per litre to extinguish a fire. Water that does not evaporate runs off and causes damage. Hence, adding foam to it reduces surface tension, provides high evaporation rate, makes for an excellent adhesive and is also biodegradable.

The second effective way, CAFS (Compressed Air Foam Solution) decreases time and provides greater temperature reduction. It uses less amount of water and reduces its run off.

**Mass Notification System and Using Internet of Things**

Mr. Rodger Reiswig, Director, Industry Relations, Tyco Fire Protection Products, USA talked about MNS, i.e. Mass Notification System and using “Internet of Things” (IoT) solutions in a secure pattern to manage a city’s assets and ensuring life safety. Mass Notification provides real-time instructions and information to people in a building, area, site or installation using intelligible voice communications along with visible signals, texts and graphics. It plays a significant role in emergency planning, requiring a detailed risk analysis of assets, probability and frequency of loss and loss effect. Risk Mitigation further branches into dissemination of information, personnel, backup systems and backup procedures. He concluded his presentation by saying that MNS is not a product; it’s a concept, a design and a strategy.

**Fire Compliances of Buildings and Facades**

Mr. Abhishek Chhabra, Business Development Manager, Thomas Bell-Wright International Consultants, UAE, had an interactive session on Façade Fire Safety. He talked about active and passive fire and the need for certification process of materials to be used on site.

**Fire Prevention Market in Germany/Europe**

Mr. Günter Ruhe, Managing Director, FeuerTRUTZ Network, Germany, introduced the topic of Fire Prevention Market in Germany. On world fire statistics, Germany ranks 5th, in the least amounts of death by fire. The company deals in marketing firefighting techniques through magazines, research, advertisement and books.
A well thought of topic of crucial importance, the discussion provided space for meaningful dialogue and introspection, throwing light on multiple issues, the problems faced and their possible solutions. The Moderator of this Panel Discussion was Mr. Garry Singh, MD, IIRIS Consulting, Gurgaon and the panelists were Major General Bakshi, Editor, India Military Review & Strategist, Mr. G. B. Singh, Editor, Security Today, Mr. Vikram Singh, IPS (Retd. DGP - UP Police), and Mr. Bharat Karnad, India’s leading Conservative Strategist and Research Professor of National Security Studies at the Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi.

Major Gen. Bakshi opened the discussion by calling border security as one of the most challenging security threat that India has witnessed from China’s and Pakistan’s side, over the years. He praised our current Prime Minister, Mr. Narendra Modi in being successful in sending a clear and straight warning to Pakistan about being a nuisance on the border and facing fierce repercussions in case of any interference, whatsoever.

Mr. Vikram Singh picked up the issue of illegal immigration from Bangladesh, which can sway the voting patterns significantly and bring forth in power the volunteers who support them specifically over the national interests, pointing out the international nature of terrorism. Furthermore, on the controversial argument over the steady recovery of terrorists in Kashmir and Sleeper Cells, he explained the audience about SARS, i.e., Suspicious Activity Reporting System, under which full-time policing is required.

Mr. G. B. Singh, shared his concern about the role of private sectors to initiate a helping hand to government sectors.

Mr. Bharat Karnad, later concluded by putting across his views that it is time that the government realizes the real threat to country’s security and deals with it taking stringent measures.

It was indeed a thought-provoking and well executed discussion throwing light on various topics subjected towards national interest and security.
Day 3 commenced with Mr. Sumit Khanna, International Codes & Standards Consultant, Asia Ops, FM Global, giving a presentation on “Supply Chain Disruption” and Mr. Abby So, Manager, FM Approvals, Asia Pacific, FM spoke on “Holding to Higher Standards”. Thus, turning the spotlight on “Warehouse Protection and Holding on to Higher Standards”, they enthused the audience with their enigmatic presentations. With an intent to make buildings sustainable to prevent loss, which could be categorized into property damage, business interruption, life safety, business continuity, reputation, livelihoods, environmental and community. The loss drivers could be earthquake, flood, wind and fire. A famous example was cited from the audience about the world’s largest fire till date, the San Francisco fire. Due to lack of water that had drained off because of the earthquake, fire could not be easily extinguished, which went on for several days, causing severe loss of life and property, it is noted as one of the largest fire in world history.

The eminent speakers putting across their very informative presentations and sharing knowledge on topics of myriad interests, the symposiums solved its purpose to the very core. The day concluded with the speakers being facilitated with tokens of appreciation.


Exhibition

The show witnessed a wide range of visitors, comprising of user community, industry stakeholders, field experts, professionals, technology and innovation, all under one roof. The 2017 edition was a well organized exhibition of latest technologies and offerings in the industry that was supported by leading allied industry associations and major trade bodies. Being part of BFA, FSIE ensured maximum visitors from stakeholders of building automation and construction industry. There were live demos, buyer seller meetings including delegations from key industry partners.
Concluding Note

A dream of the FSAI President, being fantastically implemented in the form of an excellent show, the first edition of FSIE created a lasting impression in terms of its impact, appeal and impetus towards deriving maximum benefits.

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It costs nothing to a candle, to light another candle...

Come Forward...

Share Knowledge...

Write for FSAI Journal and help FSAI in spreading knowledge on fire safety, surveillance, building automation.

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