

R e s o u r c e
P r o t e c t i o n
I n t e r n a t i o n a l



Independent Fire Hazard Management Consultants



Initially at Gold Command Escorted to Bronze

Foam – minimum requirements

Foam sources

Foam application

Post incident investigation





LASTFIRE

Large Atmospheric Storage Tank Fires



An industry consortium of international oil companies reviewing the hazards and risks associated with storage tank fires





Initial Study 1993 – 1997

Project Sponsors

- Agip Petroli
- BP
- Conoco
- DEA
- Elf
- Exxon
- MOL
- Mobil
- OMV
- PetroFina
- Repsol
- Saudi Aramco
- Shell
- Total
- Veba
- WRG



OBJECTIVES

- **Determine current levels of risk**
- **Establish Design & Operational Practice & make knowledge available throughout industry**
- **Establish techniques to determine site- specific levels of risk and identify appropriate & cost-effective risk reduction measures**



PROJECT STRUCTURE

Sponsors'
Steering Group



Project
Co-ordinator



Project
Working Group



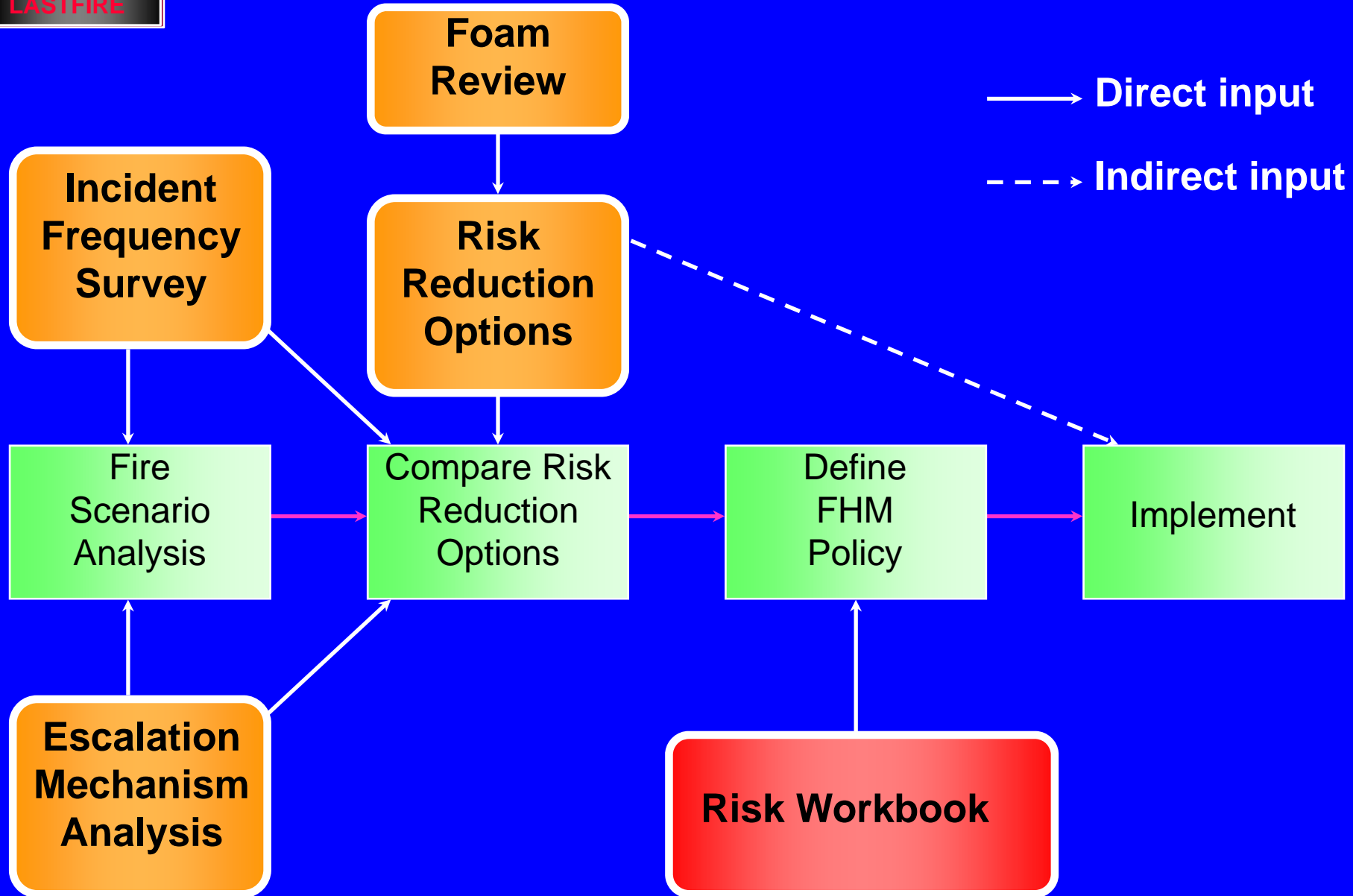
External Information Sources

Operators
Tank Builders
Seal Manufacturers
Detection Suppliers
Protection Suppliers
Fire Fighters
Legislators
Insurers





PROJECT DELIVERABLES





Time for an update?

Scope of Work

- Review of Incidents
 - Extend database to fixed roof and internal floaters
- Assess current practices and latest developments in risk reduction measures
 - Detection systems
 - Foam systems
 - Major incident response systems
 - Tank / seal constructions
- Research Work
- Become industry focal point / forum



Objectives of update study

To extend the study to include all atmospheric tank types

To continue **LASTFIRE**'s role as the established recognised international oil companies forum on best practices of

Fire Hazard Management
of Storage Tanks

Comparison with 1997 data

	Rim Seal Fire	Vent Fire	Pipe, Flange, Valve Fire	Bund Fire	Spill on Roof Fire
Current	3.77×10^{-4}	1.31×10^{-5}	1.3×10^{-5}	1.62×10^{-5}	6.48×10^{-6}
Original	$1.5 - 1.6 \times 10^{-3}$	-	9.0×10^{-5}	$6.0 - 9.0 \times 10^{-5}$	3.0×10^{-5}
	Full Surface Fire	Boilover	Other	Vapour Space Explosion	Pontoon Explosion
Current	4.21×10^{-5}	Note [1]	4.86×10^{-5}	3.06×10^{-5}	3.77×10^{-5}
Original	3.0×10^{-5}	Escalation probability 1.0	-	-	-

	Indicates a reduction in incident frequency since the Incident Survey published in 1997
	Indicates increase in incident frequency since the Incident Survey published in 1997
	Indicates new data since the Incident Survey published in 1997



Risk Reductions Options

Industry Guidance

Based on Operational Experience



LASTFIRE



Risk Reduction Options



Figure 2.2.1 - Geodesic domes can be built on the ground and lifted into place or built directly on the existing floating roof tank and winched into place. A variety of methods are available for erection, including "jack stand" erection (top), "grip hoist assembly" (bottom left) and "tower assembly" (bottom right).

(a) Video Smoke Detection

This type of system uses standard CCTV equipment linked to a self contained processing system capable of recognising small amounts of smoke within the video image, and alerting the system operator both at the processor and by a variety of remote outputs.

These systems detect smoke rapidly by looking for small areas of change within the image at the digitisation stage and only passing these pixel changes to the main processor for further filtering.

The video information is passed through a series of filters, which seek particular characteristics that can be associated with smoke behaviour.

The system installer has the ability to vary the amount of smoke signal, and the length of time that the smoke exists before an alarm condition is raised to cater for situations where there may be background smoke present. The installer can also divide the video image into zones and programme the system to alarm only if smoke is present in two or more zones.



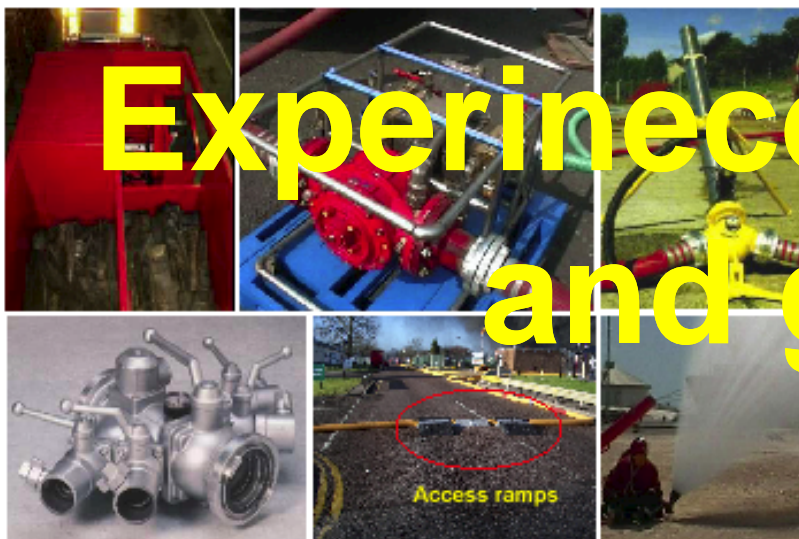


Fig 5.4.10 – Principal MIRU package components, including (from top left) – mobile or containerised pump(s) and Large Diameter Hose, bulk foam concentrate, hose delivery/retrieval vehicle, mobile large throughput foam monitor, proportioner, additional foam monitor(s), and ancillary items such as adaptors and fittings, vehicle access ramps and additional ground water monitors. Site-specific packages must be engineered!



Above - Fig 2.3.2.1(c). Spill channels should lead away from tanks and preferably be fitted with flame traps to prevent fire spread



Right - Fig 2.3.2.1(d). Bund drain valves apart from those to remote containment basin should be normally kept closed



Above - Fig 2.3.2.1(e). Pictures (a) and (b) showing bund sealing (note impermeable membrane). Pictures (c) and (d) show good practice sealing of bund transits and poor practice with no seals. NB: Sealant materials should be sufficient to withstand fire conditions.

Experienced based input
and guidance



Typical Research and Development Work

Foam

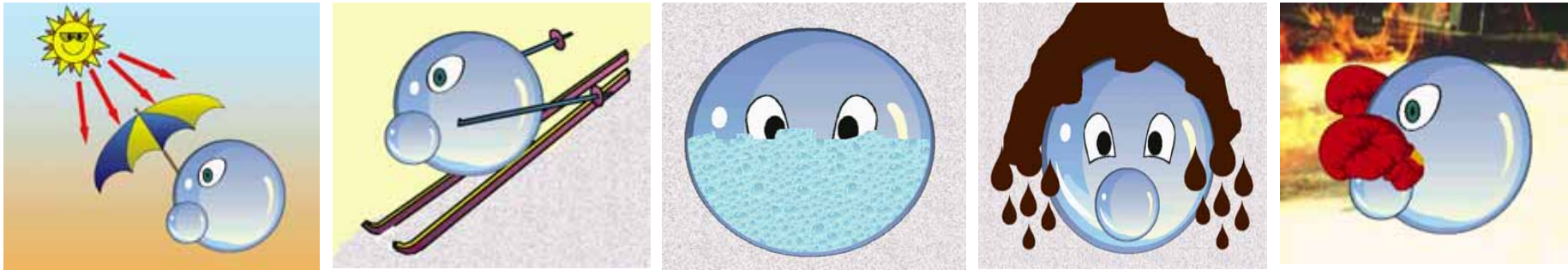
The most important tool for controlling large flammable liquid fires!



Yet often no detailed

PERFORMANCE SPECIFICATION

prepared when purchases made!



Fire Performance Testing should be one element of specification!



Foam Test For Storage Tank Fires

Used by oil companies to evaluate foam performance and as part of procurement specification

Tank Firefighting Workshop







Research Work

Boilovers

New techniques

Radiant Heat Impact

Internal Floating Roof Tanks

Vapour suppression with foam

Ethanol Issues

Biodiesel

Boilovers



100 litre demonstration



The real thing

Boilover

The fundamental questions

- Will it boilover
- If so, when?
- What conditions are needed?
- Is water amount important?
- ..And fuel amount?
- What fire spread on BO?
- Are there rules of thumb?
- Are rules of thumb appropriate?
- Can we avoid them?

Phase 4 - Hungary

- Further testing of biodiesels
- Refined products test fires

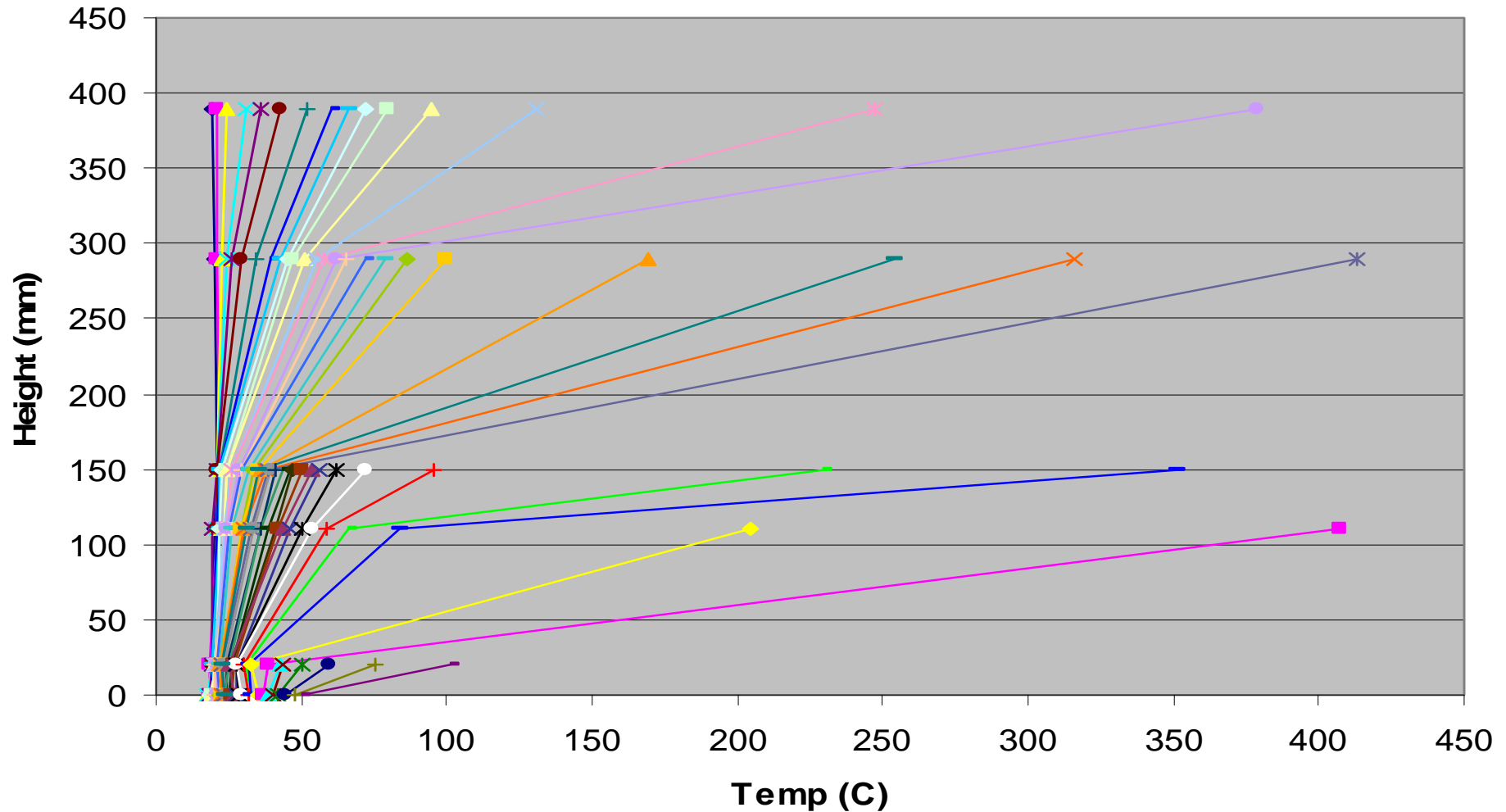




Analysis

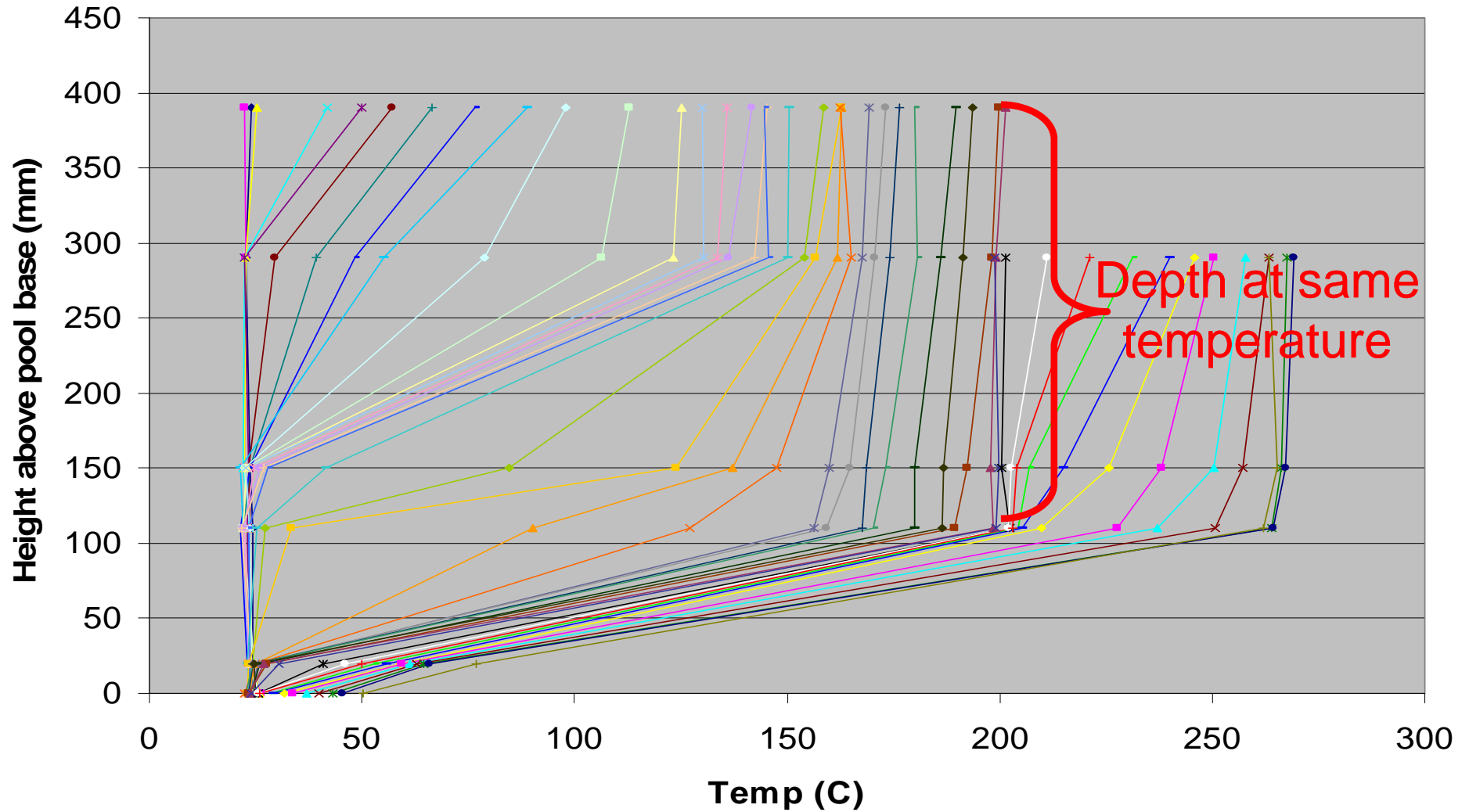


Diesel Fire



Each colour line is a specific time
Pattern typical of conduction

Crude Oil



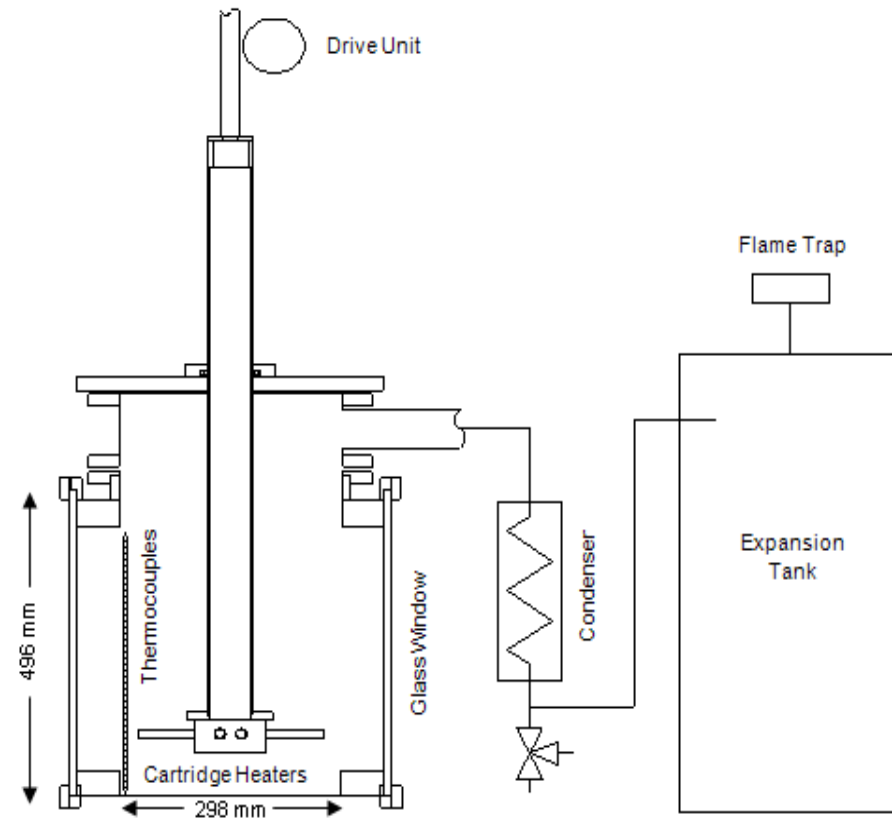
Pattern typical of hot zone build up



5m (~16.5ft) dia. tank

Experimental Arrangement

- Boilover Rig





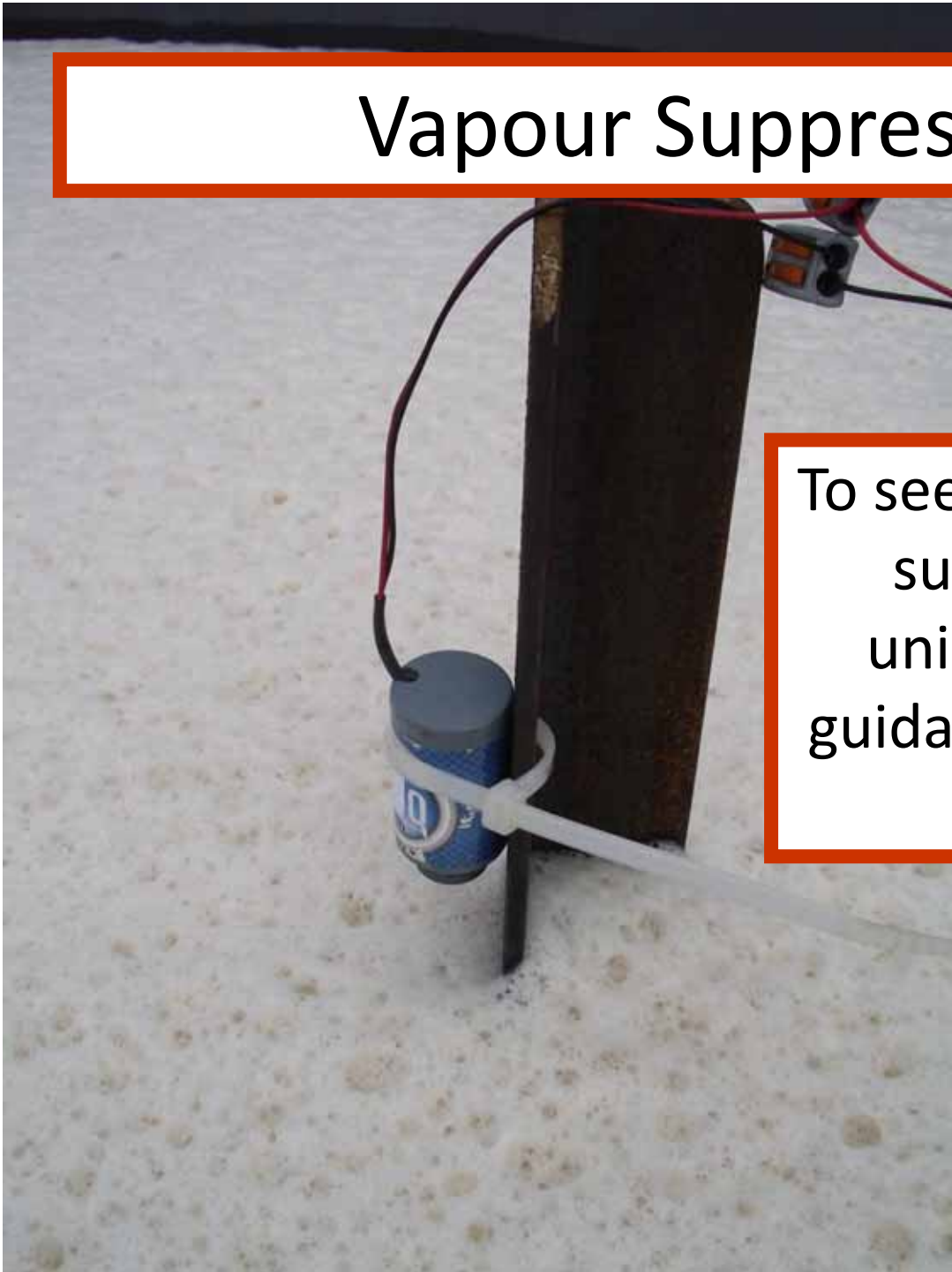
Other Techniques?

Intumescent Spheres Testing



Vapour Suppression Work

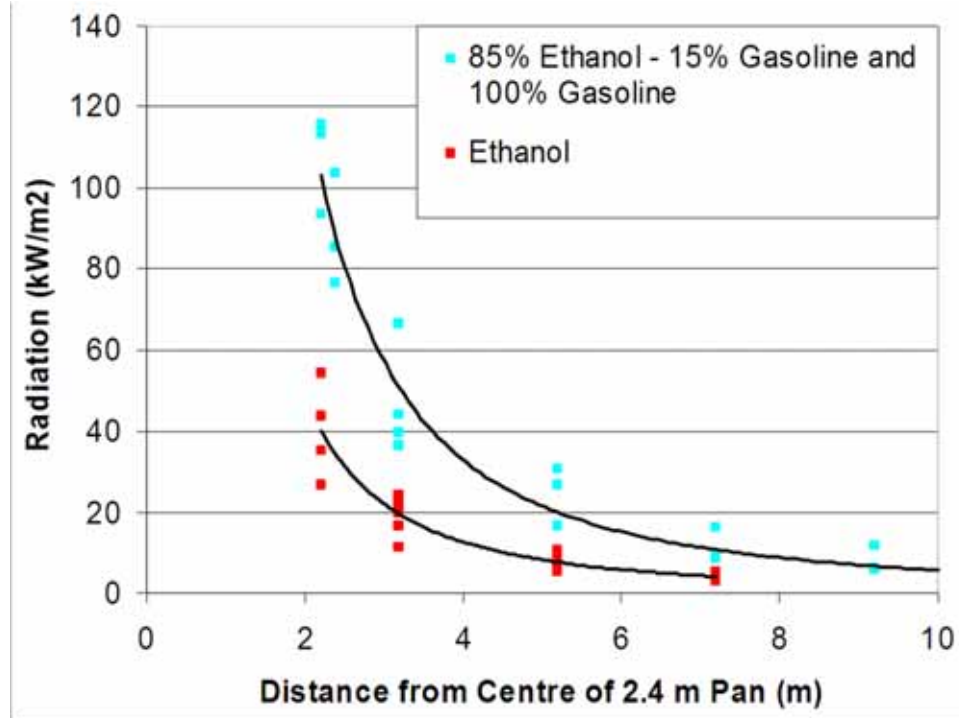
To see how effective foam is at suppressing vapours on unignited fuel and to give guidance on foam blanket top up requirements



Lastfire Test for Polar Solvents

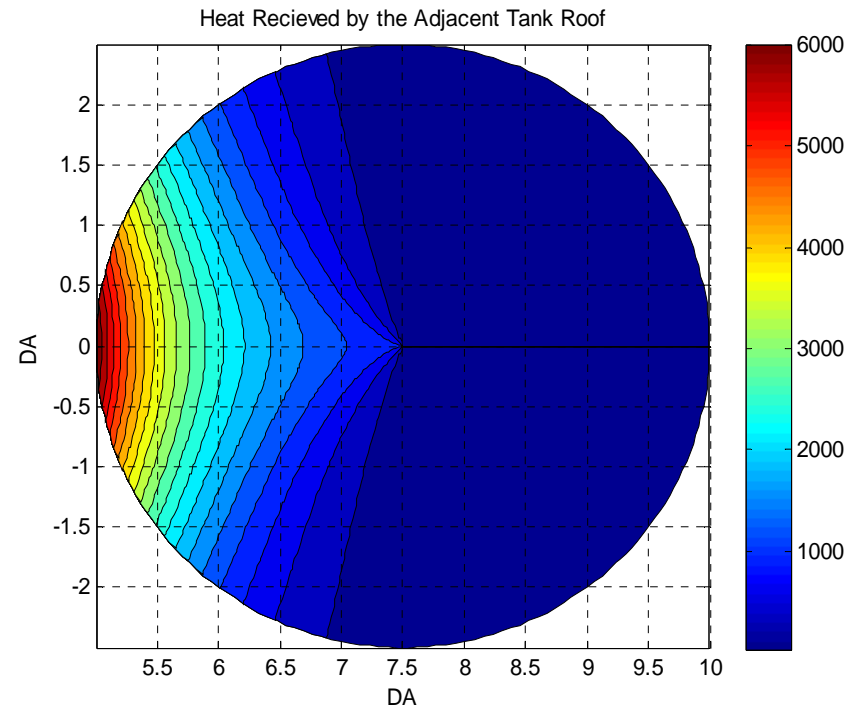
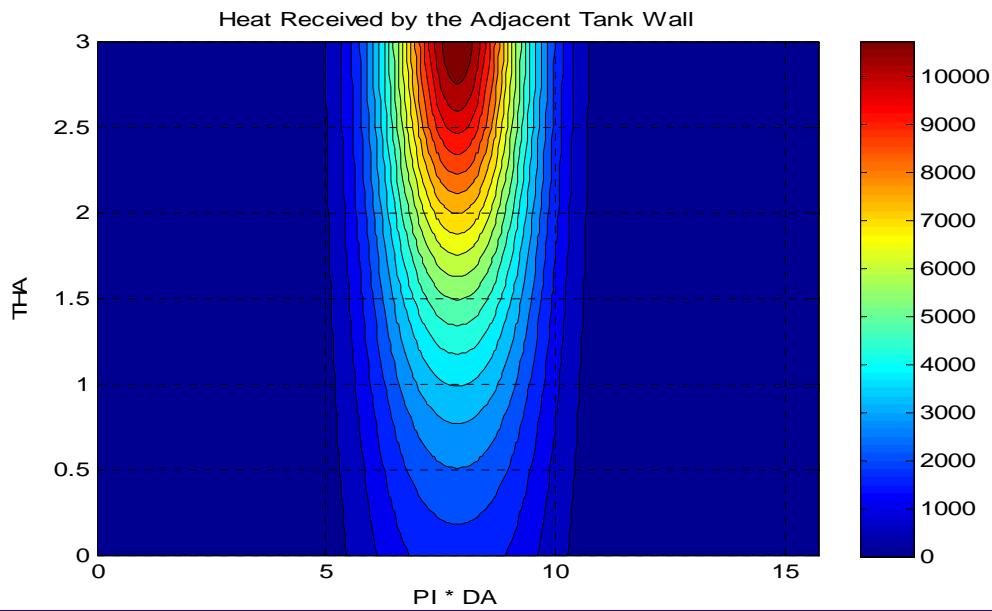
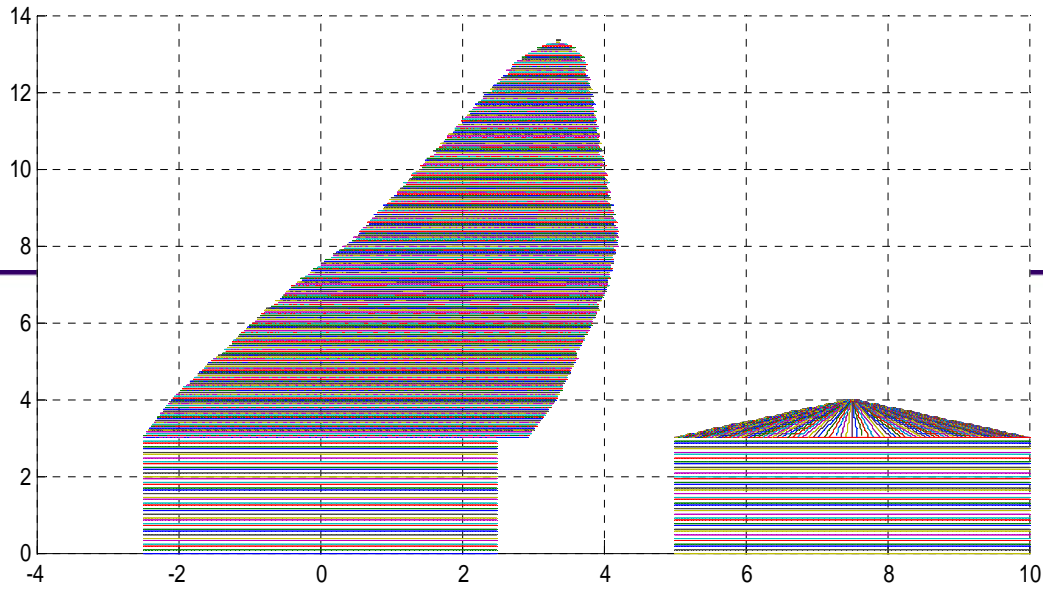
Fire test methodology to enable assessment of commercially available foams on polar solvents





LASTFIRE first experiment (Radiant heat received by the radiometer)

**Tank Dimensions: $D = 5 \text{ m}$,
 $H = 3 \text{ m}$**





Last week
Diesel/Biodiesel boilover tests







Always check
manufacturers' claims!





LASTFIRE Member Involvement, Existing and Future Benefits



Member Involvement/Benefits

- Direct involvement in development of latest practices, codes and standards:
 - LASTFIRE Risk Reduction Options
 - Energy Institute IP19
 - EI / API Lightning Study
 - EI Ethanol Document
- Technical input & review**

Energy Institute Guidance on Ethanol



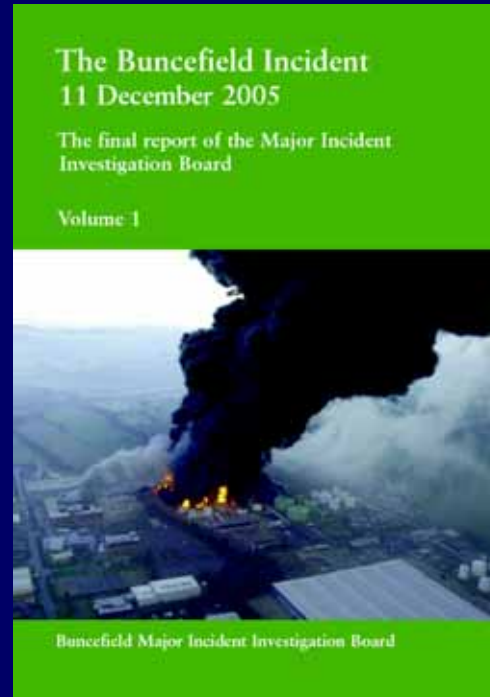
Chapter 8 - Firefighting

Guidance for the storage and
handling of fuel grade ethanol
at petroleum distribution installations

<http://www.energyinstpubs.org.uk>



Industry Influence





Member Involvement/Benefits

- **Contribution to LASTFIRE Incident database (anonymously)**
 - **Most comprehensive statistical database for tank fires and tank related incidents**
 - **Used for input into safety cases and hazard assessments**

Database continually updated



Member Involvement/Benefits

- Practical guidance on implementation of FEHM Measures
 - Risk Reduction Options Document
 - What are the cost effective FEHM measures
 - What are typical & best practices
- Incident prevention, detection, protection and response guidance**



Research – Boilovers

- **Access to boilover study data and analyses – largest database on BO**
- **Access to information on boilover probability/consequences**
- **Development of safe, cost-effective practical guidance on boilover prevention, mitigation and fire fighting strategies**



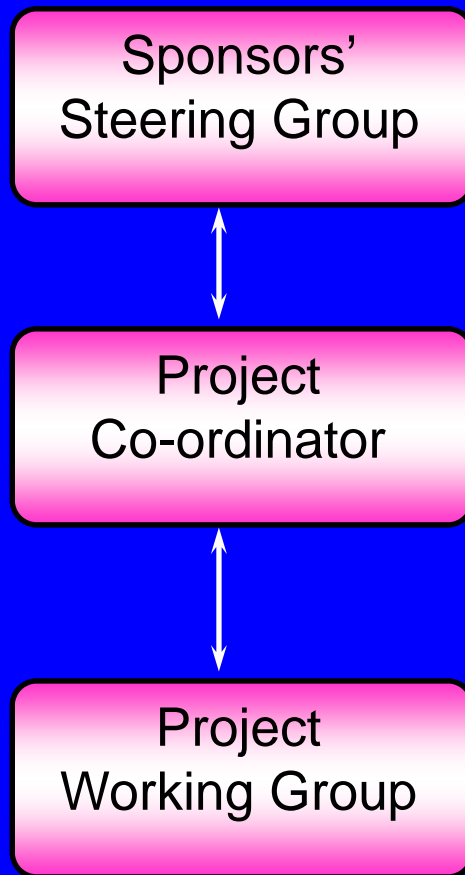
Time for an update?

Member commitments

- Two Steering Group members
- Questionnaire completion
- Suggest issues for review
- Advise coordinator on relevant issues / experiences
- Host meetings
- Encourage membership



PROJECT STRUCTURE



It could work for
ETANK Project

Joint funding
Networking
Practical input



More Information about LASTFIRE Membership
from:

Resource Protection International

**Walker House, George Street, Aylesbury, Bucks
HP20 2HU, UK**

T: +44 (0) 1296 399311

F: +44 (0) 1296 395669

e-mail: ramsden@resprotint.co.uk

website: www.resprotint.co.uk