



Press Release October 2016

The LASTFIRE Group, globally recognised as the leading international industry forum related to storage tank fires, is keen to expand membership and so widen the networking and research aspects of their work. LASTFIRE is determined to remain non-commercial but recognises that input from specialist suppliers of services and equipment can enhance knowledge and so has now opened associate membership to such organisations.

LASTFIRE (Large Atmospheric Storage Tank Fires), the consortium of international oil companies and storage companies reviewing the risks associated with fires in storage tanks and developing best industry practice to mitigate the risks through research, incident experience and knowledge sharing. An holistic approach is taken encompassing both prevention and mitigation risk reduction measures. Thanks to the long term and ongoing support at corporate and site level of companies including Shell, BP, Qatar Petroleum, Total, Tupras, Neste and Petronas the LASTFIRE Group has been able to carry out extensive research on issues such as boilovers, vapour suppression with foam, floating roof construction and responder competency requirements. – resulting in practical advice for responders so they can manage such fires safely and effectively. One major example of such work is the study of crude oil boilovers involving more than 200 experiments which resulted in best practice guidance being developed – and disproving theories that did not work but had been promoted as safe, effective means of preventing boilovers! More than 60% of LASTFIRE funding is dedicated to such research work with current projects under consideration including developing best practice guidance on bund firefighting, an issue that is increasingly important as regulators make greater demands on tank operators, and LPG incident response. The objective is always to provide practical guidance allowing safe, cost effective risk reduction.

Previously LASTFIRE membership has only been open to companies operating storage tanks. Specialist suppliers of equipment and services have been invited to give technical presentations at the regular meetings, but have not been able to be a more formal part of the Group. LASTFIRE recognises the knowledge and experience available in specialist suppliers and responders and so has decided to open Associate membership to other relevant organisations. Lastfire is determined to maintain their status as having no commercial bias but recognises the huge contribution such organisations could make to current research and best practice development.

There are now different tiers of membership available, all of which benefit from being able to attend all the regular knowledge sharing and networking meetings as well having an input to research work and receive project deliverables prior to any general publication. Although Associate members will not be entitled to vote on any issue they will also be named on the LASTFIRE website and be able to run technical webinars for Group members.

Breaking news! New LASTFIRE Members

LASTFIRE is pleased to announce that Reliance, the leading Indian conglomerate working in the oil, gas and petrochemical storage and refining sectors has joined LASTFIRE as a full member. The

Rotterdam Europoort based Unified Fire Brigade (UFB), the specialist industrial response wing of Rotterdam Fire Brigade has become an Associate. UFB has long been supportive of LASTFIRE sharing with Group Members the benefit of their experience in handling major tank related experience.

LASTFIRE is also pleased to welcome Solbergs, The USA and Norway based foam producer and Firedos, the German Water Turbine driven Foam Proportioner and Foam Monitor manufacturer as Associates.

For Further information please contact Niall Ramsden – Project Co-ordinator at info@lastfire.org