



## The Hydrocarbon Passive Fire Protection Network - PFPNet

**THE PROBLEM** - Passive Fire Protection (PFP) within the hydrocarbon and chemical industries has been in existence for many decades. However, despite this track record, and the greater understanding and knowledge that has been developed, it is evident that the subject is not understood by the industry in general, and that key knowledge resides with a limited number of people and organisations. The result is the misunderstanding and misuse of PFP systems, whereby the lessons learned have not been passed on, leading to costly failures or deficiencies in the PFP schemes being developed. At present, there is not a single industry body fully dedicated to the subject of hydrocarbon passive fire protection in all its forms, and for its many uses.

**WHAT IS PFPNET?** - The Hydrocarbon Passive Fire Protection Network (PFPNet) is a not-for-profit industry organisation, which has been formed to address the main issues surrounding the PFP industry through activities funded by membership subscription. Its purpose is to increase the overall level of competency and knowledge around PFP by developing guidelines and delivering training based on the knowledge and experience of its members. It will provide a dedicated organisation that will enable a partnership between all of those involved in the use, installation, inspection and manufacture of PFP systems. PFPNet will identify the current problems and the future needs, and then systematically resolve them as a collective industry response.

**WHAT WILL PFPNet PRODUCE?** - Guidance documents; technical clarification notes; training courses; research programmes; technical meetings; an annual conference; manufacturer showcase opportunities; PFPNet events; networking opportunities; and a members-only information portal.

**WHO ARE THE MEMBERS OF PFPNet?** - Oil and Gas Producers, Chemical Manufacturers, Design and EPC Companies, Applicators and Installers, PFP System Manufacturers, Regulators, Certification Organisations, Insurers... from the Owners to the Suppliers. A Steering Committee will provide independent oversight of all PFPNet activities.

**WHAT'S THE COST OF PFPNet MEMBERSHIP?** - The annual membership fee is £6000, which covers any office or location of the Member's company.

**WHAT ARE THE FIRST THINGS THAT PFPNet WILL DELIVER?** – Guidance documents that provide an introduction to fireproofing, detail how to develop a PFP scheme, and recommend how to prevent failures. PFPNet will establish the best way to deliver training, and how to get the guidance delivered translated into codes and standards. And of course, PFPNet will provide an industry forum for information exchange and networking.

**WHY DO YOU NEED TO JOIN PFPNet?** – PFPNet is intended for safety, structural, mechanical and materials engineers - along with buyers, researchers, testers, installers and manufacturers. The guidance, training and accreditation that PFPNet will develop will increase understanding and competency across the whole area of PFP, leading to a reduction in the risk of costly problems, with the potential for significant immediate and longer term cost-savings. Members will have direct input into this process, as by serving on Sub-Committees, or by becoming developers or deliverers of the guidance and training, their opinions and knowledge will be included in all PFPNet output.