

FIRE ENGINEERED SOLUTIONS

“A VERIFIERS VIEWPOINT”

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LABSS

LOCAL AUTHORITY BUILDING STANDARDS SCOTLAND

- LABSS is an Association comprising all 32 Building Standards Verifiers in Scotland
- Acts on behalf of all Members to promote the Verification Service
- Supports and provides direction and dialogue to BSD and Members on Continuous Improvement, Information Sharing, Data Collection, Consistency and Resources (Expertise and Knowledge)
- Public Access Web site – www.labss.org.uk



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VERIFIERS and FIRE ENGINEERING

- Early Perceptions of Fire Engineering and Verification
- We receive a wide spectrum of Fire Engineer supported submissions incl:
- Pre-Warrant engagement and design criteria assessments
- All Inclusive Fire Engineered Design supported submissions
- Staged Development submissions
- Reactionary to Non- Compliance via Fire Engineered submissions
- Non-Fire Engineered submissions for Alternative Approach designs
- Little or no involvement in Fire Engineering

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HOW IS AN ENGINEERED SOLUTION PROCESSED?

- A range of experienced Senior Building Standards Surveyors and some qualified Fire Engineers
- Determined / Assessed In-house
- Independent Review (Consortium Verifier or University)
- External Third Party Review
- Consultees (SFRS; BSD)

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POTENTIAL ISSUES

- Awareness of Roles and Responsibilities
- Managing Expectations - Limitations of Fire Engineers appointment
- Verifiers input regarding Assumptions / Modelling / Alternative Scenarios
- Verifiers challenge
- Third Party – Remit and Influence
- Communication Strategy and Confidence
- Consultees – (SFRS; BSD)
- Is it “Right for our Time”

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SOLUTIONS ?

- Verifier involvement early in the design feasibility process
- Closer involvement between Fire Engineer, Architect and Verifier
- Verifier pro-active in modelling and testing
- Verifier should think “How can” rather than “submit a proposal for consideration”
- Share Resources and Expertise across Verifiers
- Fire Engineers to Engage and listen to Verifiers
- Introduce a “Conflict Resolution” mechanism

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IMPACT OF FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

- Verifier training in CFD Modelling
- Several Members already have staff training in place
- Potential to explore partnership arrangements with Universities
- Implications for IT Software and Servers
- Greater reliance placed on a detailed knowledge of critical factors that drive computer generated modelling systems.
- Requirement for robust interrogation and scrutiny of applied input data and its parameters, against resultant outcomes.

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THANK YOU

