



Liège, 4 April 2022

Dear friends and colleagues of the "*Structures in Fire*" community,

This newsletter is first to give you some feedback about the recent conference SiF'2020 which was held in 2021 from Brisbane. It will also announce SiF'2022 and say a few words about bids for SiF'2024

SiF 2020 received a total of 245 submissions, all of which were reviewed by at least 3 experts from a pool of 149 reviewers. Run under exceptional circumstances because of the global COVID 19 pandemic, the conference experienced significant delays before the decision to run it in a fully online mode was finally taken. Despite this, we had a tremendous turnout for the conference, with 87 published papers and 87 online presentations during the 3 days of the conference. Most importantly though, we saw record numbers in attendance with 509 delegates in total, demonstrating the resilience of our SiF community.

This was the first SiF conference where an individual DOI was minted for each publication, allowing the conference proceedings to be fully indexed. The conference proceedings are available, as all previous conferences, from the SiF web site:

<https://www.structuresinfire.com/corpo/conferences/sif20.pdf>.

More detailed information about the conference can be found here:

<https://www.structuresinfire.com/corpo/conferences/SiF2020%20-%20Closing%20Ceremony.pdf>

We'd like to take this opportunity once more to thank the conference sponsors: Netzsch, AFAC, and Omnii Consulting Fire Engineers, without whom the conference would not have been possible; the award sponsors the IAFSS and the Journal of Structural Fire Engineering; as well as the presenters and delegates, the SiF scientific committee members, the local organising committee, and the staff and students of UQ's School of Civil Engineering, UQ Library and UQ Fire.

The steering committee received four proposals for the organization of the next SiF conference in 2022. After examination of these four excellent proposals, the steering committee has decided that the 12th SiF conference will be organized by Asif Usmani and Liming Jiang at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The conference will be held from November 30 to December 2. Please save the date and help us advertise the conference among your own networks. More information here: <https://www.sif2022.org/>

The format of the conference, in presence, hybrid or online, will of course depend on the evolution of the pandemic situation and will be announced in due time.

Paulo Vila Real will serve as chairman of the scientific committee for this 12th SiF conference and extended abstracts are invited to be submitted not later than May 27: <https://www.sif2022.org/call-for-papers>. Please note that, as a common standard for the SiF conferences, there will be no extension date.

All accepted abstracts will be given a slot for an oral presentation (although not all of the same duration) and space for a full paper in the proceedings, on the condition that at least one author registers for the conference. Each delegate can register for the presentation of only one paper. Selected papers may be invited for special issues in journals (Special issues are to be determined)

Proposals for hosting SiF'2024 should be sent to the steering committee not later than one month before the start of SiF'2022, i.e. not later than October 31, 2022. The objective is to announce the location of SiF'2024 at SiF'2022. As SiF 2020 and SiF2022 have been led from or in Asia, SiF 2024 should be held on the American or the European continent. The rules for organizing a SiF conference and the bid form can be downloaded here: <http://www.structuresinfire.com/corpo/conferences.html>

We look forward to meeting you in Hong Kong.

For the steering committee

Jean-Marc Franssen