

Forum in Belfast, Northern Ireland - 21 and 22 October, 2014



The Fisuel international forum took place in Belfast, Northern Ireland on 21 and 22 October 2014 under the sponsorship of BI Electrical Services and Invest Northern Ireland.

This forum was preceded by meetings of the Europe and Asia work groups, the Board of Directors and closed by the tour of the Antrim coast with in particular the Giant's Causeway visit, which is described as the 8th wonder of the world.

Then after the introductions of BI Electrical Services and Fisuel, 22 presentations were animated under the headings: statistics, access to electricity, communication, electrical safety, counterfeits and 3 working groups' reports. All presentations are available on the Fisuel website.

Here are the key messages.

①Quality

The quality of an electrical installation ensures users electrical safety, if it is done by skilled professionals who use fair products, applying the good professional practice, which comply with the standards and regulations.

②Statistics

Statistics are important comparison elements, to the extent that they are consistent and credible. It is the purpose of the technical report ISO.TR 17755. They need to be constantly updated and transcribed in socio-economic messages (as for example, house fire hazard for 3500 inhabitants – worldwide estimation from Copperalliance).

The first trend in Fisuel seems to be shared. This is the number of house electrical fire, between 20 and 30% of the causes determined (excluding undetermined causes). Each Member is requested to transmit this statistics to Fisuel, concerning their country.

③Communication, education

These are two very strong axes to raise awareness, inform the population and change attitudes, especially young people, in terms of electrical safety.

④ Forgeries, dubious products

These products and electrical equipment greatly threaten the safety of electricity users. The importance of the subject and how the impact on electrical safety is strong has been proven.

⑤ Electrical safety

The large number of interventions on this subject at the forum, demonstrated once again, the motivation of the Fisuel members to promote best practices around the world. For example:

- the audit (initial and periodic inspection) statement of account of electrical installations in the countries of Europe
- the organization of the initial and periodic inspection in Japan
- the risk analysis transcribed on the existing electrical installations
- the transparency of the professionals' skills via internet
- taking into account natural hazards (earthquakes) to ensure electrical safety.

Note: each Fisuel member is invited to fill in the questionnaire (safety barometer.org) If this has not already been done for their country.

⑥ Access to electricity

Systematic checking is directed to every forum on this topic. We checked advanced works on the electrification of the suburban areas in Cape Verde and the slums in Côte d'Ivoire.

⑦ Summary

The Belfast forum has also enabled proposing 4 great ideas:

- ① The training and education of all stakeholders (authorities, professionals, consumers, youth,...) to the proper use of facilities and electrical safety.
- ② Fisuel information sharing, allowing access to the Fisuel website, to any public.
- ③ Fisuel participation in certain international events for better visibility.
- ④ The communication on statistics with socio-economic messages. For example, by translating the impacts (human, material/goods, economic):
 - Of electrical faults that start house fire
 - Electrical accidents (electrocution, shock)
 - Lack of initial and periodic inspection
 - Presence of unfair and counterfeit products.



Fisuel still has great opportunities to enrich its database on all the themes that contribute to the safety of electricity users. The Belfast forum has proven it again. Let us continue to join our efforts to combat electrical insecurity.

Article Voltimum UK

Global business leaders applaud NI Electrical Safety

Northern Ireland and other regions of the UK are among one of three countries including France and Japan who are setting the benchmark for electrical installation and user safety across the world, according to a global summit hosting in Northern Ireland for the first time.

The remarks, made by Mr Akio Nakamura President of International Federation for the Safety of Electricity Users (FISUEL), marked the close of its Global Summit for Electrical Safety hosted in recent days at the Titanic Building.



President of FISUEL Mr Akio Nakamura said: "The FISUEL forum allowed leaders from across the world to discuss the significant challenges regarding the use of energy.

Our job was to identify the actions, which will help continue to spread and establish electrical safety concepts to guarantee the safe, efficient and rational use of energy. In doing so we identified best practice from regions including Northern Ireland and the rest of the UK along with others like France and Japan.

The job is now to continue this work through the promotion of electrical safety throughout the world in the months and years ahead."

The four-day event, sponsored by electrical contractors BI Electrical Services and Invest NI, heard from international experts who urged countries to reach the electrical safety barometer internet site (safetybarometer.org) now set by the UK and others indicating that there is still much to be done to standardize electrical safety across the world.

FISUEL was set up in 2002 and advises states across the world on the standardization electrical installation, meets annually to discuss key electrical safety standards issues with the last summit-taking place in Warsaw, Poland.

BI Electrical Services board member Jim Speirs, and FISUEL representative, said the event provided an excellent opportunity to showcase Northern Ireland to a wider global audience.

He said : "FISUEL is the preeminent body for electrical safety across the world and this was a global forum where key decisions of electrical safety were made.

The fact that it was hosted locally demonstrates a growing confidence that Belfast is the place for international business. The delegates who included some of the most senior business leaders of multi-nationals from across the world has made decisions which will help shape electrical standards globally."

Next Forum 2015 in Korea

The Board of Directors at its meeting in Belfast Northern Ireland on 20 and 21 October 2014 favourably responded to Kesco CEO Mr Lee Sang-Kwon's request, to organize the Fisuel 2015 forum in Korea.

The forum will take place in November 2015, over two days, preceded by the Board of Directors, meetings of working groups Asia, Europe and Africa and monitoring the traditional visit. (dates will be specified later)



The themes will be electrical safety, statistics, counterfeiting, access to electricity, testimonials, etc...

To make this forum a success, we invite you all to send us any ideas, suggestions, any theme, any presentation in order to organize the agenda.

In a similar vein, we also request you to propose us all participants, authority or manufacturer who could participate in the forum.

Fisuel thanks Kesco for this proposal and for the leadership of the Asia working group.

This forum in Korea will be an important aid to the dynamics of the Fisuel Asia area.

Meeting in Korea in November 2015.

Other Information

• The dates of the next Fisuel meetings

Board of Directors	9 and 10 March, 2015 Lisbon - Portugal	18 May, 2015 Paris - France	Nov 2015 Korea
Ordinary and extraordinary general meetings		19 may 2015 Paris - France	
International Forum			Nov 2015 Korea

• **The mission of the Fisuel working groups** is reinforced and supplemented by the local statute of limitations, publication and communication. The leaders of each working group will organize their meetings in 2015, including one at the Forum in Korea.

• **A partnership agreement** between Fisuel and Cenelec (European standardization body) was signed in December 2014

These two points will be discussed in the next newsletter.