



To all Members of the RSA

26<sup>th</sup> May 2011.

Dear Member,

Firstly, I would like to thank Keith Rhodes for his sterling work as Chairman over the past few years. As the new Chairman of the RSA I hope that I will be able to carry forward his aims.

May I briefly introduce myself?

I have been involved in the fire protection industry for the last seventeen years. This has encompassed spells with Matthew Hall Merroll, Wormald Fire Systems, Preussag, and running my own R&D Company. I am currently a contract manager for Domestic Sprinklers plc.

As of the 19<sup>th</sup> of May, I have been honoured to be elevated to the position of Chairman of this fine association – the RSA. First and foremost my personal aim as Chairman will be to promote the value of being a member of the RSA.

Like any trade association, the RSA works mainly for the benefit of its Membership. In this respect, I would ask that Members make full use of the RSA's logo and promotional materials, especially the RSA Certificate of Conformity. This CoC is above all an assurance that the installation has been dealt with, from start to finish, by a reputable, competent, and professional Fire Sprinkler Installer – ie a Member of the RSA.

The flip side of the coin is that the wider use of these CoCs will increase awareness of the RSA by BCOs, Fire Service, Local Government, Contractors, and Developers, which will expand our brand awareness of where to go for reputable R&D sprinkler installers. This in turn obviously increases individual Member's turnover - so it's a win-win for us all.

Alongside the promotion of the RSA brand, we also need to promote the life saving benefits of Residential Sprinkler systems to reduce, if not eradicate, the unacceptable level of death and serious injury from fires in the UK. This we believe is as important, if not more important, than the RSA brand itself, since the most fundamental aim of any association should be to promote the Industry it represents.

Being a member of the RSA offers Members a wealth of experience and technical knowledge, and a forum to voice their concerns regarding the current state of the industry. Currently, there are technical issues concerning the upgrade of DD252 to BS9252, the upcoming revision of BS9251 and the Water Industry, which are being addressed by Sir George and I am fully supportive of Sir George in this. I would urge you to take time out to give him your views on these matters since they will have a huge impact on our Industry.

Once again, I would like to thank all Members present at the AGM for their support in my new position – I am very flattered to be chosen and will work hard to justify your trust. I would also like to wish all the best to our Members in the current financial climate and hope we all can continue with the good work.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any issues to discuss and I will be happy to assist you myself or draw on assistance from other Members if I cannot.

Best regards.

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Chairman RSA

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