

# **First International Public Safety Forum – Fire Science**

**Arranged by Professor W.K. Chow; Chaired by Professor Weicheng Fan**

The First International Public Safety Forum – Fire Science jointly organized by Research Centre for Fire Engineering, Areas of Strength: Fire Safety Engineering, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (PolyU); State Key Laboratory of Fire Science, University of Science and Technology of China (USTC); Science and Technology Committee of Ministry of Public Security, China and China Public Security; and co-organized by Asia Fire Fighting was held at the Senior Officers' Mess, Hong Kong Fire Services in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region on 7 December 2004.

This Forum was arranged by Professor W.K. Chow, Chair Professor of Architectural Science and Fire Engineering of PolyU, Principal Investigator of Areas of Strength: Fire Safety Engineering, Director of Research Centre for Fire Engineering and President of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers – Hong Kong Chapter; and chaired by Professor Weicheng Fan, Academician of Chinese Academy of Engineering; with the participation of many others including Professor Xiangang Lin, an experienced leading architect from Tsinghua University, and Professor Hui Ding, Director of the Beijing Municipal Institute of Labor Protection.

Topics included new technology of halon substitutes, performance-based fire safety design, development of intelligent fire detection systems, the latest trend of fire products development, fire hazard assessment, and contingency plan for emergency firefighting and rescue.

In this Forum, Professor Fan, leader of “Strategic Research of Planning and Formulation of Science & Technology for City Public Safety” of National Long-term Planning and Formulation of Science & Technology, introduced the guiding rules and objectives of the development of science and technology, as well as the trend of scientific research in China first. Framework of the scientific system for public safety in China was introduced. There are nine categories classified by following the objectives: food safety, production safety,

accident prevention, nuclear safety, sudden incidents, anti-terrorism, fire explosions, society security and national territory quarantine. Professor Fan also introduced the rationale, development objectives and major tasks on public safety science in China, as well as the public safety emergency platform.

Apart from Professor Chow and his students, and the research personnel and students from the USTC, over 60 people attended the forum including officers from the SAR Fire Services Department and representatives from the local industry, Tsinghua University, Zhejiang University, and Beijing Municipal Institute of Labor Protection.

There were hot discussions and debates on issues of public safety science among the participants. It is generally agreed that it is very important and urgent to provide strong scientific support to the emergency system for public safety.



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