CERN EXHIBITIONS
FIRE PRECAUTIONS

1. INTRODUCTION

Exhibitions held at CERN constitute a hazard for the following reasons:

- They often involve persons coming from the outside in large numbers;
- Their installations are temporary;
- The equipment and structures used are light and fragile.

This Safety Note is intended to lay down the safety precautions to be respected by exhibitors to ensure the safety of persons present in a CERN building where a temporary exhibition is being arranged.

Occasional stands for one-day events are not affected.

2. MATERIALS

Building materials and fittings, linings, decoration etc. incorporating substances of organic or plastic origin must have a minimum or weak fire contribution: fire reaction classes M0 or M1 (France), VI or V (Switzerland), see Annex 1. They must be free of both halogen products and sulphur.

3. EVACUATION ROUTES

Access ways, exits and entrances, stairways etc. must be high enough and wide enough that visitors can move easily about and through them. The width of aisles between stands must not be less than 1.20 m.

All access ways, exits and entrances, stairways etc. must be completely free of obstacles. There must be no obstacles to the evacuation of neighbouring rooms and areas.
Exhibition aisles must be so arranged that either of two exits of a building can be easily reached in less than 35 metres from any one point. Dead ends should be avoided and must never be more than 10 metres long.

All exits, emergency exits in particular, must be clearly indicated and visible from all points. Exhibitors shall ensure that they remain so at all times.

4. ELECTRICITY

Electrical installations must be designed, produced and operated in accordance with the safety standards, instructions and guidelines applicable at CERN and the manufacturer’s prescriptions.

5. PRELIMINARY APPROVALS

A layout plan for exhibition stands with the coordinates of responsible officials must be submitted to the TIS/GS group for its approval before the starting date of any exhibition.

Any presentation or display requiring the use of chemical products or gas cylinders, dangerous machinery or heavy equipment must first have preliminary authorization from the safety services concerned, who will be given a file on the item.

6. ACCESS FOR HANDICAPPED PERSONS

Approach routes provided for handicapped persons confined to wheelchairs, as well as means of access to toilets close to stands, must not be encumbered by obstacles.

7. FIRE PROTECTION

7.1. Possible fire sources

During assembly and dismantling of exhibitions, all packaging waste (boxes, wooden and plastic materials) shall be immediately taken outside.

If the assembly of constituent parts of an exhibition or display requires operations creating "hot points" such as soldering or welding, the organizing firm must request a "Fire Permit" from the CERN official in charge of the exhibition before beginning work. It cannot begin work until it has received a duly signed Fire Permit.

Outside working hours, all electrical equipment must be switched off.

The no-smoking rule must be adhered to. Any "smoking" areas must be clearly indicated in accordance with Safety Instruction IS 46 (Policy on the prevention of smoking and the protection of non-smokers).

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1 In the event of electrical problems during exhibitions phone the CERN technical control room (TCR) on CERN internal no 72201.
2 TIS/GS, CERN internal no 74860.
3 Available via EDH or see Annex 2 or CERN Safety Code E, Fire Protection, Annex V.

If the fire detection system has to be deactivated during this operation, CERN officials concerned must initiate the procedure laid down in CERN Safety Instruction IS37: Alarms and Alarm Systems.
7.2. Emergency equipment

Hose reels and portable extinguishers are fitted in areas set aside for exhibitors. Such emergency equipment must always be left accessible.

Exhibitors must provide their own additional fire extinguishing equipment suited for any particular risk.

8. WARNING SYSTEMS

CERN fixed internal phones and public telephones are to be found in the vicinity of exhibition stands.

9. JOINT INSPECTION BEFORE OPENING

A joint inspection by the electrical safety services and the TIS/GS inspectors will be arranged by the CERN official responsible for an exhibition before it is opened. The TSO concerned must inform stand representatives about the alarm and evacuation systems (push buttons, sirens, evacuation routes, assembly points), the fire extinguishers and the telephones available. A plan showing these items must be given to them.

10. INSTRUCTIONS

The following instructions must be followed whenever an accident-like event occurs:

- Dial 74444 or 112 on a normal fixed internal CERN phone;
- From a CERN mobile dial 74444, not 112;
- Dial + (41) 22 767 4444 from any other mobile phone.

In addition, if there is fire:

- Where possible, fight the source of the flames using extinguishers or hose reels;
- If it is too dangerous to fight the fire, activate the nearest push-button alarm and evacuation signal, which is marked by a panel with the words "sirène évacuation" (evacuation siren) and evacuate the area;
- Go to the assembly point (see plan);
- Provide the fire brigade with details upon its arrival.

11. EXEMPTIONS

The Division Leader of TIS can grant exemptions to the present recommendations if compensatory measures are taken that provide equivalent safety guarantees.

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4 Otherwise you will be connected to one of the outside national fire fighting services not the CERN Fire Brigade.
ANNEXES

1. Classification of fire resistance of building and structural materials in various countries (Table 3 of IS 41).

GLOSSARY

R.I.A.  Robinet d’Incendie Armé, hose reels
TIS/GS  TIS Division, General Safety Group
TSO  Territorial Safety Officer
Classification of fire resistance of building materials in various countries\textsuperscript{a})

(Taken from the "International Plastics Flammability Handbook" J. Troitzsch, Hanser Publishers - Munich, 1990)

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\* See Safety Instruction IS 41: The Use of Plastics and other Non-Metallic Materials at CERN with respect to Fire Safety and Radiation Resistance.

1) Classes 1, 2 for linings.
2) Classes A, B, C or I, II, III for linings depending on the Model Building Code.

\* nc = non combustible, lc = low combustibility, mc = moderately combustible, hc = highly combustible, the words used in the codes.