

## E-cosse Monthly Update

Welcome to E-cosse, the NFRC Scotland Monthly update e-newsletter.



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### **Chairman's Note**

Over the summer months the Federation's external activities reduce due to holidays of presenters and those we wish to present to.

However, that doesn't mean it is a quite time for the Federation as much of the planning for events and stakeholder engagement takes place during that time.

The Federation continues to be recognised by external stakeholders for roofing matters with the NFRC having been approached by Harvey Donaldson Gibson Chartered Surveyors to give a presentation to identifying roofing faults.

The Federation was also represented on the government's Technical Expert Group for developing the Graduate Level Apprenticeship for Construction and The Built Environment. This course goes up to Masters Degree level and covers the wider construction industry and is anticipated to be delivered from September 2018 onwards.

I also attended a meeting of the NFRC Regional Chairmen where we were briefed on many of the exciting developments the Federation was engaged in throughout the UK and plans for the future.

### **NFRC Scottish Roofing Contractor of the Year Awards**

Due to several requests the deadline for this year's NFRC Scottish Roofing Contractor of the Year Awards has been extended to 8 September 2017.

The awards will be presented by John Beattie at The Grand Central Hotel, Glasgow on 10 November.

The application form is attached for your convenience and members are asked to complete and return the form, including photos, by 8 September.

As with normal practice, all entries will be judged without knowledge of the company submitting the entry to ensure a fully transparent judging process.

### **Diary Dates**

**10 November 2017** NFRC Scottish Roofing Contractor of the Year Awards, The Grand Central Hotel, Glasgow



### **Forth Valley Traditional Building Summer School**



This year saw the inaugural Forth Valley Traditional Building Summer School which gave twelve local school children the opportunity to visit Forth Valley College and try various trades which are essential to maintaining Scotland's built heritage.

The Summer School built on the success of traditional building skill demonstrations in the Forth Valley area which had been extremely well received.

NFRC would like to thank Mark and Nicola Cattanach from Rooftec (Scotland) for once again for donating their time, and materials, to deliver this training on behalf of the Federation.



## **Training**

Independent Roof Training has several courses planned for September 2017.

These include CPCS Telehandler Novice 5 Day course, Health, Safety & Awareness, SMSTS, SSSTS, IPAF, PAS-MA and others.

IRT has also organised a Construction Ambassador's Course on 21 September which will give those attending the skills required to promote the construction industry as a career of choice to school children.

Full details of these courses can be viewed at: <https://www.irtscotland.co.uk/>

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## **Construction Scotland Innovation Centre**

The Centre is now open for business with its premises being based at Hamilton International Technology Park.

The Centre looks to put industry in contact with university experts and public sector providers to engage with innovation to address issues and opportunities within the construction sector.

The Centre will be officially opened by the First Minister on 11 September 2017.

For details of how the Centre could help you please visit the website at:

<http://www.cs-ic.org/innovationcentre/>

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## **Safe2Torch**

What are the main points?:

Those who create risks have a responsibility to manage those risks – placing the ownership of potential fire risks in the right place is the main message of Safe2Torch. Therefore, it is essential to make sure all fire risks are identified at the survey stage and factored in to the specification before it is written. This means that where any fire risk has been identified, or, just as importantly, where it cannot be ruled out, then the relevant parts of that specification must default to torch-free solutions. If, subsequently, it can be demonstrated that an area is safe (e.g. when uncovering an area on a refurbishment project) then the specification can, if agreed between all parties, revert to torch application.

The Safe2Torch campaign is designed to support specification writers to comply with the Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015, and ties in with the HSE's led 'Helping Great Britain Work Well' strategy which promotes a safer and healthier working environment.

Put simply, **Safe2Torch is a positive message which puts safety first at the design stage.**

The Safe2Torch campaign will directly affect at least 50% of all the flat roofs installed in the UK.

Roof fires caused by gas torches, no matter how minor, pose a serious threat to life, property, the image of the industry and possibly even the long-term future of torch-on as an accepted method of covering a roof. NFRC believe that by working together, fires of this nature can be prevented and it is for this reason, that we have now launched our Safe2Torch campaign.

The Safe2Torch campaign will promote the positive side of the industry, where safe specifications and safe working practices are second nature. It will give clients assurance that if they engage with a Safe2Torch Contractor and/or Manufacturer, their roof works will have been planned and installed within the requirements of the Safe2Torch guidance.

