



COOPERATION AGREEMENT

on the Study of Fires at the Wildland-Urban Interface
between Building and Fire Research Laboratory
and State Key Laboratory of Fire Science

I. Background and Objective

Improving the level of fire safety at wildland-urban interface (WUI) is critical to the reduction of lives and property lost to unwanted fires, both in USA and in China. The Building and Fire Research Laboratory (BFRL) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the State Key Laboratory of Fire Science (SKLFS) are interested in the cooperation to enhance fire safety at WUI.

BFRL and SKLFS have previously signed two cooperation agreements. The first one, "Cooperation on Study of Fire Safety of Tall Buildings between BFRL and SKLFS", was signed on September 26, 2002 for a period of three years. And the second, "Cooperation on the Study of Fire Safety in Buildings and Industrial Facilities between BFRL and SKLFS", was signed on November 8, 2006 for a period of five years. Through the previous cooperations, NIST and SKLFS have jointly benefited from cooperative activities in fire safety research.

This cooperation agreement (hereinafter refer to as "Agreement") is a statement of intent of the parties to cooperate on the study at WUI and it does not create any legal rights or responsibilities. This agreement is not legally binding upon the parties.

II. Content

The following specific research areas have been identified for cooperation:

- Dynamics of WUI fires
- Structural ignition and building safety in WUI fires
- Modeling crowd evacuation in WUI fires
- Simulation of WUI fires
- Fire risk assessment methodology of WUI
- Other contemporary fire safety research areas

This work could involve theoretical analyses, experimental investigations and numerical simulations, and may call upon experts from other Chinese fire research institutions affiliated with SKLFS.

III. Achievement and Expenses

The cooperative study referenced above will provide scientific support for

- Better understanding of fire safety at WUI
- Improvement of fire service technologies and guidelines at WUI
- Proposition and/or modification of standards, codes and practice on WUI fire safety

Accomplishments, technical results, and publications from this joint effort will be shared by both BFRL and SKLFS and will be made publicly available. BFRL and SKLFS will be responsible for their own research funds; neither party is required to obligate funds to the activities planned under this agreement.

The two institutions also agree to cooperate when applying and implementing the projects mutually selected for collaboration. In the application of the International Joint Research Project from NSFC (National Natural Science Foundation of China), SKLFS intends to provide the support for research into WUI fires, including research, equipment/instruments, seminars/workshops, cooperation and exchange, subject to the availability of funds. BFRL will be responsible for its own research costs.

IV. Non-Binding

This Agreement is a statement of intent of the parties to cooperate and is not legally binding. This Agreement creates no legal rights or responsibilities.

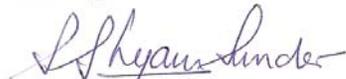
V. Notes

This agreement shall remain in effect for a period of five years. Either side may withdraw from the agreement within 60 days after notifying the other party in writing. The agreement may be extended, revised, amended or substituted upon agreement by both parties in writing whenever necessary. There are two copies of this agreement, and each side will keep one of them.

In WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized, have signed the present Agreement on behalf of their respective institutions.

FOR:

Building and Fire Research Laboratory,
National Institute of Standards and
Technology, USA



Dr. S. Shyam Sunder, Director

State Key Laboratory of Fire Science,
China



Prof. Sun Jinhua, Vice Director

Date: 3/20/2009

Date: 03/19/2009