



STATEMENT OF INTENT
for
Cooperation on the International Joint Research Center
for the study of Large-scale Fires
between the Engineering Laboratory
and State Key Laboratory of Fire Science

Background

Improving the level of fire safety in society is critical to life safety and the reduction of fire losses associated with property both in the USA and in China. Large-scale fires in the wildland, urban areas, and in the wildland-urban interface represent a significant threat. The Engineering Laboratory (EL) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the State Key Laboratory of Fire Science (SKLFS) are interested in expanding their cooperation to enhance fire safety associated with large-scale fires.

EL (formerly Building and Fire Research Laboratory, BFRL) and SKLFS have previously signed cooperation agreements on the study of Fire Safety of Tall Buildings and Industrial Facilities. Through the previous cooperation, NIST and SKLFS have jointly benefited from cooperative activities in fire safety research.

This Statement of Intent (hereinafter refer to as “Agreement”) is a statement of intentions of the parties to cooperate on the study of large-scale fires and does not create any legal rights or responsibilities. This agreement is not legally binding upon the parties.

NIST enters into this agreement under the authorities granted by Title 15 United States Code Sections 272(c)5, (c)15, and 278f(a)(1) and (a)(2).

The authorities of SKLFS and EL have decided to formalize the Agreement to strengthen mutual understanding, to foster friendly cooperation, and to promote scientific collaboration and exchange.

EXPECTED RESULTS

SKLFS and EL intend to collaborate on large-scale fire research. The collaboration between SKLFS and EL will explore the feasibility of establishing mutually beneficial cooperation in the area of large-scale fire research, which may lead to funding of future projects and joint publications. SKLFS is launching an International Joint Research Center on Large-scale Fires at SKLFS, which is expected to be certificated by Ministry of Science and Technology of

China (MOST). EL intends to partner with the International Joint Research Center on Large-scale Fires at SKLFS, jointly conducting research on large-scale fires.

The two institutions seek to promote:

1. Development and promotion of research collaboration in areas of large-scale wildland and urban fire studies. In large-scale fire research, both institutions intend to promote the collaborative research mainly on dynamics of large-scale fires, structural ignition and building safety in large-scale fires, modeling crowd evacuation in large-scale urban fires, simulation of large-scale fires, fire risk assessment methodology of wildland-urban interface (WUI) fires, and other contemporary fire safety problems associated with large-scale fire research
2. The exchange of staff for the mutual benefit of both institutions. The activities of Staff Exchanges may include (i) undertaking joint fire research; (ii) participating in seminars, colloquia, and other types of scientific discussion.
3. Collaboration on joint fire and emergency response projects, provided funding availability. The two institutions intend to continue the collaboration on other areas of research based on previous agreements.

Both institutions recognize the benefit of defining a larger research enterprise that touches on research of mutual interest, leverages core capabilities, and raises the visibility of this important collaboration. Thus, this Agreement lays the foundation for a broad cooperation that is anticipated to improve efficiency and avoid redundant research activities and products, through leveraging of resources and capabilities within each institution.

Period

This agreement shall remain in effect for a period of 5 years (2012-2017) from the date of execution below. Within this period, both sides intend to carry out collaborative experimental and theoretical research on large-scale fires, depending on the availability of funds.

Sharing of intellectual property rights

The parties intend that technical results and publications from this joint effort will be shared by both EL and SKLFS and will be made publicly available.

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. Activities contemplated by this agreement are subject to the availability of funds and other necessary resources to the parties.

Note

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

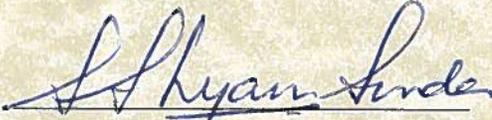
by both parties in writing whenever necessary. There are two copies of this agreement, and each side will keep one of them.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the institutions hereto have offered their signatures:

FOR:

Engineering Laboratory,
National Institute of Standards and
Technology, USA

State Key Laboratory of Fire Science,
China



Dr. S. Shyam Sunder, Director



Prof. Liu Naian, Vice Director

Date: 5/8/12

Date: 5.8.2012