

Statement of Intent for Collaboration

between the

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

and

Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment

on

NIST/BFRL and CSTB Building and Fire Research Collaborative Activities

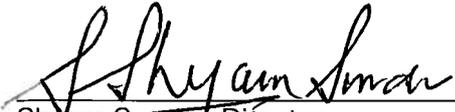
Wednesday, 4 November 2009

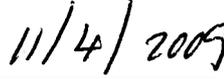
1. The meeting of the officials from the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Building and Fire Research Laboratory (NIST/BFRL) and the Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment (CSTB) was held at CSTB in Marne la Vallee and Nantes, France during 3-4 November 2009. This meeting was conducted under the framework to engage in building and fire research collaborative activities with the potential of improved design and construction practices through bilateral cooperation.
2. During this meeting, the CSTB and NIST/BFRL officials discussed similarities in their respective laboratory's programmatic and technical thrusts and agreed to building and fire research collaborative activities consistent with their mission objectives. They affirmed their support to focus cooperative research activities in building composites and fire research that includes information sharing, exchanging reports of mutual interest, and performing joint research. The officials agreed that it would be in the best interest of both parties to explore and develop cooperative research in three topics:
 - Performance based fire safety
 - Materials & Systems life and service cycle performance
 - Energy efficiency & indoor air quality in building

and to explore during the next 12 months, other candidate technical topics as may be identified during the course of discussions.

3. The designated research to be conducted by the appropriate components of the NIST/BFRL and the CSTB shall be delineated in sufficient detail so both sides understand and agree to the 1) Objectives, 2) Background for Research, 3) Technical Scope-of-Work, 4) Expected Products, 5) Research Schedule, 6) Principal Investigators, and 7) Guest Researcher Exchanges. The research at each institution is aimed at providing opportunities to exchange ideas, skills, information, techniques, and guest researcher visits with the overall objective of using the combined resources of the institutions to solve mutual scientific and technical problems.
4. It was agreed that the collaborative activities work would be annually reviewed by an NIST/BFRL and CSTB Management Team for meeting its original objectives and the Agreement will be reviewed after five years to determine if further extensions or changes are desirable. The officials agreed that primary areas of joint research be focused to build core competence in both organizations building materials and fire research programs. Progress reports that details progress on the collaborative activities shall be submitted annually to each Laboratory Director.
5. It was understood that the level and pace of each institution's participation shall be based on the availability of funds and human resources and that each institution will fund its own activities; there will be no exchange of funds. This Agreement does not obligate funds.
6. The collaboration between the two laboratories can proceed to new topics of common interest based on mutual agreement.
7. The Program was signed by the Director of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Building and Fire Research Laboratory and the President of Centre Scientifique et Technique du Bâtiment as recorded below.
8. This Agreement encourages BFRL-NIST and/or CSTB to publish results, reports, articles or any other scientific document. The Parties agree to make reference to this agreement in those documents and to keep the other Party informed.
9. This Agreement is a Statement of Intent and is not legally binding upon the Parties, does not create legally binding obligations and cannot be the basis of any legal claim between the parties.

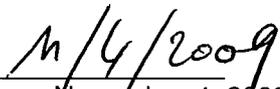
For the NIST/BFRL:


Shyam Sunder, Director


November 4, 2009

For the CSTB:


Bertrand Delcambre, President


November 4, 2009