Guidelines

**Developing   
Evacuation and Salvage Plans for   
Works of Art and Heritage Buildings**





Foreword

The Security Commission of the Confederation of Fire Protection Association Europe (CFPA-E) has developed common guidelines in order to achieve similar interpretation in the European countries and to give examples of acceptable solutions, concepts and models. The CFPA-E has the aim to facilitate and support fire protection and security aspects across Europe.

The market imposes new demands for quality and safety. Today fire protection and security aspects form an integral part of a modern strategy for survival and competitiveness.

The guidelines are primarily intended for the public. They are also aimed at the rescue services, consultants, safety companies and the like so that, in the course of their work, they may be able to help increase fire safety and security in society.

These guidelines have been compiled by the Guidelines Commission and are adopted by all fire associations in the CFPA-E.

These guidelines reflect best practice developed by the countries of CFPA-E. Where the guidelines and national requirements conflict, national requirements must apply.

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# Introduction

It is only human to assume that not having suffered any losses in the past would automatically lead to a future of the same nature. On that point, a court once expressed the following opinion:

Experience tells us that we have to expect a fire developing at any time. The fact that certain buildings have not suffered any fire loss for decades does not constitute evidence of there being no hazard but rather of good fortune for the parties affected who have to expect that this could change any time. (Gelsenkirchen administrative court, 5 K 1012/85 of 14 Nov. 1985).

Considering that the possibility of a loss cannot be ruled out with 100 % certainty, every museum, art collection or library should have a plan that stipulates what should be done before, during and after such a loss scenario in order to avoid panic, helplessness and chaos.

The individual circumstances of every building housing works of art and cultural assets in terms of its location, construction, occupancy, frequency of visitors and type of exhibits inventorymake it

necessary to adapt evacuation and salvage plans for works of art and heritage buildings to these givens. In this context, special precautions for exhibits on loan may be necessary.

Contingency plans should cover a period of 48 hours immediately following the loss. During this period, the course for successful salvage measures is set. The plans also provide a good basis for emergency measures in case of hazards that are imminent but have not occurred yet (e.g. floods, storms and the like).

The general recommendation for burglaries is not to attempt to salvage stolen works of art or heritage assets without the agreement of the authorities (e.g. police) and any insurer in order to avoid inadvertently encouraging art-extortion (“art-napping”).

In general, timely implementation of evacuation and salvage measures immediately following the loss is critical for loss minimisation

# Scope



Figure 1 Museum Ludwig, Cologne

These Guidelines have been designed for museums, libraries, archives, churches and other buildings housing works of art and heritage assets such as warehouses of forwarding companies, galleries and trade exhibition centres.

## Validity

This document Developing Evacuation and Salvage Plans for Works of Art and Heritage Buildings, CFPA-E 07 : 2010/S are valid from September 1st, 2014

# Risk Characteristics

In general, museums, libraries, archives and other buildings housing works of art and heritage assets have the following risk characteristics in common:

* High concentration of valuable assets
* Irreplaceble collections and individual exhibits
* High sensitivity of the exhibits to external influence
* Unpredictable crowd behaviour (visitors).

# Preventive Measures

The prerequisite for a safe operation is the formulation/development of a comprehensive protection and safety concept and its full implementation for the respective building. All safeguards against fire, burglary, theft, hold-ups, vandalism, water leaks and natural disasters (flood, storm etc.) must fit seamlessly. They contribute to avoiding and/or minimizing any negative impacts on works of art and heritage buildings. Regular inspections, maintenance and repair measures ensure the continued reliability of installed technical safeguards.

National regulations may overrule these recommendations

Important factors include the following:

* change as proposed Fire safety doors shall be kept closed at all times and it is imperative to make sure that they are not wedged open. In case operational reasons make it necessary to leave them open for a longer time, only hold-open systems approved by building supervision agencies shall be used (cf. CFPA No 2/F as well as CFPA No 6/S).



Figure 2 Courtesy of Vaduz PR   
and information service

* Fire safety, intruder and burglary alarm systems shall be regularly inspected (if possible, annually), maintained and, if necessary, repaired (cf. European and national regulations).
* Openings in walls with fire safety functions (firewalls) introduced be sealed with flame-retardant material.
* Flood protection structures have to be inspected and serviced (cf. CFPA No 1/N).
* The required width of escape routes and exits leading outside must be usable and cleared of any objects.
* Appropriate safeguards must be installed to minimise the risk of burglary and theft. They shall be developed in close cooperation with the police and the insurer (cf. CFPA No 29/F, CFPA 30/F as well as CFPA 5/S).

Personnel shall be trained (cf. Annex A) and instructed in the implementation and realisation and ensure the operational readiness of protection measures.

The possibility of a loss cannot be ruled out despite all preventive actions. This is where a contingency plan is useful.

# Contingency Planning

## How to Compose a Planning Team

It makes sense to bring together decision-makers and experts from different disciplines and select a coordinator to develop contingency plans. The planning team should include the following:

* Representatives of the museum’s management/director (incl. person responsible for communication)
* Fire protection manager
* Safety manager
* Head of IT
* Conservator
* Head of facilities management
* Fire brigade
* Police
* Security company
* Insurer

## Roles and Responsibilities of the Planning Team

### Risk Assessment

A risk assessment should be carried out with a view to the control of fire (cf. CFPA No 4/F), natural disasters, burglary, theft, vandalism, hold-up and the repercussions thereof.

For this purpose, the structural, operational and organizational conditions shall be assessed:

* Risks resulting from the location (if necessary, consult specialists)
* Structural and organisational circumstances / conditions such as e.
  + Sensitivity of the structural shell
  + Possible access for emergency services
  + Clear and accurate identification of the location on the part of the response forces (fire brigade, police, etc.)
* Accessibility of authorised personnel
* Storage of packaging material
* Risks resulting from the type of the facilities / equipment, e.g.
  + high proportion of plastic materials, in case of fire risk of smoke, aggressive particulates and gases
  + high content of wood in heritage buildings, rapid spread of fire, sensitive to humidity (vapour).
* What kind of technical facilities (e.g. facilities such as heating, air condition and ventilation system, lift, fire suppression system) are available which in case of an emergency pose a risk potential themselves?



Figure 3 Museum's depot

* Special occupancies (meetings, events and the like).
* Are there any secondary installations (e.g. workshops, catering areas etc.) or any secondary occupants or neighbours?
* Risks posed by repair work (e.g. roofing, welding and soldering; consider permit procedure). For information on Hot works cf. CFPA 12/F
* Risks posed by sub-standard maintenance (mildew as a result of humidity, poorly serviced air condition systems, defects in electrical systems, damage of water pipes caused by frost etc.).
* Risks posed by biological agents e.g. mold, rodents, insects.
* Transportation (cf. CFPA No 29/F)

Preventive measures (e.g. procurement of suitable extinguishing agents) derived from the risk assessment must be taken.

### Inventory Lists

Inventory lists must include the following additional details based on the object’s ID:

* Condition (tested)
* Size and weight
* Material
* Photo documents
* Evidence of ownership
* Storage location (verify location)
* Storage conditions
* Transport options

*Note:  
Inventory lists must be continuously updated!*

### Works of Art and Exhibits – Properties

Account should be taken of risks especially resulting from the particular features (material, design) of the works of art and heritage buildings and the individual protective systems.

*Note:  
Consult expertise of specialist conservators.*



Figure 4 Courtesy of hasenkamp Internationale Transporte GmbH

## Emergency Plan

In order to develop evacuation and salvage plans on the basis of the above risk assessment, the following considerations should be made and measures defined:

* Predict the possible scenario
  + What could happen?
  + Which areas could be affected?
  + Who is going to initiate evacuation measures?
* With the specialist conservators
  + Talk about the possible hazards for the objects, exhibits, collections.
  + Define necessary emergency measures
* Emergency process organisation:
  + Appointment of emergency coordinators
  + Designation of decision-makers and authoities
  + Prioritisation by value (what has to be saved first) – if not addressed elsewhere
  + Internal and external communication (cf. CFPA No 2/N)
* Plans, prepared measures etc. shall be reviewed on an annual basis or whenever circumstances change (special exhibitions, exhibits on loan etc.) .

The staff of the relevant establishment should be briefed regularly on the status of progress during the development of the contingency plan in order to ensure feedback. Emergency plans can only be fully effective if they are supported and committed to by the staff. It is advisable to regularly validate that data on designated persons (names, telephone numbers) are up to date.

See also CFPA No 29/F.

### Before the Emergency

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Contents of plan (what?)*** | ***Who does what? (roles)*** | ***When?*** | ***Where?*** |
| **Alarm control panel (see Annex A)** |  |  |  |
| **Provision of emergency aids** (covers, drying equipment, blankets, gloves, pallets, packaging material, industrial aspirators, templates for documentation, cameras, necessary tools/keys to disengage mechanical security locks, emergency kit for conservators etc.) |  |  |  |
| **Storage capacities** (external/internal) contingency warehouse, cold store |  |  |  |
| **Transport capacities** Forwarding agent for art | *Note: If possible, coordinate with conservator* |  |  |
| **Lyophilisation (vacuum),  freeze drying** Compile address list of specialist companies |  |  |  |
| **Recovery and return** in case of loss |  |  |  |
| **Define possible priorities** for recovering the works of art |  |  |  |
| **Senior manager on duty Calendar** |  |  |  |
| **HR resources available** Compose rescue teams |  |  |  |
| **Site inspection/introduction:** Staff, fire brigade, police, security service provider (annually) |  |  |  |
| **Monitoring of safeguards**  **Plan update**  Fire brigade inspection/exercise, fire drill, regular site visits, management, availability of emergency aids |  |  |  |
| **Coordinate contingency plan  with insurer** | | | |

### During the Emergency

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Contents of plan (what?)*** | ***Who does what? (roles)*** | ***When?*** | ***Where?*** |
| **Calling emergency services** |  |  |  |
| **Alert visitors, staff, contractors and neighbours** |  |  |  |
| **Evacuation** of visitors and staff and **immediate corrective action**  Convene **emergency team** (coordination of operations, advisory support to external forces and relief teams, public relations)  Specify **priorities** for the recovery of works of art |  |  |  |
| Initiation and implementation of  evacuation measures |  |  |  |
| Sampling by specialised conservators and initiation of  **harmful substance analysis** to  determine the next steps |  |  |  |
| **Documentation** of evacuated works of art in writing and with photos |  |  |  |
| Contact **insurer** |  |  |  |

### After the Emergency

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| ***Contents of plan (what?)*** | ***Who does what? (roles)*** | ***When?*** | ***Where?*** |
| **Security** structural measures, surveillance, intermediate storage |  |  |  |
| * **Involvement of insurer** * **Continuation of rescue, recovery and restoration measures** |  |  |  |
| **Measures to ensure  business continuity**  Structural partition |  |  |  |

##### Alarm Control Panel (Example)

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Emergency phone numbers (please alert in this order)** | | | |
|  | **business** | **private** | **mobile** |
| **Fire brigade** |  |  |  |
| **Police** |  |  |  |
| **Emergency coordinator** |  |  |  |
| **Emergency coordinator** notifies:   * Management/Director of museum * Head of facilities management * Conservator * Fire protection manager * Security company * Manager on duty * Insurer |  |  |  |
| **General code of conduct** | | | |
| **Individual emergency measures** | | | |

##### Training of Personnel

Overview of courses : see www.cfpa-e.eu

Special courses:

Fire and Security for museums (specialists course)

##### Literature List

1. CFPA-EUROPE Guideline No 2/N Business Resilience, An Introduction to Protecting Your Business
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    Calamiteiten - Amsterdam (Nl) : CL onderzoek voorwerpen, sd - pm
12. CENTRAAL LAB. ONDERZOEK VOORWERPEN VAN KUNST   
    Museale calamiteiten en calamiteitenplanning - Amsterdam (Nl): CL onderzoek voorwerpen, 1992 - 81 p
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    Heritage under fire : A guide to the protection of historic buildings - 2 ed, London (UK): FPA – 1995 - 112 p
15. FEMA NATIONAL TASK FORCE ON EMERGENCY RESPONSE   
    Emergency response and salvage wheel - Washington (US) : National Institue for the Conservation of Cultural Property; FEMA, 1997 - - 1 disque carton EMERY Steve, Counter culture in Fire prevention (UK) n° 413, February, 2007 - pp 18-21 (4 p)
16. CFPA-EUROPE   
    Guideline 29 F : Protection of paintings : Transport, exhibition and storage; sl : CFPA Europe, 2013 - 40 p

##### List of all CFPA Guidelines

**Security**

Guideline No. 2010 1 S Arson document

Guideline No. 2010 S Protection of empty buildings

Guideline No. 3:2010 S Security system for empty buildings

Guideline No. 4:2010 S Guidance on key holder selections and duties

Guideline No. 5:2012 S Security guidelines for museums and showrooms

Guideline No. 6:2014 S Security Guidelines for safe emergency exit doors   
in non-residential premises

Guideline No. 7:2015 S Developing Evacuation and Salvage Plans for Works   
of Art and Heritage Buildings

**Fire**

Guideline No. 1:2002 F Internal fire protection control

Guideline No. 2:2013 F Panic & emergency exit devices

Guideline No. 3:2011 F Certification of thermographers

Guideline No. 4:2010 F Introduction to qualitative fire risk assessment

Guideline No. 5:2003 F Guidance signs, emergency lighting and general lighting

Guideline No. 6:2011 F Fire safety in care homes for the elderly

Guideline No. 7:2011 F Safety distance between waste containers and buildings

Guideline No. 8:2004 F Preventing arson – information to young people

Guideline No. 9:2012 F Fire safety in restaurants

Guideline No. 10:2008 F Smoke alarms in the home

Guideline No. 11:2005 F Recommended numbers of fire protection trained staff

Guideline No. 12:2012 F Fire safety basics for hot work operatives

Guideline No. 13:2006 F Fire protection documentation

Guideline No. 14:2007 F Fire protection in information technology facilities

Guideline No. 15:2012 F Fire safety in guest harbours and marinas

Guideline No. 16:2008 F Fire protection in offices

Guideline No. 17:2008 F Fire safety in farm buildings

Guideline No. 18:2013 F Fire protection on chemical manufacturing sites

Guideline No. 19:2009 F Fire safety engineering concerning evacuation from buildings

Guideline No. 20:2012 F Fire safety in camping sites

Guideline No. 21:2012 F Fire prevention on construction sites

Guideline No. 22:2012 F Wind turbines – Fire protection guideline

Guideline No. 23:2010 F Securing the operational readiness of fire control system

Guideline No. 24:2010 F Fire safe homes

Guideline No. 25:2010 F Emergency plan

Guideline No. 26:2010 F Fire protection of temporary buildings on construction sites

Guideline No . 27:2011 F Fire safety in apartment buildings

Guideline No. 28:2012 F Fire safety in laboratories

Guideline No. 29:2013 F Protection of paintings: Transport, exhibition and storage

Guideline No. 30:2013 F Managing fire safety in historical buildings

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**Natural hazards**

Guideline No. 1:2012 N Protection against flood

Guideline No. 2:2013 N Business Resilience – An introduction to protecting your business

Guideline No. 3:2013 N Protection of buildings against wind damage

Guideline No. 4:2013 N Lightning protection

Guideline No. 5:2014 N Managing heavy snow loads on roofs