

# media release

SA Metropolitan Fire Service



## Adelaide hosts Fire Australia Conference

Wednesday, 16 November 2011

National and international urban fire specialists have converged on Adelaide for the 2011 Fire Australia Conference and Exhibition.

The key theme of the conference, being held at the Adelaide Convention Centre between Wednesday, 16 November and Friday, 18 November is *The Essentials of the Future: Education and Maintenance*.

Attendees include:

- International President of the Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE), Hao Giang Tay
- National President of Fire Protection Australia, Glenn Talbot
- National President of the IFE, Andrew Sharrad (MFS), and
- MFS Chief Officer, Grant Lupton; the first Australian Chief Officer to hold a position on the IFE International Board since it was founded in 1918.

South Australia's Minister for Emergency Services, the Hon. Jennifer Rankine officially opened the conference this morning.

Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) Chief Officer, Grant Lupton said Adelaide is honoured to host the conference for the first time in six years.

"Each year in Australia, the collective cost of fire damage in Australia totals **\$12 billion**. Meanwhile, around 3,000 people are seriously injured and at least 100 people die as a direct result of structure fires.

"The Fire Australia Conference and Exhibition has attracted a diverse group of specialists from urban fire, building, design, engineering, and architectural backgrounds. Each attendee appreciates the danger that fire poses and the impact it can have on buildings, the environment and, most importantly, on people's lives."

The 2011 Fire Australia Conference is addressing fire protection from the point of view of education and maintenance.

"Keynote speakers will explore the future development and stability of the fire protection industry. At the core of conference discussions will be our industry's commitment to continually improving public safety," Chief Officer Lupton said.

**To view the conference program, visit:**

<http://www.fireaustralia.com.au/general-category/conference-program-overview.html>

**For media enquiries and interviews call the MFS Media Line on (08) 8204 3770**

[www.mfs.sa.gov.au](http://www.mfs.sa.gov.au)