

FSP Documentation Guide Announcement

In his research paper, *The Non-Random Nature of Fire Safety Inspection Compliance*, Fire Chief Len Garis and his co-author, Dr. Joseph Clare, noted that, in the City of Surrey, 20% of the inspections that reviewed fire safety plans found the plans to be non-compliant. In a 7-year period, they found that 55% of those properties that experienced a fire were found to be in non-compliance with the BC Fire Code Safety requirements for fire safety plans in their recent inspection prior to the fire.

Compliant fire safety plans effectively implemented could have prevented many of those fires.

Similarly, the Fire Inspection and Prevention Initiative (FIPI) has found 41% of sawmill and other primary wood product manufacturing operations to be non-compliant with the fire safety plan requirements. These are F1 – high hazard industrial occupancies.

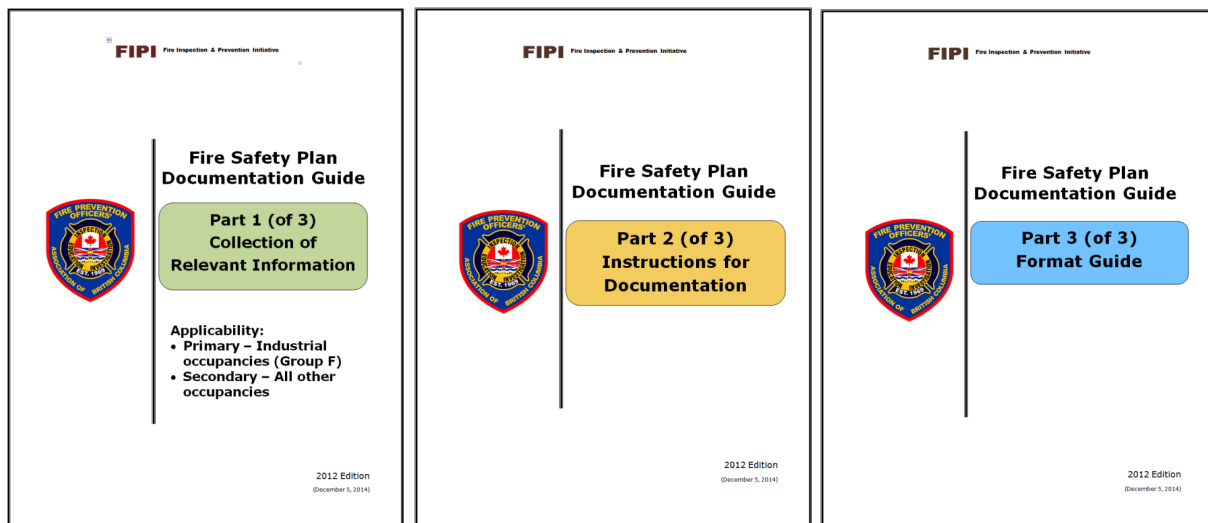
New resources develop to assist building owners and occupiers

The Fire Inspection and Prevention Initiative (FIPI) LAFC Inspection Working Group has developed additional resources to assist building owners and occupiers prepare and document effective and BC Fire Code compliant Fire Safety Plans.

The 3-Part Fire Safety Plan Development Guide and two related checklists will reside on the [FPOABC website](#). Look for the 'Fire Safety Plans' section under the home page 'Prevention' heading.

With these resources, it's never been easier for a building owner or the occupier to develop a fire safety plan using internal staff or external 3rd party FSP providers.

Please visit the [FPOABC website](#) and become familiar with these new resources and appreciate the guidance it gives owners, occupiers and 3rd party FSP providers.



If this resource is acceptable in your jurisdiction, please share with building owners and/or occupiers.

For more details, read page 2

Resource Guide Details

The original FIPI Fire Safety Plan Development Guide for Industrial Occupancies has been renamed Fire Safety Plan Documentation Guide Part 1 – Collection of Relevant Information. It now has two companion parts:

- Fire Safety Plan Documentation Guide Part 2 – Instructions for Documentation
- Fire Safety Plan Documentation Guide Part 3 – Format Guide

Part 1 provides guidance to identify and collect all the pertinent information that should be included in the fire safety plan. Part 2 and 3 provides guidance to effectively record all that pertinent information in a manner that will benefit the building owner and/or the occupier as well as the local fire department.

This resource identifies and addresses many of the common FSP deficiencies noted by fire inspectors. Refer to Part 2 of the guide for details.

Part 1 will be applicable in all jurisdictions. **Fire departments** can adopt the Part 3 format for use by buildings and properties within their jurisdiction, as is or modified to suit their local government bylaws and preferences. Modification to Part 3 may require modification to Part 2.

The documents advise **businesses** to first check with their local fire department to learn if it has a preferred format. If there is no preferred format, the use of this full set of guides to document their FSP, is supported and recommended by:

- Fire Prevention Officers' Association of BC
- Fire Chiefs' Association of BC
- Office of the Fire Commissioner

This set should be used in conjunction with the following checklists:

- The LAFC Fire Safety Plan Inspection Review Checklist.
- The LAFC Fire Hazard Identification Checklist.

All this reference material is available on the [FPOABC website](#), also under the 'Fire Safety Plans' section.

Maintaining Currency of the reference material

This current version is based on the 2012 BC Fire Code. The FPOABC, the FCABC, and the OFC will cooperate to maintain the set's currency. Anyone can submit a request for change, especially if a correction is warranted. At a minimum, revisions will occur when the BC Fire Code is revised.