

## **IFSM formally support UKAS accredited fire risk assessors certification.**

The IFSM management council announced to their members, during a recent technical day in Birmingham, that it would be in the interest of their registered fire risk assessors to gain independent certification of competence through a UKAS accredited scheme. Dr Bob Docherty, the IFSM General Secretary explained during his meeting address that; "...it was the duty of the IFSM council to advise its members on the best way to move forward". Explaining why this would benefit IFSM registered assessors, Bob informed the audience of plans for a National Register of Competent Fire Risk Assessors and that one requirement for entry on to such a register would be the need for an assessment of competence through a standardised and independent certification scheme; Such as the Warrington Certification Limited and Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors scheme, FRACS.

Simon Ince from Warrington Certification Limited, highlighted the preliminary work carried out by the IFSM council and WCL on a joint venture, which would allow fire risk assessors on the IFSM register to become certificated through the UKAS accredited assessment, for a reduced fee. Simon went on to say that the future of competence assessment was partnerships between professional bodies and certification bodies and that the same offer of cooperation had been extended to the IFE and IFPO councils.

Martin Russell – Croucher from RICS expanded on the work they have been doing over many years to provide a listing of competent fire risk assessors for the Responsible Person's protection. He suggested that RICS as a body who has the interests of the Responsible Person in mind; would be willing to administer a National Register for the fire risk assessment industry and CLG

More details of the partnership between the IFSM and WCL will be announced through the institutes Daedalus news letter later this summer.

*The IFSM, WCL and RICS are all members of the CLG formed 'competence council' who are working on a national standard of identified competences for fire risk assessors, a standard which will be used by certification bodies in their assessment process. The first meeting of which will take place in London on the 7<sup>th</sup> of June under the chairmanship of Iain Cox from CFOA*