

# IFCEM 2018 brings fire experts together

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**F**IRE and Safety experts from around the world will gather here for three days beginning Tuesday to share insights and best practices to boost fire safety and disaster management.

The International Fire Conference and Exhibition Malaysia (IFCEM) 2018, which is being held for the third time, will showcase the most advanced fire safety and rescue equipment by over 100 local and international exhibitors.

Fire and Rescue Department director-general Datuk Wan Mohd Nor Ibrahim said IFCEM 2018 was the best platform for Malaysia to not only learn from the experience of others but also share the country's best practices.

The exchange of information and knowledge on challenges, threats, best practices as well as technologies to boost fire safety and disaster management would assist Malaysia to be at the forefront in the industry.

Themed "Fire Safety - Gaining the Edge", the event will also exhibit cutting-edge fire equipment and appliances, building security and safety system.

"We hope that we can gather input from international speakers invited to share their expertise and experiences dealing with fire safety, rescue operation and crisis management during a natural disasters."

"The event will see 1,500 international and local participants. We have participants from the United Kingdom, Singapore, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore and South Korea," he told the *New Straits Times*.

Wan Mohd Nor said having a reputation for high standards



Datuk Wan Mohd Nor Ibrahim visiting a booth displaying a breathing apparatus compressor for firefighters at the 2015 International Fire Conference and Exhibition.

in fire safety would benefit the country as it would attract investors and tourists.

"Apart from being stable politically and safe, a country that has good quality and standards in fire safety will also give confidence and attract investors and tourists."

The conference will be held at the Sunway Pyramid Convention Centre. Nine papers will be presented.

Wan Mohd Nor said Malaysia was keen to share experiences on managing major incidences that hit the country in the past few years.

"Malaysia was not exempted from being hit by disasters due to fire or natural events. We will share our knowledge with the international participants on key events, such as the tahfiz school incident (Datul Quran Itti-faqiyah tahfiz school), especially on what happened and how we responded after that."

He added that the conference would highlight tragedies that happened around the world. This would serve as a reminder to all that disasters can happen anywhere and to anyone.

"The Grenfell Tower fire, which took 71 lives last year, should be highlighted to help increase awareness on fire safety."

"If it can happen in London, a city where its people are considered as highly literate on fire safety, then it could happen in our country too."

"We can learn from this and not be too complacent or take things lightly," he added.

Among the papers that will be presented include "Learning

the lessons from an unprecedented threat — How London Fire Brigade (LFB) meets the operational challenges", "Operational response challenges and innovations in Singapore" and "Electrical Causes of Fire in the UK — The Changes Achieved Following Thorough Evidence-Based Fire Investigations".

International speakers include LFB Safety and Assurance director Steve Apter, Singapore Civil Defence Force

operations department director Ling Young Ern and expert in forensic investigation Dr Nick Carey from Hawkins and Associates Limited.

Malaysia will present its experience in high-altitude search and rescue during the 2015 Sabah earthquake, high-rise building disasters and its knowledge on passive and active fire strategies for super-tall building design.

Speakers include Sabah Fire and Rescue Department director Nordin Pauzi, Institution of Fire Engineers (Malaysia) vice-president Tay Hao Giang, Fire and Rescue Department assistant fire commissioner and branch chief for fire safety certification Hamdan Ali and Association of Consulting Engineers

Malaysia former president Chen Thiam Leong.

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