

Title: A European framework to ensure fire safety in taller buildings

Main author: Quentin de Hults, [quentin@modernbuildingalliance.eu](mailto:quentin@modernbuildingalliance.eu)

Author affiliation: Modern Building Alliance (MBA)

Topics: regulation and standardization

Preferred communication type: Oral

The MBA presents a framework which proposes a comprehensive and structured list of elements for consideration by Member States in their regulatory approach to ensure fire safety in high and mid-rise buildings. This framework fits with the EU subsidiarity principle and aids in structuring the exchange of information and best practices between Member States within the European Fire Information Exchange Platform (FIEP) established by the EU Commission in October 2017.

A holistic approach enables consideration of, not only the building design and construction but also technical installations and fire safety management throughout the lifetime of the building, including clarification of the roles and responsibilities in the value chain. For façade system components, the application of large scale testing is recommended as a starting point, complemented by clear information about the systems and applications in which products may be used. This paper also identifies the role of product manufacturers and of EU standards. The ultimate goal of such framework is to provide a clear basis to Member state regulators and the construction sector, allowing identification of gaps and best practices for fire safety.