



## Vehicle Fire Investigation Courses, Ireland 29th April - 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> September 2025

- Pre-burns & syndicate burns
- Vehicle fire development
- Common faults & causes
- Investigator safety
- PPE, RPE & equipment
- Approach & Methodology
- Vehicle identification
- Information gathering & documentation
- Origin & Cause determination
- Evidence recovery
- Presenting findings







We can only reduce vehicle fires, whether they are caused by design, defect, a collision, carelessness, servicing fault or deliberate ignition, if we investigate fires correctly and thoroughly.

By investigating, and accurately identifying cause, we can improve vehicle design, improve safety, reduce fires and bring people to justice where a crime has been committed.

It is not always possible to find the definitive cause, but an investigator can rule out some causes and identify the area/point of origin.

"My power lies in not just what I know, but also in the questions I ask to seek out the correct answers. Sometimes those questions are to myself" Richard Dunbar 1988

## WINCLE STREET

## **COURSE DESIGN**

From the Park Lodge International Vehicle Fire Investigation course's inception in 1999, it has developed over the years. The course provides a balance of blended learning, the required theory, lots of practical application, and fantastic shared learning between delegates with their areas of expertise and experience.



The course is carefully designed to provide underpinning principles,



which are then reinforced with practical sessions examining and investigating recently fire damaged vehicles, ensuring application of knowledge.

Our delegates come from all over the world and from many sectors, including Fire and Rescue, Law Enforcement, Forensics Services, Collision Investigation, Vehicle Examiners,

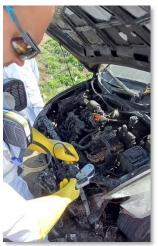
Vehicle Standards Agency, Insurance companies, Insurance assessors, engineers, Private Investigators, Vehicle Manufacturers, Fleet Operators, Bus companies, Airports, Military, Research establishments and other organisations.

### **COURSE DELIVERY**

We will have numerous vehicles to burn and investigate; some preburned the day before the course for examination during the first day, reading patterns and post fire indicators. Syndicates will subsequently each plan and then burn a vehicle, to be examined by the other syndicates.

We will explore common causation, vehicle fire development, approach & methodology, vehicle identification & examination, documentation, evidence recovery and Investigator safety - the many practical sessions will embed a systematic, thorough & safe approach to the investigations, and will show examination & testing techniques.

After each practical session there will be a review, and syndicate presentations on their investigations that they have undertaken. We facilitate discussion sessions throughout the three days to give everyone a chance to ask questions about or discuss the subject of vehicle fire investigation - we encourage the sharing of knowledge!











## **OUR TEAM**

The Directing Staff are experienced in fire investigation and regularly direct the International Vehicle Fire Investigation courses worldwide, as well as being fire investigation practitioners. The team is there to guide delegates to get the most out of the course and ensure that everybody operates in a safe manner.

## **FOUNDER** (now retired)

## Richard Dunbar AMIRTE, AMSOE, MFIAI, PHEC (RCS-Edin), HonMIVR, MInstPet



Course Founder Richard served for over 35 years in the emergency services, in both the UK and East Africa (CFO).

A Transport Engineer and Associate Member of the Institute of Road Transport Engineers, Associate Member of the Society of Operational Engineers and an Honorary Member of the Institute of Vehicle Recovery. Co-author of The Energy Institute's Code of Practice on the Product and Vehicle Recovery of Low Flash products transported by road tanker. Author of the Police 'Blue Book' on dealing with HAZMAT incidents, and the Police and Forensic Science Fire Investigation handbook.

### **DIRECTING STAFF**

## Martin Lown BEM, IAAI-CFI, MFireInv, GFireE, MIAAI, IMI L3



Previous 30 years' service in the UK Fire and Rescue Service Qualified, competent and experienced Certified Fire Investigator (CFI) Director and Lead Tutor of FireWiseUK Learning Academy. Director and active Vehicle Fire Investigator of Phoenix Forensic Service

Provider Ltd.

Advanced Investigative Practice, Expert Witness (APAEWE)

Professional Member of UK-AFI, CE-AFI, IAAI, IFE, IAATI and ITAI

## Stephen Elliott CAE, MIAAI, IAAI FIT (V), IMI L3



Former British Army Royal Engineer IMI Certified Automotive Engineer (CAE) 23 years' service in UK Fire and Rescue Service

Full time qualified, competent and experienced Fire Investigator and Vehicle Fire Investigation Technician, Director of Rotae Vehicle Fire Investigations Ltd.

Advanced Investigative Practice Member of IAAI, IMI, IAATI and ITAI

The Directing Staff are assisted by a team who manage the burns and support delegates during their practical vehicle examinations.



## **COURSE OUTCOMES**

## Each delegate will have an understanding and working knowledge of:

- · Vehicle 'fire science' and fire development
- The importance of sympathetic firefighting, evidence identification and gathering
- The methodical approach & scientific method of vehicle fire investigation
- Vehicle identification (post fire)
- Gathering information, documentation & presentation
- Investigating the vehicle history, fire event & witness evidence
- 'Reading' burn patterns and post abnormal thermal event/fire indicators
- Identifying the area and point(s) of origin
- · Common faults and potential causes of Hybrid and Full Electric Vehicle fires
- Required PPE, RPE, related equipment and hygiene/decontamination
- Investigator safety 'making safer' the vehicle using our 'IAIIM' protocol and working with Electric Vehicles
- Conducting vehicle fire investigations safely, thoroughly and accurately
- Appreciation of other Interested Parties interest and approach



See comments and course feedback from previous delegates on our LinkedIn pages!

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### **VENUE**

The Vehicle Fire Investigation Courses are run at Abbey Court Hotel (www.abbeycourt.ie), Nenagh, Ireland. Nenagh is just off the M7 motorway and is 1 hour from Shannon Airport and around 2 hours from Dublin Airport. There is a bus that runs from Dublin and Shannon airports that stops in Nenagh, a short walk from Abbey Court. Car hire companies are at both airports.

**Accommodation Pricing:** Abbey Court Hotel €109 per night bed & breakfast including main course evening meal. Lunch provided.



The course is delivered from the Hotel Conference suite and the nearby burn site.





Course dates 29th April – 1st May 2025 & 9th – 11th September 2025

Course cost £2,100.00 per delegate (plus UK VAT 20% where applicable, EU B2B applies).

**Excludes accommodation –** book directly with Abbey Court hotel, please state that you are attending the EVFI course https://www.abbeycourt.ie/

Joining instructions are sent to each delegate, upon booking, giving directions to the hotel, toll road information, PPE requirements and timings.

The Vehicle Fire Investigation courses can be delivered anywhere in the world (with a few exceptions) - please make contact for discussion info@firewiseacademy.co.uk

### **POST COURSE**

Supporting information and a copy of the presentations are provided electronically for each delegate through Dropbox, and a certificate of attendance is issued.

### **BOOKINGS**

Email info@firewiseacademy.co.uk



## **BOOKING CONDITIONS**



A booking is provisional until confirmation from the client is received, and a quote or tax invoice is raised and issued. Bookings need to be confirmed 8 weeks prior to the course to secure the place. Invoices must be paid in full 21 days before the start of the course.

Once the booking has been confirmed in writing (by post or e-mail), FireWiseUK Learning Academy will send the client an invoice and a full set of joining instructions, or briefing documents.

Where a confirmed booking has been accepted by FireWiseUK Learning Academy and is subsequently cancelled or transferred to a later date at the request of the client, FireWiseUK Learning Academy reserves the right to apply the following conditions.

- 1. if the cancellation is made six weeks or more before the commencement of the first event, the invoice will be refunded, less a 10% administration charge.
- 2. if cancellation is made between six weeks and four weeks before the commencement of the event, 50% of the invoice will be refunded.
- 3. if the cancellation is made less than four weeks before the commencement of the event, no part of the invoice will be refunded.
- 4. an event booking may be transferred, providing that such a transfer request is received six weeks or more before the commencement of the event. A transfer received inside the six-week period will be treated as a cancellation and the conditions in 2 and 3 above will apply to the transfer.
- 5. Transfers must be made within the same calendar year or condition 1 above will apply.
- 6. Fees: for a single event must be paid at least 21 days in advance of the commencement of the event. For multi events, 50% must be paid at least 21 days in advance of the commencement of the first event and the remainder 7 days before the last event.

## FireWiseUK Learning Academy

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