

PRESS RELEASE

New Direction For UK Restoration Sector Takes Shape

A blueprint for a more responsive and technological approach to flood and fire damage restoration is being drawn up, following a national event attracting leaders in sector-related industries from across Europe.

The National Flood School recently held the inaugural European Restoration Conference, under the theme of 'Environmental Impact' at The Belfry, Birmingham.

Offering a platform for keynote speakers and major European suppliers to address the most current developments and innovations within the restoration sector, the event included the re-launch of the new British Standard PAS 64 Mitigation and recovery of water damaged buildings – code of practice.

Now, the National Flood School has drawn-up an action plan focused on three key priorities identified at the event, which are designed to drive standards across the restoration industry.

Chris Netherton, Managing Director of the National Flood School, said: "There were a number of outcomes from the conference and we have used the last few weeks to draw up a definitive action plan.

"The main activity includes the introduction of a working party to look at connectivity between builders and restorers.

"We are also going to launch a white paper, which will look at sustainable pricing to improve transparency and trust within the industry.

"An investigation into how the appropriate use of technology can deliver best practice and cost savings in the field is also being carried out.

"Ultimately, the end result from this activity is that those affected by flood damage to their properties will get back to normality more quickly, with associated cost benefits for the insurance industry."

Among the guest speakers at the conference was the IICRC, the internationally recognised independent standard setting certification body, which promotes high standards and ethics within the restoration industry.

Patrick Winters, President of the IICRC, said: "It was an excellent conference in that it allowed for the IICRC to reach out to the larger audience of European leaders in restoration, insurance, non-profits, education and building industries to promote our mission, certification and standard programmes.

“It was very educational to learn and network with the registrants on driving standards across the industry and share ideas on how all the various industries can work together.”

A video from the conference can be viewed at www.youtube.com/nationalfloodschool



An image from the European Restoration Conference



Chris Netherton, Managing Director of the National Flood School at the European Restoration Conference

More details can also be obtained by calling The National Flood School directly on 01252 821185.

ENDS

Notes To Editors

Founded in 1988, the National Flood School is recognised across the UK and Europe as a leader in the research, development, testing and education of a wide-range of techniques and systems to enhance the restoration of property damaged by flood.

It shares its expertise to support and train restoration professionals and provides information and professional guidance for many other associated industries, including insurers and loss adjusters.

To support its work, the National Flood School has built and uses The Flood House – located at its headquarters in Farnham, Surrey.

Believed to be the only purpose-built floodable house in Europe, the structure - comprising of eight rooms and 60 common household materials - is regularly flooded with 1500 gallons of water.

Videos about the National Flood School and the Flood House can be seen at the National Flood School's own YouTube channel
www.youtube.com/nationalfloodschool

It also writes and maintains the BSI Code of Practice for Professional Water Damage Mitigation (PAS 64).