

activities; a research or technological Institute, or; science or technology based industry. Where an applicant's role is part time in safety the minimum qualifying period is to be extended pro rata. Applications should be supported by the names of two referees, one of whom should be a Member or Fellow of the Institute. Members may use the designatory letters MISTR.

Fellow

Members who have achieved a position of eminence in the field of health and safety can be nominated as Fellows of the Institute. Fellows may use the designatory letters FISTR.

Associate

Persons whose knowledge and experience do not qualify them as Members can join as Associates provided they can satisfy the Executive Committee that they have a sufficient interest in the activities of the Institute. Applications do not require referees.

Retired Members

Those who retire from gainful employment may retain their category of membership on a retired basis. They continue to receive the Bulletin and Members' Handbook.

Membership Outside of the UK

All categories of membership are open to those who work outside of the UK provided the appropriate standards of qualification and experience are met.

Membership Applications

Application forms, (available at <http://www.istr.org.uk/docs/istrapp.pdf>) together with a subscription cheque, made payable to Institute of Safety in Technology and Research should be returned to the Membership Secretary. Those applying to join as a Member are required to give the names and addresses of two referees, one of whom must be a Member or Fellow of the Institute. Applications to join as Associate do not require referees.

Successful applicants are issued with a membership certificate and a copy of the Members' Handbook on joining. Further details are available from:

istr-membershipsecretary@istr.org.uk



Institute of Safety in Technology and Research

INFORMATION FOR PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Brief History

The Institute was founded by a group of university safety officers who were seeking to establish a body to represent their individual interests on a professional basis and in their specialist area of research and high technology. University safety officers had been meeting together for some time in the Universities' Safety Association and had derived much benefit from it, but the Association represented their employing institutions not the individual safety officers. Pressure for a professional body also came from the burgeoning numbers of professional university safety practitioners in the years following the enactment of the Health and Safety at Work Etc Act.

So it was that in 1981 the inaugural meeting of the Institute of University Safety Officers (IUSO) was held and the first constitution was agreed in 1982. The Institute successfully met a professional need, so much so that other safety professionals from the whole spectrum of public, government and commercial research and high technology organisations with similar research and technological interests to universities were soon seeking to share in the benefits of membership. Following the widening of its membership criteria and the growth of a significant non-university membership, the decision was taken in 1992 for the Institute to become known as the Institute of Safety in Technology and Research (ISTR).

With the increased activity in Bioscience and Biotechnology within members workplaces, a Bio sub-group has been established within ISTR. At least one Biosafety related symposium is held annually.

An award has been established, to be given in recognition of the effort and success of a named member who has, in the view of the Executive Committee, made a significant contribution to safety in the field of technology, science or

research through a publication, scheme, device, campaign, training material or other. Further details on the members page of the ISTR website.

Aims of the Institute

The main aims of the Institute are:

- to further the interests of the safety profession within the areas of membership of the Institute;
- the advancement of safety skills and knowledge among its membership;
- the maintenance of the professional standards of its membership;
- the preservation and enhancement of the status of its membership, including
- representation upon bodies of influence considered beneficial to the membership of the Institute;
- the promotion of communication and exchange of information within the membership;
- maintenance of dialogue with other professional bodies in areas of related interest.

Organisation and Management

The Institute is managed by an Executive Committee, and the constitution makes provision for an Ethical Practices Committee if required. Current membership of the Committee is included in the Institute's Members' Handbook.

Institute Resources and Publications

The main resource of the Institute is the known professional expertise and the experience of its membership which have been objectively identified and are published in the Members' Handbook.

The Members' Handbook

The Members' Handbook includes:

- the Constitution;
- details of the Executive Committee;
- nominal roll of the membership;
- a list of the memberships' employing institutions and companies;
- individual details of the membership (in terms of job elements, past employments, qualifications, memberships and specialisms).

The Members' Handbook is available to every grade of membership on the members section of the ISTR web site so that they can contact one another to obtain information, advice, assistance, or representation when required. The list of Members and Fellows published in the Members' Handbook is the Indicative Register of the Institute.

Bulletin

The Bulletin is the occasional newsletter of the Institute and is the main means of communication with, and between, the Membership. It is normally published two times per annum.

HASNET-ISTR

HASNET-ISTR is the email discussion forum for ISTR members (closed list). New members are added to this list automatically but may ask to be removed at any time.

Symposia

Symposia are organised at a professional level on topics that are of interest to the membership. The symposia deal with topics in depth, are open to interested non-members and attempt to provide information not readily obtainable elsewhere. They are regarded as significant symposia for the purposes of professional development. Recent topics may be seen on the Events page (<http://www.istr.org.uk/events.shtml>) of the ISTR website.

Skills Development Programme

The Institute runs a programme of Skills Development Workshops aimed at providing the membership with practical skills to enhance their professional competence. Recent topics may be seen on the Events page (<http://www.istr.org.uk/events.shtml>) of the ISTR website.

Categories of Membership

The Institute has three active categories of membership:

Member

In view of the wide knowledge and experience required of Members, qualification at graduate or equivalent level in an appropriate discipline is normally required by the Institute. Those applying to be a Member would normally be expected to have at least two years experience of safety related work at one of the following: a University where scientific research or technology are a significant part of the

Membership Subscriptions

The first subscription payment is due when a person's application has been approved by the Executive Committee and will normally run to 31 July of the current subscription year. However, if an application for membership is approved at or after the spring Executive Committee meeting (normally in late February or early March) and before the AGM (late June/early July) then the subscription will run through to 31 July of the following subscription year.

Subscription invoices for the current subscription year (and any outstanding payments) will be circulated, preferably by email, in September of each year. Reminders on unpaid amounts will be circulated in January/February of each year. Any unpaid subscriptions at the end of the subscription year (taken as 31 July) will result in membership status being regarded as *subscription overdue* .

Membership will continue, but a *subscription overdue* Member will be given due notice that failure to make the shortfall with the subscription payment at the next September invoice will result in the membership being cancelled. If membership receipts are brought up to date at this point then *subscription overdue* status will be lifted and the Member will be reinstated. If membership has been cancelled the Member must re-apply through the normal process.