

# **Press Release**

24 March 2014

# Fire Safe Europe Names Juliette Albiac Managing Director Continued commitment to Fire Safety

Fire Safe Europe (FSEU) has appointed Juliette Albiac as Managing Director to replace Bill Duncan who, after 3 successful years at the helm of Fire Safe Europe working hard to put fire safety in buildings on the map in Europe, will be stepping down from the organization.

Ms. Albiac took over responsibility for FSEU on the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014. She will be supported by Mr. Duncan who will continue to support the organisation as Senior Advisor, until the end of May.

Barry Lynham, President Fire Safe Europe, said:

"We are pleased to welcome Juliette Albiac to FSEU. Her experience in European Public Affairs combined with her association management skills will be an asset to our organisation. Juliette's campaigning skills position her as an ideal choice to lead our new FireSafetyFirst campaign..."

Fire Safe Europe launched early January **FireSafetyFirst** a European Parliament pledge campaign, which aims to improve fire safety in buildings for all European citizens. Members and Candidate Members of the European Parliament are asked to join frontline fire fighters to call for improvements to fire safety across the EU. More than 25 MEPs and Candidate MEPs have already welcomed the campaign.

## Juliette Albiac said:

"I am delighted to be appointed as Fire Safe Europe new Managing Director. There is a lot of work to do and in particular I see the further development and execution of the FireSafetyFirst campaign as an important priority in the coming months. I am looking forward to working with the Board and Lena Esteves (Communications Manager) to ensure we take this opportunity to create a stronger and more effective organisation for the future."

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#### **About Fire Safe Europe**

Fire Safe Europe represents a growing group of companies ranging across the construction, and fire protection sectors, working with civil society groups, scientists, engineers and fire fighters, which aim at raising awareness and improve the rules that govern fire safety in buildings across the EU.

#### **About fire safety**

Nowadays, the time it takes for a small fire in a room to turn into a full blaze is about 3 minutes, compared to 15 minutes in the 1950s. This is largely because our homes, as well as other buildings, now contain more flammable material than they used to. This risk is even greater because most tests for construction product fire safety were developed based largely on traditional building materials. Regrettably, their rules have not been updated to keep pace with newer materials and changing construction methods.

#### About the campaign FireSafetyFirst

FireSafetyFirst is a European campaign, which aims to improve fire safety in buildings for European citizens. We ask Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) and MEP candidates to sign our pledge to work for a fire safe Europe during the next European Parliamentary term. This campaign is the first step toward a safer future for all. FireSafetyFirst is a broad based alliance of fire experts, fire-fighters, international companies and European associations. Our Vision: to have a fire safe Europe. Our Mission: to improve fire safety in buildings for European citizens.

#### **About Juliette Albiac**

Juliette Albiac specialized in helping European associations with operations and communications services. She has 15 years of campaigning and public affairs experience as well as strong association management skills. In October 2013, she joined Fire Safe Europe to develop its external relations and launched early January, FireSaferyFirst a European Parliament pledge campaign. Prior to this, she worked for FleishmanHillard, GPC and Edelman Public Relations. Juliette began her European career as trainee with the European Commission. Juliette was educated in France and in Belgium. She holds a degree in Law, a Masters degree in Business Law. She successfully completed a Postgraduate Masters degree in European and International Law and recently the Accelerated Program Management of the Solvay Business School. She speaks French and English and some Spanish. Juliette is an active member of the Junior Chamber International.

#### More information can be found on:

www.firesafeeurope.eu , www.firesafetyfirst.eu and www.facebook.com/firesafetyfirst

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