

# COMMENT

***“Pause for thought”***

*Promoting knowledge to improve workplace safety, health and wellbeing*

## **EV and lithium battery fires workshop:** *causes, dangers, and fire suppression*



Northern Ireland  
**Safety Group**

Promoting Occupational  
Safety & Health

Larne harbour was the venue for last month's workshop on EV and Lithium battery safety. Hosted by P & O Ferries, Larne Harbour, and NI Safety Group this highly educational event brought together over 60 attendees to not only listen to a range of speakers but watch a number of practical demonstrations on EV fires.

Following a welcome, the event featured presentations from Sam Irwin, NI Fire & Rescue Service, Stephen McAllister, Emergency One and Kevin Howlette from Emergency Fire and Rescue.

All delegates were eager to learn about EV fires, their causes, challenges posed by reignition, employer's responsibilities and potential controls and employer actions.

Attendees then witnessed a variety of product demonstrations geared at extinguishing lithium battery fires.

The event was a great success, not only in terms of attendance but also on knowledge transfer on this new safety risk. Many attendees expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to learn more by asking numerous questions during a lively and very informative Q & A.



*All three presenters take it in turns to talk about different aspects of lithium battery fires*

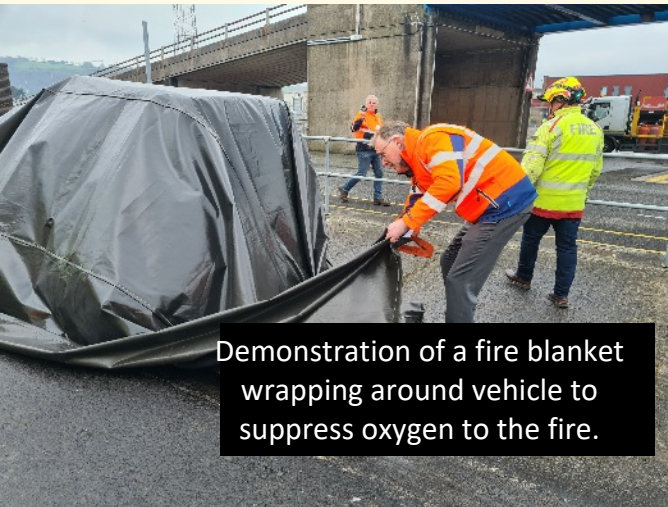
[info@niscg.org.uk](mailto:info@niscg.org.uk)

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The event was made possible through the hard work of Brian Quinn, P & O Safety Manager and William Dill, H&S Manager, Larne Harbour, who worked tirelessly to ensure that every aspect of the event was planned and executed flawlessly. Thanks also go to Wendy Beatty, Chair of NI Safety Group who chaired the Q & A session and along with Priscilla Woods, Director, Health, Safety & Security, P & O opened the meeting. In conclusion, the event was a shining example of how NI Safety Group can bring people together, (working in partnership with others) to promote occupational health and safety amongst Northern Ireland employers.



Kevin Howlette demonstrating how much smoke is produced from a lithium battery fire



Demonstration of a fire blanket wrapping around vehicle to suppress oxygen to the fire.

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Sprinkler system keeps the lithium battery cool.

