

# KENT YATES

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As an experienced Fire Safety professional with a strong background in managing fire, environmental, health, and safety operations, I bring extensive knowledge of fire safety legislation and compliance requirements. Holding MIFSM membership, Tier 2 Fire Risk Assessor certification, and BAFE accreditation, I excel in conducting thorough Fire Risk Assessments along with developing and implementing fire safety policies. My experience includes project management, incident investigation, and strategic planning, ensuring compliance with ISO standards and enhancing operational efficiency. With a proactive, solution-oriented approach and excellent communication skills, I am committed to promoting a safe and compliant environment.

## EXPERIENCE

MAR 2021 – TO DATE

### SENIOR FIRE SAFETY CONSULTANT, ZETA COMPLIANCE SERVICES

- Delivering comprehensive Fire Risk Assessment and consultancy services to a diverse client base across the UK, including both built and construction environments.
- Assisting with day-to-day team management and acting up during periods of absence of the Head of Fire, ensuring seamless continuity of services.
- Conducting Type 1 and Type 2 non-destructive Fire Risk Assessments in accordance with PAS 79 guidelines, maintaining a high standard of accuracy and thoroughness.
- Carrying out DSEAR assessments for clients in both the built and construction industries.
- Collaborating closely with construction clients to ensure compliance with JCOP (Joint Code of Practice on the Protection from Fire of Construction Sites and Buildings Undergoing Renovation) and HSG168 (Fire Safety in Construction).
- Leading an ongoing project aimed at enhancing operational planning and service delivery, which has successfully ensured report turnarounds meeting key performance indicators (KPIs).
- Staying abreast of legislative and guidance changes, providing up-to-date and accurate risk assessments and consultancy advice.
- Working collaboratively with building and facilities managers, surveyors, fire engineers, and landlords to develop, amend, and implement effective fire safety plans.
- Provided comprehensive fire safety advice to clients through detailed written reports and verbal consultations, often supplemented with diagrammatic drawings.
- Maintained BAFE (British Approvals for Fire Equipment) accreditation as a validator, underscoring commitment to professional standards and excellence.

**OCT 2020 – MAR 2021**

**TRUST FIRE OFFICER, HAMPSHIRE HOSPITALS NHS TRUST**

- Organized, implemented, coordinated, and maintained comprehensive fire prevention and fire precaution measures across the Trust.
- Developed and introduced a clear and concise Fire Safety Policy, enhancing the safety environment throughout the Trust during the ever evolving and difficult Covid pandemic period.
- Managed a team of risk assessors, fostering a supportive environment that promoted knowledge growth and confidence, ensuring that Fire Risk Assessments were suitable and sufficient through regular audits.
- Participated in Senior Management Team meetings, reporting Fire Safety performance against KPIs, discussing budgetary requirements for planned preventative maintenance (PPM) and reactive maintenance, providing fire safety advice to other area leads, and tracking projects impacting fire safety.
- Created new documentation for Fire Risk Assessments, ensuring both life safety and asset safety considerations. Developed an auditing system to ensure legislative compliance and capture non-conformities, allowing for pragmatic solutions and budgeted long-term rectifications.

**KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:**

- Successfully implemented a Trust-wide Fire Safety Policy, significantly improving overall safety standards.
- Developed a comprehensive auditing system, enhancing compliance with fire safety legislation and effectively addressing non-conformities.
- Led the way in recognizing the increased fire risk created through the increased use of high concentration oxygen within the hospital.

**SEP 2014 – OCT 2020**

**FIRE FIGHTER/SITE FACILITY SAFETY CONTROLLER, QINETIQ**

- Assisted in the management of fire, environmental, health, and safety operations across the entire site, ensuring comprehensive safety management.
- Captured the impact of Covid-19 on site operations and reported findings to the senior leadership team weekly, managing a team in implementing control measures for a controlled return to work.
- Collaborated with the Health and Safety team to triage incident reports weekly, assigning investigators, and conducting investigations to identify root causes.
- Assisting in developing opportunities for improvement and ensuring compliance with ISO 14001 (Environmental Management), ISO 45001 (Occupational Health and Safety), and ISO 50001 (Energy Management) standards.
- Maintained a Fire Risk Matrix to ensure Fire Risk Assessments were conducted timely or when potential risks changed.
- Consulted on building works and alterations, ensuring compliance with ADB (Approved Document B), and BS9999 (Code of Practice for Fire Safety in the Design, Management and Use of Buildings), and communicated requirements clearly to relevant teams.
- Oversaw and managed the remedial database, tracking deficiencies identified during Fire Risk Assessments and ensuring timely resolution to meet required standards.

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS:

- Successfully managed fire, environmental, health, and safety operations during the challenging Covid-19 period, ensuring site safety and compliance.
- Developed and maintained a Fire Risk Matrix, improving the timeliness and accuracy of Fire Risk Assessments.
- Played a pivotal role in maintaining compliance with ISO 14001, 45001, and 50001 standards through effective incident triage and investigation processes working along-side the site health and safety team.
- Enhanced communication and compliance regarding building safety standards by providing clear, understandable guidance on ADB, and BS9999 requirements.

## EDUCATION

- **FPA LEVEL 4 DIPLOMA – FIRE RISK ASSESSMENT**, FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION
- **DSEAR RISK ASSESSMENT**, DEKRA
- **ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT**, FIBRE MANAGEMENT LTD
- **MANAGING SAFETY**, IOSH
- **IQ LEVEL 3 CERTIFICATE IN FIRE SAFETY**, FIRE SAFETY COLLEGE
- **HUMAN FACTORS TRAINING RA1440**, QINETIQ
- **LEVEL 3 AWARD IN UNDERSTANDING PLANNING SUPERVISING AND MANAGING WORK AT HEIGHT**, AID TRAINING & OPERATIONS

## SKILLS AND PROFESSIONAL BODIES

- **Regulatory and Legislative Knowledge:** In-depth understanding of Fire Safety and Health & Safety Legislation.
- **Leadership:** Managing and supporting risk assessor teams.
- **Communication:** Clear fire safety advice; consulting on building compliance (HTM, ADB, BS9999).
- **Compliance and Auditing:** Conducting audits; ensuring legislative compliance; addressing non-conformities.
- **Strategy Development:** Creating and managing Fire Safety Strategies (PAS 911).
- **Risk Assessment:** Expertise in Type 1 and Type 2 non-destructive Fire Risk Assessments (PAS 79); maintaining a Fire Risk Matrix.
- **Incident Management:** Triage and investigation of incidents; root cause analysis and reporting.
- **Policy Development:** Creating and implementing Fire Safety Policies and documentation.
- **Emergency Preparedness:** Managing fire prevention and response strategies.
- **Self-Motivation:** Proactive and solution-oriented.