



FIRE INVESTIGATION PROGRESS FORM

(To be completed by FIFRO on every occasion)

Fire Investigation Officer	██████████	Reason why Mobilised	MP18
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Incident No	Date	Time	Station Ground
VH040826	06/03/2024	13:04	54

Address:	Polystar Plastics, Units 13-15 Central Trading Estate, Southampton, SO14 5JP	Type / Use of Property:	Commercial units
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Smoke Detection		
Fitted (Y/N)	Type (Hardwired/Battery)	Operated (Y/N)
Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	H/W <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>	Y <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown <input type="checkbox"/>

Level of Incident (Tick appropriate box)		
Level 1 Telephone advice given	Incident to remain at Level 1	Incident upgraded to Level 2
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Outcome of advice given (thought process / reasons why): 12/03/2024 Paged by HIWFERS Control at 13:23 and informed of a MP8 fire involving multiple commercial units. ██████████ monitored the incident on BOSS mobile and mobilised to the incident at 14:25 when it was escalated to MP18. ██████████ Sequence of events: At 13:04 HIWFERS Control received a 999 call reporting a fire at Central Trading Estate. The first fire appliance ██████████ books in attendance at 13:09 to a well developed fire within the units. Unit details / construction: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Units 13 – 17 are privately owned and are managed by Savills on behalf of ██████████. The units are rented to Polystar Plastics, a polythene manufacturer.The units are of steel frame and brick construction with each having a pitched roof with inset lighting panels.The units have 3 phase electrics and gas heating. <u>There would have been an electric and gas supply to the units at the time of the fire.</u>There are two roller shutter doors fitted at the front of each unit. Each roller shutter door measures approximately 3.7M (W) x 4.8M (H).
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I met with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] who informed me of the following:

- Units 16-17 are used for the storage of raw materials and 13-15 are used for the storage of PPE for the NHS (gloves, aprons, plastic bags, cardboard boxes etc).
- Units 13 – 15 are open plan with limited/no separation and supplies stored on racking. There is separation between units 15, 16 and 17.
- Polystar had occupied units 16 & 17 for approximately 18months. They had occupied units 13-15 for approximately 1 month.
- In addition to warehouse space, unit 15 also contained an office/kitchenette on the ground floor and office space on the first floor. Polystar were not actively using this space.
- [REDACTED] informed [REDACTED] that there was no one working within units 13-15 at the time of the fire. [REDACTED] on a forklift outside of the units moving wooden pallets.
- The forklifts are diesel, they were unsure whether any would have been inside the units involved in fire.
- There was nothing on charge within the units, no lithium batteries.
- Employees were not allowed to smoke within the units.
- They were unsure whether any lighting would have been on at the time of the fire but believe it is unlikely considering no one was working in the units at the time of the fire.

[REDACTED] (opposite unit 14) provided [REDACTED] with 4 videos showing the fire in the early stages. [REDACTED] also described that [REDACTED] first saw smoke emanating from the windows on the first floor of unit 14 and a short while later flames have broken through the roof of unit 14. [REDACTED] also confirmed that [REDACTED] heard a fire alarm sounding from the building.

From the videos, [REDACTED] noted the following:

- The first of these 4 videos shows smoke emanating from the roof area of Unit 14, in the area above the right hand roller shutter door. There is smoke emanating from the eaves of Unit 13, more so on the left hand side and there is also smoke staining to the brickwork on the left hand side. As the fire develops, flames can be seen in the roof area of Unit 14.
- Unit 14 – the left hand roller shutter door is open, the right hand roller shutter door is closed. There is smoke and smoke staining to the brickwork about the right hand door.



- Unit 13 – Both roller shutter doors are closed, and smoke can be seen emanating from the top of the doors.

At this time the cause of the fire remains undetermined, however it is not deemed to be doubtful. Investigations are ongoing and I am due to return to site on 13/03/2024 with the Loss Adjusters and Burgoyne's to carry out further investigation.

13/03/2024

I returned to site, alongside [REDACTED], to liaise with [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of Burgoyne's.

During [REDACTED] visit, [REDACTED] informed me that Polysytar had said that an electric forklift had been stored within units 13-15 however this was not on charge. [REDACTED] also obtained CCTV footage from Savills which [REDACTED] will share with me in due course.

[REDACTED] visited Southampton Football Club to view their CCTV footage of the fire. The footage supports that provided by Render World and offers a view from the rear of the units. The footage shows thick black smoke emanating from the roof area of unit 14. I have requested a copy of this footage. [REDACTED]

At this time, due to the structure, no excavation has taken place. I am continuing to liaise with Burgoyne's for a return visit and excavation.