

SAFEX INTERNATIONAL

SAFEX International: Becoming a Member

Who may become a Member of SAFEX?

There are two classes of full membership and the Board decides to which class a member belongs based on the following:

- Company Members - are independent companies or a subsidiary of a group of companies in which the group holds 50% or less of the shares
- Group Members - are holding companies with a number of subsidiaries in which the group holds more than 50% of the shares

According to our Articles of Association, a SAFEX member must be a:

- *Bona fide* manufacturer of explosives involved in the explosives life cycle (design, development, manufacture, storage, distribution, use and disposal or recycling of explosives products).
- Company or a Group of companies as described above. Therefore, an individual person cannot become a member of SAFEX.

By “explosives” we mean commercial and military explosives, explosives accessories and pyrotechnic products (other than fireworks).

What are a Member's obligations?

SAFEX is there to help members eliminate Health, Safety and Environmental (HS&E) incidents involving explosives as well as their impact on people, property and the environment. It does so through the exchange of the HS&E experiences members have with explosives. SAFEX can only succeed in its mission if each member is willing to:

1. Report as soon as possible any such experiences from which members can learn and the industry can benefit. In the case of an explosive incident an initial incident notification is sent to the Secretariat.
2. Report to the Secretariat the findings or conclusions from any investigations it may conduct following the initial incident notification. A member is not obliged to provide confidential or commercially sensitive information but will submit as much information as possible with the view to prevent similar incidents occurring in our industry.
3. Accept that the Secretariat will distribute this information to Members, Associate Members and members of the Expert Panel knowing that they have all undertaken to respect each other's sensitivities.
4. Not divulge any information it obtains in the course of its association with SAFEX to any third party. Nor will it use such information with the specific purpose of financial gain without prior approval from the SAFEX Secretary General.

5. Appoint a person, the SAFEX Contact, with whom the SAFEX Secretariat can liaise. The SAFEX Contact is responsible for passing information to SAFEX on behalf of the Member and for circulating information from SAFEX within the member organization as he/she sees fit.
6. Update its member profile and contact details in the manner SAFEX prescribes. This will enable networking among the SAFEX membership as well as assure uninterrupted information flow to and from the SAFEX Secretariat.
7. Pay, as specified, any fee or subscription due to SAFEX

Who should be the SAFEX Contact?

The SAFEX Contact is nominated initially in the Membership Application form. A Member may change the Contact person at any time by notifying the Secretariat. SAFEX Contacts tend to be a senior person in the member company. Most of our Contacts are either the chief executive; or director responsible for manufacturing; or director responsible for safety, health and the environment. However, Members are free to nominate whom they please.

What are the membership fees?

New Members pay an entry fee as a once-off contribution to the triennial SAFEX Congresses. There is no Congress fee for Members as each delegate only pays his/her accommodation and travel costs to Congress. The entry fee amounts to the same as the annual membership fee.

The Board of Governors decides the annual membership fee at the beginning of each year. The current membership fee is EUR 1,500; the last increase was in 2004. Group Members pay more than Company Members by a factor (5x at the moment) which the Board decides when determining the annual membership fee for any year. This entitles all subsidiaries in the Group to the same benefits as a Company Member.

How does a Company become a member?

The process to become a member can be outlined as follows:

1. Complete the Membership Application Form which is available from the Secretariat.
2. Return the completed form to the Secretariat by e-mail or fax.
3. The Secretariat will contact the nominated SAFEX Contact for his/her contact details.
4. SAFEX will start sending the SAFEX Contact incident information, Newsletters and other material right away.
5. The SAFEX Contact will be sent the first invoice which will cover the entry fee and membership fee for the current year.
6. As soon as the Member settles its invoice, it receives the access codes to the SAFEX Intranet for the year. This will enable the Member to access the SAFEX Database, membership details, Congress proceedings, etc.