



**The Association of Stage Pyrotechnicians**

# **COURSE SCHEDULE**

<b>Course</b>	Stage Pyrotechnics - Safety Awareness Training Course
<b>Purpose</b>	To educate, assist, identify and understand safety issues when using close proximity Theatrical/Stage Pyrotechnics (Category T1 Articles Pyrotechnic).
<b>Aims and Objectives</b>	<p>To assist operators use the products safely and with improved confidence.</p> <p>To minimise accidents.</p> <p>To reduce operational failures.</p> <p>To provide discussion/ understanding to operators of considered best practice.</p> <p>To emphasise responsibilities when working with hazardous materials.</p> <p>To provide learning via hands-on experience with live devices under supervision.</p> <p>To develop Risk Assessment methods and reducing risks to As Low As Reasonably Practical levels.</p> <p>To demonstrate industry proven methods of operation over that of dubious operation within a controlled and supervised environment.</p> <p>To educate and inform as well as to assist in dispelling many myths surrounding the subject.</p>
<b>Level</b>	Level 1 - Beginner to working Technician Using publically available category T1 type Articles Pyrotechnics.
<b>Style</b>	Presentations and group workshop sessions using live demonstrations, practical group workshops and multimedia.
<b>Duration</b>	1 day
<b>Time</b>	9:30am to 5:00pm unless otherwise stated.
<b>Who can/should attend the course</b>	Anyone interested in Theatrical/Stage Pyrotechnics who seeks a greater depth of knowledge regarding the safe handling and use of such products. The course may also be valuable to other venue staff, local authority inspectors, fire service personnel, insurers and those managing technical and production staff. The course also addresses issues to delegates associated with a fear of pyrotechnics.
<b>Age Limitation</b>	Minimum 18 years
<b>Certification</b>	Yes - Certificate of Training from Host and Association of Stage Pyrotechnicians
<b>Qualification</b>	None - but considered minimum entry level to advanced (Level 2) courses and completion provides automatic registration on the National register of the Association of Stage Pyrotechnicians ( <a href="http://www.stage-pyro.org.uk">www.stage-pyro.org.uk</a> ) where members training and experience logs are maintained
<b>Venue</b>	Various across the UK - generally in fully functioning theatrical and training spaces with access to regular hazards found in such venues
<b>Cost:</b>	Varies dependant on course host and course venue
<b>Cancellation Policy</b>	As arranged by course host

<b>Contents</b>	<p>The course uses a combination of multimedia presentations, demonstrations, hand-outs, and group activities to provide an overview of stage pyrotechnics.</p> <p>The course is highly interactive with delegates encouraged to question and to actively participate. There are multiple hands-on practical exercises including firing devices, rigging cues and a final small pyrotechnic show.</p> <p>The course aims to be highly informative while being both practical and fun and is presented in a style to ensure a comprehensive overview is delivered.</p> <p>The course emphasises SAFETY and the importance of selecting and using the most appropriate pyrotechnic devices to achieve the desired effect with due consideration of the surrounding environments.</p>
<b>History and Accidents</b>	<p>Presentation on the development of stage pyro and how accidents have shaped the current laws and the use of stage pyrotechnics across the World.</p>
<b>Law Storage and Transport</b>	<p>Presentation on Transport, Storage and the requirements for stage pyrotechnics. Current explosive legislation and developing future (UK and EU) regulations relating to Articles Pyrotechnics are also discussed.</p>
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	<p>Risk assessment and the principles of ALARP are discussed with printed hand-outs showing examples of typical things to consider for stage pyrotechnics within a theatrical environment.</p>
<b>Hazards</b>	<p>Discussion of the potential hazards from stage pyrotechnics and the methods available to minimise such hazard .</p> <p>Demonstration of the potential hazards from stage pyrotechnics in a controlled manner allowing the delegates to observe the consequences of incorrect rigging or material choice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spark and Flame</li> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Smoke</li> <li>• Odours</li> <li>• Hot Fallout</li> <li>• Staining</li> <li>• Debris</li> <li>• Projectiles</li> </ul>
<b>Safety Equipment</b>	<p>Demonstration of safety equipment and accessories which can be used to manage the risks associated with stage pyrotechnics.</p>
<b>Device Types and Families</b>	<p>Demonstration of key device types providing delegates a chance to observe and make notes on different types of devices so as they can select devices from manufacturers catalogues with greater confidence.</p> <p>The course demonstrations concentrate on T1 devices in particular with some T2 devices provided for reference.</p> <p>Delegates will be shown how to fire some of the demonstrations to provide early hands-on experience during the course.</p>

<p><b>Rigging - Wiring and Firing techniques</b></p>	<p>Demonstrations of the types of rigging hardware available and correct use.</p> <p>Discussions on what to consider when rigging hardware such as location, scenery and actors.</p> <p>Examples of good and bad firing systems to highlight what are the minimum requirements of a firing system.</p> <p>Examples of multiple device wiring with parallel and series wiring</p>
<p><b>Practical Workshops</b></p>	<p>Delegates undertake an extensive hands-on workshop exercise in small groups where they are required to take the information from the morning session and rig and fire a succession of pyrotechnic cues using T1 material in a defined order.</p> <p>Drawing from experience and guidance gained from the morning session, delegates work collectively to produce a small pyrotechnic show (using over 50 devices) incorporating many techniques and safety considerations discussed during the course using both T1 and T2 material (under supervision).</p>