

ACTIVITY REPORT

FIRE BRIGADE.

PREVENTION, SAFETY AND MOBILITY

PRESENTATION

Maintaining the levels of effectiveness in responses and always adapting response procedures to the changing risk contexts of the municipality is the challenge currently faced by the Barcelona Fire Brigade.

Qualitative improvements are possible when we are referring to a service whose values connect it directly to residents and its response environment.

The experience and professionalism of its members, its 175 years of history, the ability to work as a team and their vocation of service to the population are the calling card of the Barcelona Fire Brigade, which we need to keep in mind as we carry out our task as emergency professionals.

It seems a long time ago since we announced the start of a generational change. Now it is a reality and we will be ensuring its continuity through the implementation of the new Director Plan.

This is our challenge for the future. The implementation of the Director Plan must be the instrument that will allow us to continue to participate in the construction of the new Barcelona, with its enhanced port logistics, the creation of 22@ and the construction of the Sagrera hub, always with a view to obtaining the best safety indices for residents and in fire fighter responses.

Assumpta Escarp i Gibert, Councillor of the Accident Prevention, Safety and Mobility Department

Joan Pedreny i Abella, Director of Barcelona Fire Brigade

COMMITTED TO SAFETY AND PREVENTION

The Fire-fighters of Barcelona have the mission of ensuring and guaranteeing the safety of citizens and their property, exercising such prevention by means of inspections and the preparation of risk studies and emergency plans. Advising about the situations that avoid any type of risk. Effecting technical and operative assistance tasks related to the service and responsible for the rescue of persons and property in the event of fires or accidents.

1 WORKING TOWARDS SAFETY

EMERGENCY PLANS

2008 saw the completion of the tasks begun in 2007. This year was not so intensive in terms of municipal emergency action plan revisions, as most had already been revised in previous years. Our work focused more on revising and updating specific plans. Some of these had to be activated on a number of occasions this year and the brigade observed that the actions they involved were carried out to success.

Municipal emergency action plans

The municipal emergency action plans for earth tremors, flooding, forest fires, snow and ice, dangerous chemicals and accidents involving dangerous substances were updated, revised and qualified by the Civil Protection Commission of Catalonia.

Drafting of the Municipal emergency action plan for accidental contamination of marine waters was completed and is now awaiting official approval.

The Basic municipal emergency action plan, both the general text and its telephone directory, resources etc. was also revised and updated.

Specific municipal emergency action plans

The Specific municipal plan for accidents in motorway tunnels, which previously only covered the Ronda del Mig ring road, was updated and extended to cover all of Barcelona's road tunnels. Completion is planned for 2009.

The Specific plan for accidents in railway tunnels was updated and the DGPC (Directorate General for Civil Protection) must now complete its plan before making the two coincide.

The specific plans for power outages, gas cuts and communication breakdowns have been fully updated.

The Specific plan for health risk was fully completed and approved.

The Specific plan for outside the harbour differs substantially for what was drawn up the first time around. A strategy was adopted whereby the plans would be activated according to risk type, rather than the geographical scope. Hence, many of the hypothetical situations it covered were incorporated into other emergency action plans, such as dangerous chemicals, floods etc. The remaining situations are scheduled to be incorporated into existing plans such as the contamination of marine waters, leaving this plan to cover only the risk of bomb threats and sinking vessels.

Activation of municipal emergency action plans

In 2008, the following emergency plans were activated:

On 23 May, the Municipal emergency action plan for accidents in dangerous-chemical companies was activated due to a dimethylamine leakage caused by the splitting of an ISO container at the Morrot container terminal (ADIF). The alert phase was declared at 10:16 and changed to the emergency phase five minutes later because of the potential risks. At 18:40, the spillage was under control and the alert phase was declared again. The plan was deactivated at 02:30.

On 27 January, at 15:50 the Municipal emergency action plan for accidents in dangerous-chemical companies on alert was activated due to a sulphur dioxide leakage at the company FORET (C/Z, 33-41). It was activated in this phase until it was brought under control the following day at 16:40, when the plan was deactivated.

On 9 June at 10:00, the Basic municipal emergency action plan was activated in the pre-alert phase due to the calling of a strike by transport workers, which was affecting the normal operation of the city. It remained active for five days until the strike was called off. An emergency action committee was set up immediately to monitor the situation with all agents involved in the resolution of aspects such as fuel supply, waste collection etc.

On 5 August at 12:47, the Municipal emergency action plan was activated in the alert phase for the forecast heat wave. The relevant social activity group took immediate action to adopt its protocol. It was deactivated on 7 August at 18:19 after no relevant incidents had been recorded.

While not covered by any basic plan, the assistance afforded to around a hundred families of those injured by the gas explosion in Gavà required the activation of emergency action elements of the Council. The brigade worked alongside other operational groups from 3 to 12 December.

The municipal emergency action plan for floods was activated in the alert phase on 5 June and in the alert and emergency phases on 12 July. Neither case produced many more incidents than it is normal for heavy rains like those forecast.

SIMULATIONS AND DRILLS

As usual, the brigade also took part in simulations this year in dangerous-chemical companies such as Enagas, Akzo Nobel and Decal, which could be the focus of serious accidents.

A forest-fire simulation took place in the Llars Mundet area, in conjunction with services of the Generalitat and local police forces from neighbouring cities.

WORK COMMITTEES AND GROUPS

Barcelona City Council Environmental Address

The brigade took part in Barcelona City Council's Environment Address in compliance with the criteria set by the Municipal Bylaw on Integral Response and Activities (known locally by its Spanish/Catalan initials as "OMAI/AA") from the point of view of civil protection.

Commission of the Special Plan for Railway Accidents

In addition to the commissions on which we have worked regularly (PROCICAT, INFOCAT, INUNCAT, CAMCAT, NEUCAT), a new commission was set up this year with the General Directorate for Civil Protection in order to draw up a special plan for accidents involving railways. Due to construction work on the AVE infrastructures, the brigade worked continuously as a mixed commission.

Commission with the Port Authority

The brigade participated on the Mixed Commission set up by the Barcelona Port Authority and the Barcelona City Council to follow up the collaboration agreement.

Working group for firework prevention

It also participated in the working group on preventive measures for festival firework displays.

NEW MUNICIPAL BYLAW ON FIRES

July saw the entry into force of the new municipal bylaw on fire protection, which complements the fire safety regulations for industrial establishments.

The Directorate-General for Fire Prevention and Extinction of the Generalitat prepared a draft bill for the Law on Fires, which is currently being debated in the Catalan parliament. This law, applicable across Catalonia, will regulate the procedure to be followed by building plans, activities and infrastructures to confirm compliance with fire protection regulations.

The approval of regulations mentioned in this law will improve the protection of our buildings.

The approval of this Law will not represent a substantial change for the Barcelona City Council since the Fire Safety Bylaw passed in March 2008 regulates most of the new aspects of this Law.

The Ministry of Industry announced the modification of the Regulation on fire protection installations (RIPCI). The planned modification will incorporate the management of passive protection systems, previously uncontrolled, into the new regulation and will require installers and maintenance staff to perform installations at a much higher standard than is currently the case while also enhancing the quality management system, since they will be required to comply with ISO standard 9000.

The Fire-Safety Rules Interpretation Board (known locally as "TINSCI") — which includes the professional associations of Architecture and Engineering and the Fire Brigade Services of Barcelona City Council and the Autonomous Government of Catalonia — clarified the questions on interpretation raised by technicians, and the board continued to adapt documents based on previous CTE and RSCIEI regulations.

Protocols and agreements

The Barcelona City Council signed a number of agreements on the roles performed by the Barcelona Fire Brigade.

Agreement with the Port Authority of Barcelona

For the exercise of responsibilities relating to civil protection, prevention and rescue and firefighting services.

Agreement with the Private Municipal Company Informació i Comunicació de Barcelona

To establish the bases of collaboration to improve information and awareness among the population regarding fire prevention and self-protection.

Agreement with the Medical Emergencies System (SEM)

To improve the psychological assistance given to those affected by road-accident and to the victims' families.

Agreement with Transports Metropolitans de Barcelona

To develop municipal responsibilities regarding safety and civil protection in the municipality of Barcelona.

Agreement with the company TABASA

For the loan of an infrared thermal imaging camera for firefighting and rescue services in low visibility conditions.

2 WORKING FOR PREVENTION

PREVENTION SERVICES

In 2008, the brigade continued to work on improving prevention measures in the city through diverse lines of action, which included tackling prevention in neighbourhoods, working on new plans to include dangers that had not previously been covered and updating the current planning.

Regulated prevention is understood to refer to the tasks carried out by SPEIS prevention technicians to check that buildings, establishments and infrastructures meet the applicable fire protection regulations in each case.

Support

A downward trend has been observed in the technical support offered due to the many training sessions held on fire protection regulations, which have increased awareness of the topic. In 2008, 3,684 support activities were carried out, representing a year-on-year reduction of 2%.

Reports and inspections

As a year of continuity, 2008 saw the completion of 944 project reports and the performance of 191 inspections, representing a combined increase of 12% on figures for 2007.

During the Environment Address 1,126 licence applications and 193 initial control cases were reviewed, a very similar number of that of the previous year.

PREVENTION CAMPAIGNS

Neighbourhood prevention

To increase awareness among the population, prevention and self-protection campaigns were organised in neighbourhoods with travelling informative sessions offering advice on prevention and action in case of fire.

Certain city events need coordination and planning of safety measures for the public and the people involved. Civil Protection is involved on two levels: in the planning and in the operational tasks of setting up coordination centres during events. Notable events included:

- The 2008 Mercè festivals (concerts in Plaça Catalunya, Fòrum, Fabra i Coats, fireworks & music displays, air show, DAMM festival, Av. Meridiana, Av. Catedral etc.).
- The 2008 carnival on Passeig Maragall.
- The 2008 Cavalcada de Reis procession.
- The 2008 April Fair.
- Inauguration of new activities at Montjuïc castle on 15 June.
- Nit de Montjuïc on 5 July.
- Diverse events in the Fòrum area.
- Opera on the beach on 17 June.
- A great deal of effort was put into the Superleague Formula activities, scheduled to take place on Montjuïc on 28 July, but the event was eventually cancelled.
- Advice on numerous firework displays, correfoc firework festivities and neighbourhood celebrations.

Prevention at schools

This year saw the continuation of the educational line of prevention in schools begun three years previously. The SPEIS educates children by visiting their schools and organising visits to stations.

The task focused once again on informing schools about preventive aspects. In addition to visits made to fire stations by students, the programme launched the previous year was repeated, involving talks at schools by firefighter instructors to raise awareness among pupils of the importance of establishing behavioural habits in order to avoid dangerous situations and of reacting correctly if they occur.

Collaboration with organisations

This year, with the important collaboration of Tecnofuego-Aespi, a new technical lecture entitled “Dia del Foc” was organised. The session focused on the Generalitat’s new Law on Fires and the updating of the Regulation on fire protection installations being drafted by the Ministry of Industry. Speakers of renowned prestige from the Ministry of Industry and the Generalitat of Catalonia took part in the event. Over 400 people attended the lecture, breaking all previous records.

The agreement signed with BTV (Barcelona Televisió) resulted in the airing of programmes in 2008 to raise awareness among Barcelona’s population of the work of the Fire Brigade and helped to disseminate fire prevention and self-protection messages.

In 2008, 6,205 prevention services were carried out:

Consultations	3,684
Arranged visits	1,090
Consultas telefòniques	2,594
Work-project, activity and event reports	2,070
Mandatory project and consultation reports	944
Projects reviewed in the Environmental Address	1,126
Prevention inspections	384
Night-time inspections of public premises	27
Inspections of firework display projects	97
Initial controls supervised in the Environmental Address	193
Other inspections	67
Educational preventive talks	
Number of schools that visited us	74
Number of pupils that visited us	3,234
Number of schools we visited	
Number of pupils in schools we visited	1,816
Number of other groups that visited the Fire Brigade	202
Number of other groups we visited	219
Emergency plans consulted	45
Support to simulations and drills	22

ENVIRONMENTAL DISCOVERY AND GUARD SERVICES

This new services breakdown parameter was incorporated for use as a benchmark to compare with in future years, since we hope to increase all actions giving us a better idea of the environment in which we work, whether this refers to the road and access network or buildings and specific elements. In both cases, this improvement will increase our effectiveness and enhance our safety.

In 2008, we carried out 1,121 environmental discovery and guard services, which represented 7.76% of the total.

Of these services and guards, 84.57% took place during the day and 15.43% at night.

3 EMERGENCY RESPONSES

RESCUES

In 2008, the brigade carried out 3,839 rescue interventions, a figure representing 26.58% of the total of emergency responses. Of these rescue interventions, six were performed outside the immediate municipality. In 2007, 4,319 rescue-service interventions were carried out, representing 26.80% of the emergency responses for that period.

In absolute terms, there was a considerable reduction in the number of services performed due to the fall in ambulance call-outs, although the percentage compared to the previous year was practically the same. Of the total number of these rescues, 236 were non-urgent.

A total of 59.05% of rescue responses were for assisting and aiding persons, which accounted for 2,267 interventions, and 34.80% were rescues in lifts (1,336 interventions). The rest corresponded to 36 cadaver recoveries and 200 to rescues or captures of live animals.

Of the total rescue interventions, medical assistance was provided in 1,544 cases, and our medical teams performed 924 hospital transfers.

The distribution of rescues over the week shows Tuesdays as having the least activity (12.53%), and Saturdays as having the most emergency services, with 17.09% of rescues.

Rescue services surpassed the service charter commitment (arrivals in under 10 minutes for at least 90% of emergency-service responses) by more than 5 percentage points with 95.34% of cases, compared to 96.56% of cases in 2007. In 70.08% of emergency rescues, arrivals took under 5 minutes (69.97% in 2007).

FIREFIGHTING AND EXPLOSIONS

In 2008, the brigade carried out 3,566 interventions in fires or explosions, which accounted for 24.69% of the total services provided (0.39% more than in 2007). In absolute terms, we performed 349 more firefighting or explosion services than we did in the previous year and nine of these took place outside the municipality.

Of the 3,566 interventions, 1,789 started on public thoroughfares, fewer than the 1,991 counted in 2007. The Fire Brigade put out 1,461 building fires, 1,108 of which had started in residential premises, representing 31.07% of all fire interventions (a slightly lower figure than the 40.10% of 2007).

The brigade put out 43 forest fires, compared to 97 in 2007, indicating a fall of 56% due mainly by the heavy rains that fell at the start of the summer. This type of intervention accounts for 1.21% of firefighting services and reveals a drop of 1.27% from the figures for 2007.

An analysis of fire services, broken down by days of the week, gives us the following information: Sundays had the least activity (13.49%), whereas Saturdays (16.46%) and Fridays (14.39%) had the most fire services.

Distribution of fire services:

During the day, 46.58% of fire services were carried out.
At night, between 20:00 and 8:00, 53.42% took place.

In 96.10% of fire-service responses, we arrived at the site of the emergency in less than 10 minutes, compared to 96.33% in 2007. The services charter commitment is to arrive in less than 10 minutes in at least 90% of cases. Moreover, in 72.24% of the fire-service responses, units arrived in less than 5 minutes (71.14% in 2007).

In 2008, the average arrival time of a response unit to an emergency site (fire, explosions and emergency rescues) was 4 minutes and 14 seconds, compared to 4 minutes and 17 seconds in 2007.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Firefighters perform a variety of services, including assistance to the general population and non-emergency services, which are classed as technical support.

In 2008, 3,460 technical-support services were carried out (less than the 3,745 services of this nature carried out in 2007), which accounted for 23.95% of interventions.

Of these technical-support services, 62.54% were carried out during the day while 37.46% occurred at night.

4 NOTABLE INTERVENTIONS

MOST NOTABLE INTERVENTIONS BY MONTH

02.02.08

C. Escar

Fire in the pile dam of the Barceloneta wharf. Four yachts burnt out.

28.02.08

C. Almogàvers-Badajoz

Gas leak. Companies in surrounding area evacuated

29.02.08

C. Enamorats

Fire caused by accumulation of gas due to evaporation of inflammable liquid in a print works.

17.03.08

C. Andrade

Explosion and subsequent fire. 3 dead, 13 injured and 45 people received care.

31.03.08

C. Balmes, 16

Fire with individual who had fallen while trying to catch hold of a waste pipe.

06.04.08

C. Sant Gil

Fire with individual threatening to throw himself down to escape the fire.

23.05.08

Estación del Morrot

Fall of cistern with chemical product. The municipal emergency plan for chemical risk was activated.

16.06.08

Av. Ports d'Europa

Collision between freight train and heavy-goods vehicle with diesel spillage.

20.09.08

C. Dante Alighieri

Bus that collided with a façade and ran over a group of people, killing two.

19.10.08

C. Mèxic, 28

Fire ending with one person dead while trying to flee down the staircase.

27.11.08

C. Montnegre, 28

Fire in a flat with one person clinging to the façade, evacuated with a rescue bag.

30.11.08

C. Escipió, 31

Fire in a flat with one person dead prior to the fire breaking out.

03.12.08

Término municipal de Gavà

Gas explosion. Collaboration with the Fire Brigade of the Generalitat.

11.12.08

C. Melcior de Palau

Fire with smoke inhalation problems caused by attempting evacuation before we arrived.

12.12.08

C. Mina de la Ciutat, 4

Care to a lady giving birth on the street with the aid of doctors from a nearby doctor's surgery.

26.12.08

C. Ferran Agulló

Fire in a flat with 3 people trapped in the inner patio.

30.12.08

C. Robínia, 22

Fire due to the explosion of a camping-gas bottle.

COORDINATION AND EFFICIENCY

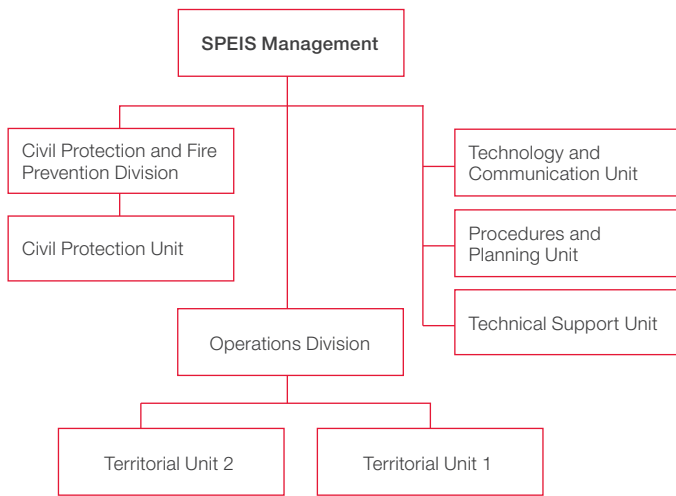
The people that form part of the Fire-fighters of Barcelona constitute the main resource of the service, given that their principal mission is to intervene in risk situations and/or emergencies that citizens may suffer.

Coordination and commitment to service by means of competent professionals, well trained and reliable in the carrying out of their functions.

Efficiency in order to achieve an efficient organisation, adequately using the means and resources available to them, based upon the renovation, innovation and continued improvement.

5 STAFF

ORGANISATION CHART



HUMAN RESOURCES

The Human Resources department trains professionals in the SPEIS to perform the following tasks efficiently:

- Rescue people and property in the event of fire and generally any other incident.
- Exercise prevention through inspection and investigation and produce studies and reports to prevent risks, all in accordance with bylaws and other applicable regulations.
- Inform and spread awareness and explain situations to prevent all types of incident or risk.
- Carry out technical and operational support in the specialist areas of the service that they are commissioned or requested to do, following the guidelines of the Mayor's Office to this effect.

In accordance with these guidelines, the department adapted its training to the above lines in order to improve emergency attention and prevent possible risks to response personnel.

The workforce is being continually rejuvenated through voluntary retirements and public calls for candidates and internal promotions. Since 2000, a total of 255 places have been announced in public calls for candidates and 64 internal promotions have been made (28 corporals, 30 sergeants and 6 subofficials). The effects of these actions are beginning to be seen in the reduction in the average age, which stood at around 45 years and will be reduced further in the short-term as voluntary retirements become effective.

A new Training Plan is also in place for new firefighters, agreed with the trade unions in 2007, and promoted staff are given specific training.

2008 was also marked by the negotiation of a new agreement on working conditions.

The aim of this was to work together to create an organisation trained to deal with emergencies and more motivated by its working conditions and promotion possibilities, thus avoiding possible risks arising through interventions.

The distribution of staff by function and professional category is as follows:

Function	Category	Number of employees
SPEIS director	Senior technician in architecture or engineering	1
Head of Operations Division	Middle-ranking technician in architecture or engineering	1
Head of Prevention and Civil Protection Department	Senior technician in architecture or engineering	1
Operational staff		
Unit chief	Middle-ranking technician in architecture or engineering	5
Duty chief	Middle-ranking technician in architecture or engineering	6
SPEIS technicians		0
Medical assistants	Middle-ranking health technician	21
Subofficials		23
Sergeant		30
Corporals		72
Firefighters		546
Non-operational staff		
Senior technician in prevention		5
Middle-ranking technician in prevention		4
Operations dept. assistant technician		1
Administrative support	Clerks	5
	Junior clerks	2
Total		723

This table does not include the 17 professionals of the Department of Financial Management and Resource Control Services who carried out services for the SPEIS nor the ten professionals of operating categories who carried out services at the Department of Financial Management and Resource Control Services:

Category	Human resources	Fin. admin.	Logistics
Senior technician	1		
Middle-ranking technician	1		4
Clerks	5	2	
Supervisor			2
Juniors (diverse)			2
Subofficials	1		
Corporal			1
Firefighter	2		5
Adm. urb mgr.		1	
Totals (27)	10	3	14

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The definition of operational staff responsibilities was begun in 2008 as a starting point that will allow us to define the elements involved in professional development.

A methodology was used in which sixty-six professionals from different operational categories participated, as well as the validation group, which consisted of another five professionals. Work was carried out individually and as a group on the duties and tasks of posts in each of these groups.

Professional skills were classified, of which the eleven that best defined the functions of the different categories of the SPEIS were selected on the basis of the knowledge they required and the attitude needed in working situations.

Once the work had been completed, the validation group was set up by members of the Management of the service and the Human Resources department of the sector.

This led to the "development of the skills of the different professional categories" project for operational staff. The following dictionary of skills was defined for the Barcelona Fire Brigade:

Analytical

Analysis and resolution of problems

Functional

Results-based
Understanding of the organisation
Focused on serving the population

Personal

Teamwork and collaboration
Communication

Relational

Teamwork and collaboration
Communication

Command

Decision-making
Planning and organisation of work
Management and training of people

We then had to define the tool to evaluate these and propose corrective or training actions to ensure their compliance.

This should also serve in the future to define the training content required for the careers of firefighters.

Training

In 2008, training focused on new firefighters and on furthering the training of the firefighters that joined the SPEIS between 2002 and 2006. A total of 30% of the workforce received this instruction.

The self-learning classroom was run with support staff, and was used for around 3,306 hours.

The resources allocated to training, by recipient and the institution that made the contribution, were as follows:

Barcelona City Council		
Type	Hours	Cost
New firefighters	24,750	153,900.00
Firefighters (2002-2006)	3,540	52,414.84
Internal promotion	3,606	6,000.00
Other	2,066	6,436.40
Total	33,962	218,751.24

Barcelona Port Authority

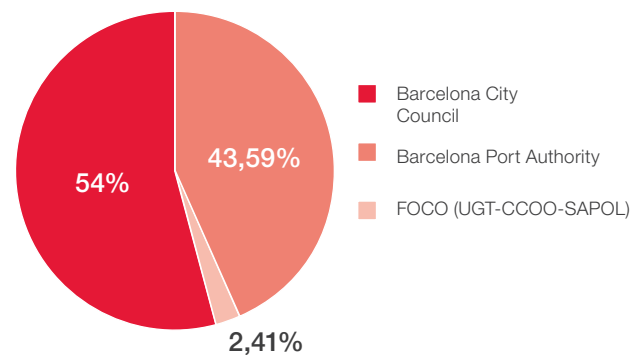
Type	Course	Hours	Cost
New firefighters	Putting out fires on ships	1,575	60,909.39
Firefighters (2002-2006)			
Internal promotion (corporals, sergeants, heads of station)	Advanced course in command and control of incidents	2,066	115,675.00
Total		3,641	176,584.39

FOCO

Course	Total no. hours	Cost
Door opening	279	9,744.00

Total cost of SPEIS training

Barcelona City Council	218,751.24	54.00%
Barcelona Port Authority	176,584.39	43.59%
FOCO (UGT-CCOO-SAPOL)	9,744.00	2.41%
Total	405,079.63	100.00%



Recruitment and professional promotion

In 2008, forty-five firefighters joined the brigade through public calls for candidates. With these places, the number of firefighter posts accumulated since 2000 reached 255, which represented a renewal of 35% of the workforce.

In internal promotions, candidates were called for the following places:

- Corporal category: 10 places
- Sergeant category: 10 places
- Subofficial category: 4 places

With the twenty-four internal promotions, the SPEIS has added sixty-four new commanders in the last four years, who replaced retired staff and brought down the age of the line of command, 45% of which was renewed.

LABOUR RELATIONS

An intensive search was undertaken to establish the harmonious setting required to reach an agreement on a new pact on working conditions.

In February 2008, the negotiation tables were formally set up, which included the specific SPEIS table. A total of twenty negotiation meetings were held over the year.

On specific SPEIS issues and health and safety topics, besides committee meetings, sessions were held with different working commissions, such as those on clothing, intervention protocols, vehicles and tools.

The PRE-B programme also continued, which gave talks at different stations and specific training for commanders.

6 INVESTMENTS

Vehicles

STATION VEHICLES	Vehicle type	Subtotal	Total
Pumper truck	B-100 light (1000 l.)	10	24
	B-200 all purpose (2500 l.)	5	
	B-300 heavy (3000 l.)	5	
	B-400 large fire (5000 l.)	5	
Ladder and crane truck	E, > 30 m	6	8
	E, > 20 m	2	
Rescue	C (Charlie)		5
Ambulances	S (Sierra)		5
Intervention-support vehicles (crane, air, foam, diesel tank, underwater, shoring, hose, container)	J (Juliet), G (Golf)		9
Auxiliary vehicles	Command	8	32
	Department	4	
	Inspection	7	
	General station support	8	
	Transport vans	5	
TOTAL FLEET OF VEHICLES			83
Special containers and cargo	NBC interventions	1	5
	Interventions in serious accidents	1	
	Advanced command	1	
	Cargo	2	
TOTAL CONTAINERS			5
RESCUE SHIPS			5

Clothing

A study and call for tenders were carried out for the new intervention helmet. Class III PPE, in line with EN standard 443:2008.

Operational material

In 2008, resources were provided to guarantee the renewal and maintenance of operational service material.

The most significant intervention materials acquired in 2008 were:

- Twenty-five 25-mm hoses
- 8 chainsaws
- 6 abrasive cut-off machines
- 3 aluminium ladders
- 130 telescopic props
- 25 safety torches
- 2 hydraulic door-opening mechanisms
- 50 protective uniforms
- diverse rescue material
- diverse chemical-risk material

Maintenance and work

For maintenance of the seven fire stations, a total of 470 work orders were performed in 2008 to complete preventive and corrective maintenance tasks (maintenance of buildings, facilities, extinguishers, power generators, lifts, alarms etc.).

IT systems

In the field of IT management and maintenance systems, in 2008, some 455 different assistance services were provided for IT equipment and applications at the different stations.

7 ACTIVITY INDICATORS

THE CITY, AN INTERVENTION SCENARIO

The city data indicate criteria of an intervention scenario in constant adaptation. The changes in activities reveal a rising trend in production and industrial processes.

The inclusion of the Civil Protection Service into the Fire Brigade structure can be observed as an improvement to the entire management of our service, particularly because of the possibility of access to updated data for many of the incidents that occur in the city.

City data

Linear metres of beach	4,580 m
Port perimeter	20,500 m
Green forest	1,795 ha
Manufacturing industries	12,941
Commercial premises	53,986
Restaurants, bars and hotels	12,598
Cinemas and theatres	257
Clubs and discotheques	149
Residential buildings	75,932
Buildings intended for other uses	10,812
Total number of buildings	86,744
Residential properties	757,928

(Source: Annual statistics for the city of Barcelona 2008)

Basic data in figures

6 fire stations and a temporary crew based at Vallvidrera
 14,445 emergency-service responses
 786 firefighting staff
 4.90 firefighters per 10,000 inhabitants
 7.82 firefighters per km²

Emergency-response services per district

District	Population	km ²	Population/km ²	Services
Ciutat Vella	111,518	4.23	26,364	1,632
Eixample	262,469	7.48	35,089	2,776
Sants-Montjuïc	178,482	21.88	8,157	1,926
Les Corts	81,628	6.02	13,559	626
Sarrià-Sant Gervasi	141,091	20.11	7,016	1,523
Gràcia	120,177	4.19	28,682	931
Horta-Guinardó	168,541	11.95	14,104	1,057
Nou Barris	164,982	8.05	20,495	1,012
Sant Andreu	143,148	6.57	21,788	1,033
Sant Martí	223,074	10.31	21,637	1,908
Total	1,595,110	100.79	15,826	14,424
Services outside the immediate municipality of Barcelona				21
Total number of services				14,445

Interventions per station: number of emergency responses and day/night distribution

Station	Total	% of the total	Day	% of the station	Night	% of the station
Eixample	6,411	37.91	3,843	59.94	2,568	40.06
Sant Andreu	2,708	16.01	1,667	61.56	1,041	38.44
Drassanes	1,609	9.51	913	56.74	696	43.26
Llevant	3,104	18.35	1,893	60.99	1,211	39.01
Zona Franca	1,077	6.37	684	63.51	393	36.49
Vallvidrera	277	1.64	257	92.78	20	7.22
Vall d'Hebron	1,726	10.21	1,011	58.57	715	41.43
Total number of emergency responses	16,912	100.00	10,268		6,644	

* A service may need emergency responses from different stations

Emergency responses

Type	Services
Fires and explosions	3,566
Rescues (including 1,544 with medical support)	3,839
Technical support	3,460
Operational prevention*	1,121
False alarms	2,459
Total	14,445

* Preventive services, practices etc.

Prevention services

Type	Services
Technical consultations	3,684
Work projects and activity reports	2,070
Prevention inspections	384
Emergency plans consulted	45
Support to simulations and drills	22
Total	6,205

FIRES AND EXPLOSIONS

Number of fires according to time of day

Time band	Services
12 am to 4 am	682
4 am to 8 am	378
8 am to 12 pm	353
12 pm to 4 pm	693
4 pm to 8 pm	615
8 pm to 12 pm	845
Total	3,566

Arrival times

Arrival times	Services	Accumulated	% accumulated
From 0 to 5 minutes	2,576	2,576	72.24%
From 5 to 10 minutes	851	3,427	96.10%
More than 10 minutes	139		
Total	3,566		

Time taken to extinguish fire

Extinguishing times	Services	Accumulated	% accumulated
From 0 to 15 minutes	365	365	10.24%
From 15 to 30 minutes	1,689	2,054	57.60%
From 30 to 60 minutes	1,184	3,238	90.80%
More than 60 minutes	328		
Total	3,566		

Places where fire broke out

Place	Subtotal		Total	
	Services	%	Services	%
Buildings			1,461	40.97%
Residential properties	1,108	31.07%		
Public residences	19	0.53%		
Administrative	35	0.98%		
Medical	7	0.20%		
Bars, restaurants and meeting places	114	3.20%		
Educational use	21	0.59%		
Commercial buildings	123	3.45%		
Garages and car parks	34	0.95%		
Public thoroughfares			1,789	50.17%
Vehicles	193	5.41%		
Containers	836	23.44%		
Other	760	21.31%		
Miscellaneous			316	8.86%
Construction works	40	1.12%		
Factories and warehouses	61	1.71%		
Railway facilities	30	0.84%		
Building sites	135	3.79%		
Forest areas	43	1.21%		
Beaches, breakwaters, sea, rivers and lakes	7	0.20%		
Total	3,566		3,566	

Number of services fighting fire or explosions per district

District	Services	%
Ciutat Vella	306	8.60%
Eixample	675	18.97%
Sants-Montjuïc	436	12.25%
Les Corts	157	4.41%
Sarrià-Sant Gervasi	312	8.77%
Gràcia	224	6.30%
Horta-Guinardó	280	7.87%
Nou Barris	279	7.84%
Sant Andreu	370	10.40%
Sant Martí	519	14.59%
Total	3,558	

* Eight services performed outside district.

RESCUES

Number of rescues according to time of day

Time band	Services
12 am to 4 am	401
4 am to 8 am	269
8 am to 12 pm	668
12 pm to 4 pm	943
4 pm to 8 pm	785
8 pm to 12 pm	773
Total	3,839

A total of 62.41% of emergency-rescue interventions took place during the day, while 37.67% took place at night, compared to 62.33% and 35.85% respectively in 2007.

Arrival times to emergency-rescue sites in the city of Barcelona

Arrival times	Services	Accumulated	% accumulated
From 0 to 5 minutes	2,686	2,686	70.08%
From 5 to 10 minutes	974	3,660	95.34%
More than 10 minutes	173		
Total	3,833		

A total of 236 non-urgent rescues were carried out in 2008 (recovery of cadavers and live animals).

Typical features of rescues in the city of Barcelona

Type of rescue	Services	%
Assistance and aid to persons	2,261	58.99%
Lift rescues	1,336	34.86%
Cadaver recoveries	36	0.94%
Rescue and capture of live animals	200	5.22%
Total	3,833	

* Six services performed outside district.

Number of rescue services per district

District	Services	%
Ciutat Vella	365	9.52%
Eixample	947	24.71%
Sants-Montjuïc	418	10.91%
Les Corts	185	4.83%
Sarrià-Sant Gervasi	316	8.24%
Gràcia	261	6.81%
Horta-Guinardó	294	7.67%
Nou Barris	340	8.87%
Sant Andreu	251	6.55%
Sant Martí	456	11.90%
Total	3,833	

* Six services performed outside district.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Number of technical support responses according to time of day

Time band	Services
12 am to 4 am	333
4 am to 8 am	299
8 am to 12 pm	699
12 pm to 4 pm	743
4 pm to 8 pm	722
8 pm to 12 pm	664
Total	3,460

Type of technical support

Type	Services	Percentage
Disconnecting alarms	155	3.38%
Construction surveys	377	8.23%
Building sanitation	416	9.08%
Shoring	16	0.35%
Removing vehicles	131	2.86%
Cooperation with institutions	159	3.47%
Supplying power or light	109	2.38%
Rain storm or water leakage	893	19.49%
Consolidation, removing obj. and trees	612	13.36%
Ladder services	5	0.11%
Examining products	218	4.76%
Gas leakage	249	5.44%
Spillage of liquids	39	0.85%
Cleaning road surfaces	81	1.77%
Total	3,460	

Sites at which technical support took place

Place	Subtotal		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%
Buildings			2,485	54.25%
Residential properties	2,014	43.96%		
Public residences	33	0.72%		
Administrative	58	1.27%		
Medical	17	0.37%		
Bars, restaurants and meeting places	78	1.70%		
Educational use	47	1.03%		
Commercial buildings	162	3.54%		
Garages and car parks	76	1.66%		
Public thoroughfares	968	21.13%	968	21.13%
Miscellaneous			1,128	24.62%
Construction works	50	1.09%		
Factories and warehouses	370	8.08%		
Railway facilities	13	0.28%		
Building sites	27	0.59%		
Forest areas	286	6.24%		
Beaches, breakwaters, sea, rivers and lakes	382	8.34%		
Total	3,460		3,560	

Number of technical-support responses per district

District	Services	%
Ciutat Vella	454	13.12%
Eixample	640	18.50%
Sants-Montjuïc	478	13.82%
Les Corts	156	4.51%
Sarrià-Sant Gervasi	366	10.58%
Gràcia	246	7.11%
Horta-Guinardó	275	7.95%
Nou Barris	206	5.95%
Sant Andreu	242	6.99%
Sant Martí	397	11.47%
Total	3,460	