

## Organisation of R&D in The Netherlands

Although in NL there is one leading institute for the safety organisations, which is called The Netherlands Institute for Fysical Safety (NIFV) there are a lot of other research institutes carrying out research in the field of safety. These research institutes can be universities, private companies or semi governmental institutes.

The NIFV Consists of four "academies" (Fire Academy, Academy for Leadership, Academy for large scale medical intervention, Academy for crisis management) and a research department.

The research department carries out research for the academies, but also for other parties. The NIFV is financed by the national government (Ministry for safety and justice) and by other parties who have requests for research.

The NIFV is now in transition to become a national institute which supports the 25 Safety Regions, not only for knowledge and research, but also for logistics and fire service examination. The aim is that this new institute (IFV) cooperates very closely with the field organisations and behaves as a network organisation between all the research institutes in the field, and tries to direct research more than before.

Besides the NIFV we have the fire regions (which are a part of the safety regions). They have their own means of financing, and the cooperation between the fire academy and the field organisations has become more tight over the past few years, based upon a new vision for the fire service. The fire regions and the Fire Academy we founded a "Scientific Board" which has made connection with universities and other research centres. The board has written, in cooperation with the Fire service regions, a "Strategic More year Innovation and Research plan, which reflects the demands from the field and a translation of the vision of the fire service for the next decade into research demands. Fire regions as well as the Fire Academy try to direct research towards to goals written down in this plan. But this is not easy, because it is a network, and we have to connect with all the means of financing and the institutes that would be able to carry out research.

We have several sources for financing. All sources have there own objectives. This would be our aim with that strategic plan. We would like to have more year financial sources, so we can plan our research better, and invest in knowledge of our own organisation. Right now we are dependant on project financing, which is only for the duration of one project. We try to get a good overview of all sources of financing, and try to connect our demands with specific sources. This is not easy because this is very dynamic, and spread over several ministerial departments (for example, there are several financial flows to stimulate innovation within the government, and within the industry). These sources consist of a) subsidies from the national government ( plans needed, and we do not get even half of the money needed), local government, fire services, (local fire services as well as regional fire services) as well as financial sources meant for innovation which are given to private companies, who have to make plans for innovation in the safety field.

