Questionnaire regarding fire-resistant fabrics for mitigating damage to heritage objects/interiors and museum collections

On assignment for the Directorate for Cultural Heritage, Norway, NIKU will, in cooperation with RISE Fire Research, gather experiences of the use of fire-resistant fabric for protecting and mitigating damage to heritage objects/interiors and museum collections. We hope you have the possibility to answer 10 questions regarding fire-resistant fabrics for protection of heritage objects or museum collections, in order to make a state-of-the-art overview. **DEADLINE for reply is 11th December 2020**

**Fire-resistant fabrics** can be cloths, blankets, customised textiles to put over objects, curtains, blinds or other types of fabrics in use for protection against heat and soot damages.

Please fill in the answers directly underneath, and send the reply to [nina.k.jernaes@niku.no](mailto:nina.k.jernaes@niku.no)

If you’re not working in an art- or cultural heritage institution with an ownership or management responsibility, please reply regarding your knowledge of other historic buildings or museums.

1. Does your institution have fire-resistant fabrics for protecting parts of an interior or parts of a collection against heat og soot damages in case of a fire? This can be textiles that should cover a three-dimensional object, or covering the front side, automatic curtains, or other types of curtains with the intention of mitigating damages from a fire.
   1. No
   2. Yes
   3. Yes, different types

*If No; please return the questionnaire via email together with info about which institution.*

*If Yes; please continue:*

1. The scope of the protection by the fabric(s) (tick off)
   1. Is it for the protection of specific objects or parts of the interior?
   2. Is it for the protection of specific objects where the textile cover is being customized?
   3. Is it to split for the sectioning of a specific part of a room?
2. How is the fabric(s) used? (tick off)
   1. To be covered manually or pulled in front of an object/part of the interior
   2. They are automatic, but need a manual activation
   3. They are automatic and get activated by the fire alarm
3. Where is the fabric(s) kept when they are not in use (if they are not fixed already)?

Answer:

I do not know:

1. Manual covering: who must cover the object(s) or interior in case of a fire?

Answer:

I do not know:

1. Is the covering of the object(s) or interior part of a routine (for instance every afternoon, when the building closes for the season or until next time it is in use)?

Answer:

I do not know:

1. Has the fire-resistant fabric(s) been a part of previous emergency drills?
2. How important would you say that the fire-resistant fabric(s) is for the total safeguarding of the building/important objects/your institution?

Answer:

I do not know:

1. Do you have the name of the product and possible thoughts on experiences of this product and the use of it?
2. Other comments:

|  |
| --- |
| **Relevant institution/building:** |

**PS: This is for avoiding multiple replies for the same building or the same collection. This information will not be reported or further conveyed.**

The replies will be the basis for a state-of-the-art use of fire-resistant fabrics for protecting art, interior and objects with a cultural historical value within Norway, Sweden, Denmark, England, and Scotland. The collected information will be used to increase the knowledge on this topic and strengthen the protection of irreplaceable objects and interiors. **Future work will not connect any answers to specific person, institution or building.** All emails will be deleted after 90 days. The background work for the state-of-the-art will be kept in NIKU’s archival systems. By answering, you consent to this use of the material.

A summary report will be written, and data from the report might be used in further research. Please contact the Directorate for Cultural Heritage or NIKU if you are interested in the reading this report.

Return this email with the answers to [nina.k.jernaes@niku.no](mailto:nina.k.jernaes@niku.no)

Please forward this email if you have colleagues or others that can contribute!

Questions regarding this? Please get in contact.

Thank you so much in advance,

Kind regards,

Nina Kjølsen Jernæs, NIKU

*Nina Kjølsen Jernæs*

Paintings Conservator NKF-N/ Researcher

Norwegian Institute for Cultural Heritage Research (NIKU)

Tel. No.: 00 47 414 11 353

Tel. No. Switch board Oslo: 00 47 23 35 50 00

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