

Building Name Address	Use (as per FSA Annexed Table 1)	Date and Time of Incident	Structure and Stories Area	Extent of Damage (Damaged Area/ Total Area)	No. of Casualties
Shimonoseki Daimaru Department Store	Department store (4)	Mar 27, 1974	Fireproof Structure	All, Half, Partial, [Small] 0 m ² (%)	Fatalities 0
		Breakout at 12:30 (approx.) Noticed at 13:40 Notified by Extinguished by	6 stories above ground and 1 below Building area 2,367 m ² Total floor area 16,570 m ²		
1-1-1 Yamatomachi, Shimonoseki, YAMAGUCHI					

I. Summary of Fire Incident

(1) Summary	<p>The cause of this fire was an electrical short circuit in a power cord connected to display-case lighting. This occurred during a special sales campaign held on the 2nd floor where the vendors were presenting their products in a busy environment. The damage was limited to only 3 m of the power cable, but this fire caused many injuries because everybody panicked at once and tumbled into the stairs and onto the escalators.</p>							
	(2) Conditions per Floor	Floor	Total area	Damaged area	Use (Purpose)	No. of persons	No. of fatalities	Fire escape equipment
		m ²	m ²				3 sets of inside stairs	Fire extinguishers
PH2		246		Machine room	2500 shoppers 754 employees and 8 security guards		2 sets of escape chutes on each floor of the 3rd to 6th floors	3 sets of indoor fire hydrants on each floor of B1 to 6th
PH1		510		Machine room, Recreational facility				Automatic fire detection system
6		2,011		Restaurant				Guiding lights
5		2,267		Retail				2 sets of water pipe connections on each floor of B1 to 6th
4		2,267		Retail				Emergency alarm system (PA system)
3		2,267		Retail				
2		2,367		Retail				
1		2,367		Retail				
B1	2,268		Retails, Machine room					
Total	16,570			Approx. 3,262				
(3) Origin of Fire	(Floor, Room, Part, Combustibles, Habitable/Non-habitable Rooms, Present/Absent)				(4) Cause of Fire	Short-circuit in portable electrical cable connected to the lighting of a display case		
	From the sales area of the 2nd floor					A portable power cord (500 MCM single conductor PVC power cable) for the display-case lighting was crushed by the leg of the display case. This damaged the PVC covering and caused a short circuit and fire, which burned 3 m of the cable.		
That day was a scheduled off-business day, but the store held a special sales campaign for vendors and the store was very crowded.								

(5) Fire Propagation Path	<p>(Location of Fire Source)</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 150px;"> A portable power cable for lighting used for a display case on the 2nd floor </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 150px;"> Ignited a 500 MCM single conductor PVC power cable </div> </div>	
	N/A	
	○ Main Reasons for Propagation of the Fire N/A ○ Smoke Propagation Path N/A	
II. Summary of the Building		
(1) Built	Construction, Completion, and Major Renovations (Completion) October 1959	
Fire Prevention Management	(2) Vertical Shafts	
	Stairwells <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Duct Spaces <input type="checkbox"/> Elevators <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pipe Shafts <input type="checkbox"/> Escalators <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other () <input type="checkbox"/>	
	N/A	
	(3) Fire Prevention	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Because of experience of arson in the past and the news of department fires such as the Taiyo Department Store Fire, this store was proactively involved in fire prevention and had made good improvements by updating the existing fire defense plan. ○ The store provided fire-prevention seminars and evacuation training and carried out a fire drill with the local fire station. ○ The store received multiple fire inspections every year and had received good feedback from the inspectors.
(4) Fire Compartments		(5) Firefighting Equipment
Fire shutters on the central stairs, the south stairs, and the downward escalator.		The firefighting equipment was well maintained.

III. Actions Taken after the Fire was Detected									
(1) First Detected	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Detected by (Customer) ◦ How and why (Igniting sound of flame and smoke) ◦ Action taken (Shouted "Was that a fire or a bomb?") 								
	<p>The vicinity of the display case, which was located in the kids clothing section of the 2nd floor, was crowded with customers. Because of the short circuit, the power cable emitted sparks and flames emerged with the sound of ignition and smoke. As soon as the shoppers noticed the sound, they shouted "Smoke", "Fire", and "Bomb" and chaos ensued.</p>								
(2) Emergency Call	<p>Yes [] () Time elapsed since the discovery (70) minutes</p> <p>Emergency Call No [X]</p> <p>(One of the shoppers made a 119 call from her home after s/he came home from the site)</p>								
	<p>S/he was shopping in the <i>Kimono</i> section on the 3rd floor and saw the chaos, but descended the south stairs without problem and made a 119 call from her home.</p>								
(3) Initial Firefighting Activities	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 20%;"></th> <th style="width: 30%;">Successful [] Failed []</th> <th style="width: 50%;">(Reasons or Conditions)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">Initiated</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Extinguished timing [] ◦ Firefighting difficulties [] ◦ Firefighting method [] </td> <td rowspan="2"> Supervisor M, who was in the baby goods section, approximately 10 m south of the fire location, heard the shouts and saw smoke on the ceiling above the fire source. He instructed a female employee T to call the security office (dial 300 from the internal telephone). When he came closer to the fire location, a male customer was stamping on the smoky power cable. So he unplugged both ends of the cable from the wall and the display case, and dragged the cable into the hallway. As he stamped on the cable, he told the customer to clam down; however, the customer was too panicked to stop. </td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;"><u>Not Initiated</u></td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Extinguished timing [] ◦ Firefighting difficulties [] ◦ Firefighting method [] ◦ Other [X] </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Successful [] Failed []	(Reasons or Conditions)	Initiated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Extinguished timing [] ◦ Firefighting difficulties [] ◦ Firefighting method [] 	Supervisor M, who was in the baby goods section, approximately 10 m south of the fire location, heard the shouts and saw smoke on the ceiling above the fire source. He instructed a female employee T to call the security office (dial 300 from the internal telephone). When he came closer to the fire location, a male customer was stamping on the smoky power cable. So he unplugged both ends of the cable from the wall and the display case, and dragged the cable into the hallway. As he stamped on the cable, he told the customer to clam down; however, the customer was too panicked to stop.	<u>Not Initiated</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Extinguished timing [] ◦ Firefighting difficulties [] ◦ Firefighting method [] ◦ Other [X]
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(4) Summary of Firefighting Activities	<p>(Obstacles or Difficulties in Fire Control)</p> <p>N/A</p>								

(5) Evacuation	Means of Escape (No of people)	Obstacles to Evacuation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Stairs [] () ◦ Elevators/Escalators [] () ◦ Escape equipment [] () ◦ Directly to ground from windows or openings [] () ◦ Rescued [] () ◦ Other () [] () 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ No windows [] ◦ Barred openings [] ◦ Locked emergency doors (Exits) [] ◦ Alarm system [] (Poorly controlled, Malfunctioned, Not installed) ◦ Power outage [] ◦ Other []
<p>Although it was a scheduled off-business day at the store, the store held a special sales campaign, so the store was extremely crowded. As soon as sparks appeared, the panicked customer shouted "Fire!" and "Bomb!" which just instantly lead to mass panic. People raced to the central stairs and escalator through the main hallway and squeezed, tumbled, and fell onto each other. (Two persons were injured on the escalator and 18 persons were injured on the 2nd floor portion of the central stairs.)</p>		
(6) Causalities	Healthy individuals (Drunk persons) Individuals in need of assistance Infants Elderly Handicapped Patients/ill persons	Obstacles to Evacuation
	None	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ No windows [] ◦ Barred openings [] ◦ Locked emergency doors (Exits) [] ◦ Alarm system [] (Poorly controlled, Malfunctioned, Not installed) ◦ Power outage [] ◦ Other []
IV. Issues and Lessons Learned		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In case of an emergency and/or mass panic, someone should be able to take charge of the situation and instruct people to ensure a safe evacuation. To do this, s/he should wear a visually noticeable cloth with armband. Upon standing on a higher object, s/he should use hand signals and use an appealing tone of voice to guide people so that they can pay attention. 2. A wide set of stairs should have a handrail in the center, so that the flow of people going up and down can be more stable when people have to run and squeeze past each other in panic. To visually facilitate evacuation, the steps and walls should have different colors and directional signs. 3. On the evacuation route, no unstable objects such as mannequins should not be placed particularly in curved hallways or near escalators or stairwells because such obstacles can fall on people and cause unnecessary interruption and injury while people are rushing for an exit in panic. 		



