

CIFMers International Congress for Facility Managers

CIFMers 2016: two days full of Facility Management in Madrid

On September 28th and 29th Madrid held CIFMers (International Congress for Facility Managers) third edition in Spain. The conference has already become a reference event for the FM professionals. This event was organized by CIFMERS GLOBAL and took place at Teatro Goya, which welcomed over 400 delegates.



During these two days, Madrid was the meeting point for Facility Managers, who had the opportunity to share their knowledge on the discipline through different activities.

Presentations

20 speakers and 5 moderators sat at the table on the scene to talk about their experience in the Facility Management and Real Estate world.

The first group of presentations was focused on the Spanish market and was moderated by Vicente Redondo, president of the Spanish chapter of IFMA (International Facility Management Association). In this panel, Eduardo Ranz from Dentix spoke about the integration of Purchasing in the relationship with suppliers and FM. Borja Fernández from Iberdrola presented the process he led in order to implement a global FM model. Finally, José Luis Casero from ARHOE (Association for the Rationalization of Time in Spain) spoke about the relationship among life-work balance and productivity. This last topic was the main subject of the questions the audience asked during the Q&A segment.



After the first group of presentations, it was the time for technical presentations, where service providers presented successful cases they have developed for the market. Martín López Sampedro, Sales Director at Ofita, presented the study "More than One", which collects data on workspace use and a vision for the Office 3.0. Rosa Esteban from IBM and Luis Morejón form CBRE shared their experience as partners in a contract of over 25 years of collaboration and growth. Jordi Cochs, IFS General Director at ISS, spoke

about people as the center of FM services. And finally Beatriz Martín and Jorge Merino, students of the FM & RE Master's program at the UPM, presented the results of the study their class carried out about the integration of Facility Management competencies and services in Spanish companies.



The first day finished with a cocktail where the attendants had the chance to meet in a more informal setting and where Ron van der Weerd, Chairman of EuroFM at the time, spoke to the FM professionals to encourage them to keep developing their profession and to enhance its visibility.



Pekka Matvejeff's speech opened the second day of the conference. Matvejeff was elected Chairman of EuroFM on September the 30th. He shared his life dedicated to FM and made the audience reflect on the skills that will become necessary in 2020. After his talk the first group of presentations began with an all-female panel moderated by Lorena Espada, International Operations Director at FMHOUSE. Gemma González, from Konnectare Values, spoke about organizations in the 21st century and Marta Sevilla, Workplace Manager at Xerox, showed the adaptation of her company's workplace to nowadays challenges and future tasks. Julie Kortens, Chair of BIFM, got deeper into the relationships between clients and providers in the Facility Management world and encouraged the attendants to go beyond a contract and create a real partners' relationship.



The second group of presentation was focused on the idea of Knowledge and was moderated by Duncan Waddell, Chairman of Global FM. Mike Viskovich from Keysight Technologies presented the path he had to walk to support from the FM Department the creation of a new company in record time. James Monighan form SmartThings set out different scenarios of the future that will demand high adaptation ability. Furthermore David Martinez, CIFMERS GLOBAL Director, spoke about the need to place people at the center of FM models design.



After a dynamic lunch served by Roncalli, the Employment Center for People with Special Needs of the Juan XXIII Foundation, the third group of presentations began; this time it was focused on the concept Innovation and moderated by Susanna Caravatti-Felchin, Head of FM, Planning & Construction at University Hospital Zurich. Richard Keane and Liam Roe from Cummings presented their project Environmental Champions, which they are carrying out by involving all Cummings' personnel in the achievement of the company's environmental goals. Matthias Rudolph from ABK Stuttgart presented his project >Spacesharing<, which deals with underused buildings' spaces to get urban effects.







Presentations ended with the group of presentations focused on Inspiration and moderated by Ron van der Weers. Peter Baumann form SAP explained how a participative design project for workspaces can be carried out in an efficient way. Bas van Rijn told the audience how it is to be the Facility Manager at The Edge, where even coffee machines and hand towel dispensers are connected. Finally, Edward Ehlers, manager of the biggest FM group in LinkedIn (FMP), encouraged the attendants to forget the concept "Business is Business" and swap it for "Business is Personal" when connecting in a real way with their colleagues.



Ask the Millennials

This activity took place in the afternoon of the 29th. Five Millennials working in FM in different countries (Spain, The Netherlands, Switzerland and Colombia) went up on stage to answer the questions from the audience. The delegates asked them questions about several topics such as workspace, technology and their opinion on the future of building and service management.



Collaborative Wall

During the entire conference, the Collaborative Wall was present in the hall next to the main theatre. On this wall the delegates could register projects they were developing or they wanted to develop so other professionals could join them and achieve their goals. All the attendants could vote for the projects they thought were most interesting and at the end of the conference the 5 most voted went up onto the stage to present these projects and get partners and contacts to get them started.



FM Games

Sponsored by ISS, the FM Games took place during the whole week of the conference. Three groups of students went through different buildings in Madrid where they received training to finally develop a presentation to compete for a full pass for the EFMC 2017. All three groups' presentations were very interesting and a jury chose the winner, which was announced minutes before the closure of the conference.







Associations Gathering

The presence of associations is inherent to CIFMers. Professionals' associations are key elements to enhance the sector of Facility Management; a goal that they share with CIFMERS GLOBAL. Associations from many countries had a special space to gather and share experiences during the morning of the 28th in a dedicated room in Teatro Goya.



EuroFM Members Meeting

CIFMers 2016 hosted the annual EuroFM Members Meeting. In this occasion the association's members could get together in work groups to plan their activity and they also voted their next Chairman for the period 2017-2018. Pekka Matvejeff was the one elected for this role.



CIFMers 2016 passed through the walls of Teatro Goya, because all these activities could be followed through the CIFMERS APP. Several groups that couldn't attend the conference in Madrid organized their own event in their cities to follow the conference via streaming. To get them closer to the actual event, a live connection took place in the auditorium.



Once again the conference became a debate, ideas and knowledge exchange point for professionals of the FM industry. This enthusiasm to enhance the industry will also be the one to drive the EFMC of next year (European Facility Management Conference), the annual conference promoted by EuroFM and IFMA that will be organized by CIFMERS GLOBAL and will take place in Madrid on April 26th and 27th.



