

Press Information

Facility Management Professionals Are Looking Ahead

EFMC 2009 – THE European Facility Management Conference

16th and 17th June 2009, Okura Hotel, Amsterdam, the Netherlands

- More than 400 attendees expected
- FM Debate of the Year
- EFMC Action Agenda 2015

Amsterdam, 16th June 2009. More than 400 facility management (FM) experts from all over the world come together at the “European Facility Management Conference 2009” (EFMC) starting today in Amsterdam. Featuring a Business Conference and Research Symposium integrated into one event, EFMC is hosted by the International Facility Management Association (IFMA) and the European Facility Management Network (EuroFM). “The European Facility Management Conference is an opportunity for people of different backgrounds and professions to come together on an international stage and discuss the future of the built environment,” states IFMA President and CEO David J. Brady. “Like the facility management profession itself, EFMC continues to evolve, offering participants the world over the chance to learn from global best practices and see how their peers throughout Europe and elsewhere are responding to the opportunities and challenges today’s facility managers face.”

EFMC features more than 50 top speakers from Europe and abroad alluding to strategies, profitability and sustainability of FM. Further topics comprise processes and technologies, life cycle management, innovations and future trends as well as corporate social responsibility. The event also provides an opportunity for international exchange of ideas. “Facility management is pretty well known in the United States and is getting greater recognition in Europe. But we still have some countries that are not up-to-date on what FM is all about,” explains Thomas Polinelli from Zurich Insurance Company in Switzerland.

“Journey of Transformation” and FM challenges

Keynote speeches at the EFMC 2009 are delivered by Slovenian Cultural Ambassador Miha Pogačnik and Dutch information industry trend watcher Rob Creemers. Pogačnik

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takes attendees on a “Journey of Transformation”. Considering the issues crisis, reflection and new approaches, he designs a piece of music and a work of art during his lecture which will both be presented in the end. The concert violinist and entrepreneur teaches how to overcome “lamentation paralysis” by means of music in order to revive personal and commercial success. Creemers goes into the global and European challenges surrounding the development of FM.

FM Debate of the Year

“Facility management will change dramatically within the next five years,” says Magnus Kuchler (Ernst & Young, Sweden). He chairs the “FM Debate of the Year” which analyses the pros and cons of FM outsourcing. The debaters are Leif Møllebjerg (Lego Systems, Denmark), Walter Verdonk (Sodexo Altys, the Netherlands) and Gianmaurizio Cazzarolli (Tetra Pak, Italy). The audience will also be involved being able to vote on particular questions and issues. Attendees are invited to discuss different sourcing strategies, globalisation and standardisation as well as FM budgets, customer demands and Green FM.

Exhibition and European FM Award Ceremony

EFMC 2009 is supported by more than 30 national FM associations – in particular Facility Management Nederland (FMN) and IFMA-Holland – and more than 40 research and educational organizations. Leading FM service providers such as Echelon, Planon and the International Facility Alliance are exhibitors at the event. The social programme comprises a student poster session and a gala dinner on the occasion of the European FM Award Ceremony. The four award categories are: “Partners across Borders”, “European FM of the Year”, “European FM Researcher of the Year” and “European FM Student of the Year”. Information on the event programme is available on the internet at: <http://www.efmc2009.com>.

Contact:

Carsten M. Stammen
Press Officer
IBC Euroforum GmbH (Informa Group)
Prinzenallee 3
D-40549 Duesseldorf
Phone: +49 (0) 211 / 96 86-3390
Email: carsten.stammen@informa.com