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INDIAN EXHIBITION INDUSTRY COMMUNIQUE

Volume - 02, Issue - 04, November-December 2023



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PUBLISHER

INDIAN EXHIBITION INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION (IEIA)

EDITORIAL + DESIGN

MAGIC WAND MEDIA PVT LTD

MANAGING EDITOR

SOUMI MITRA

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

POONAM PEDNEKAR

SENIOR CORRESPONDENT

MURALI SUNDARAM

SENIOR SUB EDITOR

SOVAN TUDU

SALES & MARKETING

SANJAY KUMAR

MANAGER ACCOUNTS – IEIA

ACCOUNTS@IEIA.IN

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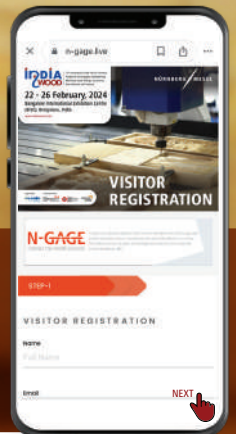
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President's Perspective



Image Source: IEIA



Increased adoption of generative artificial intelligence (AI) will reshape operations in the Exhibitions industry. Processes related to sales, marketing, and operations will need a fresh optimization study. It is also the time to focus on improving environmental, social, and governance (ESG) reporting at our shows.

Dear Friends,

As 2024 ushers in, it is time to retrospect and make plans for the future. India shall continue its ascent as the new powerhouse in 2024 and this opens exciting opportunities for all of us.

India will remain one of the fastest-rising economies in 2024 and should grow over 6 percent with macroeconomic stability and low inflation levels. India benefits from a growing working population, and its economic growth will come from all sectors, ranging from agriculture to manufacturing to services. Supply chain relocations to India will also see a further boost in manufacturing.

2024 is also the year of the General Elections, the biggest event in India spanning over 45 days.

The Indian Exhibitions industry performed phenomenally this year and is now ready to take the next leap in the next 2-3 years. We should see remarkable growth in the show floor space for most shows, along with the launch of new shows for the upcoming vital sectors of the Indian economy.

To brace up for the exciting time, each one of us should actively pursue comprehensive digital transformation in our internal processes. Increased adoption of generative artificial intelligence (AI) will reshape operations in the Exhibitions industry. Processes related to sales, marketing, and operations will need a fresh optimization study. It is also the time to focus on improving environmental, social, and governance (ESG) reporting at our shows.

The new Executive Committee at Indian Exhibition Industry Association looks forward to your suggestions for taking our association further ahead. Please mail all your suggestions to president@ieia.in.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sooraj', with a horizontal line underneath.

Sooraj Dhawan
President
Indian Exhibition Industry Association

We Have Arrived!

The year 2023 has firmly established India as the most hospitable host of grand-scale events. The resounding success of the G20 Summit, followed by World Food India and India International Trade Fair, underscores the country's impeccable ability to host such mega-events.

India's renowned warmth and unwavering spirit are unparalleled, embodying the Sanskrit saying 'Atithi Devo Bhava' that translates that we consider our Guest as God. With our newly constructed state-of-the-art infrastructure and monumental venues, India is truly living up to this ethos.

The recently concluded G20 Summit was a showcase of our commitment to hospitality that left an impressive mark on the leaders and delegates from other countries whom we had the opportunity to host. Bharat Mandapam, the 123-acre venue for the G20 Summit, ranks as India's largest MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions) destination that boasts top-ranking exhibition and convention complexes globally. Equipped with meeting rooms, auditoriums, lounges, an amphitheater, and a business center, the structure has been constructed with an investment of around INR 2,700 crore.

Continuing the journey of ascending as a global host of spectacular events, India takes pride in opening the first phase of another humongous state-of-the-art venue - YashoBhoomi (India International Convention and Expo Centre or IICC), which is stated to be one of the world's largest MICE facilities with a project area of over 8.9 lakh sq mt and a total built-up area of more than 1.8 lakh sq mt, costing an estimated INR 25,703 crore.

The event calendar for 2024 looks vibrant for India, with the country hosting Bharat Tex 2024, the world's largest textile exposition in New Delhi. More than 10,000 exhibitors and buyers from 40 countries are expected to witness India's textile heritage, craftsmanship, and technological innovations.

As 2023 draws to a close, India is all set to continue to take center stage, inviting the world to witness its vibrant tapestry of culture, innovation, and ambition.

We are committed to fostering conversations to bring forth the challenges and success tales of the industry through 'Your' own medium - ExhiBits. Your valuable opinion is what we value the most, so our inbox is always open at soumi.mitra@magicwandmedia.in

Stay well and connected!



SOUMI MITRA
MANAGING EDITOR
ExhiBits

soumi.mitra@magicwandmedia.in

"Year's end is neither an end nor a beginning but a going on, with all the wisdom that experience can instill in us."

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IEIA HOLDS 17TH AGM, UNVEILS NEW LEADERSHIP



All image source: IEIA

Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA) held its 17th Annual General Meeting on December 14, 2023, at India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida. During the meet, the association elected a new Executive Committee to steer its course for the term 2023-2025.

Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA) is the national apex body representing the Exhibitions industry in India, comprising over 300 leading players. IEIA, a member of the prestigious India M.I.C.E. Board, supports the growth of all sector stakeholders and is recognized as the Voice of the Indian Exhibitions Industry, contributing significantly to the country's economy.

The Association held its 17th AGM recently with the intent to review the advancements of the industry over the previous term and deliberate on the strategies that can foster its continued growth. A new Executive Committee was also elected for the term 2023-2025.

Leaders Deliberate

Addressing the members during the

AGM, IEIA President for the term 2021-23, Sonia Prashar, highlighted the remarkable success and positive momentum witnessed by the Indian Exhibitions industry over the past year. She commended the industry players for their exemplary commitment that significantly contributed to the growth of the sector. Adding further, she acknowledged the Association's consistent efforts to support its members through various industry-focused initiatives launched during the year, making it an exceptionally successful year in terms of membership growth, initiatives, and finances.

Sooraj Dhawan, Honorary Secretary, IEIA, (2021-23), initiated the formal proceedings of the AGM and presented a comprehensive overview of the activities conducted by IEIA, including advocacy representations, networking meets, skill development, standards development, women leadership, and participation of IEIA leadership in various industry events that augmented IEIA's engagement with industry stakeholders in different regions of the country and abroad.

Gaurav Juneja, Honorary Treasurer, IEIA, presented the Financial Report of the Association for FY 2022-23, highlighting the unprecedented record revenues, profitability, and membership growth. The association saw increased revenues from membership enrolments and sponsorships for IEIA events.



The AGM included elections for the Executive Committee positions. Sandeep Gurwara from Services International declared the results as a Member of the Elections Committee along with Gurvinder Singh

from EEPIC India. Sooraj Dhawan was unanimously elected President, and Ravinder Sethi was elected Vice President. Rakesh Kumar, DG, EPCH, and Chairman, IEML, was nominated as the fourteenth member of the Executive Committee for his dedicated efforts in shaping the future of the exhibitions industry in India.

IEIA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2023-25

Newly Elected Office Bearers

President: Sooraj Dhawan, Founder Director
Falcon Exhibitions Pvt Ltd

Vice President: Ravinder Sethi
Chairman cum Managing Director
RE Rogers India Pvt Ltd

Immediate Past President: Sonia Prashar
Chairperson of the Board & Managing Director
NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd

Honorary Secretary: Jagdish Patankar
Co-Founder & Executive Chairman
MM Activ Sci-Tech Communications Pvt Ltd

Honorary Treasurer: Ramakrishna P
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Dharampal Singh Malhotra, Executive Director
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GS Dhillon, Managing Director
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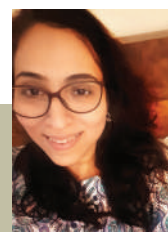
Sudeep Sarcar, Chief Executive Officer
India Exposition Mart Ltd

Ubaid Ahmad, Senior Director
Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA)

Vipul Agarwal, Managing Partner
Expro Events & Exhibits

Yogesh Mudras, Managing Director
Informa Markets India Pvt Ltd

Addressing the Members present at the AGM, Dhawan expressed his gratitude to his fellow EC Members for placing their trust in him to lead the Association. He thanked the outgoing President Sonia Prashar who was at the helm during the most challenging times and yet enabled remarkable achievements for the Association at all levels. He also acknowledged Past Presidents for their immense contribution in enabling the strong standing of IEIA over the past 17 years. Sharing his vision about the future of the industry, he noted, "The Indian Exhibition Industry is ready to take center stage in the Global Exhibitions arena. The whole world is looking at India and it is an opportune moment for us to grow 2X in the next 3 years. Indian Exhibition Industry Association stands committed to India's economic progress by creating ideal business networking platforms at our exhibitions. We will work together as a team and scale greater heights in developing the Indian Exhibitions industry." **////**



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@

magicwandmedia.in

Messe Stuttgart Enters Indian Market

Global Trade Fairs Giant Messe Stuttgart has formally entered the Indian market, bringing with it a legacy of trade fairs and exhibitions that have been instrumental in fostering business growth, knowledge exchange, and international collaborations across various industries.

The company announced its Indian foray in a gala launch ceremony graced by Shri Mangal Prabhat Lodha, Honorable Minister of Skill Development



and Entrepreneurship (Maharashtra) as the Chief Guest along with other key dignitaries, consulates, ambassadors, and business tycoons.

The company's expansion into the Indian market includes the launch of its subsidiary, Messe Stuttgart India, as well as the introduction of three flagship events. These exhibitions are set to revolutionize the way business is conducted in India. MOLDEX, the International Fair on Tools, Patterns, and Mould Making, and FASTNEX, the international trade fair for the fastener and fixing industry, are slated to showcase cutting-edge innovations and facilitate both domestic and international exposure for businesses across India.

LogiMAT India, a satellite show of LogiMAT Stuttgart, is another feather in Messe Stuttgart India's cap. It is the world's largest Intralogistics exhibition and will serve as a hub for the entire logistics community, including intralogistics, transportation management, warehousing, supply chain solutions, and automation. Supported by Invest India, LogiMAT India is poised to drive innovation and excellence in the logistics industry.

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World Food India 2023 Highlights Progress in Food Sector



₹50,000 crore over the past nine years and urged industry stakeholders to focus on finding solutions to reduce post-harvest losses and promote sustainable packaging methods.

“The investor-friendly policies by the Government are taking the Food sector to new heights. India’s food processing capacity has witnessed significant growth in the last nine years leading to 150 percent growth in exports of processed food. The capacity of the food processing sector, too, has increased from a meager 12 lakh tonne to over 200 lakh tonne. Today, India stands at the seventh position with an overall export value of more than US\$50,000 million in agricultural produce,” he added.

The recently held second edition of World Food India was inaugurated by Hon’ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Bharat Mandapam in the national capital where he noted how the Food Processing industry has emerged as the ‘sunrise sector’ in India.

He pointed out that the sector has attracted FDI investments of about

He noted that investments of about ₹50,000 crore have been made to set up post-crop harvest-related infrastructure projects under a central scheme (Agri Infra Fund) and highlighted some of the measures taken by the central Government towards the development of the Food Processing sector such as production linked incentive (PLI) scheme and mega food parks.

More than 80 countries, 200 speakers, and 12 partner ministries, departments, and commodity boards took part in the three-day event that concluded in the presence of Hon’ble President of India, Droupadi Murmu.

InfoComm India 2023 Sets New Milestones

The annual Professional AudioVisual (Pro AV) and Transformative Technology show InfoComm India 2023, held from October 25-27, 2023, at Jio World Convention Centre (JWCC) in Mumbai, concluded with resounding success.

It welcomed 12,026 business visitors on an expanded show floor, marking a new milestone in its impressive history.

The exhibition area witnessed a remarkable 19 percent expansion, accommodating 190 exhibiting companies,



including 18 first-time participants alongside an impressive contingent of 160 high-level hosted buyers from the public and private sectors. The event attracted an unprecedented 12,026 visitors over the course of the three days, all eager to explore the latest innovations to meet their organisational needs and drive progress.

Reflecting on the event’s tremendous success, June Ko, Executive Director, InfoCommAsia, remarked, “The latest InfoComm India has not only attracted greater numbers but also a diverse range of business visitors from key growth industries such as technology, education, healthcare broadcast and media as well as enterprise solution users. The diversified participation and increased levels of transactional conversations point to an active Indian marketplace and highlights InfoComm India as a key gateway for global brands into these vital sectors.”

This year’s event featured an exceptional number of new and innovative entrants to the industry. Eighteen first-time exhibitors, including ALTEX Corporation, Arihant Infosys, Basssfx, Fohhn Audio AG, Shree InfoTech, Softlogic, Vestel Visual Solutions, made their first InfoComm India appearance, injecting new energy and opportunities into the show.

Malaysia Allows Visa-Free Entry to Indian Citizens

Malaysia has scrapped entry visa requirements for citizens of India and China from December 1, Bloomberg reported citing Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim.

Indian and Chinese nationals may stay for up to 30 days visa-free. However, visa issuance would be subject to security screening.

Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and Thailand are other countries to announce visa-free entry. Anwar had earlier announced plans to improve visa facilities next year to encourage the entry of tourists and investors, 'especially from India and China'.



Shillong Hosts Green Tourism India Conclave 2023

The first-ever Green Tourism India Conclave, held at Shillong, and powered by Indian Express Online Media, garnered an overwhelming response. Organized by Indian Express Online Media, the conclave had Meghalaya Tourism in association with Incredible India as the Presenting Sponsor. It was powered by Odisha Tourism and Arunachal Tourism.

The event featured insightful discussions, presentations, and also a cultural performance with an emphasis on the promotion of green and responsible tourism in India especially in the Northeastern region and Odisha. Gracing the occasion were Bah Paul Lyngdoh, the Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya, as the Chief Guest; Cyril Diengdoh, Director of Tourism, Government of Meghalaya and Managing Director of the Meghalaya Tourism Development Corporation; Sachin Ramchandra Jadhav, Director Tourism, Government of Odisha; Sanjay Sindhvani, CEO, Indian Express Online Media; and several other leading members of the travel trade.



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AIPMA Kick Starts 12th Plastivision India 2023



The All India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA) has once again come up with 'Plastivision India 2023' after having organized 11 successful editions over the past three decades.

The 12th edition that started on December 7 will continue until December 11, at Bombay Exhibition Center (BEC), Mumbai. The event is slated to unlock exceptional business, networking and idea sharing opportunities for manufacturers, buyers, sellers, and end-users alike.

The exhibit area, spanning 1,25,000 sq mt, is displaying a wide range of plastic products, plastic materials, machines, molds and technologies that are revolutionizing the global plastics industry today. Apart from countries like Germany, Malaysia, South Korea, and China, the event witnesses participation from large Indian firms like Reliance, HPCL, IOCL, and JSW Group.

Deeming it to be the country's most influential plastics exhibition, ministerial leaders, industry veterans, entrepreneurs, merchants, industry professionals and major importers have visited the show so far. Some include Harpal Singh, Chairman NEC, Plastivision India; Manish Dedhia, President, The All India Plastics Manufacturers Association; Arvind Mehta, Chairman, NAB & GC Plastivision India; Dr Asutosh Gor, Co-Chairman, Plastivision India; and Chandrakant Turakhia, Co-Chairman NEC, Plastivision India. Prabh Das, MD & CEO, HPCL, Mittal Energy Ltd, graced the inaugural event as the Chief Guest.

Plastivision India 2023 is being supported by the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers, Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals and the Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, with AIPMA extending a range of benefits for MSMEs participating onsite or through online branding initiatives. The event holds the distinction of being the only trade fair exhibition from the plastic industry to be approved by UFI.

Round Table Conference on India Tourism Potential



The Ministry of Tourism recently organized a round Table Conference in New Delhi to explore and leverage the immense potential of India's Tourism Ecosystem. The roundtable facilitated robust discussions between Government authorities and industry leaders, centering on policies and factors crucial for sustainable and resilient development in the travel and tourism sector.

A diverse array of delegates from esteemed organizations, including NITI Aayog, UNESCO, UNEP, WTTCII, IUCN, IHMCL, IRCTC, PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry, FHRAI, and international entities like the Intrepid Group participated in the conference. Ministries/Departments from the Central and State Governments, along with representatives from the travel and tourism industry and educational institutes, also participated.

The conference's objectives covered vital components of the Tourism Ecosystem, including Governance, Local Community Engagement, Labour's Role, Economic Impact, Technology's Influence, Tourist Destinations, Cultural and Natural Resource Preservation, Infrastructure, and Environmental Sustainability.

Diverse thematic sessions were designed, focusing on Enabling Environment, Travel and Tourism Policy and Enabling Conditions, Tourism Demand Drivers and Infrastructure, and Travel and Tourism Sustainability.

IMTEX to Showcase Machine Tool Industry Innovations in Jan

Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) is organizing the eighth edition of its flagship metal forming exhibition, IMTEX FORMING 2024 at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) in Bengaluru from January 19-23, 2024.

Running concurrently with IMTEX FORMING 2024 will be Tooltech 2024, which will focus on machine tool accessories, forming tools, die and mold, metrology, and CAD/CAM; Digital Manufacturing, which will present the latest innovations in additive manufacturing and Industry 4.0; and Weldexpo, for welding, cutting, and joining technologies, will be held in association with the Indian Institute of Welding. Mouldex India and Fastenex India, focusing on molding, fasteners, and fixing

technologies respectively, will be co-located alongside IMTEX FORMING 2024.

IMTEX FORMING 2024 will feature around 450 exhibitors from 18 countries in an exhibition space of around 45,000 sq mt, covering 5 exhibition halls.

Exhibitors will showcase the latest innovations in metal forming, robotics and automation, welding and joining, wire-forming and drawing, presses, die casting, hydroforming, sheet metal forming machines, presses for special applications, dies and molds, hydraulic and pneumatic systems and elements, and testing machines.

Expressing his thoughts on the upcoming edition of IMTEX FORMING, Rajendra S Rajamane, President, IMTMA, said "IMTEX FORMING 2024 offers great opportunities for manufacturing industries to capitalize on the positive business environment in the country. As most visitors to IMTEX FORMING would comprise key decision makers nurturing an intention to invest, exhibitors can have effective face-to-face business meetings."

Jibak Dasgupta, Director General & CEO, IMTMA, said, "The economic outlook for companies in the Metal Forming sector looks promising and IMTEX FORMING will play a catalytic role in realizing this promise. It will be a great opportunity for industries across sectors to visit the exhibition and explore the latest offerings, products, and solutions which will mutually benefit exhibitors and visitors."



EXCON 2023 to Revolutionize Indian Construction Sector

Organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), EXCON 2023, exhibition for construction equipment is scheduled to take place from December 12-16, 2023, at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre.

The Government of Karnataka will host the event, which is set to showcase the construction industry's ambitious goal of achieving over 15 percent year-on-year growth in the next five years.

The event is to happen in a 30 lakh sq ft of display area that is expected to house over 1,200 exhibitors from India and abroad, including countries such as Austria, China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Italy, Romania, Russia, South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, and the United States of America.

EXCON 2023 will feature several highlights, including a focus on Alternate Fuels, AI Pavilion, Aatma Nirbhar Bharat, Skills, Women operating construction equipment and machinery, Conferences on Defence & Paramilitary, Green Construction focusing on Sustainability, AI & IOT, and Automation in the Construction Engineering Sector.

The Indian Construction Equipment Manufacturers' Association (ICEMA) is the sector partner for EXCON 2023, with support from the Infrastructure Equipment Skill Council (IESC) and the Builders Association of India (BAI).



Bharat Tex 2024 Exhibition to Make Waves



The textile event Bharat Tex 2024 is scheduled to be held from February 26-29, 2024, to showcase India's commitment to becoming a global sourcing destination and textile powerhouse.

The event aims to encapsulate the '5F' vision that covers the entire textile value chain, from farming to fiber production, manufacturing, fashion, and foreign markets, as described by Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs & Food & Public Distribution and Textiles, Govt. of India. Leader of House in Rajya Sabha.

Shri Goyal hopes that Bharat Tex 2024 will promote India as a 'mature, competitive global sourcing destination in the global textile industry'.

The event will highlight India's strengths in fashion, traditional crafts, and sustainability initiatives and is expected to house more than 1,000 exhibitors and over 30,000 visitors from 40 countries. The event will include knowledge sessions, seminars, conferences, CEO roundtables, B2B & G2G meetings, as well as strategic investment announcements, product launches, and collaborations that aim to reshape the global textile industry.

India Hosts First Edition of Global India AI 2023 Conference



India hosted the first edition of the recently held Global India AI 2023 Conference.

The unique platform featured various topics including next generation learning and foundational artificial intelligence models, AI applications in healthcare, governance, electric vehicles, and computing systems. Industry experts and leading players in the field of artificial intelligence, researchers, startups, and investors participated in the conference.

The conference showcased the vibrant India AI ecosystem including key initiatives such as DI Bhashini, India Datasets Program, India AI Future design program for startups, and India AI Future Skills program dedicated to nurturing world-class AI talent pool.

Gujarat Hosts 14th Convention India Conclave

In preparation for the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024, the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024, the Tourism Corporation of Gujarat (TCGL) and India Convention Promotion Bureau (ICPB) jointly organized the 14th Convention India Conclave (CIC) from December 7-9, 2023, at Mahatma Mandir, Gandhinagar. The state is focused on the growth of the MICE sector and has hosted major events while working towards its goal of being the prime MICE destination.

Chief Minister Shri Bhupendra Patel and Minister of Tourism Shri Mulubhai Bera inaugurated the conclave that had 'Sustainable MICE: Empowering Event Towards the \$5 Trillion Economy' as its theme. The event featured 300 delegates, 30 exhibitors, and 80 buyers.

INTERSTYLE 2024 Hits Pacifico Yokohama in February

INTERSTYLE 2024, Japan's premier trade show for action sports & outdoors, is gearing up for a three-day extravaganza at Pacifico Yokohama from February 13-15, 2024.

Hosted by INFOVISION Co., Ltd, INTERSTYLE is renowned as the largest exhibition in Japan's action sports & outdoor industry. Boasting a diverse array of industry leaders, the event will showcase products spanning surfing, skateboarding, snowboarding, outdoors, vehicles, fashion, and more.

The 2023 edition marked its 20th anniversary, introducing a B-to-C element with 'USER DAY', allowing direct sales to consumers. With the application deadline for exhibitors set for January 19, 2024, INTERSTYLE 2024 beckons industry professionals and general users alike to partake in this dynamic exhibition. The event promises unparalleled opportunities to access cutting-edge information, expand business horizons, and forge valuable networking connections.

FSTEC Asia Unveils Inaugural Event in Singapore



Informa Markets' FSSTEC, a premier foodservice technology conference, announced its inaugural FSSTEC Asia event in Singapore, which will take place at the Singapore Expo from October 22-25, 2024, with the FHA-HoReCa trade event.

FSSTEC Asia will be part of the FHA-HoReCa event and feature two days of global speakers covering technology advancements and solutions, targeting

Asia-Pacific technology firms with unique sponsorship options.

Chris Keating, Head, FSSTEC, stressed the conference's focus on hospitality tech, including ordering, payment, loyalty programs, workforce management systems, AI, and robotics. The FSSTEC tagline was changed from 'Where restaurants and tech connect' to 'where hospitality and tech connect' to highlight a wider range of tech-based discussions, solutions, and possibilities across the hospitality industry.

Ian Roberts, Vice President, Informa Markets, was excited about the partnership's commitment to foodservice hospitality innovation and revolutionary potential. Furthermore, Keating added that restaurant tech has moved from necessity to opportunity as it improves client experiences, efficiency, and business growth.

Seoul ADEX 2023 a Huge Success



South Korea hosted its largest-ever defence exhibition, the Seoul ADEX (Seoul International Aerospace & Defense Exhibition). The biennial event was held at the Seoul Airport, with a record number of companies participating and a US B-52 bomber making an unprecedented flyby.

With over 450 senior defence officials from 54 countries attending, along with a large audience of professionals and the public, the event aimed to showcase South Korea's military capabilities and promote defense sector collaboration. The exhibition showcased American military force, including the rare B-52 flight, to mark South Korea's 70th anniversary of its alliance with the US.

VIATT 2024 to Debut in Vietnam



Messe Frankfurt's Asian subsidiary is set to debut the Vietnam International Trade Fair for Apparel, Textiles, and Textile Technologies (VIATT). Scheduled for February 28 - March 1, 2024, at the Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center in Ho Chi Minh City, VIATT aims to cover the entire textiles industry value chain.

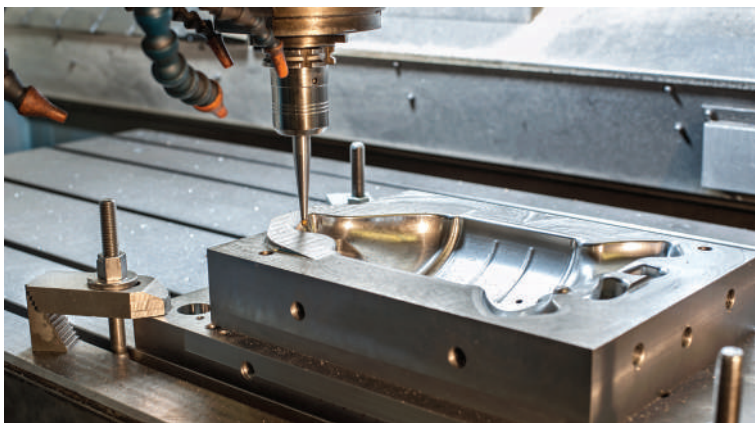
The trade fair is jointly organized by Messe Frankfurt (HK) Ltd and the Vietnam Trade Promotion Agency. VIATT seeks to provide a platform for international and domestic exhibitors, encompassing various textile sub-sectors such as digital printing, technical textiles, nonwovens, and textile processing.

Asiamold Select Showcasing Next-Gen Solutions

Guangzhou Guangya Messe Frankfurt Co Ltd, the organizer of Asiamold, has rebranded the Guangzhou-based exhibition as Asiamold Select, and a second event in Shenzhen is planned for autumn 2024.

Mold-making, additive manufacturing, die-casting, and stamping technologies will be showcased at these events to meet the changing needs of China's Guangdong region, a manufacturing hub. Lightweight and alternative energy in the automotive industry have increased the need for more molding options.

From March 4-6, 2024, Guangzhou event will focus on molds, dies, and additive manufacturing with SPS (Smart Production Solutions) Guangzhou. The autumn 2024 Shenzhen edition, aligned with Formnext + PM South China, intends to bring together molding, additive manufacturing, powder metallurgy, and advanced ceramics technologies. This strategic growth coincides with global Formnext events, highlighting the industry's shift toward smart manufacturing and digitization.



Informa Markets Redefines ASEAN M&E Trade Show



Informa Markets, the world's leading exhibitions organizer, reinvents the ASEAN M&E trade exhibition with ENERtec Asia. The rebranded event will take place from June 26-28, 2024, in Kuala Lumpur. The show promises to modernize the sector in response to global energy transitions. ENERtec Asia will focus on TENAGA (Renewable Energy & Cleantech), REVAC (Energy Efficiency & Decarbonization), and BATTERY & EV Tech (Energy Storage & EV Technology).

As energy costs rise, ESG compliance requirements increase, and renewable energy solutions are needed. Hence, this innovative trade exhibition aims to drive change. The event is supported by associations like TEEAM, EIC, APUEA, and others. NETR, NIMP2030, and the Energy Efficiency and Conservation Act demonstrate Malaysia's energy transition commitment. With 400 exhibitors and 5 international pavilions, it intends to attract 10,000 people and serve as a hub for energy transition and ESG networking.

China Launches Visa-Free Entry for Six Nations

China has granted visa-free entrance to citizens from France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, and Malaysia for one year starting December 1, 2023. A 15-day window for business, tourism, family visits, and transit is part of this strategy to boost foreign travel.

Pandemic restrictions, including enforced quarantines, have endured, prompting the decision, and will ease travel and promote commercial and cultural connections during this trial period. Despite easing pandemic restrictions, worldwide travel has slowly returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Chinese initiatives to enhance its economy through foreign investment include travel promotion. Recent developments include a visa-free travel agreement with Kazakhstan, which began on November 10, 2023. This agreement and other steps demonstrate China's commitment to rejuvenating its travel and tourism sector, which is expected to reach US\$

1.48 trillion by the end of the year and boost the economy. The World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTTC) estimates that this sector will contribute US\$ 4 trillion to China's economy.



Riyadh Aims to Transform into Global Sustainability Hub by 2030



Riyadh is on track to undergo a substantial transformation into one of the world's most sustainable cities by the end of the decade, thanks to significant investments allocated to prepare the Saudi capital for the Expo 2030.

Saudi Vice Minister of Tourism Princess Haifa bint Muhammad Al-Saud disclosed a \$92 billion investment for this global showcase

during the third Saudi Green Initiative Forum held alongside the UN Climate Change Conference in Dubai.

Having secured the hosting rights for the 2030 World Expo, scheduled from October 1, 2030, to March 31, 2031, Riyadh is gearing up for this monumental event. The SGI Forum commenced on December 4 concurrently with COP28, mobilizing world leaders towards decisive action against climate change.

Princess Haifa, addressing the event, underscored the anticipated surge in international arrivals, projected to reach 1.8 billion by 2030.

She underscored the collective responsibility, stating, "Those are the types of commitments that we need to start proactively doing, and it starts from a role as individuals, all the way to the roles of the communities, to the roles of Government and the roles of the private sector."

Saudi Arabia to Host Energy Convention in May 2024



In its inaugural year, Saudi Energy Convention will gather visionaries and pioneers across the energy value chain to advance the solutions that matter most in accelerating our transition to a more sustainable future. The event will take place from May 19-24, 2024, at Riyadh International Convention & Exhibition Centre.

The three-day convention in Saudi Arabia will provide an opportunity for energy and utilities industry leaders to fast-track collaborative efforts to meet decarbonization goals and identify the most promising innovation and growth opportunities. It will host over 250 global exhibitors, more than 200 industry speakers, over 50 conference sessions, over 10,000 energy professionals, and over 1,000 conference delegates.

The Saudi Energy Convention will also host the Saudi Utilities Convention and Saudi Hydrogen Convention, providing a 360-degree view of Saudi Arabia's forward-looking energy diversification. This triad of conventions will come together to create an integrated platform that addresses both the challenges facing the entire energy value chain and the pivotal role of hydrogen, water, and utilities in the energy transition.

Melbourne to Host Australian Tourism Exchange in 2024



Australia's largest annual travel trade event, the Australian Tourism Exchange (ATE), will be returning to Melbourne next year for the first time since 2015. It will be the ninth time ATE has been staged in Melbourne.

It will be held at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) from May 19-23, 2024, with delegates from 30 countries expected to attend.

Phillipa Harrison, Tourism Australia's Managing Director, confirmed that Melbourne would host the event on the trade floor of ATE23 in the Gold Coast. "After a couple of years of hybrid events, it has been great this year to have ATE back to its traditional format on the Gold Coast and we can't wait to work with Visit Victoria to deliver another amazing ATE in 2024," she said.

"Melbourne has proudly hosted our premier travel trade event on eight occasions in the past and we look forward to taking ATE, and more than 2,000 delegates, back to Melbourne to drive future tourism business across Australia. ATE brings together tourism businesses, tourism wholesalers, and retailers from around the world for four days of appointments, as well as networking events, which are more important than ever before as competition grows for the tourism dollar," she added.

Registration Open for Africa Travel Week 2024

The 10th edition of Africa Travel Week (ATW) 2024, scheduled to run from April 7-12, 2024, in the City of Cape Town has opened registration. ATW's events aim to celebrate a decade of bringing together the continent's leading B2B travel trade shows, including World Travel Market (WTM) Africa and International Luxury Travel Market (ILTM) Africa.

"If you're looking to expand your business, connect with high-quality travel and tourism partners, and get up to speed on the latest product developments and market trends, ATW is the place to be in 2024. As we celebrate our 10th birthday, this year's events promise to be especially vibrant and packed with opportunities" says Megan De Jager, Portfolio Director, ATW.

WTM Africa is free to enter and will run from April 10-12, 2024, at the CTICC. Attendees will include exhibitors, buyers, Buyers' Club members, the media, and travel trade professionals. The three-day event will feature interactive workshops, expert panel discussions, and networking events.



Scheduled from April 7-9, 2024, for those in luxury tourism, ILTM Africa is an invite-only event and, hence, it is advised that one should register their interest early.

ISM Middle East Sees New Growth



The biggest and most dynamic confectionery and snacks event in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) ISM Middle East has announced that it will move from its usual November date to September next year. The event will take place from September 24-26, 2024, at the Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC).

Another change will be the increased exhibition space across more halls to meet the heightened demand from the global industry, including more trade associations and national pavilions.

The event will feature a conference program on the Expert Stage, curated by knowledge partners and based on the latest trending topics. A new-to-show dedicated networking program will be included to connect international exhibitors with leading regional buyers. Alongside there will be several interactive activations, including new product tastings, product workshops, and many more.

"Based on the impact that the launch of our brand ISM Middle East has caused in the region within just two years, we now set the sails for further growth with the new dates to cater to the demand of the industry," said Denis Steker, Vice President International, Koelnmesse GmbH.

ACT Expo Opens 2024 Registration



The largest advanced commercial vehicle technology event ACT Expo has been scheduled to happen from May 20-23, 2024, at Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, NV. Early bird registration for the event has been opened, offering more than 40 percent off the full conference passes for a limited time.

Daimler Truck North America, Penske Transportation Solutions, and Shell have supported the event as presenting sponsors. The expo will highlight key trends and the ever-increasing clean vehicle adoption plans of fleets in North America and around the world. The last edition of the event attracted 12,000 attendees. The event has moved to the Las Vegas Convention Center

to accommodate the increasing number of exhibitors, advanced vehicles, and clean transportation solutions on display in the exhibit hall.

The event will present real-world case studies from fleets adopting the latest technologies, including battery-electric, hydrogen fuel cells, renewable fuels, automated, AI, and more.

Attendees can access over 250 low- and zero-emission commercial vehicles and advanced transportation technologies on display. They can also take a test drive in over 40 advanced trucks, buses, vans, sedans, and off-road earth-moving equipment at the Ride & Drive event.

90th UFI Global Congress Takes Place in Las Vegas



UFI, the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry, welcomed around 500 participants from over 50 countries and regions to its 90th UFI Global Congress in Las Vegas, USA from November 1-4, 2024, for business exchange, content, and networking.

Held annually, the UFI Global Congress is the largest and most international gathering of exhibition industry leaders, open exclusively to UFI members and members of AIPC, ICCA, and SISO associations. The 90th edition was hosted by the Las Vegas Conventions and Visitors Authority (LVCVA) at the ARIA Resort & Casino.

The event introduced many new industry colleagues to the global community with around 40 percent of participants attending the Congress for the first time, many from North America.

It featured a mix of programs, sessions, and exchanges, deliberating the state of the industry and highlighting industry trends. Parallel spotlight sessions offered operational insights into best practices from across the industry as well as updates on AI applications or advocacy.

At the close of the Congress, Geoff Dickinson, CEO, dmg events, formally took over the office of UFI President for the year to come.

Techtextil and Texprocess 2024 Preparations in Full Swing



Preparations are underway for Techtextil and Texprocess trade fairs, scheduled from April 23-26, 2024, in Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Major highlights of the fairs include Innovation Awards that acknowledge excellence in textile manufacturing and processing.

Organizer Messe Frankfurt has relayed that two expert juries are to select the latest and outstanding innovations from the sector, bringing forth their best solutions to the attention of all visitors to Techtextil and Texprocess 2024.

December 15, 2023, has been announced as the closing date for all entries for the 2024 Techtextil and Texprocess Innovation Awards. The awards are open to all companies, institutes, universities, polytechnics, and individuals, regardless of whether they are exhibitors of Techtextil or Texprocess in 2024.

Latin American Travel Association Unveils Details of LATA Expo 2024

The Latin American Travel Association (LATA) has unveiled details of LATA Expo 2024. Europe's largest B2B event for Latin American travel will have a new residential format, being fully hosted at the De Vere Beaumont Estate near Windsor.



There will also be a conference program with guest speakers accompanied by a gala dinner. Along with core one-to-one business meetings, LATA Expo will have additional networking opportunities.

Danny Callaghan, CEO, LATA, said, "We are excited to announce this new look and feel for LATA Expo, bringing with it, a more intimate event. With new international flight routes launching to Peru and Brazil this winter, the spotlight will once again be back on Latin America."

Since its inception in 2014, LATA Expo has consistently grown to become one of Europe's most significant B2B shows focused on Latin American travel. It welcomes exhibitors from across the region, including tourism boards, tour operators, accommodation providers, lodges, cruise, and airline partners.

UFI Elects New Board of Directors for 2023-26

UFI has announced the results of the elections for the new UFI Board of Directors for the 2023-26 term. The Board comprises a maximum of 60 members, and elections for new Board members take place every three years.

The directors are tasked with implementing decisions outlined in the annual General Assembly meeting, developing UFI policy, and preparing all proposals related to matters that impact international trade fairs.

APAC members of the 2023-2026 UFI Board of Directors include: Panittha Buri, BITEC (Bhiraj Buri Group), Thailand; John Burke, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia; Synthia Chan, Macau Fair & Trade Association, Macau; Diane Chen, Shenyang New World Expo, China; Sophia Chong, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, Hong Kong; Wee Phong Chua, Constellar Holdings, Singapore; Michael Duck, Informa Markets, China; Michael KRUPPE, SNIEC, China; Dong Ki Lee, COEX, South Korea; Jae Yul Lee, KINTEX, South Korea; Monica Lee-Muller, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong; Joon How Loy, IMPACT, Thailand; Daben Mao, Shenzhen World, China; Pamela Pascual, World Trade Center Metro Manila, Philippines; Matt Pearce, Talk2 Media & Events, Australia; Sonia Prashar, NürnbergMesse India, India; Shirley Song, Chongqing International Expo Center, China; Vincent U, Macao Trade & Investment Promotion Institute, Macau; Guoping Wang, Shanghai Huapin Exhibition, China; and Simon Wang, TAITRA, Taiwan.

Saudi EIF Acquires Stake in Tahaluf

Saudi Arabia, a global influencer in recent years, continues strategic initiatives for economic diversification and efficiency. In addition to SELA, a well-known event producer under the Public Investment Fund, the Events Investment Fund (EIF), a government-backed multibillion dollar fund, has acquired a sizeable stake in Tahaluf, a leading Saudi live events company.

Tahaluf, co-owned by Informa PLC and the Saudi Federation for Cyber Security, Programming and Drones (SAFCSP), aims to enhance the kingdom's events industry.

EIF, led by Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, plans a US\$ 3.7 billion investment in 35 venues. Tahaluf, based in EIF's flagship exhibition center, will launch B2B events, digital experiences, and services, focusing on key industries. Leveraging Informa's portfolio, Tahaluf introduces global brands like Cityscape, CPHI, and Cosmoprof to Saudi Arabia, aligning with Vision 2030's economic diversification goals.

Tahaluf, known for world-record tech and cybersecurity events, foresees groundbreaking gatherings across diverse sectors, marking a transformative era in Saudi Arabia's event landscape.

Messe Stuttgart, IDA Join Forces to Transform DIDAC India



Messe Stuttgart (Landesmesse Stuttgart GmbH), a global exhibition powerhouse, has strategically invested in DIDAC India, joining forces with the India Didactics Association (IDA) to reshape education, edtech, and skill development in the region.

Taking charge of the 14th edition in 2024, Messe Stuttgart India aims to organize

and enhance this premier trade fair, fostering a new era of educational innovation.

DIDAC India, recognized as Asia's largest education and skills event, will benefit from Messe Stuttgart's global event organizing experience, ensuring a broader, more international experience for exhibitors and visitors.

The collaboration allows the India Didactics Association to lead in content development and conference management, amplifying DIDAC India's impact and growth potential. Messe Stuttgart's entry into the Indian market and partnership with IDA align with their mission to contribute significantly to India's education sector, fostering a brighter and more innovative future.

Legends Hospitality and ASM Global Forge Dynamic Partnership



The partnership expands Legends' global presence, emphasizing their commitment to connecting people with brands and communities worldwide.

Shervin Mirhashemi, CEO, Legends, expresses pride in this capstone achievement, while Ron Bension, President and CEO, ASM Global, highlights the seamless experience for partner organizations, leveraging Legends' services, innovation, technology, and global partnerships.

Legends Hospitality, a global premium experiences company, has acquired ASM Global in its quest to form an international live events entity. This move enhances Legends' service portfolio by incorporating ASM Global's venue management capabilities, spanning sports organizations, entertainment venues, and convention centers.

ASM Global's existing shareholders, Onex and AEG, will sell off their equity stakes, and ASM Global shall continue servicing existing and in-development venues of AEG for now. Financial details remain undisclosed.

Image Source: RX



RX USA Appoints Indiya Okam as new Group VP, Sales

RX USA has appointed Indiya Okam as its new Group Vice-President of Sales. She will report to Fernando Fischer, President of the Americas and join the RX US Senior Leadership Team.

In her new role, she will be responsible for driving revenue and sales transformation, fostering career opportunities for sales talents, and shaping the path for sustainable growth of RX and the industries it serves in the US.

Announcing Okam's appointment, Fischer commented, "As a leader in exhibitions, and with our recovery underway, we need a talented sales leader who will propel us forward. I am delighted to welcome Indiya onboard and look forward to working with her to further develop our business: to strengthen our sales approach, empower our sales teams, and create even more initiatives for our customers that add genuine value to their businesses, ensuring growth for the long term."

Commenting on her appointment, Okam said, "I believe in the power of building a sustainable business through face-to-face events. I am delighted and incredibly proud to be joining RX and the talented group of people at such a transformational time in the history of RX. I look forward to immersing myself into the collaborative culture at RX and utilizing my expertise in driving innovation, value-based business strategy, and building long-term key customer relationships to drive revenue growth for RX and our customers."

Before RX, Okam was with Owens & Minor, a Fortune 500 global healthcare solutions company, where she was Vice President of Sales, Products, and Healthcare Services where she led value-based and growth initiatives.



Image Source: ITDC

MR Synrem Joins as Managing Director of ITDC

MR Synrem, IAS (Assam-Meghalaya 2002), has taken charge as the Managing Director of India Tourism Development Corporation in addition to his existing role as Joint Secretary and Additional Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

His distinguished career includes various crucial roles in the public sector. He previously served as the Secretary of the Health and Family Welfare Department, where he was in charge of overseeing critical healthcare initiatives. Notably, he held the position of Mission Director of the Meghalaya State National Health Mission and was the Chief Executive Officer of the Megha Health Insurance Scheme in Meghalaya, where he contributed to the improvement of healthcare infrastructure and accessibility.

For over two decades, Synrem has demonstrated exceptional administrative skills across various sectors, including the Information Technology and Communications Department, the Transport Department, the Urban Affairs Department, and the Commerce & Industries Department, within his parent cadre. His dual positions as the Managing Director of ITDC and Joint Secretary and Additional Director General in the Ministry of Tourism are poised to usher in synergy between these significant government entities, leading to significant developments.

ITDC is a Public Sector Undertaking under the administrative control of the Ministry of Tourism. Incorporated in 1966, ITDC has played a key role in the development of tourism infrastructure in the country.

IMTMA Elects New President and Vice President for 2023-2024 Term

Image Source: IMTMA



Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA) has announced the election of its new President and Vice President for the 2023-2024 term. The organization is a national association for machine tools and allied equipment manufacturers in India and plays a crucial role in advancing the machine tool industry.

Rajendra S Rajamane has been elected as the President of IMTMA for the year 2023-2024. Rajamane, who serves as the Managing

Director of Rajamane Industries Pvt Ltd, brings his extensive experience and knowledge to the role. His company, Rajamane Industries Pvt Ltd, is a well-known manufacturer and supplier of various products, including pumps, skimmers, foundry equipment, stirrers, motors, and more.

Joining him in IMTMA's leadership is Mohini Kelkar, who has been elected as the Vice President for the year 2023-2024. Kelkar holds the position of Director - Business Development at Grind Master Machines Pvt Ltd. Grind Master Machines is a prominent industry player in the field of special purpose machines for metal finishing, deburring, nanofinish, and solutions that encompass robotic automation and abrasives.

The newly elected President and Vice President will play a significant role in guiding IMTMA in the year ahead. The organization's Executive Committee for the year 2023-2024 has also been formed.

TAGMA India Announces Election of New Executive Council

Image Source: TAGMA



Tool and Gauge Manufacturers Association of India (TAGMA) has announced the election of its new Executive Council. Devaraya Manjunath Sheregar, Managing Director & Chairman, Devu Tools Pvt Ltd, has been elected as the newly appointed President. D Shanmugasundaram, Managing Director, S&T Group, has joined him as the Vice President for the 2023-2026 term. Both Sheregar and Shanmugasundaram are committed to leveraging their experience and leading TAGMA India on its journey as a focal point for industry insiders.

Apart from Sheregar and Shanmugasundaram, the newly elected members for the term 2023-2026 include Akshay Kalyanpur,

Sridevi Tool Engineers Pvt Ltd; T S Gopalakrishnan, Multiple Special Steel Pvt Ltd; Raj Singh, Eqic Dies & Moulds Enggs Pvt Ltd; Sachin S Netrabyle, Magna Plastic Corporation; and Shijesh Kokkodan, MacPro Technologies Pvt Ltd.

Expressing his gratitude for the trust placed in him by TAGMA members, Sheregar outlined his vision for the future of the association and emphasized the importance of innovation, collaboration, and industry growth.

Talking about the new initiatives, Shanmugasundaram stated, "We will actively work on taking our delegation to various countries, forging global partnerships, and welcoming new members into our ever-growing TAGMA family. Together, we will continue to propel the Indian Tool and Gauge Manufacturing sector to new heights."



IAEE Announces New President and CEO

The International Association of Exhibitions and Events (IAEE) has announced the appointment of Marsha Flanagan, M.Ed., CEM, as its new President and Chief Executive Officer. With a strong focus on leading innovative strategies and developing intentional and thoughtful collaborations, Marsha will lead IAEE into its next phase of service to the global Exhibitions and Events industry while supporting the association's underpinnings of advocacy, sustainability, and DE&I initiatives. She begins her new role on December 1, 2023.

Flanagan brings a wealth of experience and expertise to IAEE. She previously served as the Senior Vice President of Events and Learning Experiences at IAEE, where she was responsible for all events and learning initiatives including the Certified in Exhibition Management (CEM), Certified in Exhibition Management - Advanced Professional (CEM-AP), and CEM Fellow (CEM-Fellow) designations.

Before joining IAEE, Flanagan was the Director of Content Strategy and Development at the Promotional Products Association International (PPAI), where she was responsible for steering strategy and the development and delivery of all PPAI professional development and editorial offerings.

Flanagan spent six years in the Medical industry serving in various roles overseeing operations, purchasing, revenue cycle management, marketing, and business development.



New Appointments at Australia's ABEA

Domenic Genua, acting manager of operations for Australian Business Events Association (ABEA)'s launch phase, has now been confirmed as chief operating officer for the umbrella association.

Genua recent stint includes being a CEO of the Exhibition & Events Association of Australasia (EEAA), a position he held from December 2021. Prior to this, he was the Director of the association for 13 years until 2016, with the last three years as the association's president. He has also served on the Executive Committee as Director of the International Federation of Boat Show Organisers (London) for three years.

He has lectured at several educational institutions on a variety of marketing and event management subjects originally on a full-time basis, and more recently as a guest lecturer.

Annabelle Robb joins the ABEA team as project and services manager. With her rich experience as the event manager, she will lead ABEA's event calendar and planning process. She frequently guest lectures to UTS Event Management students.

Also supporting members and the ABEA team, will be Karina Hall, who will work on member services and administration.



Azman Haji Tambi Chik Joins MyCEB as CEO

Malaysia Convention & Exhibition Bureau (MyCEB) has announced the appointment of Azman Haji Tambi Chik as its new Chief Executive Officer, effective 20 November 2023.

In his new role, Chik will be spearheading one of the nation's major economic drivers, Malaysia's business Events industry. He has extensive experience in various facets of corporate management and a myriad of industries including tourism and hospitality, F&B, and technology.

With a career spanning over 30 years, Chik has collaborated with esteemed organizations, including Damansara Holdings Berhad (DBhd), a Bumiputera-status company listed on the main board of Bursa Malaysia. Notably, he served as the head of Group Corporate Communications at Johor Corporation (JCorp). Chik played a crucial role in overseeing the management of Rangkaian Hotel Seri Malaysia (RHSM), introducing the guest satisfaction indicator to enhance the company's profitability. Throughout his career, he has held various senior management positions and made significant contributions to implementing new technologies for multiple start-ups in Malaysia.

GARKNIT-X KOLKATA 2024

January 5-7, 2024

Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata

YARNFAB-TX

January 5-7, 2024

Biswa Bangla Mela Prangan, Kolkata

NATIONAL EXPO-RAIPUR EXPO

January 5-7, 2024

Shriram Business Park, Vidhansabha Road
Raipur

**INDIA INTERNATIONAL MEGA TRADE
FAIR 2024**

January 5-15, 2024

Gyan Bhawan, Patna

INDUSFOOD-TECH 2024

January 8-10, 2024

India Expo Centre & Mart, Greater Noida

**PREMIER SCHOOLS EXHIBITION
KOLKATA 2024**

January 13-14, 2024

Ice Skating Rink, Kolkata

**HOME AND PERSONAL CARE
INGREDIENTS EXHIBITION AND
CONFERENCE 2024**

January 18-19, 2024

Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai

PAPERWORLD INDIA 2024

January 18-20, 2024

Bombay Exhibition Centre (BEC), Mumbai

FASTNEX 2024

January 19-23, 2024

Bangalore International Exhibition Centre
Bengaluru

ACETECH HYDERABAD 2024

January 19-21, 2024

HITEX Exhibition Center, Hyderabad

INDIA AGRI PROGRESS EXPO 2024

January 19-21, 2024

Ludhiana Exhibition Centre (LEC) Sahnewal
Sahnewal

**IMTEX FORMING 2024 &
TOOLTECH 2024**

January 19-23, 2024

Bangalore International Exhibition Centre
Bengaluru

MOLDEX INDIA 2024

January 19-23, 2024

Bangalore International Exhibition Centre
Bengaluru

INDIA POULTRY SHOW 2024

January 20-22, 2024

CODISSIA Trade Fair Complex, Coimbatore

**INDIA INTERNATIONAL LEATHER
FAIR 2024**

February 1-3, 2024

Chennai Trade Centre, Chennai

**ACMA AUTOMECHANIKA
NEW DELHI 2024**

February 1-3, 2024

Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

GARTEX TEXPROCESS MUMBAI 2024

February 1-3, 2024

Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai

**INDIA INTERNATIONAL MEGA TRADE
FAIR 2024**

February 2-12, 2024

Janta Maidan, Bhubaneswar

CATALYZING MICE EXCELLENCE

The 12th IEIA Open Seminar 2023, the Indian Exhibition Industry Association's (IEIA) annual flagship event, took place at India Exposition Mart Ltd (IEML) in Greater Noida on December 13-14, 2023. Over 500 business leaders, trade association heads, and international representatives of India attended the seminar, which stood as a beacon for networking and knowledge exchange.



All image source: IEIA

The event commenced with the prestigious inauguration by Radha Katyal Narang, IRS, Director-Niche Tourism, Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India. She inaugurated the 'Exhibition Services Expo', a significant component of the IEIA Open Seminar. The lamp lighting ceremony that ensued saw the participation of distinguished Executive Committee members of IEIA, adding a ceremonial glow to the occasion. The two-day seminar was a deep dive into the latest trends in the exhibition industry, both in India and abroad.

Setting the Stage

Following the inauguration, Sooraj Dhawan, President, IEIA, and Founder Director, Falcon Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, took the stage to address the delegates, providing a comprehensive overview of the program. He stressed that the new event venues like Bharat Mandapam, Yashobhoomi, and the G20 summit boosted the exhibition industry in a prosperous year, and based on India's strong economy, the exhibition sector predicts 6.5 percent growth next year, surpassing worldwide standards.

"As India becomes the third-largest economy, our Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) business can host international events. With plentiful venue capacity, daily show premieres, and the nation's upward trajectory fueled by young aspirations, Hon'ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Make in India push, and MSMEs manufacturing



capability, our exhibition industry will shine in the coming weeks, months, and years. We look forward to prioritizing innovation, HR planning, sustainability, and digitization for rapid and sustainable growth,” emphasized Dhawan.

IEML’s Role in MICE Landscape

Shedding light on how IEML plays a catalytic role in supporting the MICE industry landscape, Rakesh Kumar, Executive Member, IEIA, Director General, Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and Chairman, IEML, said that this is a time of industry excitement for three reasons. He elaborated, “First, Delhi and NCR will remain a worldwide center with political stability for the next five years. Second, our sector has recovered greatly post-COVID. Finally, with the third largest start-up environment in the world and a young population, India’s future looks good.” Further, he added that the biggest representative of the event industry is our Hon’ble Prime

“ As India becomes the third-largest economy, our Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) business can host international events. With plentiful venue capacity, daily show premieres, and the nation’s upward trajectory fuelled by young aspirations, Hon’ble Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Make in India push, and MSMEs manufacturing capability, our exhibition industry will shine in the coming weeks, months, and years. ”



SOORAJ DHAWAN
President – IEIA
Founder Director, Falcon Exhibitions Pvt Ltd

Minister. The upcoming Noida International Airport is slated to become Asia’s largest airport in NCR, facilitating India’s strategic advantages.

IEIA’s Vision for Global Excellence

Sonia Prashar, Ex-Officio Past President, IEIA, Chairperson of the Board & Managing Director, NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd shared how good





“ In 2023, we exceeded pre-pandemic levels. This was shown by big events like the G20 Summit and the opening of new venues—Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi. Our cutting-edge venues demonstrate our commitment to having big events and meetings. We have now placed India as a worldwide destination with help from Government and industry partnerships.”



SONIA PRASHAR
 Ex-Officio Past President, IEIA
 Chairperson of the Board & Managing Director
 NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd

help from Government and industry partnerships.”

Prashar asserted, “The Under-40 Focus Group and women’s leadership support demonstrate IEIA’s dedication to sustainability, skilling, ethics, and diversity. Furthermore, through transnational alliances, we’ve had global influence.” She urged stakeholders to work together to make India a worldwide exhibition and conference hub and apprised them about the association’s accomplishments.

MICE Insights and India’s Rise

An important session focused on the Indian MICE industry featured a keynote address and presentation by Narang. Talking about how India’s G20 Presidency helped MICE, and Bharat Mandapam and Yashobhoomi, exhibitions, and big international gatherings showed the talent of Indian events, she shared, “The

things are looking for this sector, and reiterated, “In 2023, we exceeded pre-pandemic levels. This was shown by big events like the G20 Summit and the opening of new venues—Bharat Mandapam & Yashobhoomi. Our cutting-edge venues demonstrate our commitment to having big events and meetings. We have now placed India as a worldwide destination with





Indian Government supports the MICE business and is taking steps to make it a global attraction. Our goal is to reach the top five in the ICAA ranking of India as 37th (with 68 meetings).”

Encouraging participation and feedback, which are crucial to MICE sector success, and helping the Government sync and chart policies for the sector, Narang said, “Institutional support, a city MICE Bureau framework, a Maestro database, and Incredible India’s Meet in India campaign are our strategies. Incredible India will also feature MICE service providers on a microsite.”

Highlighting the 2024 plans she shared, “A large yearly MICE event in 2024 promises networking, exhibitions, and knowledge sessions. We are also planning a curtain-raiser event before this important gathering

“ First, Delhi and NCR will remain a worldwide center with political stability for the next five years. Second, our sector has recovered greatly post-COVID. Finally, with the third largest start-up environment in the world and a young population, India’s future looks good.”



RAKESH KUMAR
Executive Member, IEIA
Director General, Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts

happens. Our plan includes ease of business, accessibility, monuments as distinctive sites, upgrading MICE status, and skill development. We are developing training programs for MICE service providers, exhibition centers, and cities.”

Trend Talks and Expo Thrills

Over 35 eminent speakers, from different backgrounds and parts of the industry, shared their experiences during thought-provoking sessions.





“ The Ministry of Tourism is working towards formation of City level MICE Promotion Bureaus at major MICE destinations of Delhi, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Kolkata, and Goa to promote the growth of the MICE industry in the country and establish India as a MICE destination.”

RADHA KATYAL NARANG
IRS, Director
Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India



unorganized, which raised questions urging the association to study or collaborate to acquire data on exhibitions, footfalls, and tourists in a calendar year for policy making.

Aiming to build on G20 momentum into future cooperation opportunities, he stated, “The Tourism Ministry is promoting MICE globally through a soft campaign and a national board. Film, adventure, and cruise tourism are being promoted. With programs like Incredible India Tourist Facilitator Certification (IITFC), prioritize skill development and help become part of the booming tourism industry.”

“ IEIA is India’s pioneer organization comprising membership of all the stakeholders related to the events and exhibition industry. Over the years, the association has become the voice of Indian exhibition fraternity and serves as a forum to address important concerns related to the industry.”

ARUN SRIVASTAVA
Joint Director General
Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India



Srivastava asserted that exhibitions benefit from infrastructure development. Presently, there are more than 100 operating airports and 25 international ones, as well as big highways and rapid trains, making it easier for exhibitions and shows to happen.

These discussions focused on important topics that will help shape what happens in India’s exhibition industry going forward. A knowledge session, led by Dr Pavan Mamidi, Director, Centre for Social & Behaviour Change, Ashoka University, focused on the topic of ‘Nudge - How People Decide’. The Exhibition Services Expo was held concurrently, featuring premier products and services from major venues and their partners across the exhibition industry.

Leadership Insights

There was a special address by Guest of Honor Arun Srivastava, Joint Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India. He appreciated IEIA for contributing to the growth of the Indian MICE industry. Also, he voiced concerns about the lack of information on shows organized or





“ This year is a success with positive outcomes experienced by organizers, service providers, and venues in the events industry. Our gracious host, IEML has successfully hosted premier events in 2023, showcasing the industry’s resilience and adaptability.”

YOGESH MUDRAS
Executive Member, IEIA
Managing Director, Informa Markets India Pvt Ltd



Celebrating Excellence

During the IEIA Open Seminar 2023, ‘IEIA TV’ YouTube channel was launched with the intent to share stories, news, and opinions related to the sector. IEIA launched its 1st Certification Program on ‘Exhibitions Sales Strategies’ in alignment with its commitment to drive professional development and service delivery standards across the sector. Around 34 professionals associated with 15 organizations from different regions

participated, receiving their course completion certificates during a glittering ceremony that turned out to be a dazzling showcase of uplifted spirits, pride, and passion for excellence.

Networking and Committee Meetings

The event went beyond just meetings, seminars, and launches; it also had fun extra activities. IEML’s Gala Networking evening was a fantastic event for people to meet, make lasting connections, and search for ways they could work well together. IEIA held three crucial committee meetings during the event, focusing on sustainability, codes of ethics, and the Fantastic Under 40s initiative. These meetings infused the event with meaningful discussions, futuristic planning, and thought-provoking sessions, elevating its significance.

IEIA Triumph

The overall experience at the IEIA Open Seminar 2023 emerged as a remarkable gathering for industry professionals, reinforcing its status as a must-attend event. The IEIA Open Seminar has not only linked industry dots but has also become a beacon for professionals to connect, learn, and celebrate the advancements in India’s exhibitions industry. **////**



Sovan Tudu
Senior Sub-Editor
Magic Wand Media
 sovan.tudu@magicwandmedia.in

Forging a New Path

In the ever-changing world of Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) tourism, India strives to weave a compelling story that propels it into reckoning as a choice international destination.

The shifting industry landscape and the shift towards an immersive focus underpin this bold initiative.

to Global Recognition



All image source: Magic Wand Media



While India maps its path through a multitude of policy inputs and interventions, the reflections of pivotal events such as the G20 summit, and an overall plan to reap the benefits of the expanding MICE industry, a compelling narrative unfolds.

Changing Landscape of MICE Tourism

Post-COVID, the MICE industry has been changing to experiential models. Marketing strategies are being remodeled through collaborative immersive learning models as a new and more sustainable business approach. Procurement and budgeting present two significant hurdles during deal closing that affect both corporates and travel service providers. The industry has undergone major change over the last few years, and this serves to highlight the importance of innovation for linking communities. Hence, catering to the needs of senior leadership became key to the success of MICE travel.

However, destinations are no longer being picked conventionally but have become more dynamic, with an emphasis on exploring new destinations through collaboration on unorthodox ideas. Nowadays, culture, cuisine, distinctiveness, and brand value determine whether a place is suitable for a holiday. It is all about sustainability; firms incorporate green strategies while using local raw materials for event planning. In the post-COVID era, there is increasing demand for more interactive activities, a greater emphasis on well-being, and multinational companies incorporating wellness incentives into their corporate outlays.

India's Trajectory to Excellence

Experts stress the need for marketing skills and perceptions towards making India an ideal MICE destination. Thus, collaboration,

technology, and a supportive government are major issues that will help in the development of the sector. Experts argue for using India's ethnic diversity, good infrastructure, and upcoming policies aimed at developing tourism through events, which is in line with the multi-pronged approach of the Ministry of Tourism's 'Meet in India' campaign.

It is vital to develop an image for India as a MICE destination with supporting regulations and powerful marketing tactics. Chander Mansharamani, Co-chairperson, India Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Tourism Expert Committee, indicates that there are ongoing proposals for policies to boost the holding of conventions with an initial corpus fund of INR 66 crore introduced at the Ministry of Tourism. Additional implementations should include global roadshows, site visits, participation in world trade exhibitions, upskill initiatives, and others.

Such efforts to change the global perception of India make it imperative for India to have a strong and centrally controlled national body supported

by the government that can promote its conventions and event offerings worldwide. Collective efforts like collaboration, frequent meetings, and proactive attempts aimed at promoting India's heritage, identity, and history are important. The strategy is viewed as forward-looking in leveraging technology, including the filming of 360-degree films on new and lesser-known destinations.

As a result, India will be a recognized MICE destination on the global map through its pro-active government, latest technological advancements, and co-operation.

Building a New Approach

During the G20 event in India, tourism stakeholders analyzed the influence of the event on the MICE segment. The G20 meetings conducted during the Indian presidency were critical and greatly improved India's tourism image. India's potential was shown in the G20, which had more than 200 conferences in about 60 cities and the interaction of citizens of 125 countries.

The inauguration of Bharat Mandapam—the largest convention center in India—Pragati Maidan and YASHOBHOOMI (India International Convention & Expo Centre—IICC), Dwarka, fortifies India's stance as a host to mega global events. Experts believe that though there is a positive

In 2023, the G20 summit was held in India with more than 200 conferences and 1 lakh delegates from different regions across the globe. The summit was able to project India's capacity to be a world-class MICE destination that could successfully hold large-scale events.

note, effective marketing and policies would certainly ensure India's better position in the world's MICE segment, which as of now is just one percent.

The tenure of the G-20 Presidency brought out the prospective image of India, but experts call for a targeted marketing approach for effective promotion of tourism destinations. Continuous endeavors, economic progression, year-round appeal, high-end tourism, and improved infrastructural facilities are vital for India to emerge as a world center of conventions, meetings, and events. Experts underline the importance of embracing the MICE opportunity towards developing a competitive tourist policy in the upcoming three years.

The Rise of MICE Industry

In a major step towards promoting India's status in the international MICE market, the Ministry of Tourism held an industry roundtable recently. The purpose of this meeting was to map out India's pathway forward towards becoming a leading MICE destination in the global economy based on its achievements at the G20 Summit.

There were CXOs and senior authorities from all sectors of the MICE market, such as hotel chains, Professional Conference Organizers (PCOs), and key actors from inbound MICE operations. This resulted in a collective response focused on India as a



The boom of India's MICE industry is fueled by high demand for unique events. India's share of global MICE tourism is set to increase to 2 percent, up from 1 percent, in the next five years. The unique cultural heritage and various topography make the country a conducive destination for MICE tourism.



country with a diverse culture and great natural diversity, which are significant draws for MICE tourism. Much emphasis was given to database management, sharing of digital assets, as well as structure, branding, marketing, and regulations around the MICE industry. Organizing the round table demonstrated the Ministry's commitment and was the first major step towards transforming India into a popular MICE destination.

image in the world as a destination country, creating new impressions about it within the global community. The G20 Summit and mega cricket tournaments like the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 have rekindled great interest in the industry, which commanded less than one percent of the overall global market valued at approximately US\$ 900 billion during the same period.

India's desire to increase MICE market share from 1 percent to 2 percent in the next 5 years is stimulated by a recent upsurge in

Unveiling India's MICE Strategy

This strategic shift will change India's

Government Push & Empowering the MICE Industry

- Infrastructure Development
- Policy Simplification
- Marketing and Promotion
- India's Distinctive Advantage
 - Cultural Tapestry
 - Infrastructural Readiness
 - Cost Competitiveness

Positioning India as MICE Destination

- Brand Building
- Skill Development
- Sustainability Integration
- Technological Innovation





It is essential for India to spend on specific promotional advertising to attract foreign congresses and also create a solid brand identity as a MICE location to attract more business conferences and corporate events.

demand for traveling businessmen, an increase in international terminals and flight arrival figures, and a substantial rise in MICE business among companies.

The government leads in improving infrastructure with the aim of supporting international-standard hotels, convention centers, and meeting halls. The sector can therefore be a source of income by contributing great revenues and providing job opportunities at exhibitions. Facilitated regulation, involving straight-forward

approvals and reimbursing bid expenses, is a must-have if India's aims for MICE are to be realized.

Strategically coordinated regulatory procedures as well as India's famous hospitality are among the factors that differentiate its service quality. A multi-faced approach covers infrastructure development, regulatory facilitation, and utilization of the exhibition industry. The storyline of these efforts towards making India occupy a top spot in the global MICE arena will manifest itself in the subsequent few years.

Overall, seeking a bigger piece in the MICE tourism cake is a story knit around dreams, strategy, and coordination. This involves traversing changing industry circumstances, policy measures following unprecedented events and exhibitions, and exploitation opportunities emanating from the growing MICE sector. The scene is ready for the country's transformation into a preferred MICE destination, thus leading to a revolutionary travel journey across the globe. **////**



Sovan Tudu
Senior Sub-Editor
Magic Wand Media
sovan.tudu@magicwandmedia.in



Rucheeka Chhugani, Director - Corporate Affairs, Communications and Marketing, NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd

All image source: NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd

“Emotional intelligence is a key skill that helps in building relationships, resolving conflicts, and fostering a positive work environment. Additionally, believing in oneself and displaying confidence in decision-making and actions can earn respect and credibility in a male-dominated workplace.”

Rucheeka Chhugani
Director - Corporate Affairs
Communications and Marketing
NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd

TAKING CHARGE

Rucheeka Chhugani, Director - Corporate Affairs, Communications and Marketing, NürnbergMesse

India Pvt Ltd, recounts her experience as a newcomer in the industry and highlights the favorable changes that have occurred since then. In her role as a leader, she has been an inspirational force to her team while consistently drawing strength from her mentors to grow further.

Having been associated with the Indian Exhibition industry for more than 15 years, Rucheeka Chhugani, Director - Corporate Affairs, Communications and Marketing, NürnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd, has seen it tide through various local and global challenges and emerging stronger than before. A substantial credit for the resilience the industry has showcased during the tough times must go to its women who have always been a pivotal part of it.

“It is very encouraging to note that the skills and capabilities of women in various domains, including event planning, management, and marketing are being increasingly recognized. This recognition, in turn, has paved the way for more women to ascend to leadership roles within exhibition companies,” she asserts. Organizations today are also promoting a diverse workforce, including women in leadership positions, to bring different



perspectives to the table. While progress has been made, challenges such as unconscious bias, lack of representation in certain areas, and work-life balance are a few issues that still need to be addressed.

Personal Challenges

Chhugani has led marketing campaigns for events such as INDIAWOOD, Broadcast India Show, BIOFACH INDIA, and ALUCAST and has had a remarkable journey. But it was not without its set of challenges that had to be overcome to rejoice the success she has attained. When she started in the industry, she was part of an organization led entirely by women and operating as a closely-knit team. “Initially, we encountered common challenges such as gender bias and stereotyping. Overcoming these challenges involved consistently demonstrating skills, expertise, and resilience,” she recalls.

“Access to networks and visibility are crucial in career progression. Hence, I and my colleagues worked towards building a strong network and seeking mentorship from both men and women who supported diversity,” she shares.

Women often face challenges in self-advocacy and negotiation. Building confidence, seeking mentorship on negotiation skills, and

learning to effectively communicate achievements and aspirations are crucial in advancing one’s career. “This is something we learned along the way,” she adds.

On Women Leadership

When asked about the key leadership traits that women can equip themselves with to attain goals in workplaces in industries predominantly led by males, Chhugani responds, “Emotional intelligence is a key skill that helps in building relationships, resolving conflicts, and fostering a positive work environment. Additionally, believing in oneself and displaying confidence in decision-making and actions can earn respect and credibility in a male-dominated workplace.”

According to her, women leaders who can articulate their ideas clearly, express their viewpoints assertively, and listen actively tend to command attention and influence. She then cites Indra Nooyi, Former CEO, PEPSI Co., stating, “Leadership is hard to define and good leadership even harder. But if you can get people to follow you to the ends of the earth, you are a great leader.”

Chhugani views the role of leadership in women’s empowerment as pivotal. “Leaders set the tone and direction for the organization’s culture and values. Encouraging visible representation of women in leadership positions can inspire others,” she adds.

For aspiring women leaders looking to step into the Events and Exhibitions industry, Chhugani encourages them to attend industry events, conferences, and seminars to network with professionals in the field. Building relationships and connections can open doors to opportunities and mentorship.



At NürnbergMesse India, mentorship, coaching, and development programs are offered to help women hone their leadership skills and prepare them for higher roles within the organization. “Furthermore, we also provide flexible work hours, remote work options, and policies supporting work-life balance, which allows women to manage their professional and personal responsibilities effectively,” she shares.

Being a Good Leader

One of the crucial traits of being an effective leader is being able to keep the team spirited and motivated even in challenging times. The recent COVID-19 phase proved to be a litmus test for leaders that saw a significant rise and fall of many at the helm of affairs. Chhugani states a few that she considers important in keeping the team intact, “Transparent and regular communication is crucial. One must always encourage open dialogue to address concerns and provide clarity.”

“Secondly, show resilience, positivity, and determination. Your attitude and behavior can influence the morale of your team. Be a source of inspiration and demonstrate the values you expect from your team. Also recognizing and appreciating progress and efforts can motivate the team to continue moving forward,” she adds.

For aspiring women leaders looking to step into the Events and Exhibitions industry, Chhugani encourages them to attend industry events, conferences, and seminars to network with professionals in the field. Building relationships and connections can open doors to opportunities and mentorship. “They should focus on developing leadership qualities such as communication, negotiation, problem-solving, and strategic thinking. Staying informed about market changes and emerging technologies will also give them a competitive edge,” she suggests.

Equally important is finding mentors or role models within the industry who can provide guidance, advice, and support. Their insights and experiences can be invaluable, she opines.

“Understand that breaking into leadership roles, especially in a competitive industry, may take time. So, my advice would be - Stay resilient, learn from setbacks, believe in yourself and your capabilities while being assertive in expressing your ideas and opinions,” she stresses.

Constantly Learning

Genuine leaders consistently acknowledge that their journey of learning

is never complete. As they inspire and motivate others to explore their fullest potential, they remain committed to their own ongoing learning. It is their continuous pursuit of knowledge and personal development that defines their character. Therefore, when questioned to whom does she turn for inspirational guidance, she shares, “I look up to my mother; she is resilient and focused and always displays a profound sense of empathy. She always tries to understand where the other person is coming from. This I feel is a remarkable trait which instantly helps you to form connections.”

She also seeks inspiration from Sonia Prashar, Managing Director, NürnbergMesse India. “Her energy and positivity are contagious but what I admire most about her is her sense of conviction and courage; if she believes in an idea, she will make it work and shows tremendous resilience in the face of challenges.”

She also looks for support in Sarah Varkey, her school teacher, who has inspired Chhugani with her ‘creativity, boldness, and her sense of proactiveness’. “All these women, at different stages in life, have had a huge and highly positive impact on my choices and actions,” she concludes. **////**



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@
magicwandmedia.in

MMCEC: BRIDGING HERITAGE WITH MODERN HOSPITALITY

Elevating Gujarat's event landscape, the Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre (MMCEC), managed by The Leela, stands as an architectural marvel as it seamlessly integrates sustainability and luxury. Discover how this iconic venue is not just hosting events but crafting an immersive experience that transcends conventional boundaries, setting the stage for global recognition and success.

All image source: MMCEC

Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre by The Leela Palaces, Hotels and Resorts since 2019 has undergone a transformation, integrating The Leela's signature service standards. It is the largest Conex in India and stands out for its unique feature of having multi-utility spaces all under one campus.

Vikas Sood, General Manager, MMCEC, emphasizes the pivotal role venues play in the triumph of trade fairs and exhibitions, and the venue's success is attributed to various factors, "The substantial impact of the brand image leads to a notable increase in footfall, coupled with an iconic structural presence that is a one-of-a-kind marvel in India."

Boasting the title of the largest Conex, MMCEC features an expansive footprint of 10,000 sq mt for covered and 6,000 sq mt for open exhibition space. This includes a 6,375 sq mt convention area, along with 2,860 sq mt of accumulated break-away and parallel session rooms, complemented by 10 bilateral rooms, 4 multipurpose areas, and 4 boardrooms.

The venue also comprises an enchanting open-air amphitheater nestled within 7,532 sq mt of lush green landscapes. MMCEC goes beyond space provision, adding value by offering diverse options for exhibitions and trade fairs, complemented by the convenience of adjacent convention, conference, and meeting spaces, as well as a dedicated lounge for the Honorable Prime Minister and the Chief Minister. The venue's commitment to providing multiple spaces and options for branding further enhances its appeal as a comprehensive and dynamic event destination.

Commitment to Sustainable Living

Discussing the venue's robust commitment to sustainability and environmental responsibility, Sood shares, "At MMCEC, we embrace a holistic approach to green practices, from recycling glass water bottles, paper cups, and both wet and dry garbage to incorporating recycled papers in our internal administrative processes. Our dedication extends beyond recycling; we have embarked on a 'Going Green' initiative, enhancing the complex with more green spaces."

Additionally, the team's commitment to sustainability goes hand-in-hand with the implementation of a GreenHouse and In-House farming, reinforcing their pledge to environmental stewardship and innovation in every facet of their operations.

Luxury, Legacy, and Logistics

In the realm where the venue sets the stage and molds the experiences of exhibitors, visitors, and event guests, Sood shares insights into how MMCEC ensures unwavering service quality, offering a competitive edge to exhibition organizers in terms of efficiency and security.

Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre, since 2019, under The Leela, is the largest Conex in India, featuring multi-utility spaces, including 10,000 sq mt covered and 6,000 sq mt open exhibition space, making it a comprehensive and dynamic event destination.



As the exclusive venue in Gujarat capable of hosting large-scale international and national conferences and exhibitions, MMCEC has a rich history of orchestrating key high-profile events, including multiple G20 gatherings, Semicon, PEDICON, DefExpo, and more. This establishes the venue as a testament to world-class service, stringent security protocols, and a touch of luxury.

Vikas Sood
General Manager
MMCEC

"MMCEC, under the management of The Leela, India's premier luxury brand and the sole Conex in the country managed by a luxury chain, attains the pinnacle of service standards and guest experiences," he says. "As the exclusive venue in Gujarat capable of hosting large-scale international and national conferences and exhibitions, MMCEC has a rich history of orchestrating key high-profile events, including multiple G20 gatherings, Semicon, PEDICON, DefExpo, and more. This establishes the venue as a testament to world-class service, stringent security protocols, and a touch of luxury."

Furthermore, the MMCEC convention building is equipped with a Plug & Play facility setup, ensuring seamless event



execution. Each venue within MMCEC is pre-installed with AV facilities, resulting in significant cost savings of almost 20 percent for major events. Sood asserts, “The commitment to quality extends to the use of top-tier brands for AV equipment, including CreateLED for LED displays, EV, Yamaha, Sony, Kramer, Bosch, and Sound Craft for audio systems, as well as EPSON for projection, enhancing the overall event experience.”

Making India a Global Exhibition Hub

The Managing Director sheds light on the pivotal role of branding and marketing in shaping the identity of exhibition venues. In his insightful perspective, he emphasizes the significance of hosting a minimum of five international and national conferences and exhibitions each year as a strategic approach to enhance visibility and prominence.

Sood underlines the importance of robust support from both the central and State Governments in hosting international and National Government events. “This backing is instrumental in positioning India as a preferred destination for hosting a diverse range of exhibitions and events,” he says. “India is already attracting eyeballs with major investments from developed nations with the revolution of industrialization in the fields of energy, technology, medical sciences, pharmaceuticals, electric vehicles, and more.”





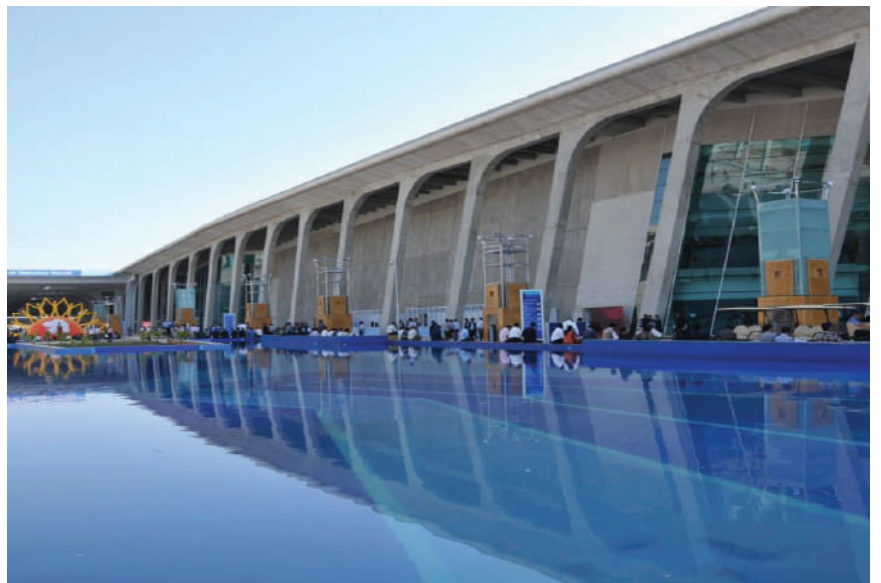
Furthermore, Sood advocates for Government support in the bidding and hosting processes of international events. This collaborative approach, coupled with India's already-established attractiveness, contributes to the nation's evolving status as a premier global hub for exhibitions and events across various industries.

Sood envisions a promising future for India as a Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) destination. "Developing convention and exhibition centers with room inventory in Gandhinagar, Jaipur, and Delhi NCR will position India as a significant revenue spinner, attracting global companies," he states.



MMCEC's Global Expansion Plans

Looking ahead, Sood unveils MMCEC's plans for global expansion. "From participating in IMEX Frankfurt in May 2023 to hosting prestigious events like TTF-2023 and the upcoming events, including the Conventions India Conclave (CIC) with the India Convention Promotion Bureau (ICPB) in December 2023 and TTF in August 2024, we aim to amplify our global presence," he elaborates. "Social media and industry associations like the International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA) and the Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA) will be pivotal in our journey. The closure of international conferences and exhibitions is also part of MMCEC's forward-looking strategy."





MMCEC's strategic vision includes hosting international conferences, securing Government support, and positioning India as a global hub for exhibitions, promising a future as a Meetings, Incentives, Conferences, and Exhibitions (MICE) destination.

In the heart of Gujarat, Mahatma Mandir Convention and Exhibition Centre, a testament to architectural brilliance, emerges as a global stage. Its eco-initiatives, blend of luxury and logistics, and capability to host iconic events position India as a premier MICE destination. As MMCEC charts a course for global expansion, its journey becomes an ode to success, legacy, and a sustainable future—an immersive experience crafting the future of events. ///



Compiled by
Sovan Tudu
Senior Sub-Editor
Magic Wand Media
sovan.tudu@magicwandmedia.in



All image source: Pavilions and Interiors India Pvt Ltd

AN EVENTFUL JOURNEY

Whether it's creating a stunning museum exhibit, designing an inviting interior space, or constructing a temporary structure for a major event, Pavilions and Interiors India's specialized expertise and unwavering commitment to its craft distinguish it from its peers. The company has accomplished thriving in the business for the past 50 years with significant projects such as the G20 Summit and continues to explore new horizons with its steadfast vision.

Pavilions and Interiors India Pvt Ltd (P&I) is one of the largest and most reputable names in event management, exhibition design and fabrication, retail, interiors, museums, and overlays and structures.

The company commenced its journey in 1972, when few considered venturing into the realm of event management and design. Not only was it among the first movers in the industry, P&I also made a dent by lapping up significant events, including Asia 72, FACT

Pavilion in Mumbai 1978, Water Exhibition in New Delhi 1988, Space Expo 1989, ITB Berlin 1990-1994, India Pavilion in Seville Expo, Italian Pavilion (IITF) in the 90s, and several other national and international shows.

Speaking about the company's accomplishments so far, Shibu Chellappan, Director, Pavilions and Interiors India Pvt Ltd, comments, "We have played a pioneering role in setting industry benchmarks and delivering a plethora of creative design solutions, ranging from trade shows, retail solutions, interior design, and captivating museums. We are also India's first ISO-certified company in our field and have been serving clients across the industry, be it in the public or private sector, and have worked with some of the best names in India and globally."



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Shibu Chellappan
Director
Pavilions and Interiors India
Pvt Ltd



It's been a remarkable 50 years for the company, which has weathered many storms and stood the test of time. Despite the hurdles through the five decades of its evolution, P&I has shown noteworthy resilience and steadfastly grown to its current stature. The challenges presented by the pandemic were also faced head-on by repurposing the company resources to contribute to the community and retain them. Currently the team is led under the able leadership of Beena Baburam, CMD; Biju Nanu, Arun Baburam, and Uma Baburam, Directors of the company.



A crowning achievement for P&I is its successful execution of the 18th G20 Leaders' Summit. This momentous journey began when India assumed the presidency.



Presently it has a workforce of almost 300 staff members, including those at its branches in Noida, Greater Noida, Mumbai, Bangalore, Kochi, and Ahmedabad.

It's a Teamwork

With a strong foundation in the field of exhibition and trade event design and project management, P&I found a natural continuation into other experiential domains, such as retail and museums. "Our success stems from specialized and experienced teams dedicated to advancing each service area. Our teams, a key asset, are comprised of exceptional individuals, and we actively seek new talent. Structured to cater to client needs, our teams seamlessly navigate from conceptualization to project execution. Recognizing the distinct requirements at each stage of the project lifecycle, we assemble specialized professionals accordingly," Chellappan shares.



P&I's contributions to museums, interior design, and temporary structures are notable for its attention to detail, creativity, and functionality. "The team at P&I takes a collaborative approach to their work, drawing on their diverse backgrounds and skill sets to develop innovative solutions that meet the unique needs of each project," he adds. Their commitment to excellence has not gone unnoticed, as P&I has been recognized as a leader in the industry and has been instrumental in setting new standards for quality and design.

At the core of P&I's success is its 'Best-in-class Project Management Team'. The company follows a process-driven approach, adhering to ISO 9001-



2015 Certification standards, enabling consistency and alignment in project execution. Thorough planning, risk mitigation, and robust quality management practices are the hallmarks of its project management methodology, setting the company apart in its industry.

P&I has cultivated goodwill and credibility by prioritizing client service and delivering high-quality products. “Upholding these values, we instill a commitment to excellence in each team member, ensuring a continued focus on client satisfaction and superior outcomes,” Chellappan adds, elaborating on how the company does justice to clients’ needs in this competitive landscape.

The 18th G20 Leaders’ Summit

A crowning achievement for P&I is its successful execution of the 18th G20 Leaders’ Summit. This momentous journey began when India assumed the presidency.

The company managed almost 45 working groups and engagement groups, along with many ministerial meetings, from December 2022 leading up to the final summit. The series of events showcased India’s culture and heritage in a highly positive light across the world. Held in various states and union territories, such as Itanagar, Dibrugarh, Agartala, Lakshadweep, Dharamshala, Rishikesh, Puducherry, Ranchi, and Kolkata, the meetings provided P&I with the experience that helped it successfully navigate the intricacies of the G20 process.

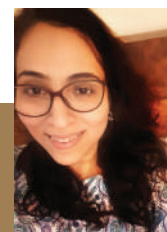
“As a company, we are extremely proud of our achievement in having delivered and being associated with this historic summit. We have been garnering appreciation from the highest levels of ministries from the very first day,” Chellappan elaborates.

Future Plans

While P&I has already established itself as a leader in the fields of exhibitions, interiors, and events, the company is constantly looking toward the future and exploring new ways to enhance its

services. One of the key ways that P&I plans to do this is by leveraging cutting-edge technologies to create even more immersive and engaging experiences for its clients and their audiences. It is exploring the use of technology to create interactive exhibits and installations that allow visitors to fully immerse themselves in the content. Additionally, the company is investing in advanced materials and fabrication techniques to create more sustainable and eco-friendly structures for events and exhibitions.

“Overall, P&I’s future vision is focused on pushing the boundaries of what is possible in the fields of exhibitions, interiors, and events, and using technology to create truly unforgettable experiences for its clients and their audiences. Our late founder MR Baburam emphasized that we strive to be the best in our areas of expertise,” concludes Chellappan resolutely. **////**



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@

magicwandmedia.in

GOING THE NATURAL WAY



All image source: Messe Düsseldorf India

The much-anticipated organic exhibition BIOFACH INDIA, co-located with NATURAL EXPO INDIA and MILLETS INDIA, held from September 6-8, 2023, at India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, proved to be a remarkable achievement. Organized by NuernbergMesse India and APEDA (Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority), the event convened prominent organic, natural, and millet companies to connect with consumers and take it ahead.

BIOFACH INDIA, together with NATURAL EXPO INDIA and MILLETS INDIA, was a stellar success, attracting 5,680 visitors from 20 countries and 28 Indian states. This event provided attendees with a wide array of products, an ideal knowledge program, valuable business matchmaking opportunities, and networking prospects.

The exhibition was inaugurated by esteemed guests Shri Sunil Barthwal, Commerce Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India and Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India.

Shri Barthwal highlighted India's capability to produce a variety of organic products and that of Indian startups' and MSMEs' that are exceeding expectations. "APEDA and BIOFACH INDIA are effectively raising awareness and providing a unique platform. This market holds tremendous potential, not only for domestic supply but also for exports. BIOFACH INDIA serves as the central hub for the Organic industry, with over 200 brands participating, along with numerous international buyers and a sizable delegation from Vietnam, Germany, and other countries."

Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, joined the inaugural session along with Bui Trung Thuong, Trade Counsellor Embassy of Vietnam, New Delhi and Ingeborg Bayer, Counsellor for Food and Agriculture, Embassy of Germany, New Delhi. Shri Agrawal said, "BIOFACH INDIA provides a unique platform for brands to meet not only buyers from India but also international buyers, gaining insights into their requirements concerning labeling, value chain integrity, and other industry needs. This exposure enables them to grow and connect with a larger buying ecosystem, strengthening their brand and supply chain."



The exhibition was supported by leading international and national stakeholders including International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movement (IFOAM), International Competence Centre of Organic Agriculture (ICCOA), Organic Farmers Association of India (OFAI), Association of the Indian Organic Industries (AIOI), Association of Herbal and Nutraceutical Manufacturers of India (AHNMI), and Indian Institute of Millets Research (IIMR).

A Vital Meeting Point for Industry Stakeholders

Presenting a highly positive picture, Shri Abhishek Dev, IAS, Chairman, APEDA, remarked “India currently holds a share of 700 million within the vast untapped market, estimated at around 130 billion globally. During our interactions with exporters, valuable concerns and suggestions were raised, forming a foundation for expanding our organic footprint both nationally and internationally. We look forward to continuing our collaboration with NürnbergMesse India to further increase organic production and exports.”

Sonia Prashar, Managing Director & Chairperson of the Board, NuernbergMesse India, reiterated, “India presents a lucrative and emerging market for organic food and beverages. The growing health consciousness and a preference for healthy, clean, and organic products has led to a surge

The event played host to over 200 exhibitors representing every corner of India, proving its position as the premier industry platform for organic, natural, and millets.



in demand. The Government and other important stakeholders have been pushing to bring awareness along with various other supportive measures at all levels of production, including monetary incentives to farmers, FPOs, and entrepreneurs. BIOFACH INDIA is at the core of this major shift as it is THE platform that channelizes industry discussions, innovations, trends and lays the foundation for the next course of actions whilst serving as a sourcing point for the entire Organic industry.”

A Comprehensive Event

Organized by OFAI, the Farmer’s Market Area, featured an array of products and offered a forum for visitors to directly network with FPOs and agripreneurs.

Furthermore, a live demo of Indian organic tea and coffee, familiarizing the consumers on the tea and coffee brewing process, and a live demo of millet-based recipes by APEDA proved to be a major attraction for the visitors.

A special pavilion at BIOFACH INDIA 2023 named ‘Nature’s New and Now’ introduced visitors to the industry trends of 2023.

There were exhibitors whose products were aligned with these trends. Among them was Priyamvada Khanna, 9 GRAM, who had an amazing experience at BIOFACH INDIA 2023, who noted, “We had many visitors seeking clean snacks, and the number of international buyers looking for millet-based, clean Indian snacks was astonishing.”

Nimit Doshi, Amul (GCMMF), said, “BIOFACH INDIA offered us the opportunity to enhance our understanding of the organic market and network, making it the ultimate one-stop platform for the industry.”

The exhibition’s success is indicative of the increasing significance and potential within the Indian Organic, Natural, and Millets industry, reflecting a growing trend of people choosing healthier eating options, including organic foods. ///



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@

magicwandmedia.in

FOR THE JOY OF GIFTING



All image source: MEX Exhibitions

Organized by MEX Exhibitions, renowned trade fair on gift and promotional solutions, Gifts World Expo Bengaluru 2023, held from September 7-9, 2023, at Tripura Vasini, Palace Grounds, Bengaluru, received an enthusiastic response to its myriad offerings, ranging from corporate gifts to home decor and lifestyle commodities.

The three-day Gifts World Expo Bengaluru 2023 was successful in meeting its goal of being a one-stop source for gifting and promotional requirements. The specially curated tradeshow unites the entire Gifting industry under one roof. It is highly coveted by those in the field as it serves as an ideal platform for not just bigger players in the B2B Gifting and Promotion industry to connect and collaborate, but also for start-ups to scale up their businesses, generate leads, gain insight into industry trends, and acquaint themselves with the latest innovations.

Gifts World Expo has garnered a significant reputation in the industry and has a presence in key cities across India. Apart from Bangalore, it also organizes events in New Delhi and Kolkata. The iconic fair is the ultimate

destination for every possible gifting solution: gift items, souvenirs, premiums, novelties, mementos, and keepsakes. Its attendees comprise professionals from myriad sectors, wholesalers, retailers, and many more keen to explore innovative products, services, and pathbreaking solutions.

Features of the 2023 Edition

Gifts World Expo Bengaluru 2023 hosted more than 150 exhibitors who exhibited over 5,000 products and over 500 brands. Buyers, a total of over 10,116, hailed from various parts of the country, including Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Pondicherry, Chhattisgarh and many more.

The fair featured customized gifts and promotional products; beauty and health items; wellness goods; gourmet hampers; custom branding machinery; electronic gadgets and home appliances; handicrafts, home décor, and furnishing; houseware and kitchen appliances, stationary and office supplies; innovative gifting boxes; premium gifts; gold and silver gifts; celebration and festive gifts; and lifestyle products.

Some of the leading industry names exhibited their latest products, innovations, and customized creations for the diversified audience at the show. Some of the prominent brands were Happilo, Swiss Military,



Some of the leading industry names exhibited their latest products, innovations, and customized creations for the diversified audience at the show. Some of the prominent brands were Happilo, Swiss Military, Mona B, Ruchoks, PowerPlus, Jack & Jones, Welspun, Mcaffeine, FireBoult, and Delsey.

Mona B, Ruchoks, PowerPlus, Jack & Jones, Welspun, Mcaffeine, FireBoult, and Delsey.

Hard Work Pays

Jubilant over the success of the show, Himani Gulati, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, said, “Gifts World Expo Bengaluru 2023 received an overwhelming response. Buyers were pouring in from all over the country, down south, and central India. The platform this year witnessed prominent brands as exhibitors. It is a turning point for the industry.”

Commenting on the success of the event, Gaurav Singh Juneja, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, said, “This edition of Gifts World



Gifts World Expo Bengaluru 2023 in a nutshell

Exhibitors	150
Buyers	10,116
Products	5,000
Brands	500

Expo saw an impressive turnout of over 10,000 visitors, which was truly captivating. With the support of the Corporate Gifts Association of India and Pen & Stationery Association of India, the platform managed to bring together a substantial number of committed buyers and garnered positive feedback from the exhibitors.”

Likewise, it was an excellent experience for Nameesh Sethi, Manager, Skullcandy. He added, “This is the first time we are engaging with such a premium and elite customer base while representing Skullcandy. It has been a delightful experience being here, particularly the event organizers; the team has been incredibly supportive and understanding, making this experience even more enjoyable.”



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@

magicwandmedia.in



All image source: Messe Düsseldorf India

RAISING A GLASS TO SUCCESS

Organized by Messe Düsseldorf India, the 7th edition of glasspex INDIA and 4th edition of glasspro INDIA, held from September 14-16, at Bombay Exhibition Center, Mumbai, received an impressive response from the glass industry. The events that happened after a hiatus of four years showcased state-of-the-art products for industry insiders to explore, held insightful conferences, and aided in forging fruitful bonds.

Hailed as an ideal meeting point for the global glass fraternity, glasspex INDIA and glasspro INDIA has been crucial not just for solution providers but also for buyers across industries.

Spread across an area of 7,000 sq mt, the recently held edition of the mega events housed 171 companies from India and abroad to showcase their exhibits and solutions and welcomed buyers keen to explore the latest in the field. glasspex INDIA 2023 brought forth unique glass production, processing, and finishing technologies for hollow glass, hollow glass products and applications, and glass packaging technologies, by leading companies from the production part of the glass manufacturing value chain.

In collaboration with Glass Bulletin, glasspro INDIA 2023 presented high-tech glass manufacturing methods, recent industry trends, state-of-the-art glass processing solutions, tools, glass products and applications, and auxiliary products and services for the Flat Glass industry. Under the glasspro INDIA umbrella, fenestrationpro INDIA conducted in-depth conversations on emerging design trends and energy-efficient building technologies.

Optimism Looms Large

The shows commenced on a positive note in the presence of key dignitaries from the industry, including Sanjay Agarwal, President, All India Glass Manufacturers Association (AIGMF) and senior representatives from leading organizations such as Dukhiram Maurya Engg. & Refractory Works, Thermo Tech Furnace & Engineers, Furnotherm Glass Projects India, Gopal Glass Works, JGS Glass Industries, and German Engineering Federation (VDMA).

The shows happened at an opportune time as the Glass industry is witnessing burgeoning growth driven by factors such as the rising need for energy conservation, growing demand for sustainable packaging, and increased use of glass in construction, design, and architecture. The



To keep the momentum on, the 8th edition of glasspex INDIA and 5th edition of glasspro INDIA will be held at Bombay Exhibition Center from September 10-12, 2025.

growing demand for glass could be gauged by the participation of visitors from a variety of sectors such as construction, architecture, pharmaceuticals, beverages, cosmetic and perfumery manufacturers, lighting, glass instrument makers, interior design, and many more.

This year, the shows witnessed participation from all over the world with companies from China, Czech Republic, France, Germany, India, Italy, Mexico, UK and USA joining the exhibition floor. China, Germany, and Italy brought together companies at the dedicated pavilions. Visitors at the shows came from 22 countries including Austria, Bangladesh, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Macedonia, Malaysia, Mozambique, Nepal, Oman, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, UAE, USA, and Vietnam.

The shows were supported by the All India Glass Manufacturers Federation (AIGMF) and the German Engineering Federation (VDMA) and powered by glasstec Düsseldorf, the world's leading exhibition for the Glass industry.

The 5th Glass Bulletin Awards acknowledged the accomplishments of individuals and companies for their remarkable contributions to the progress of the Glass industry. The concurrent 14th biennial International Conference organized by AIGMF hosted had thought leaders from across the globe offering their take on key aspects of the Glass industry. Over 100 delegates attended the highly successful conference themed 'Decarbonization for the Sustainable Glass Industry'.

Success Speaks

Rajnath Maurya, Director, Dukhiram Maurya Engg. & Refractory Works (I) Pvt Ltd, one of the foremost exhibitors at the event, had a successful time at glasspex INDIA 2023 in terms of meeting existing and new customers and new orders finalization. "We thank glasspex INDIA and Messe Düsseldorf India for their contribution to further expanding our business horizons," he said.



First-time exhibitor at glasspro INDIA, Tejkaran Bachhawat, Founder, JGS Glass Industries, found the event both thrilling and inspiring. He stated, "We meticulously prepared our booth to showcase our glass-related products and services and engaged with attendees and industry experts providing invaluable insights and connections. The experience allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of the Glass industry's dynamics. We are excited to build on this experience and return to glasspro INDIA with even more confidence in the future."

Delighted with the great response received from the industry, Thomas Schlitt, Managing Director, Messe Düsseldorf India, stated, "The 2023 editions of the shows have set a new benchmark in terms of the number of attendees who visited and conducted highly productive business interactions with solution providers from the industry. With representation from India and abroad, the show emerged as an extremely successful platform for the global Glass industry to network and explore new dimensions. We strongly believe that this is an opportune time for the Glass industry and the success of glasspex INDIA and glasspro INDIA 2023 is a testament to the exponential growth potential of the industry."

Acknowledging the impressive response received by the shows, Agarwal said, "By all aspects, the 7th glasspex and 4th glasspro exhibitions, organized by Messe Düsseldorf India, was a huge success." **////**



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@
magicwandmedia.in



All image source: Messe Muenchen India

RESHAPING THE FUTURE OF PHARMA, LAB, AND ANALYSIS SECTOR

In a spectacular showcase of technology supremacy, analytica Anacon India, India Lab Expo, and Pharma Pro&Pack Expo took place from September 14-16, 2023, at the HITEX Exhibition Center, Hyderabad. The triad of events, organized by Messe Muenchen India with the association of different industries, became the guiding light for the pharmaceutical, laboratory, and analytical sectors.

Under the theme 'Epicenter of Progress', analytica Anacon India, India Lab Expo, and Pharma Pro&Pack Expo were held in association with the Indian Pharma Machinery Manufacturers' Association (IPMMA), which facilitated exhibiting modern solutions but also ensured a rich exchange of knowledge, trade, and network. Held in a sprawling 25,000+ sq mt of exhibition space, showcasing a staggering 6,000+ innovative products, the event played host to 21,491 visitors and 366 leading brands from 14+ countries. This marked a remarkable 35 percent growth in visitor footfall and a 40 percent surge in the participation of new exhibitors.

Epicenter of Progress Unveiled

The triad of events showcased the pharma, lab, and analysis value chain by bringing onboard international and local manufacturers, pharmacists, research labs, and key Government officials. During these three days, vibrant conferences were held at this year's event in conjunction with leading associations such as the Indian Pharmaceutical Association (IPA), the Federation of Asian Biotech Associations (FABA), and the Indian Analytical Instruments Association (IAIA).

In addition, specialized platforms such as live demos, Hosted Buyer program, Buyer-Seller meetings, technical seminars, panel discussions, and Career Connect—a customized talent recruitment platform where life science graduates were able to engage with leading companies—all pointed towards the main focus of networking and collaboration. The event was made more interesting by involving major associations and their conferences that dealt with different important issues in the sector.



Voices of Industry Leaders

Chandrabhas Shetty, President, IAIA—joint organizers of analytica Anacon India and India Lab Expo—expressed delight in the event providing great value to the attendees and visitors. He indicated that analytica Anacon India and India Lab Expo held the largest lab and analytics solutions exhibition in Hyderabad, involving decision-makers across many sectors.

According to Harshit Shah, President, IPMMA, the Pharma Pro&Pack Expo showed an upsurge of visitors with an approximately 45 percent increase, which comprised pharma companies, associations, technology providers, and experts, which shows a dedication to innovations, aligning with the Government's Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative.

Likewise, Avisha Desai, Business Unit Head, Consumer & Capital Goods and International Business, Member of Management Board, Messe Muenchen India, stressed the major increase in the visitor's turnout, which has soared up to 35 percent, making it the largest pharma show in India. She also added that the show had about forty new exhibitors who shared networking and market insights with industry players from the pharmacy and related industries.

Exhibitors Share Success Stories

The exhibitors, including ACG World and Newtronic, praised the Pharma Pro

analytica Anacon India and India Lab Expo will be held from April 15-17 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, followed by September 26-28 at the HITEX Exhibition Center, Hyderabad. Moreover, Analytica 2024, an international expo for the laboratory technology, analysis, and biotech sectors, will be held from April 6-9 in Munich, introducing new innovations in the industry.





& Pack Expo and India Lab Expo, as the event provided an opportunity for directly interacting with buyers and displaying to them what they manufacture. The events held in the pharma hub of India facilitated meaningful interactions and networking opportunities.

Amy Thakker, Manager, Marketing & Sales, Shimadzu—a prominent participant—found Anacon India to be most ideal for meeting customers and demonstrating the latest innovations in its technology. It was not just an avenue for marketing, he added, but also helped identify customer issues and facilitate solution-focused services.

Buyer Insights

Buyers like Ashwin Saudagar, Assistant Engineer (QA), Predictive Technology Laboratory, Ministry of Defence, DGQA, found the event a very good opportunity for checking machines equipped with the latest technologies. He also noted making meaningful progress by sourcing 80-90 percent of the requirements from this event.

Transitioning from conventional manual systems to automation and digital technology was the focus of Purimetla Linganna, General Manager, QC, Juggat Pharma. Additionally, he emphasized one-to-one interaction with exhibitors through the Buyer-Seller Program, thereby enabling the discovery of recent processes and analytical equipment.

Looking Ahead

The success of the 2023 edition sets the standard and paves the way for future editions. The analytica Anacon India and India Lab Expo 2024 will take place on April 15-17 at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, and September 26-28 at the HITEK Exhibition Center, Hyderabad. These events guarantee to continue bringing international and local industries closer together, creating a forum for interchange, and providing an opportunity to demonstrate the latest laboratory and analytical instrument innovations.

Moreover, Analytica 2024 would feature internationally as the global leading exhibition on laboratory technology, analysis, and biotechnology from April 6-9, in Munich. In addition, these events serve as dynamic stages towards a new horizon in pharmaceutical technologies, laboratory scientific knowledge, and analysis. **////**



Compiled by
Sovan Tudu
Senior Sub-Editor
Magic Wand Media
sovan.tudu@magicwandmedia.in

SINCE FURNITURE REFLECTS PERSONALITY

One of India's largest B2B finished furniture exhibitions, Hindustan International Furniture Fair (HIFF), has grown to be the most trusted platform for exploring exceptional business and networking opportunities in the Indian furniture industry. The latest edition of the event, held from September 23-25, 2023, at the Codissia Trade Centre in Coimbatore, witnessed an extraordinary response from industry stakeholders. Highlights...



All image source: HIFF

The 2023 edition of India's most eagerly awaited furniture extravaganza Hindustan International Furniture Fair (HIFF) concluded with resounding success with manufacturers and traders from both national and international furniture arenas. It signaled a significant revival in the Indian furniture sector, characterized by groundbreaking advancements in both fashion and technology.

Founded in 2016, the event has evolved into a platform to showcase the growth

of the South Indian furniture market, which is deftly attuned to global trends and technologies.

Features of HIFF 2023

The grand opening of HIFF 2023 was presided over by Babu Rahman, Director, Positive Chip Board India, the main sponsor.

The event featured keynote speakers including Shaji Manhar, Managing Director, Zamoria Group; Abdul Majeed, Chairman, Majok ELITE Group; AK Samadani, General Manager, Evergreen; VS Jain, Managing Director, Chakra Group; Prasad, Production Director, Homepac; Faisal Cheeran, Official Influencer Partner; Ashraf, Managing Director, Wood Port; P Sreedharan, Managing Director, Neo Cochin; and Adattil



Muhammed, Managing Director, Bella Malaysia Group. The welcome address was delivered by HIFF Directors Jaleel Valiyakath, Siyas MT, Abbas, Ummerali, and Favas P.

HIFF is popular among furniture industry stakeholders owing to the opportunities it offers to new brands, businesses, and consumers, providing access to national and international furniture designs, trends, technologies, and innovations. Its growing significance was evident in the increased number of exhibitors at the latest edition. From the 5,600 sq mt exhibition space in 2016, HIFF has now grown to an impressive 15,000 sq mt across three halls.

This year, the event recorded a historic attendance of over 18,000 visitors and witnessed the unveiling of nearly 500 new furniture products. The participants involved a wide range of businesses, including furniture manufacturers, kitchen cabinet producers, timber traders, hardware manufacturers and suppliers, fittings, tools, and accessories manufacturers and suppliers, plywood and veneer producers, furniture export-importers, wood-based panels manufacturers and suppliers, woodworking machinery manufacturers and dealers, and manufacturers and suppliers of adhesives, chemicals, and wood coatings for furniture production.

An Ideal Business Platform

The event has proven itself to be an ideal platform for forging and strengthening business bonds, staying connected with old customers and getting introduced to new ones, exploring the latest industry trends, gauging competitors, and achieving international recognition for products.

HIFF 2023, sponsored by Positive Chip Boards India Pvt Ltd and powered by Zamoria, received support from co-sponsors like Evergreen, Woodport, Homepac, Basari, and Chakra. Numerous renowned and emerging furniture brands from India participated in this exhibition.

HIFF has been successful in helping the South Indian Furniture industry garner the acknowledgment it truly deserves. The overwhelming response has spurred the Directors to begin working toward the next edition of the event, the dates of which have been finalized as September 21-23, 2024, at the Codissia Trade Center in Coimbatore. ///

The event has proven itself to be an ideal platform for forging and strengthening business bonds, staying connected with old customers and getting introduced to new ones, exploring the latest industry trends, gauging competitors, and achieving international recognition for products.



Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@

magicwandmedia.in

ILLUMINATING PROGRESS IN FIRE SAFETY

The 17th edition of the IFE (India) International Conference & Exhibition, 'Fire India 2023', illuminated Mumbai's Bombay Exhibition Center from October 5-7, 2023. This pinnacle event, organized by the Institution of Fire Engineers (India), was a fervent gathering dedicated to fostering discussions and advancements in Fire, Safety, Disaster Management, and UAV Industry.



All image source: Institution of Fire Engineers

Burning with purpose, fueling conversations, and forging connections, Fire India 2023 was a dynamic platform designed to elevate discussions around fire, safety, and disaster management. The Institution of Fire Engineers (India) organized this conference to promote comprehensive knowledge in fire engineering. Taj Hasan, IPS, DG Fire Services, Civil Defence, Government

of India, inaugurated the event, setting the tone for discussions on fire services, civil defense, and safety. SafetyEx Exhibition, Drone Expo 2023, and Disaster Response & Management Exhibition and Conference were the associated events.

Global Convergence

With over 150 exhibitors showcasing the latest advancements in the sector, attendees witnessed firsthand the evolution of technologies designed to tackle emerging challenges. The event wasn't confined to national boundaries and welcomed representatives from 15 countries, enriching discussions with a global perspective. More than 15,000



With attendees surpassing 15,000 from 15 nations, Fire India 2023, illuminated discussions with 150+ global exhibitors. Furthermore, the Innovation Awards honored pioneers, recognizing brilliance. Anticipate the next edition on September 26-28, 2024, at Yashobhoomi, India International Convention & Expo Centre, Dwarka, New Delhi.

visitors, ranging from seasoned safety professionals to corporate representatives, flocked to Fire India 2023. This record-breaking attendance underscored the growing significance of fire safety in India and the collective responsibility towards a safer future.

Honoring Pioneers of Fire Safety

Recognizing outstanding contributions in seven categories, Fire India Innovation Awards celebrated brilliance in areas such as Active and Passive Fire Protection, Brand Excellence in 'Make in India', and more. With 45 nominations, the 4th edition of

the awards showcased cutting-edge advancements. Winners included INOV - Instituto de Engenharia de Sistemas e Computadores, Resguardo Industries, Ambtronics Engineers, Reactra Engineering, and many more, spotlighting excellence in fire safety and civil defense.

Next Show Dates

As the curtains fell on Fire India 2023, the embers of anticipation were already smoldering for the next edition. Set to take place from September 26-28, 2024, at Yashobhoomi, India International Convention & Expo Centre in Dwarka, New Delhi, the event promises to be a

continuation of the fire safety saga. **////**



Compiled by
Sovan Tudu
Senior Sub-Editor
Magic Wand Media
sovan.tudu@magicwandmedia.in

SHAPING TOMORROW'S PHARMA LANDSCAPE



All image source: Informa Markets in India

The 16th CPHI and PMEC India took place from November 28-30, 2023, at the India Expo Centre in Greater Noida, with the world's strongest pharmaceutical heartbeat louder than ever. This largest edition resonated and made a huge medical impact, showing that the industry's sustainability, innovativeness, and cooperation may positively impact global pharmaceutical business.

The sheer scale of CPHI & PMEC India 2023 was nothing short of staggering. More than 50,000 international visitors coming from various parts of the drug and pharma industry assembled, creating an atmosphere teeming with intellectual exchange and networking opportunities. Over 1,500 exhibitors presented over 10,000 products developed by various sectors within the pharmaceutical ecosystem. This event attracted delegates from over 80 countries, thereby demonstrating a world-class showcase of what's new in the pharmaceutical industry that promotes a culture of innovation, collaboration, and creativity.

Fostering a Transformative Ecosystem

Themed 'Integrate Innovation, Sustainability, and Growth', CPHI & PMEC India 2023 embraced the evolving landscape of the Indian pharmaceutical sector through transformative dialogue, shaping the trajectory of the industry. The dialogues initiated within the expansive halls of the expo mirrored the broader transition of the Indian pharmaceutical landscape from a generics-oriented hub to an innovation-driven economy.

In this respect, the expo offered unique grounds for comprehensive consultations on diverse aspects with regard to the pharma sector. The conversations revolved around topics such as pharma machinery, packaging, analytical instruments, lab technology, equipment, ancillaries, and ingredients in order to create a transformative ecosystem. This strategic alignment was evident not only in the products and services showcased but also in the accompanying events that further enriched the intellectual landscape.

Global Showcase and Strong Backing

CPHI & PMEC India 2023 were part of the fourth edition of the Festivity of Business campaign organized by Informa Market India. This was marked as a high season of economic celebration that covered more than 40 events, comprising ten signature exposes, conferences, industry awards, buyer-seller meets, and training programs. This panoramic outlook uplifts India with its financial vitality and position as an international player within the pharmaceutical domain.

Well-known firms in the pharmaceutical industry like Dr. Reddy's Laboratories Ltd, Biocon Ltd, Glenmark Lifesciences Ltd, Piramal Pharma Solutions, Hetero Labs Ltd, ACG, IMA Industria Macchine Automatiche SPA, Fette Compacting Machinery India Pvt Ltd, Supriya Lifescience Ltd, and Ace Technologies & Packaging Systems Pvt Ltd, among others, stood shoulder to shoulder, emphasizing the expo's global significance.

Industry associations such as Bulk Drug Manufacturing Association (BDMA), Federation of Pharma Entrepreneurs (FOPE), Karnataka Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Manufacturers' Association (KDPMA), Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI), and PharmExcil provided comprehensive support, reinforcing the expo's role in boosting and facilitating the pharmaceutical sector.

Optimism and Vision

The grand inauguration ceremony saw the presence of key dignitaries such as Dr Veeramani SV, Vice-Chairman PHARMEXCIL; Harish Jain, President, FOPE; Raja Bhanu, Executive Director, PHARMEXCIL; Margaret Ma, President & CEO - Informa Markets Asia; Chris Eve, Executive Vice President - Informa Markets Asia; Adam Anderson, Executive Vice President - Pharma, Informa Markets; Yogesh Mudras, Managing Director, Informa Markets in India; Rahul Deshpande, Senior Group Director, Informa Markets in India; and Ranjith Paul, Group Director, Informa Markets in India.

Dr Veeramani highlighted the robust growth of the Indian pharmaceutical industry and offered perspectives on how the industry was growing, noting an 8 percent year-to-date increase in exports and a whopping 29 percent surge in October alone. Driven by expanding market opportunities and heightened demand in the US, the industry is on track to reach the US\$ 130 billion mark by 2030.

Anil Matai, Director General, OPPI, provided a forward-looking stance, emphasizing the industry's vision for India in 2047. Aligned with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's concept of Amrit Kal, the industry anticipates sustained growth, exceeding the projected US\$ 130 billion mark. He emphasized the importance of revamping regulations aimed at fostering market growth, addressing patients' requirements, and enabling technological disruption.

Similarly, Mudras also projected positivity regarding the competency of the Indian drug and pharma manufacturing industry. He highlighted India's formidable 20 percent contribution to global exports, achieving a remarkable US\$ 25.3 billion in the 2022-2023 fiscal year. Through solid R&D investments, India can become an important player in advancing global healthcare advancements.

Eshwar Reddy, Executive Director, BDMA, emphasized that in the 2023 CPHI Pharma Index, India recorded one of its high scores (7.187). This further highlights the industry's quest for innovation and self-reliance, making these occasions central points to showcase advancements, foster collaborations, and drive growth.

The largest ever edition of CPHI & PMEC India 2023 attracted not less than 50,000 visitors, 1,500 exhibitors, and participants from around 80 countries. The scale was unmatched, and it demonstrated the global character of the industry, whereby intellectual interaction and innovations took place.

Paving the Way for the Future

The pharmaceutical industry has witnessed an evolutionary paradigm following COVID, with a strong partnership between the government and the industrial sector. This collaborative spirit throws a good light on technology firms that have unique platforms and service capabilities. These companies have launched cutting-edge technologies such as wearables, sensors, radio-frequency identification, remote monitoring systems, generative artificial intelligence (AI), and Business Processes as a Service (BPaaS) models, operating at the crossroads of innovation and necessity.

For the future, the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (API) Market in India will see huge gains estimated at US\$ 29 billion, or INR 2.4 lakh crore, by 2030 at a CAGR of 8.31 percent. The implementation of the PLI scheme, which promotes domestic production of APIs, Key Starting Materials (KSMs), and Drug Intermediates, increases the success of this optimistic trajectory. It strengthens India's critical position as a leading drug-producing country on the world stage.

Collaborations & Innovations

Industry leaders like Sanjeev Jain, Founder, Akums Drugs & Pharmaceuticals Ltd and Karan Singh, Managing Director, ACG, shared their



success stories. Jain stressed the fact that CPHI is an excellent platform for companies to network and connect with other customers' markets, whereas Singh expressed excitement about unveiling the AF330 at the expo, a revolutionary step in capsule filling capability.

Jain shared insights into the significance of CPHI India in connecting with a diverse customer base. Despite the limited significance of the rare disease industry, he emphasized the government's pivotal role, particularly in rural areas. Offering products to the government at a fraction of the market rate is crucial for broader accessibility. Jain's optimism was evident as he outlined a goal of surpassing 4,000 visits in a day, reflecting a minimum 15 percent year-on-year growth trajectory.

Singh expressed enthusiasm about displaying their AF330, a revolutionary step in capsule filling capability, at CPHI PMEC. This innovative capsule-filling technology promises efficiency, minimal maintenance, and speed, setting a new bar in manufacturing excellence. Singh's anticipation for showcasing the AF330 over the next few days echoed the spirit of innovation permeating the expo.

A Vision for the Future

The three-day-long CPHI & PMEC India 2023 was by no means just an event but, more importantly, a dynamic platform that will reshape the future landscape of the pharma sector. This grand event embodies an interdependent effort by blending the expertise of both the public and private sectors to promote partnerships, highlight innovations, and lead progress.

This 16th edition was an exceptional occasion, and it gave a new look to the world pharmaceutical sector. It stands as a testament and has been characterized by unwavering optimism, visionary leadership, and exhibiting new-age innovations as an indication of resilience, adaptability, and collaboration in the pharmaceutical industry. With the closing of the curtains and a promising conclusion, the dialogues, collaborations, and innovations's boisterous voices will reverberate, setting the stage for a future of Indian Pharma excellence and leadership in the global arena. **////**

Themed 'Integrate Innovation, Sustainability, and Growth', this expo provided extensive consultations that marked a big step change in India from generic industry into an innovation-driven economy. However, the dialogues highlighted different elements which transformed the ecosystem of the market and mirrored the evolution of the sector.



Compiled by
Sovan Tudu
Senior Sub-Editor
Magic Wand Media
sovan.tudu@magicwandmedia.in



All image source: Radeecal Communications

SHOWCASING TEXTILES OF THE TIMES

The 9th edition of Non Woven Tech Asia, an exclusive international exhibition focusing on nonwoven & hygiene technology, successfully ran from September 26-28, 2023, at Pragati Maidan, Delhi, attracting a staggering number of visitors from India and overseas.

Organized by Radeecal Communications, Non Woven Tech Asia 2023 proved itself to be an exceptional platform for exhibitors in the Nonwoven & Hygiene Technology sector to present their innovations in products and services on a global

scale. The event drew an impressive crowd of over 12,872 visitors from India and abroad to leverage the opportunity of experiencing the latest technology



Non Woven Tech Asia 2023 met its goal of uniting the stakeholders of the Nonwoven industry in a single forum. It succeeded in its attempt to facilitate the exchange of information and expertise, helping participants gain insights into both current and future market dynamics and address pertinent issues to arrive at solutions that will ultimately enhance the industry as a whole.

and materials first-hand in live demos, which turned out to be one of the major attractions of the event.

Prominent people from the industry graced the inaugural occasion including Abhinav Kansal, Managing Director, Rajshree Fabrics; Anshumali Jain, Managing Partner, Texbond Nonwoven; Ramesh Kumar from RS Polymer India; PC Jain, President, AMAN; and Sanyal Desai, CEO, Radeecal Communications, along with other dignitaries.

The dynamic event, centered around Nonwoven & Hygiene Technology, provided an excellent opportunity for participants in various industries, including Nonwoven Medical and Hygiene, Nonwoven Converting, Filtration, Packaging, Agriculture, Hospitality, Printing, and Government Departments, as well as anyone interested in advancing their knowledge and expertise in Nonwoven technology.

Figures that speak of success

The event witnessed participation from over 100 companies representing three countries and 12,872 visitors hailing from five countries. The visitors belonged to industries including Nonwoven, Filtration & Separation, Packaging, Hygiene & Sanitary and comprised

of manufacturers, dealers and distributors. Among the Indian states, Delhi stood first with the highest (40%) number of visitors.

Supported by Non Woven Federation of India (NWFII), Indian Technical Textile Association (ITTA), Indinon Manufacturer Association of Nonwovens, the event was sponsored by Rajshree Fabrics, Vimal Industries, and spunweb.

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The subsequent edition of Non Woven Tech Asia has already been scheduled to happen at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai, on August 22-24, 2024, and is poised to exceed this edition's success. **////**



Compiled by
Poonam Pednekar
Associate Editor
Magic Wand Media
poonam.pednekar@magicwandmedia.in



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**FME Media Pvt Ltd -
Future Market Events**
Siddharth Narain
Director
siddharth@futuremarketevents.com
www.futuremarketevents.com

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Sachin Patil
Managing Director
Sachin.patil@messe-stuttgart.com
www.messe-stuttgart.in

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Knack Exhibitions & Events
Ketki Joshi
Founder
knackketki@gmail.com
www.knackexb.com



Khify Pvt Ltd
Ashish Mishra
Managing Director
contact@exhime.com
www.exhime.com



Digital Hub India
Vaibhav Mittal
Founder & CEO
contact@digitalhubindia.in
www.digitalhubindia.in



Reidius Exhibits Pvt Ltd
Chandan Kumar
Director
bharti@reidiusexhibits.com
www.reidiusexhibits.com



Executive Events
Raju Kannampuzha
Managing Director
info@executiveevents.in
www.executiveevents.in



VR4U Solutions Pvt Ltd
Sudip Sinha
Director
sudipsinha@vr4usolutions.in



Prozett EPC Networks Pvt Ltd
Tarun Sharma
Director Sales
tarun@prozett.com
www.prozett.com



MakNay Events
Lalita Anand
Proprietor
maknayevents@gmail.com
www.maknayevents.in



Digital ID Card Systems
L Venkateswarlu Reddy
Proprietor
lvreddy70@gmail.com

IEIA Auxiliary Members

Shagun Sethi
Senior MICE Professional
shagunsethi@gmail.com

Rajesh Charanda
Senior MICE Professional
rajeshcharanda@gmail.com



Thursday, Friday & Saturday
18th, 19th & 20 January 2024

Royal Orchid Sheraton,
Bangkok

**Maize & Millet
Summit 2024**

MAIZE & MILLET SUMMIT

Friday, 2nd February, 2024

The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi



GUAR INTERNATIONAL

Friday 1st March, 2024

Jaipur Marriott Hotel



GLOBOIL INTERNATIONAL

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
6th, 7th & 8th May, 2024

Hyatt Regency, Dubai



Funding the Future of Agriculture

Tuesday & Wednesday
7th & 8th May, 2024

Hyatt Regency, Dubai



**KHANDALA
KONNECT 2024**

Networking Excellence Amidst Nature's Canvas
2024 Theme : Navigating the Commodity Currents:
Unpacking Challenges in Indian Commodity Trade

Friday & Saturday
5th & 6th July 2024

Khandala



Canvas of Dreams

A Festival Celebrating the Splendors of Entertainment, Media, Fashion, Sports & Technology

Friday, Saturday & Sunday
5th, 6th & 7th July 2024

Khandala



Encompassing Ethanol & Alcobev Industry

Friday & Saturday,
2nd & 3rd August, 2024

Sheraton Grand Pune
Pune



GLOBAL TURMERIC CONFERENCE 2024

Friday 30th August, 2024

The Westin Hyderabad Mindspace
Hyderabad



GLOBAL GRAIN FOOD & FEED 2024

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
18th, 19th & 20th September, 2024

The Westin Mumbai Powai Lake
Mumbai

**GLOBOIL
INDIA 2024**

Wednesday, Thursday & Friday
18th, 19th & 20th September, 2024

The Westin Mumbai Powai Lake
Mumbai



Funding the Future of Agriculture

Friday, 20th September, 2024

The Westin Mumbai Powai Lake
Mumbai



Riding the Crest of AI, Blockchain, Cybersecurity,
Autonomous Systems, NFTs, the Metaverse &
Web 3.0 Innovations

Friday & Saturday
20th & 21st September 2024

The Westin Mumbai Powai Lake
Mumbai

THINK WOMAN IS POWER
Celebrating the Power of Women

Saturday 21st September 2024

The Westin Mumbai Powai Lake
Mumbai

THINK MAHARASHTRA
BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Saturday 21st September 2024

The Westin Mumbai Powai Lake
Mumbai



Trade, Technology & Packaging Expo

Wednesday & Thursday
4th & 5th December 2024

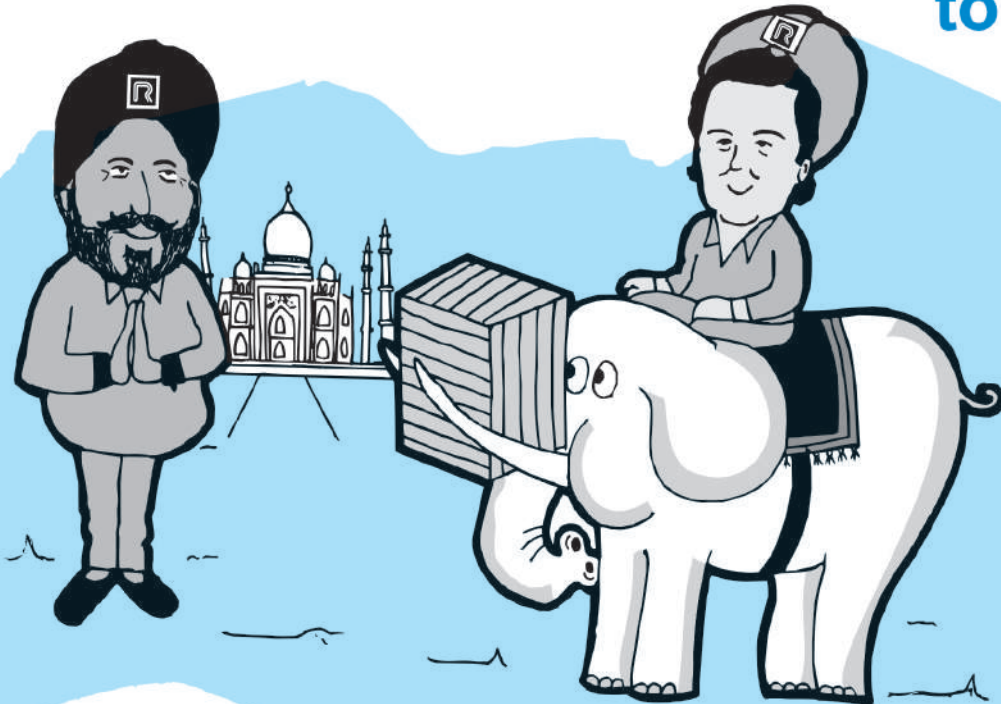
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R.E. Rogers India was incorporated in 1986 with a vision of handling exhibition cargo in India and abroad.

Since inception, we are the market leaders in this growing and complex industry-providing services to organizers, venues, governments, trade associations, exhibitors and event managers globally. In recent years, we have also expanded into areas as defence, free trade zone services, special import/export projects, sports and entertainment events.

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Head Office :

1, Commercial Complex, Pocket H & J, Sarita Vihar, New Delhi-110076 (India)

Tel: 91-11-2694 9801/9802; Fax: 91-11-2694 9803

Mail: rerid@rogersworldwideindia.com; Web: www.rogersworldwideindia.com

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