

ExhiBits

INDIAN EXHIBITION INDUSTRY COMMUNIQUE


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THIS IS THE **TIME!**

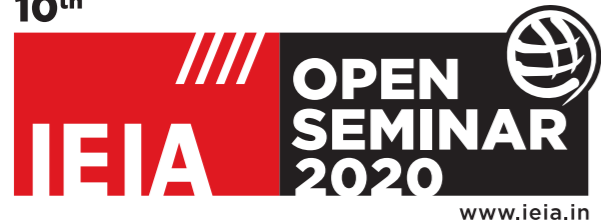


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PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE



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Dear Friends,

It has been a wonderfully busy period for the Indian Exhibition industry, with things getting back on track. Physical exhibitions have begun at full throttle and are garnering an unprecedented and overwhelming response. Travel restrictions have been eased, and there is an uptick in the number of foreign trade fair participants. The industry is now focused on making every event count, having encountered turbulent times and emerging stronger than ever. It makes me immensely proud to be part of a community that stayed admirably unfazed through its lowest phase, stepped up to the challenge of adapting to the changes required to stay afloat, and demonstrated impressive grit.

Our industry has been a significant contributor to the nation's economy, which is now performing well. The overall mood is buoyant, spelling opportunities for business horizons to expand. The country is already emerging as a manufacturing hub. The need is to capture the global markets and work toward achieving lofty goals in other sectors as well. This calls for the industry fraternity to come together to share their perspectives and propose new ideas.

We also must celebrate the good times and our resilient spirit. Let's make it a wholesome affair at the upcoming IEIA Open Seminar, Indian Exhibition Industry Association's

Let's make it a wholesome affair at the upcoming IEIA Open Seminar, Indian Exhibition Industry Association's annual flagship international conclave, which is being held at Jio World Convention Center in Mumbai on December 15-17, 2022.

annual flagship international conclave, which is being held at Jio World Convention Center in Mumbai on December 15-17, 2022. The event has been an ideal platform for the Indian Exhibition industry to gather with its members, associates, and international delegates to deliberate on the happenings in the industry, build on business, and network.

In our endeavor to help our community chase its goals and excel, we are also organizing two consecutive Indian Exhibition Industry Leaders' CONNECT—Regional Networking Events in Chennai and Ahmedabad. The events are attended by the stakeholders at decision-maker levels, thus facilitating meaningful networking and knowledge-sharing platforms for our members.

We at IEIA urge our Indian exhibition community to come forward and partake in the events mentioned above. Your presence is of utmost importance to us and will lead to the growth path we have envisioned for all.

Warm regards,

Sonia Prashar
President
Indian Exhibition Industry Association



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Being At the Right Place, At the Right Time

According to EEPC India, the Indian Exhibition industry has grown at a rate of 8-10 percent annually over the last decade. It continues to play a significant role in providing solutions to the country's industrial, technological, and consumer markets.

That the Exhibition and Event industry is a key facilitator to a strong economy is a well-established fact. The Government recognizes the industry as a significant contributor to the country's economic growth and extends support to the Indian exhibition organizers and larger-than-life conventions that impact the growth story.

Trade Shows create a plethora of opportunities for the entire business value chain, from manufacturers, suppliers, retailers, traders, and so on. The success of an exhibition largely depends on its industry sector focus and technology.

We are seeing more niche industry-specific shows gaining traction in the country, with geo-cloning making inroads into the Indian Exhibition industry. Myriad geo-cloned international events and exhibitions have arrived in our stomping ground.

Though these shows are slated to bring in assured footfall because of their global brand reputation, without local partners' cooperation and support, the expected scale of success may not be achieved.

Today, the texture of the thriving Indian Exhibition industry is global, assimilating events and shows from various parts of the world. The country's apex exhibition body—Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA) plays a crucial role in empowering people to create new opportunities for themselves and their peers.

Its much-awaited yearly conglomeration—IEIA Open Seminar 2022, laced with the 'Focus India: The Cynosure of the Global Exhibition Industry theme', will once again serve as a platform for knowledge sharing, collaborations, networking, and building relationships that can last forever.

We are glad to bring forth the views of industry heavyweights on the current Indian Exhibition sector and the undeniable significance of IEIA Open Seminar in this present ExhiBits issue.

Without much ado, we join the exhibition fraternity in the countdown to see you from December 15-17, 2022, at Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai.

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

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EXHIBITIONS

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SPECIAL EVENTS

PLANNING A BETTER FUTURE

At the 2021-2023 Annual General Meeting (AGM) of Indian Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA), Sonia Prashar, President, and Sooraj Dhawan, Honorary Secretary, addressed the IEIA membership and provided an overview of the association's efforts to promote India as a premier location for trade shows and other types of exhibitions.



All image source: IEIA

The Exhibition sector is predicted to return to pre-pandemic levels by 2024. However, due to the rush and demand, some expect figures to revert to pre-pandemic levels by 2023. India has experienced one of the most spectacular increases in productivity, highlighting the huge potential opportunities inherent in the country's Exhibition sector market.

IEIA's Executive Committee assumed command as the third wave of the pandemic approached. Taking note of the issue, the Association took the first necessary steps to reach out to key Ministries and Government stakeholders across several regions in order to enable an early restart of the Exhibitions sector. After a lengthy time of obstacles and struggles, the Association has taken encouraging steps toward recovery and general economic growth after one year of the EC's mandate.

Making It Through Rough Seas

Privileged to serve the association, Prashar said, "As we complete one year of the tenure of the Executive Committee for 2021-23, I'm

delighted to see the Indian Exhibition Industry take positive strides towards recovery and overall business growth after a long period of challenges. As part of the vision of this EC, we took many important decisions and initiatives aimed at positioning India as the preferred Exhibitions destination."

Similarly, Dhawan stated, "Ever since the beginning of the tenure of this EC, the Association has been pro-actively engaging with the Government stakeholders at central and regional levels, and we have successfully been able to establish strong connections with the policymakers in different departments."

On the Road to Success

"In order to provide meaningful networking opportunities to the members of our association, we announced the calendar of Connect events to be held across various regions," he added. "The successfully-held three IEIA Connect events, one edition of Women Leadership Program, and Pilot Project of Skills Training Program were well received by one and all, while there's more on the agenda for the upcoming months of the calendar year."

Embracing one of the Association's main vision points of bringing in more inclusivity in terms of driving its initiatives, Prashar revealed, "Well supported by the esteemed Members of the Executive Committee, we have activated a total of six Sub-Committees, Taskforces, and Focus Groups on thoughtfully identified key areas, including Skilling, Sustainability, Membership, Marketing, and Women in Leadership, to ensure holistic growth of our sector and the membership."

A Strategy Backed Up by Action

"As we move forward, we plan to launch three more such sub-groups on the topics of 'Codes & Ethics', 'Sports', and 'Fantastic Under 40s'," Prashar continued. Speaking on the advocacy front, she stressed, "The Association has been working hard to achieve higher recognition for the Indian Exhibition industry, and we are proud to share a breakthrough development on this front as IEIA gets a seat on the prestigious India MICE Board formed by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India."

Initiatives and Activities Undertaken

- IEIA Becomes Member of the India MICE Board set up by Ministry of Tourism, Govt of India
August 24, 2022
- WeConnect WeRise Women Leadership program, New Delhi
August 17, 2022
- First Meeting of the Exhibitions Marketing Taskforce Formed by IEIA
July 15, 2022
- IEIA Leaders' Connect, New Delhi, Co-hosted with India Expo Shop by IESA
June 24, 2022
- IEIA Launched the Pilot Project of the Skills Training and Certification Program
June 4, 2022
- Celebrated Global Exhibitions Day at India Expo Centre
June 1, 2022
- IEIA has Pioneered the Task of Developing Standards for the Indian Exhibition Industry
May 6, 2022
- Exhibition Industry Advocacy: Positive outcomes of IEIA's representations to Govt of Maharashtra
April 13, 2022
- IEIA Participation at ISO Working Group for Revision of Exhibition Industry Standards
March 30, 2022
- Indian Exhibition Industry Visit to Expo 2020 Dubai
March 01-04, 2022
- Consultative Meet Organized by ITPO
February 28, 2022
- Exhibition Industry Advocacy: Focus-Mumbai, Maharashtra
February 25, 2022
- Meeting with MSME Ministry
February 7, 2022

Dhawan also mentioned the Association's ongoing work on several national and international initiatives. "An important development is on the front of the standards development for 'Organisation of



Noteworthy Mentions

- Advocacy Representations to Ministry of MSME, Govt of India
- Indian Exhibition Industry Leaders' Connect at CIDCO Exhibitions & Convention Centre, Navi Mumbai
- Inauguration of IEIA's New Secretariat Premises and Members' Connect
- IEIA President Felicitated for Exemplary Leadership Across Global Exhibition Industry at the Exhibitions Excellence Awards
- IEIA Receives Award at MICE Conference, Expo & Awards for Exemplary Service to the Industry during COVID-19.

milestones for our Association and the industry at large. We hope to be able to live up to the expectations of the membership, and with the collective efforts of our fellow members of the Executive Committee, we shall endeavor to ensure higher recognition of our sector across all platforms."

"The future outlook for our industry looks promising and bright," concluded Dhawan. "We look forward to serving the membership with the best of our efforts in the spirit of one industry, one voice." //



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Exhibitions' spearheaded by IEIA in association with the Bureau of Indian Standards," he remarked. "IEIA has achieved great progress in this initiative, and the first indigenous standards for the Exhibitions sector in India will be launched at the upcoming IEIA Open Seminar 2022."

Along similar lines, Prashar said, "We are also working with the Ministry of Commerce and Ministry of MSME to achieve new



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Mumbai to Host MET and HTS 2022



MET 2022 (Materials, Engineering, Technology) & HTS (Heat Treatment) 2022, two synergic international exhibitions & conferences, will be held on November 2-4, 2022, at Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai.

MET is a niche and most comprehensive event on Advance Materials & Processes across the manufacturing value chain of Defence, Transport, and Energy Sectors. HTS is India's largest and leading exhibition on heat treatment.

The key highlights of the events include Reverse Buyer Seller Meet (RBSM) by EEPC; International Conferences on 'Advances in Materials Engineering Technology' and 'Advances in Heat Treatment'; Innovation Pavilion for Engineering Students Programs and Startups (Powered by Minex); and a Round Table Session on the Defence Equipment Acquisition by Defence Ministry and SIDM.

The event is expected to have 300 stalls, 500 delegates, over 100 technical papers, and 10,000 visitors from over 10 countries.

Organized by ASM International India Chapter, a premier professional Society of Metallurgists, Material Scientists and Technologists; and TAFCON, a professionally managed company in organizing international B2B trade shows and exhibitions, MET and HTS are considered prestigious biennial international events of the sectors in India and are supported and participated by several Ministries/Departments of the Government of India, State Governments, PSUs, Corporates, SMEs, Foreign Chambers, Associations from India and Overseas.

Milipol Comes to India

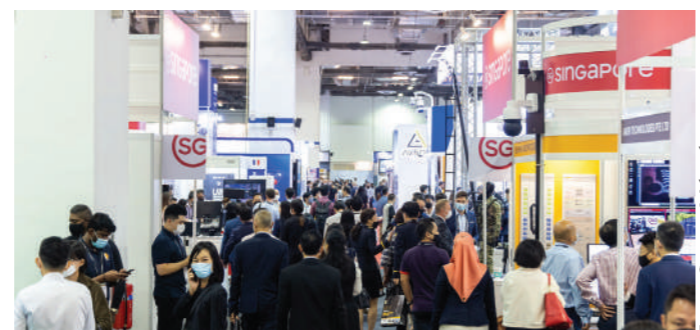
Milipol India, the latest addition to the Milipol International Network of events dedicated to internal security for Indo-Pacific, will be held in New Delhi from October 26-28, 2023.

Placed under the patronage of the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India, along with the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India, and the French Minister of the Interior, the event is organized by Interads Exhibition and Comexposium, acting on behalf of the Milipol headed by Civipol, the cooperation implementer of the French Ministry of the Interior.

"For over 30 years, the Milipol brand has been synonymous with high-quality, international events covering the field of internal security. Over the years, the brand has been proudly represented by Milipol Paris, Milipol Qatar, Milipol Asia-Pacific, and now Milipol India," said Jounot, President, Milipol Network.

Milipol India will support, facilitate, and attract world leaders to invest in India, where size and volume call for the most innovative security solutions.

Milipol India will be convening Government's decision-makers, operational end-users, and worldwide industry leaders to meet, network, and learn from each other under one roof.



IBEX India Begins on January 19, 2023, in Mumbai

The 10th edition of IBEX India, the country's most comprehensive BFSI and Fintech trade fair and conference, is scheduled for January 19-21, 2023, at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai, India. The fair establishes a foothold among the premier players of the Indian banking and financial ecosystem by focusing on bridging the gap between the BFSI and Fintech

sectors. IBEX India provides a definitive platform that offers the ideal opportunity for collaborations, convergence, and integration, as well as the opportunity to network with hundreds of financial experts and industry leaders seeking emerging technology, products, and services. IBEX India has the support of the BFSI and its advisory committee, as well as all the major public and private sector banks.

Much-awaited Machine Tool Show IMTEX Returns

Organized by Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA), IMTEX is back after a gap of four years. The highly anticipated machine tool show will be held at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru, from January 19-25, 2023. Tooltech and Digital Manufacturing 2023 will be held as concurrent shows.

Ranked among the world's top ten shows in manufacturing, the upcoming edition of the expo will host over 750 exhibitors from over 20 countries in an exhibit space of 70,000 sq mt. It will showcase new advances, including multi-tasking machining centers, tools, accessories, robots, cobots, manufacturing software, 3D printing solutions, evolving Industry 4.0 concepts, and many more.

IMTEX, Tooltech & Digital Manufacturing 2023 will have features such as seminars on digital manufacturing

and additive manufacturing, international buyer-seller meets, and a pavilion for academic institutions to showcase their R&D to industries.

OEMs, suppliers, manufacturers, sourcing agents, investors, researchers, academia, and students, among others, will be at the show to explore their requirements.



World Furniture Expo to Display Innovations



World Furniture Expo (WOFX), organized by Worldex India Exhibition & Promotion, at the Bombay Exhibition Center, Goregaon East, Mumbai, from November 17-19, 2022, will be an opportunity for the Furniture industry to get more organized and scale up its business operations.

Furniture and décor brands from various parts of the world, such as Italy, Turkey, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Bangladesh, and India, will be displayed at the event.

WOFX is supported by the Ministry of MSME and several other key industry trade bodies such as Uttar Pradesh Export Promotion Council (UPEPC), Retailers Association of India (RAI), Builders' Association of India (BAI), Institute of Indian Interior Designers (IIID), The Federation of Hotel & Restaurant Association of India (FHRAI), etc. to name a few.

CII Chandigarh Fair Celebrates Silver Jubilee

After a long COVID-induced gap, the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) held the CII Chandigarh Fair 2022 from October 14-17 in Chandigarh. The trade fair celebrated its silver jubilee edition and witnessed the participation of 281 exhibitors from 40 cities across India.

Shri Banwarilal Purohit, Governor, Government of Punjab, inaugurated the trade fair that featured 10 concurrent expos, including Home Decor, Realcon (Real Estate), Haute Couture, Persona, Kitchen Central, and International Arcade.

Visitors at the show had various options to choose from the craftsmanship of several state artists from Karnataka, Jammu and Kashmir, West Bengal, and Uttarakhand. A special display of onyx decorations was a significant attraction. Sourced from Afghanistan, each piece was carved from one single block of onyx stone.



ITME 2022 to Take Place in Greater Noida

India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions Society (India ITME Society) will organize the 11th edition of India International Textile Machinery Exhibition - India (ITME 2022) at India Expo Mart Ltd (IEML) in Greater Noida from December 8-13, 2022.

According to Ketan Sanghvi, Treasurer, India International Textile Machinery Exhibitions Society, the show is slated to be the first large-scale exhibition of its kind of textile machinery in the post-pandemic period in India. Over 1,100 exhibitors from various countries will be showcasing hi-tech textile machinery, innovative services, and technologies.

Eminent speakers from reputed institutions will spotlight the latest trends and innovations in the Textile sector. Various awards will be given at the show to acknowledge the contribution of people working to promote the Indian Textile sector.



Image Source: MWM

World of Concrete India 2022 Takes Concrete Steps



Image Source: MWM

Informa Markets in India organized the 8th edition of World of Concrete India from October 13-15, 2022, at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. The exhibition brought together 150 exhibitors and 7,000 visitors from various parts of the globe under one roof.

It was a one-of-its-kind opportunity for industry stakeholders to discuss and explore more in the concrete, construction, and infrastructure domain, including technological developments and emerging trends.

According to NITI Aayog, the Indian Real Estate sector is doing well and will likely reach US\$1 trillion by 2030. The construction output of India is expected to reach around ₹60,500 billion by 2026. The Government's Smart City Mission will improve the quality of life through modern tech-driven urban planning, leading to the Construction industry deploying digital technologies to boost productivity and remain competitive.

An exhibition such as World of Concrete India is crucial as it provides industry stakeholders with a way to engage and connect to gain more insight into the industry's best practices and find strategies to develop.

Taiwan Expo 2022 Offers New Avenues

The sixth edition of Taiwan Expo in India, organized by Taiwan External Trade Development Council (TAITRA), at World Trade Centre, Mumbai from September 28-30, 2022, served as a perfect platform for Taiwanese companies to make inroads into the Indian market. Themed 'Together Towards Tomorrow', the Taiwan Expo 2022 featured 26 iconic brands, showcasing 52 latest products for the Indian market, and attracting 500 Indian businesses with more than 500 B2B

online meetings. Exhibitors unveiled their latest offerings in manufacturing, ICT, transportation, healthcare, lifestyle, beauty and skin care, agriculture, etc. The expo is expected to further cement Indo-Taiwan ties in the coming future.



Image Source: MWM

India Expo Centre & Mart Gets National Tourism Award

In a 'National Tourism Awards 2022' ceremony held recently at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, India Expo Centre & Mart got the prestigious National Tourism Award 2018-19 for the 'Best Standalone Convention Center'.

India Expo Centre & Mart is one of India's largest integrated venue providers, offering technology-driven, world-class facilities and safety standards suitable for hosting international business-to-business exhibitions, conferences, congresses, product launches, and promotional events, amongst others.

The ceremony was held in the presence of H.E. Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar, Vice-President of India; Shri G Krishna Reddy, Hon'ble Minister of Tourism, Culture and Development of North Eastern Region of India, Govt of India; Shri Ajay Bhatt, Hon'ble Minister of State for Tourism, Govt of India; and Shri Arvind Singh, IAS, Secretary (Tourism), Govt of India along with other dignitaries. The award was received by Shri Rakesh Kumar, Chairman, India Exposition Mart Ltd and Shri Sudeep Sarcar, CEO, India Exposition Mart Ltd.



Image Source: IEML

Third Edition of Cosmoprof India Concludes Successfully

The third edition of Cosmoprof India, organized by BolognaFiere Group and Informa Markets in India, had a successful run from October 6-8, 2022, at Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. The B2B event witnessed exhibitors showcasing products for the fast-evolving beauty market in India.

India 2022, which for the first time was held with Cosmopack India, had new launches and avant-garde innovations presented by both finished product brands and companies in the supply chain. The synergy between the two would further the development of new projects keeping in view the prevailing trends and consumer habits."

Indian and foreign players from Europe, Middle East, Far East, and many other regions participated in the latest edition of the show. Exhibitors from as many as 12 countries showcased innovative and exciting brands in the skincare, wellness, and beauty segments.

Pleased with the response received, Gianpiero Calzolari, President, BolognaFiere Group, said, "Cosmoprof



Image Source: Informa Markets in India

IHGF Delhi Fair Autumn'22 Ends on a High Note

The 54th edition of IHGF Delhi Fair Autumn'22 was organized by the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts from October 14-18, 2022, at India Expo Mart Ltd (IEML) in Greater Noida.

sourcing destination for retailers, importers, wholesalers, and design professionals.

Exhibitors presented a comprehensive collection of home, lifestyle, fashion, textiles, and furniture products for the season, making the show a one-stop

Shri UP Singh, Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, said that it was an excellent platform for the Indian handicrafts community to access the latest international trends, especially for the weavers and artisans who work at the ground level.



ITB Asia Makes a Grand Return

The 15th edition of ITB Asia, Asia's leading travel and trade show organized by Messe Berlin Singapore from October 19-21, 2022 at the Sands Expo and Convention Center, Marina Bay Sands, Singapore, was a grand success. Co-located shows Mice Show Asia and Travel Tech Asia also drew enthusiastic response. More than 27,000 business appointments were recorded at the shows.

ITB Asia cemented its commitment to Asia Pacific by extending its partnership with Singapore Tourism Board to continue anchoring ITB Asia in Singapore. The success of the first face-to-face ITB Asia since the beginning of the pandemic signals the renewed confidence that the industry professionals have in the recovery of the Tourism sector in Singapore and the region.

The next in-person edition of the shows is scheduled to be held from October 25-27, 2023, at the same venue.

iFX EXPO Asia 2022 Features Advances in Fintech

iFX EXPO is the world's first and largest financial B2B exhibition that brings professionals in online trading, financial services, and fintech together from across Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. The latest edition of the show was organized by Ultimate Fintech from September 13-15, 2022, at Centara Grand & Bangkok Convention Centre at CentralWorld in Bangkok.

The show attracted retail and institutional brokers,



technology and liquidity providers, payment service providers, banks, regulators, and compliance, besides crypto and blockchain brands.

iFX EXPO Dubai 2023 is being hailed as the next must-attend event for industry professionals. Over 100 leading brands and more than 3,000 attendees will convene at Dubai World Trade Centre, Za'abeel Hall 6, from January 16-18, 2023, for showcasing their brands and services, creating new business opportunities, and sharing vision for the future of the industry.

Japan Organizes Expo to Revive Tourism

Tokyo Big Sight, the largest exhibitions and events venue in Japan, was buzzing with tourism-related activities recently. Japan Travel and Tourism Association, Japan Association of Travel Agents, and Japan National Tourism Organization, with the support from All Nippon Travel Agents Association organized Tourism Expo Japan 2022 from September 22-25, 2022. The exhibition featured 1,018 companies and organizations from 78 countries and attracted 1,24,074 visitors.

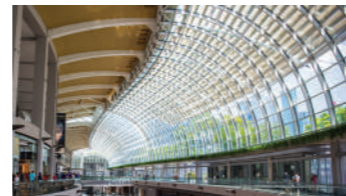


The pandemic affected the livelihoods of people from all parts of the globe and, in particular, Travel, Tourism and Hospitality industries in Japan. Tourism Expo Japan, which was being held after a hiatus of four years in Tokyo, generated fantastic enthusiasm among the Tourism industry stakeholders. Major players from the industry, along with Japanese authorities, set up booths and invited tourists to Japan. Popular tourist destinations like Okinawa, Hokkaido, etc. were showcased and promoted during the expo.

The next edition of the show will be held in Osaka from October 26-29, 2023.

Asia Trade Shows Generate Great Response

In-person Asia trade shows at Tech Week Singapore presented by CloserStill Media from October 12-13, 2022, at Marina Bay Sands, Singapore, garnered an overwhelming response from technology enthusiasts.



Technology leaders and buyers thronged the seven co-located events that included Cloud Expo Asia, DevOps Live, Cyber Security World, Big Data & AI World, Data Centre World Asia, eCommerce Expo Asia, and Technology for Marketing Asia.

Industry professionals and influencers from AWS, Grab, Google Cloud, Huawei, LEGO, Nestlé, Microsoft, Mercedes-Benz Singapore, Standard Chartered, Unilever, and more participated in the shows.

Chi Chuan Poh, Executive Director, Exhibitions & Conference, Singapore Tourism Board, who inaugurated Tech Week Singapore, was 'heartened to see such vibrancy' during the event.

Tech Week Singapore 2023 will be held on October 11-12, 2023, at the same venue.

ProWine Singapore Strengthens its Position

ProWine Singapore 2022, the world's leading wines and spirits trade fair, strengthened its foothold in South East Asia with its fourth edition. The show, a part of the ProWine World Series, jointly organized by Informa Markets and Messe Düsseldorf Asia, featured a wide representation of international wine and spirit labels, an extensive scope of solutions and concepts for the region's diverse consumer markets, as well as specialized masterclasses and seminars by industry speakers.

The show provided an opportune setting to forge new industry networks across the Synergic Wines and Spirits, Food and Hospitality sectors. The next edition of the show will be held from April 25-28, 2023, at Singapore Expo, 1 Expo Drive, Singapore.



MVA Joins Asia Dive Expo 2022

The Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA) offered diving opportunities in The Marianas at Asia Dive Expo (ADEX) 2022 on September 16-18, 2022, in Singapore. ADEX is the largest and longest running dive consumer and trade show in Asia, and dive enthusiasts eagerly participate in the show.

MVA was among the 127 other exhibitors, including fellow Micronesia destination Palau, in meeting consumers, trade reps, and media during the event, which was held at Sands Expo and Convention Center in Singapore.

The event, held at Sands Expo and Convention Center in Singapore, attracted nearly 29,000 visitors, including 17,000 consumers and 10,000 diving trade representatives, besides other guests.



Towards a Smart Clothing Industry

The AME Garment Intelligent Manufacturing Exhibition, jointly sponsored by the National Federation of Industry and Commerce Textile and Garment Chamber of Commerce and Lingshuo Exhibition Group, will be held at the Shanghai National Convention and Exhibition Center from September 13-15, 2022.

The theme of the show is 'making the clothing industry smarter', and it will display smart software, smart manufacturing equipment, smart factories, printing and embroidery equipment, and the latest products and technologies involved in smart clothing manufacturing.

VIFA Expo Stages a Successful Comeback

After a long wait of two years, Vietnam International Furniture & Home Accessories Fair (VIFA Expo) has staged a successful comeback. The expo, held in Ho Chi Minh City, featured 175 exhibitors with 975 booths in a total area of 15,000 sq mt. Among these, there were 34 foreign exhibitors.

VIFA Expo 2022 attracted 11,156 visitors including 4,652 visitors from 89 overseas countries. The next edition is expected to be better and bigger and will be held from March 8-11, 2023, at Saigon Exhibition & Convention Centre, Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam.

SIBS 2022 Connects Industries

The Selangor International Business Summit (SIBS 2022), hosted by the State Government of Selangor and organized by Investor Selangor Berhad from October 6-9, 2022 at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was an apt platform for businesses to connect and exchange knowledge and trade. The event has evolved into one of the main attractions of the year, not just for Selangor, but for Malaysia and the ASEAN region. SIBS 2022 was officiated by Tengku Amir Shah Sultan Sharafuddin Idris Shah Alhaj, the Crown Prince of Selangor.

The event occupied eight expo halls, four conference halls, two plenary halls, and two banquet halls. It comprised six main events, namely, Selangor Asean Business Conference (SABC), Selangor International Expo (F&B), Selangor Industrial Park Expo (Spark), The Selangor International Expo (Medic), The Selangor R&D and Innovation Expo, and The Selangor Smart City and Digital Economy Convention (Sided).



South Korea Goes Organic

The 2022 IFOAM - Goesan International Organic Expo + Industry Fair, held from September 30 to October 16, 2022, in Goesan, South Korea, drew over 2,00,000 attendees. Exhibitors at the event displayed organic goods and other eco-friendly products.

The opening ceremony of the expo included the celebration of the 50th anniversary of IFOAM - Organics International and witnessed a large gathering of organic leaders, one of the biggest of its kind in 2022. The expo featured international and local conferences, thematic workshops and seminars covering a diverse range of topics from across the Organic sector.



Image Source: MWM



Image Source: Global Sources

Global Sources Show Serves High Sourcing Demand

The Global Sources Hong Kong Show organized by Global Sources, an internationally recognized B2B sourcing platform, was held in physical and virtual modes at Asia-World-Expo from October 11-14, 2022. While the virtual show offered 24/7 livestreaming product display, visitors were able to connect face-to-face at the physical event and get access to the hot products that were displayed at the venue.

The four-day event featured about 1,000 exhibitors from Asia, bringing more than 20,000 cutting-edge and high-quality electronics, lifestyle, and fashion products.

AFTEA 2022 Showcases Food Security Solutions

Agri-Food Tech Expo Asia (AF-TEA) 2022 in its maiden edition showcased food security solutions at Sands Expo & Convention Centre, Halls A and B in Singapore. It was a partner event of the annual Singapore International Agri-Food Week (SIAW), organized by Temasek, Singapore Food Agency, Economic Development Board, Enterprise Singapore, Singapore Tourism Board, Rethink Events, and Constellar.

Agriculture is one among the many sectors that has been in focus in the South East Asian region and accounts for over 10 percent of ASEAN's GDP in 2020, according to World Bank statistics. A shortage of land, labor, and supply chain disruptions are among the key challenges that have been affecting agricultural production in the region. From this perspective, the exhibition is likely to play a crucial role in helping industry stakeholders overcome them.

Vietnam Foodexpo Offers Food Business Opportunities

Around 300 domestic and international exhibitors introduced a wide range of products at the HCM City International Exhibition of Food and Beverages from October 19-22, 2022. Organized by Vietnam Trade Promotion Agency under Ministry and Trade of Vietnam, Vietnam Foodexpo is the official and leading international food exhibition in Vietnam.

The expo, with the theme Interconnection of Values and Development, was inaugurated at the Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center. A number of conferences and B2B business matching activities were organized during the show to help businesses ramp up their production, find new business partners, and explore export opportunities.



Image Source: MWM

World Cloud Show Boosts Cloud Adoption

The World Cloud Show, organized by Trescon Cloud with support from Jakarta Smart City and Association with Asosiasi Penyelenggara Jasa Internet Indonesia (APJII) at JW Marriot Jakarta, had global cloud technology leaders coming together to accelerate cloud adoption in Jakarta. Top players such as Rubrik, Alibaba Cloud, Fortinet, Xtremax, and many others convened at the event.

Sharing his views on digital transformation in trade, H.E. Dr Jerry Sambuaga, Vice Minister, Minister of Trade, Republic of Indonesia, said, "I believe that Indonesia's digital economy can transform the way that our country develops. Instead of increasing digital obstacles, the digital economy can be the key to closing the gap between those who have and have not."

Indonesia is one of the most creative, dynamic, and entrepreneurial countries in South East Asia. There are many developers and enterprises embracing new cloud technology to solve their challenges and drive Indonesia to be one of the fastest growing economies in the world. Holding an expo on cloud augurs well in pushing its popularity in the region.



Image Source: MWM

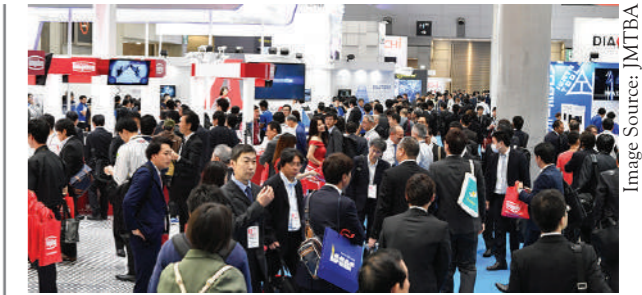


Image Source: JMTBA

JIMTOF 2022 Has Record Number of Exhibitors

Japan International Machine Tool Fair (JIMTOF 2022) is one of the most keenly awaited machine tool exhibitions. Organized by Japan Machine Tool Builders' Association (JMTBA) and Tokyo Big Sight Inc., the exhibition will be held in Japan from November 8-13, 2022.

JIMTOF 2022 would have a record 1,086 companies from 22 countries and 5,619 booths, breaking all its previous records.

The show is being organized with the theme - The Present and Future of Cutting-Edge Manufacturing: Machine Tools and Smart Factories. Two sections - 'Produce Machine Tool: State-of-the-Art Machine Tools Factory' and 'Work by Machine Tool: A Global Niche Top Company (GNT) Supported by the Most Advanced Machine Tools' - will be set up at the show.

Isola Asia Pacific Participates in TPCA Show

Isola Asia Pacific is having a fair representation at the TPCA Show in Taipei from October 26-28, 2022, at TWTC Nangang Exhibition Hall, Taipei, Taiwan. The event is crucial for professional users of printed-circuit board (PCB) materials. Professionals from Isola will advise on the materials that work best with different circuit applications.

Visitors in need of high-frequency operation and fast digital speeds selected Isola's I-Tera® MT40 laminates and prepreg materials as the foundations for compact, multilayer circuits. The exhibition is expected to promote more application of environmental protection materials, equipment, and technologies for the manufacturing process of the PCB and Electronics Assembly industries.

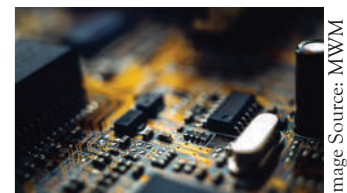


Image Source: MWM

Dubai Holds Event to Promote Coffee Industry

The second edition of the World of Coffee Exhibition will be organized by DBX Live, an event management agency, from January 11-14, 2023, at Dubai World Trade Centre. Specialty Coffee Association (SCA) and its UAE chapter will be partnering with DBX Live in organizing the event. The exhibition is being organized to foster the emerging coffee industry in the Middle East.

The four-day expo will connect coffee producers, manufacturers, retailers, traders, and all other stakeholders of the Coffee industry from the Middle East and North African (MENA) region as well as other parts of the world. DBX Live will be signing an agreement with SCA to organize this exhibition in the region for a period of five years. Post this, the show will be held in the MENA region.



Image Source: MWM

WJMES in Sharjah Records 400+ Exhibitors



Image Source: MWM

The 50th edition of Watch & Jeweller Middle East Show (WJMES) was celebrated with much fanfare at the Expo Centre in Sharjah from October 5-9, 2022. The exhibition brought together more than 400 exhibitors from leading watch and jewelry businesses from all over the world, including local and foreign brands. This has been the highest number of exhibitors the show has recorded in its history.

The show was held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Dr Sultan bin Mohammad Rashid Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Sharjah. It was inaugurated by Sheikh Khaled bin Abdullah bin Sultan Al Qasimi, Chairman of Sharjah Ports, Customs and Free Zones Authority (SPCFZA).

The show's significant accomplishments in the 50 years were showcased.

Arabian Travel Market Takes Sustainable Initiatives

Arabian Travel Market (ATM 2023), Middle East's leading travel and tourism show, is being jointly organized by Reed Exhibitions, RELX, and ATW Connect from May 1-4, 2023, at Dubai World Trade Centre, Dubai. The exhibition will have the first-ever sustainability category at its annual exhibitor awards. The new initiative is seen as a token of appreciation from the show organizers to the exhibiting companies that have considered the impact that their stand will have on the environment and the efforts they have made to reduce and offset their carbon footprint.

Speaking about the initiative, Danielle Curtis, Exhibition Director ME, Arabian Travel Mart, said, "For our 2023 event, we wanted to include a category that provided synergy with our official theme, 'Working Towards Net Zero', and one that supports the UAE's broader net zero commitment as well as RX's mission to deliver Net Zero Carbon events by 2040."

ATM 2022 attracted over 24,000 visitors and hosted over 31,000 participants, including 1,600 exhibitors and attendees from 151 countries, across ten halls at Dubai World Trade Centre. ATM 2023 is expected to surpass these records.



Image Source: ATM

Saudi Arabia Holds Event to Boost Education

The 3rd edition of Middle East Education and Training Exhibition, organized by Icon International Company from October 4-6, 2022, at the Jeddah Center for Forums and Conferences, Jeddah, has set a new direction for education in the Middle East.

The leading student recruitment event in the region was inaugurated by Prince Saud bin Abdullah bin Jalawi, Governor of Jeddah, who emphasized the importance of education as one of the basic pillars of the comprehensive and sustainable development process.

As many as 120 exhibitors from universities, higher education institutions, professional academies, and specialized training centers from 11 Arab and foreign countries participated in the exhibition, representing the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the United States of America, the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, Bahrain, Jordan, Egypt, Canada, Malaysia, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.



Image Source: MWM

S!TE 2022 Bolsters Tourism in African Region

The 6th edition of Swahili International Tourism Expo (S!TE 2022), organized by Tanzania Tourist Board from October 21-23, 2022, was successfully held in Tanzania's commercial city of Dar es Salaam. Inbound and outbound travel to and within Africa was in focus.

S!TE 2022 was inaugurated by Tanzanian Vice President Philip Mpango, who pledged his government's continued support towards improving Tanzania's infrastructure and tourism services. The exhibition offered Tourism industry stakeholders a platform to network, exchange ideas, and connect with local people and expats.

World Future Energy Summit 2023 Crucial for Sustainability



Image Source: MWM

The 15th edition of World Future Energy Summit will be organized by RX and Masdar as part of the Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week from January 16-18, 2023, at Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC), Abu Dhabi.

The Summit is a leading business event for future energy and sustainability that provides practical solutions for global leaders and the international Energy industry, advancing the transition towards cleaner energy sources. Prominent stakeholders such as the UAE Ministry of Energy and Infrastructure, the GCC Interconnection Authority, and the Mohamed bin Zayed University of Artificial Intelligence (MBZUAI) will be participating in the event.

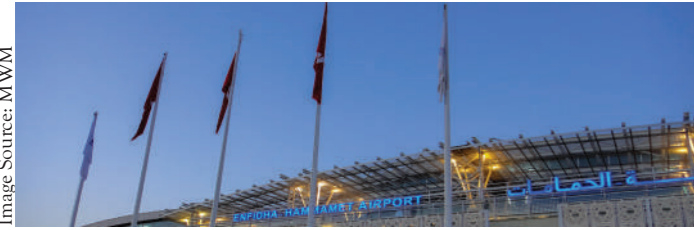
World Future Energy Summit 2023 will bring together global energy leaders and policymakers under one roof to explore the technology and innovation needed to accelerate the development of clean energy and sustainable projects.

Auckland Wins 102 Business Events in Last Fiscal

In FY 2021-2022, Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland in New Zealand won more than 100 business events that would bode well for the New Zealand economy as it is expected to inject around NZ\$75 million in the coming years. Business events are making a foray into the region, and the wins demonstrate Auckland as a region for top-notch business events, according to Ken Pereira, Auckland Convention Bureau chief. He added that his team had worked well to research new opportunities, bid for international conferences, and secure business events for Auckland.

Some of the upcoming events in Auckland include the Conference on Robot Learning in 2022, Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology Conference in 2024, and the 8th edition of International Teaching Games for Understanding Conference in 2024.

Tunisia Hosts International Aerospace Defence Expo



The second International Aerospace and Defence Exhibition (IADE) at Enfidha-Hammamet International Airport from October 12-16, 2022, was significant for the Tunisian Aerospace and Defence sectors.

The exhibition provided diverse opportunities for the visitors to meet key players in the sectors, expand their network, and build new partnerships.

Participants, mainly from the African and Arabian regions, thronged the exhibition. Tunisian Minister of National Defence Imad Memiş, Minister of Transport Rebi al-Majidi, Minister of Labour and Government Spokesperson Nasreddin al-Nesibi were among the key personnel who participated in the show.

Tunisia aims to increase its partnership with African countries, and the current exhibition was a step towards that as it offered an opportunity for the countries to display their Defence industry capabilities.

Australia Celebrates Digitalization



Something Fest, Queensland's digital, innovation, and technology festival, was held from October 24-28, 2022, with great fanfare. The expo brought together globally renowned thinkers and change makers with leaders from the Queensland innovation ecosystem to explore and debate ideas.

A two-day conference Something Digital was held on October 25-26, 2022. Web3 to responsible design, ethical AI, and net zero, exploring ethical conundrums, data + personalization, people + growth, and the broader digital journey in the lead-up to the 2032 Brisbane Olympics were explored.

Africa Energy Indaba to Launch an EV Expo

Africa Energy Indaba (AEI) is all set to have an Electric Vehicle (EV) International Conference & Expo in its upcoming edition to be held from March 7-9, 2023. AEI 2023 will be a physical event with conference sessions, side events, and the exhibition. It will be held at the Cape Town International Convention Centre, South Africa.

AEI 2023 will bring the entire EV ecosystem under one roof, with exhibitors showcasing cutting-edge technologies developed for the fast-evolving EV market.

Worldwide, EVs are being given impetus in the wake of the European Union's proposal to phase out diesel and petrol cars by 2035. EV manufacturers are more likely to benefit from this decision, especially for countries like South Africa that export more than 60 percent of their vehicles to foreign locations.

AEI 2023 will be crucial in furthering the ongoing electrification in the African region.



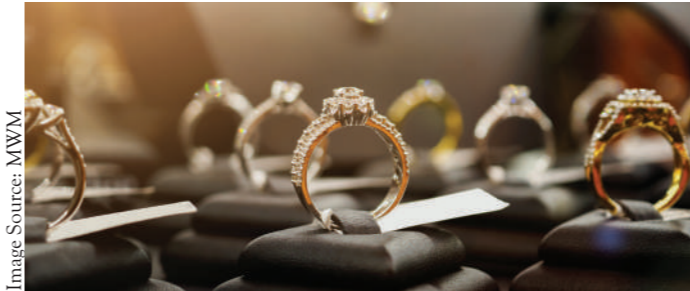
Beauty West Africa Returns

Beauty West Africa, the largest international trade exhibition for the Beauty sector in Africa, is returning to Lagos. The show, in its 4th edition, organized by BtoB Events Ltd, will run from November 29 to December 1, 2022, at the Landmark Centre in Lagos, Nigeria. Players in the Hair and Cosmetics industries from Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Europe, and North America will be congregating to showcase their solutions.

Beauty master classes, demonstrations, seminars, a beauty conference, and demonstrations will be part of the event. Jamie Hill, Managing Director, BtoB Events, said that the current edition of the exhibition would be much bigger than its previous editions, and the organizer looks forward to welcoming visitors to the new edition.



Great Time for Australian Jewelry Industry



The Jewelry industry in Australia is on a roll, with many exhibitions crowding the calendar next year. Expertise Events has announced a new trade show for 2023, along with the Jewellery Design Awards (JDA). Conducted biennially, the JDA was launched in 2017, and the enthusiasm can be gauged from 105 entries across 12 categories. The awards recognize jewelry designers based in Australia and New Zealand.

The last JDA, held in 2019 before the pandemic, had 44 finalists from 10 categories. Melbourne Jewellery Expo will be held from February 4-6, 2023, and will be co-located with the Gift Fair 2023 and Frontline Retail Stores events.

Foodservice Australia Back in Sydney



The Food and Hospitality industry came together for Foodservice Australia, which was held from October 23-25, 2022, at the International Convention Centre in Sydney. It was a long wait, according to Tim Collet, the event director, but the industry did come together to deliberate on the future. The trade show, which featured over 400 exhibitors showcasing the latest in food, drinks, and equipment, was a significant hit.

Automation was one of the prime focus areas as businesses have been finding it difficult to find staff. Plant-based foods were in demand, as could be seen by consumers asking for them. Three conferences, Australian Chef Conference, National Restaurant Conference, and Aged Care Catering Summit, were held alongside the main event, drawing an enthusiastic response from the visitors.

Australia Holds Apparel and Accessories Sourcing Expo

International Sourcing Expo Australia, which focuses on apparel, accessories, and textiles, will run from November 15-17, 2022, at Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre. The expo connects Australian and New Zealand trade buyers with a broad range of manufacturers and suppliers from across the globe. It provides industry stakeholders with an efficient way for international sourcing, learning, and networking for industry professionals.

Footwear & Leather Show Australia, an international showcase of footwear and leather products from around the world, and China Clothing Textile Accessories Expo, featuring manufacturers and suppliers of clothing, textiles, accessories, and more, will be held concurrently.



Gitex in Africa, a Smart Move

Gitex, Dubai's flagship technology event, is foraying into a new market—Africa. The inaugural Gitex Africa will run from May 31 to June 2, 2023, in Marrakech, Morocco. This will be the first-ever overseas venture in its more than four decades of history. Gitex Africa was launched in partnership with the Digital Development Agency (ADD), a strategic public entity leading the Moroccan Government's digital transformation agenda. Kaoun International, an overseas events-organizing company, will lead the partnership.

Technology is making rapid strides in Africa, and the tech market is likely to surge from US\$115 billion to more than US\$700 billion by around 2050. The number of unicorns being founded is also relatively high compared to other parts of the world.



Panama Convention Center to Surpass Its First Year Goals

Panama Convention Center (PCC), the largest and most technologically advanced convention center in Panama, had planned to host 36 events and 48,000 visitors in 2022. However, this goal will likely be surpassed by the end of the year. 60 events and about 100,000 visitors would be thronging the center.

PCC, a state-of-the-art convention center, has 15,400 sq mt of exhibition space with a capacity for up to 23,906 people, 16 adjustable meeting rooms in 2,400 sq mt, business centers, a box office, as well as audiovisual services, and a spacious and full-service banquet area to promote Panama's culinary heritage.

EXPOCOMER 2022, OmegaPro, FIEXP0, EXMA Panama 2022, etc., are among the key events held at the center.



Image Source: MWM

Labelexpo Americas Confirms a Resilient Industry

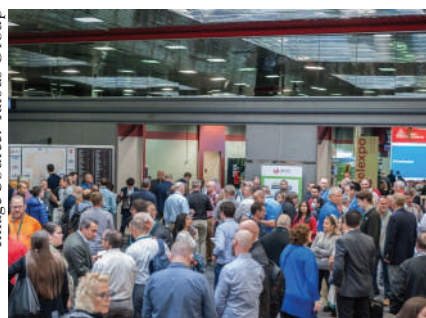


Image Source: Tarsus Group

Labelexpo Americas, held from September 13-15, 2022, at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont, IL, was a runaway success. The event attracted more than 13,000 Label and Package Printing industry professionals from 77 countries. With 'Digital Transformation' as its theme, the biennial trade show and conference unveiled the latest

developments in digital label printing and embellishment besides sustainability and workflow automation.

The show is organized by Tarsus Group and is one of the seven in the Labelexpo Global Series held in different markets worldwide. The 2022 edition, held in America, happened after a long gap of four years, and perhaps due to this, there were a large number of first-time attendees, many of whom spent more time at the venue. Labelexpo Americas will return to the same venue on September 10-12, 2024.



Image Source: MWM

Alternative Products Expo Reaches Florida

Alternative Products Expo organized by ZJ Events has run successfully in North and South America. Building upon its success, the latest edition of the expo will be held in Florida at Tampa Convention Center from November 10-12, 2022. The Florida show will have more than 300 exhibitors, feature several expert speakers, and more than 1,000 cutting-edge products will be displayed in an exciting alternative products space.

Visitors can get acquainted with the products and technologies, connect with vendors, and be a part of the festivities that will unwind during the expo.

MIP Cancun Back to Pre-Pandemic Level

RX France, which is organizing MIP Cancun's 9th edition at Moon Palace Hotel in Cancun, Mexico, from November 13-16, 2022, has confirmed that the show has returned to pre-pandemic levels. The organizer will welcome more than 800 delegates from over 40 countries. More than 150 distribution companies will be present at the event, with the addition of national pavilions, including ProColombia, Proimágenes Colombia, and Audiovisual Argentina.

The event is a must-attend for all involved in producing, distributing, financing, or buying TV content for Latin America and US Hispanic audiences.



Image Source: MWM

POWTECH 2022 – Towards a Strong Comeback

POWTECH, the international processing trade fair for powder, bulk solids, fluids, and liquids, organized by NürnbergMesse in Nuremberg, Germany, from September 27-29, 2022, was a joyful affair. The exhibition drew around 9,000 trade visitors. About 43 percent came from abroad, from over 70 countries. Austria, Italy, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Spain, Poland, France, Turkey, and the UK were particularly well represented. But visitors from the USA, South America, Korea, Japan, India, and Thailand also came to Nuremberg for the international industry meeting.

In this particular exhibition year, FACHPACK, the European Trade Fair for Packaging, Technology, and Processes, was held in parallel with POWTECH. The exhibition combo brought around 41,000 trade visitors to see 1,633 exhibitors in 12 halls at NürnbergMesse.

Frankfurter Buchmesse 2022 Engages Book Lovers



Image Source: MWM

The 74th Frankfurter Buchmesse exhibition, held from October 19-23, 2022, reaffirmed its position as the most crucial meeting point for book lovers and the media. A total of 93,000 trade visitors (as compared to 2021's 36,000) from more than 100 nations and 87,000 public visitors (as compared to 2021's 37,500) made their way to the fair.

The book fair with the theme 'Translate, Transfer, Transform' put a spotlight on translation and translators. Around 1,500 visitors made their way to the International Translation Center stage to participate in 30 events.

"Amid an oppressive global political situation, this fair sent important signals: face-to-face meetings serve as an antidote to polarization in times of heated debate," said Juergen Boos, Director, Frankfurter Buchmesse. Under the motto 'Spilling Creativity', the Guest of Honour country Spain showcased its linguistic and creative diversity.



Image Source: NürnbergMesse

Heike Slotta, Executive Director for Exhibitions at NürnbergMesse, was pleased with the high-quality networking and knowledge exchanges that happened at the show. The next POWTECH will be held in the Nuremberg Exhibition Centre from September 26-28, 2023.

Bauma 2022 to Elevate Construction Industry

Bauma, the world's largest construction exhibition, was organized by Messe München from October 24-30, 2022, in Munich. The show's current edition drew over 4,50,000 visitors from around 60 countries. It was inaugurated by Dr Volker Wissing, German Federal Minister for Digital and Transport; Dr Markus Söder, Bavaria's Minister President; and Stefan Rummel, CEO, Messe München.

Rummel was elated with the show's success, considering that the world was recovering from the after-effects of the pandemic and the ongoing geopolitical scenario, which were causing uncertainties. The event provided a global focal point for discussions on the energy transition.



Image Source: MWM



PRINTING United Expo 2022 Exceeds Expectations

Printing United Expo, the largest printing and graphic arts event in 2022, opened its doors to exhibitors and attendees from all parts of the world for the first time since 2019. Organized from October 19-21, 2022, at Las Vegas Convention Center, the event drew participants from 121 countries and was a major success.

“PRINTING United Alliance built the platform, but every attendee and exhibitor that engaged with the Expo are the ones responsible for the incredibly overwhelming success enjoyed by all. The product launches, the live demonstrations, the keynote presentations—all of it contributed to such a positive experience for everyone,” said Mark J Subers, President, PRINTING United Expo.

A total of 701 exhibitors from around the world occupied 1 million square feet of show floor space at the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Pack Expo Unveils New Solutions

Coming back after a hiatus of four years, Pack Expo International, at McCormick Place in Chicago from October 23-26, 2022, was more significant than its previous editions. The show convened over 44,000 attendees, surpassing the 2018 event. A total of 2,200 exhibitors showcased their groundbreaking packaging and processing innovations over 1.2 million net sq ft space at the venue.



Organized by PMMI, The Association for Packaging and Processing Technologies, the show unveiled the latest packaging machinery, with exhibitors presenting cutting-edge solutions.

The show featured over 120 education sessions, beginning with the one-day Emerging Brands Summit, making its debut at the show. Next up in the Pack Expo portfolio is Expo Pack Guadalajara from June 13-15, 2023, followed by Pack Expo Las Vegas from September 11-13, 2023, at Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas.

Equip Exposition Features Green Solutions

Equip Exposition 2022, the Green Industry and Equipment Expo, is the largest international landscape, outdoor living, and equipment exposition and America’s largest show on outdoor power equipment. Its latest edition was held at Kentucky Exposition Center, Louisville, Kentucky, from October 19-21, 2022. The premier tradeshow for hardscape contractors, Hardscape North America, was held as a co-located show.

The expo provided an unparalleled opportunity for landscape contractors, outdoor power equipment dealers, distributors, and manufacturers to connect, learn, and grow, according to Kris Kiser, President, OPEI. The next edition of the show, Equip Exposition 2023, will be held from October 18-20, 2023.

IMEX America 2022 Marks Return to Form for Events Industry

IMEX America 2022 was back in full throttle in its 11th edition from October 11-13, 2022, at Mandalay Bay Convention Center. Organized by Messe Frankfurt, the event witnessed participation from over 12,000 people, of whom over 4,000 were buyers. According to Ray Bloom, Chairman, IMEX, the 2022 edition was 45 percent bigger than last year due to the easing of travel restrictions, plus 40 percent of returning exhibitors taking more booth space.

IMEX America 2023 will be held from October 16 to 19, 2023.



New Valve Star Award at Valve World Expo

Valve World Expo, a leading international trade fair for industrial valves and fittings, organized by Messe Düsseldorf GmbH, will be underway from November 29 to December 1, 2022, at Düsseldorf Fairgrounds.

The exhibition, which is coming back after four years, will have 375 exhibitors from 29 countries presenting their technologies and solutions in Halls 1 and 3 of Düsseldorf Fairgrounds. Companies from Italy, Spain, France, Turkey, Netherlands, and Great Britain are strongly represented. Overseas exhibitors will come from the USA, India, Taiwan, and Korea. So far, 91 companies from Germany have confirmed their participation in the fair.

The Valve Stars Award will be presented for the first time during the trade fair. Organized by Vulkan-Verlag, exhibitors can submit their products in a profile in the run-up to the fair and thus nominate them for participation in the Valve Star Award. Votes can then be cast online. The winners will be awarded during the trade fair in Düsseldorf in the four categories of valves, actuators, sealing technology, and the special category Industry 4.0/Automation.



Image Source: Messe Düsseldorf GmbH

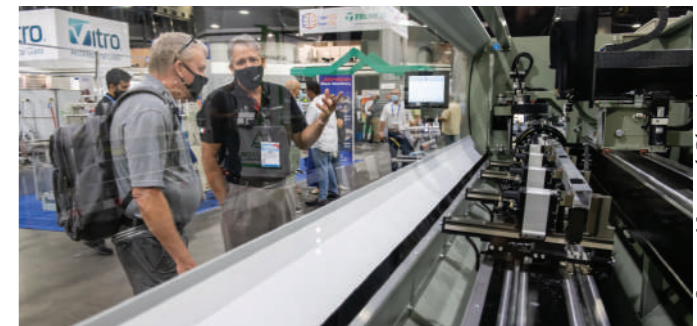


Image Source: National Glass Association

GlassBuild America 2022 Well-attended

Organized by the National Glass Association, GlassBuild 2022 from October 18-20, 2022, in Las Vegas, GlassBuild America presented itself as the perfect opportunity to learn more about the future of the Glass, Glazing, and Fenestration industry.

The show had 386 exhibiting companies occupying 1,46,700 net sq ft and drew more than 8,200 participants. The WMA Annual Convention & Tradeshow, co-located with GlassBuild 2022, attracted 76 exhibitors.

The show was a significant opportunity for exhibitors to explore all aspects of the industry. They showcased glass, window, and door equipment, products, and services that were designed to help customers face major challenges, and importantly, they were able to connect with buyers in new markets.

Greener Manufacturing North America Show For Sustainable Solutions

The Greener Manufacturing North America Show 2023 will be organized by TransGlobal Events, in partnership with Georgia Manufacturing Alliance, from October 11-12, 2023, in Atlanta, Georgia. The show is North America’s leading event for environmental and manufacturing solutions. It is an important event for any sustainability-focused company looking to design and manufacture their products from more sustainable materials, eliminate the use of toxic chemicals, and reduce the impact of their industrial processes on the environment.

Speaking about the partnership, Jason Moss, CEO, Georgia Manufacturing Alliance, said his company was excited to join TransGlobal Events to bring green manufacturing solutions to Atlanta. Participants in the show can find the latest technologies, solutions, and partners to enhance their environmental credentials, with a focus on sustainable materials, energy, and resources.



Exhibition on Mining Investment in North America

North America Mining Investment Conference and Exhibition, organized by ResearchAndMarkets.com, has firmly established itself as a boutique strategic mining investment and capital raising conference and exhibition. The latest edition of the exhibition ran successfully from October 27-28, 2022, in Toronto. Besides mining trends and financial approaches, the exhibitors showcased their latest technological innovations that could transform the Mining industry. Critical minerals and hydrogen that play a crucial role in the global energy market’s transition to a low-carbon economy were also displayed.



Image Source: Mining Investment Conference

Jibak Dasgupta, New Director General & CEO, IMTMA

The apex body for the machine tool industry in India, Indian Machine Tool Manufacturers' Association (IMTMA), has appointed Jibak Dasgupta as the Association's Director General & CEO.



Image Source: IMTMA

Jibak Dasgupta, Director General & CEO, IMTMA

With extensive experience in the field, Dasgupta is adept at building a knowledge ecosystem, formulating industrial policies, promoting R&D and technology, and developing industrial capacity in manufacturing, innovation, and entrepreneurship.

He has headed CII Naoroji Godrej Centre of Manufacturing Excellence (CME), Mumbai; CII's Technology Innovation and Entrepreneurship Department, Delhi; and CII Maharashtra State Office, Mumbai.

From 2011 to 2017, Dasgupta was associated with Global Innovation Index (GII), co-authoring various chapters in GII reports, which were published by WIPO, INSEAD, and Cornell University. He has also worked closely with the Planning Commission (NITI Aayog) for its Innovation Cluster Development program under the aegis of National Innovation Council.

He has been an active member of various public and private policy advocacy groups like National Council of Science Museums (NCSM); the Ministry of Culture for creating innovation hubs across India; Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) under the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR); the National Science Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB) to review Technology Business Incubators (TBIs); All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) for Innovation & Entrepreneurship Capacity Building; Department of Science and Technology (DST) Committee on R&D and Innovation Indicators in National S&T System and Policy Implications; DST National Panel for the formulation of the Technology-led Innovation Policy (2017-2018); Governing Council of Indian National Academy of Engineers (INAE) (2016-2018); Maharashtra State Innovation Society (MSInS); and Hub Governing Body (HGB) of Technology Innovation Hub at IIT Bombay.

An instrumentation engineer, Dasgupta holds a Master's degree in Management and Economics of Innovation from Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden.

Regarding his appointment, Ravi Raghavan, President, IMTMA, said, "Given India's efforts to move towards a US\$5 trillion economy, the machine tool industry will play a key role in contributing to the growth of the manufacturing industry. IMTMA is working closely with manufacturing industries throughout the world to meet rising challenges, especially in policy, technology, and capital. Jibak's deep understanding of the industry will be crucial in driving IMTMA to achieve its goals."

Concurring with Raghavan's views, Dasgupta said, "I am elated to have joined a vision-oriented association and keenly look forward to providing a strategic direction to IMTMA and supporting the Indian machine tool industry to capitalize on market opportunities." **////**



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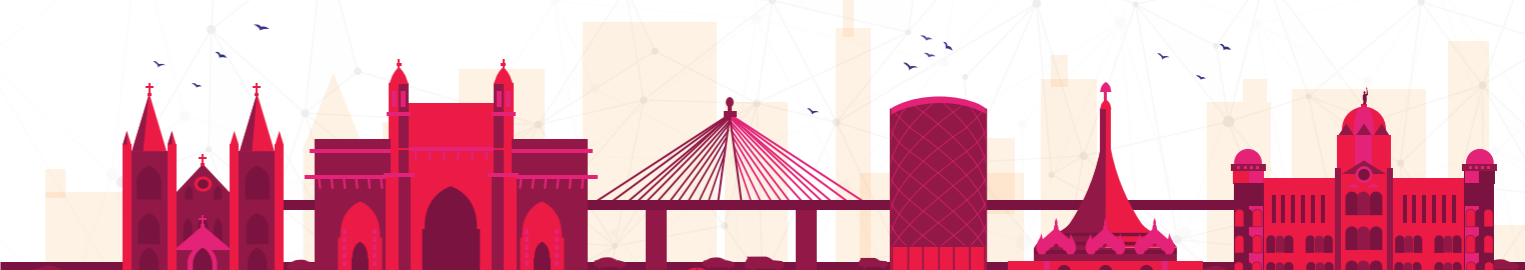
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THIS IS THE TIME!

India is being looked upon by businesses as an investment destination. Attesting this is the RBI's projection of the country to grow at 7.2 percent for FY 2022-23. The time, hence, is perfect for IEIA to hold its Open Seminar, woven around the theme 'Focus India: The Cynosure of the Global Exhibition Industry', from December 15-17, 2022, at Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai. Team Exhibits seeks views from industry stalwarts to assert the same...

The Indian event and exhibition market was valued at US\$3,674.95 million in 2022, and is expected to reach US\$7,550.05 million by 2027, registering a CAGR of 12.43 percent during the forecast period of 2022-2027.

Presently, India is at the top of global economic growth. "With the Indian economy continuing to grow, there is an inherent demand for new products, services, and technologies," says Sporaj Dhawan, Honorary Secretary, India Exhibition Industry Association (IEIA) and Founder & Director, Falcon Exhibitions Pvt Ltd. As India grows faster than others, it also attracts overseas businesses keen to explore the benefits accruing from India's growth story. Breaking down the synergy between the country's growth and trade fairs, he explains, "Exhibitions serve the role of an efficient marketplace to create trade between buyers and sellers. An increase in demand for marketplaces will see more events, activities, and exhibitions organized in India."

IEIA Open Seminar is the industry's ecosystem showcase. It is a place where ideas are exchanged, future trends are analyzed, and all attendees can put a thought on various directions they can take their business towards. The three days at the event can help you plan your year ahead.





“If you value your business and aspire to take your business to the next level, then participation in IEIA Open Seminar 2022 is a must. Peer-to-peer networking, mentorship, and the future of exhibitions in India - they are all here, packed up over three days.”

Sooraj Dhawan
Honorary Secretary, IEIA
Founder & Director
Falcon Exhibitions Pvt Ltd



“IEIA Open Seminar is a must-attend event as it celebrates the comeback of our industry and rediscovers our purpose for existence. All the industry stakeholders forming a part of this dynamic industry must come together under one roof and share ideas on how India can become a global hub for exhibitions.”

Bhupinder Singh
CEO
Messe Muenchen India Pvt Ltd



“IEIA Open Seminar brings together the entire exhibition and event industry stakeholders under one roof, providing plenty of opportunities to network and explore new avenues. Attending the IEIA Open Seminar always yields rich dividends, as it is an ideal platform for discussing new launches, collaborations, and mergers & acquisitions.”

Ubaid Ahmad
Executive Committee
Member, IEIA
Senior Director, IMTMA & BIEC



“IEIA Open Seminar is India’s largest conglomeration of the exhibition industry’s professionals and provides an opportunity to network with the who’s who of the industry. Many exchanges of ideas take place resulting into collaborations, joint ventures, and new businesses. As a platform for networking and exchanging of ideas, I will place IEIA Open Seminar at par with similar events organized by other international industry organizations because the attendees get an opportunity to meet the senior management of Indian as well as international companies operating from India.”

TG Srikanth
Chief Operating Officer
Hyderabad International
Exposition Ltd



“Collaboration between venue operators and service providers to create a safer and more hygienic environment has become more important than ever, and IEIA Open Seminar agenda reflects this with a well-planned series of sessions, covering the role of venues in building a strong MICE industry, event safety and security, and sector trends. I am particularly looking forward to the session on Moving Forward with Technology. Tech intervention is not new to the events and exhibitions industry but what we will see next is enhanced technology integration.”

Raj Manek
Executive Director and
Board Member
Messe Frankfurt Asia
Holdings Ltd



“IEIA Open Seminar is a must-attend event for the exhibitions and event industry since the show acts as the most important catalyst in the economic and business development of the industry by providing a holistic platform to indulge in networking, gain knowledge, and witness the start to finish happenings in the industry. The seminar is also the most targeted business generation event I have attended to date that delivers significant outcomes for participants.”

Himani Gulati
Director
MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd

Seconding this thought, TG Srikanth, Chief Operating Officer, Hyderabad International Exposition Ltd, stresses, “The global perception of India is changing very fast. The transition of India being a back office of the world to the factory of the world is phenomenal. The disruption in the global value chain has presented India a great opportunity to catch up with other major economies. The Government’s strong focus on semiconductors, electronics, solar panels, etc. will give rise to new growth sectors and bring in investments from large global companies in India.”

He adds further, “The ever-growing Indian middle class and the changing consumption patterns of Indian domestic consumers are also driving new investments in the domestic manufacturing industry. The upward trends of the export sectors are also likely to continue in the coming years. All these positive developments will play a major role in the continuing growth of the Indian MICE sector, in general, and the Exhibition industry, in particular. I foresee India to be among the top two MICE destinations in the Asia Pacific region in the near future.”

Economic Growth and Exhibition Industry Entwined

Himani Gulati, Director, MEX Exhibitions Pvt Ltd, opines that the Exhibition and Event industry is the most authentic reflection of the current market scenarios, consumer behavior, and buyer psychology, not just in theory, but in practice. She elaborates, “India is a huge market and offers an unrivaled potential to develop your

manufacturing value chain by providing competitive prices and services and a sourcing base of high-quality suppliers, dealers, manufacturers, and allied solutions providers. The efficient cost-high benefit framework of India’s Exhibition industry, coupled with world-class infrastructure and technology, ensures an excellent RoI driven by quality and innovations.”

“All these facts bear testimony to the premise that India, without a doubt, is poised to become an important global destination for the Exhibition and Event industry,” she adds.

Echoing similar sentiments, Bhupinder Singh, CEO, Messe

The Indian Exhibition industry is very well positioned and can play a prominent role, both from a manufacturing standpoint as well as a ‘meeting place’ to become the next big Asian exhibition destination. The Government’s focus on infrastructure development, a collaboration between venue operators and service providers to create a safer and more hygienic environment, MSME status for the Exhibition industry as well as simplified travel norms augur well for the Indian MICE industry.



“The past IEIA Open Seminars provided ample opportunities to interact, share concerns, and plan strategies for India's emergence as the most important global destination for the exhibition and event industry. Every event professional must be a part of the seminar because it is about us. We are IEIA, and if we take it lightly, the Government will take us lightly.”

MB Naqvi
Chief Executive
Media Today Group

Muenchen India Pvt Ltd, says that according to The World Bank's Ease of Doing Business 2022 report, India now ranks 63 among 190 countries. This translates to India having a more conducive regulatory environment than before. India is a big consumer market and provides businesses with an unmatched opportunity to invest and expand in the country. Add to this, various international businesses are keen on introducing their innovative technologies here. “Trade shows provide them with the right platform to showcase their technologies in the Indian market and collaborate with prospective distributors. They are critical enablers of the economy. India is one of the fastest-growing economies. The Government initiatives in various industrial sectors, the ease of doing business, and a vast Indian consumer market make India an important global destination for the Exhibition industry,” he adds.

Reflecting on the Growth Path

Raj Manek, Executive Director and Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd, shares, “Despite the last two years being extremely challenging for exhibitions in India, the sector has picked up the pace and there is a palpable interest and commitment to engaging with professional networks in-person. Figuratively speaking, the growth rate of the exhibition and event market is around 12 percent, which is higher than many B2B sectors.” Speaking of the wind blowing in India's favor, he orients that with the ongoing travel restrictions in China, there has been a sizeable shift of sourcing globally, and Indian industries are playing a prominent role in filling this gap. The Indian Exhibition industry is very well positioned and can play a prominent role, both from a manufacturing standpoint as well as a ‘meeting place’ to become the next big Asian exhibition destination. The Government's focus on infrastructure development, a collaboration between venue operators and service providers to create a safer and more hygienic environment, MSME status for the Exhibition industry as well as simplified travel norms augur well for the Indian MICE industry.”

Agreeing with his contemporaries, Ubaid Ahmad, Executive Committee Member, IEIA and Senior Director, IMTMA & BIEC, shares that the Indian Exhibition and Event industry witnessed difficult times during 2020 and the larger part of 2021. During these times, the industry had looked diligently at processes and strategies from a close angle, which helped it become more resilient and find its feet to position India as a global exhibition hub.

He asserts further, “As and when the Indian Exhibition industry is armed with the economic impetus and requisite policies to support infrastructure growth, we will see more players in operation, which will augur well for the industry to register around 12 percent growth in the next five years. The role played by the Union Government to promote the MICE industry in totality also augurs well for business growth.”

IEIA Open Seminar - Setting the Tone of Success

A new generation of startups and mid-size firms will play a huge role in India's quest to become an epicenter for exhibitions and events. Against this backdrop, Ahmad says that IEIA Open Seminar 2022 - the association's annual flagship industry meet - is the face of the Indian Exhibition industry. It is a well-connected networking event that attracts not only Indian organizers but also related foreign associations and foreign organizers. Hence, IEIA Open Seminar can serve as an ideal platform, for global players too, to explore market opportunities in India.

IEIA Open Seminar brings a catalytic value to the Exhibition industry as stakeholders from various facets of the industry join on one platform. This helps in boosting investments, enhancing export opportunities for Indian companies, increasing multi-sectorial growth, promoting business tourism, which has a cascading effect on the positive growth of the economy, and turning India into a US\$5 trillion economy.



Commending IEIA for organizing multiple networking events for the industry, Srikanth says, “The annual IEIA Open Seminar has already positioned itself as the largest event for the Exhibition industry professionals. Unlike other similar events organized by various international industry associations where the deliberations are always focused on a few countries, IEIA Open Seminar is India-centric. The event is the right podium to discuss the challenges faced by the industry and come up with workable solutions. The attendees get an opportunity to interact and listen to industry leaders and their perspectives.”

To this end, Dhawan says, “The Exhibition industry has gone through a tough time in the last 24 months, causing severe disruptions in the exhibitions service supply chain. Having said that, IEIA Open Seminar 2022 is the perfect opportunity for industry peers to meet everyone and plan our future together. Exhibition organizers, venue providers, existing service partners, and new service partners will all find the interactions taking place there useful.”

IEIA Open Seminar is a must-attend event for the Exhibition and Event industry because the show acts as the most important catalyst in the economic and business development of the industry by providing a holistic platform to indulge in networking, gain knowledge, and witness the start to finish happenings in the industry.

IEIA Open Seminar - The Need of The Hour

Expressing his views, Manek says, “In current times, it has become all the more important for the industry to come together and support each other. So, it is an excellent initiative by IEIA to bring the Exhibition industry's movers and shakers together to discuss collaborations and industry developments at IEIA Open Seminar. The timing is perfect. A lot has changed for the Exhibition industry post-pandemic, and we are seeing a new generation of traders who are going digital, and the industry needs to adapt and blend technology with the traditional exhibition model to ensure convenience and an enhanced exhibition experience. A common platform for the exchange of information and industry best practices can help improve the overall business model of the MICE industry and the meticulously planned program resonates with this objective.”

Acknowledging the pivotal role played by IEIA Open Seminar in strengthening the industry, Gulati says the event brings together all important events and exhibitions related associations such as UFI, IAEE, AEFI, CENTRAX, as well as independent national and in-

ternational organizers to share relevant information and insights for the welfare of participating stakeholders and the industry at large. She highlights, "The seminar provides an excellent opportunity for all the participating exhibitors and visitors to expand their knowledge and business contacts through professional networking. I believe that IEIA is doing the Exhibition and Event industry a massive favor by hosting Open Seminar; its fruitful consequences will be visible in the near future."

Sharing his views on IEIA Open Seminar being held at the right time, Singh says, "The pandemic had a harsh impact on the Exhibition industry. However, the industry is now back in action with several markets keen on participating in physical exhibitions and events. We have seen a positive turnout at our exhibitions and concluded some of our marquee tradeshows, such as electronica India and productronica India, India Lab Expo, IFAT India, and more, with impressive visitor footfall. With the pandemic now behind us and enhanced Government initiatives for several industries, this is an ideal time for the industry stakeholders to come together on a single platform to discuss the way forward for the progress and promotion of the Indian Exhibition and Event industry."

Leveraging the Best from IEIA Attendance

A large event like IEIA Open Seminar provides an apt platform for industry stakeholders, including exhibition organizers, venue owners, heads of trade bodies, policy-makers, service partners, etc. to converge and network. To this, Ahmad adds, "The curated conference sessions during the Seminar will bring forth the latest trends prevailing worldwide. Speakers with experience and expertise will provide insight on the latest developments in the industry that can help businesses to increase their potential by several notches."

Likewise, Dhawan informs, "IEIA Open Seminar is the industry's ecosystem showcase. It is a place where ideas are exchanged, future trends are analyzed, and all attendees can think about various directions they can take their business towards. The three days at the event can help you plan your year ahead."

In alignment, Singh says, "IEIA Open Seminar brings together all the exhibition organizers, managers, designers and stand contractors, services and facilities providers, and venue owners under one roof. It is a common platform for the entire industry to exchange ideas, deliberate on developments and improvements needed in the industry, and offer solutions to its vast member base. The seminar promotes the idea that exhibitions and trade fairs in India are cost-effective marketing tools both nationally and internationally."

Opportunities Unlimited

Gulati shares that the Exhibition industry is where big and established multi-national corporations and small businesses and startups work together and benefit each other with their presence and participation. IEIA Open Seminar is the biggest MICE industry event and provides stakeholders an opportunity to connect with leading players not only from India but also from many other countries across the globe. She affirms, "I believe such seminars are needed in order to develop the exhibition business and provide attendees and exhibitors a chance to interact, network, and forge relationships with their target markets. It also features fresh insights and cutting-edge trends from national and international Exhibition industry professionals, which is an added advantage for me to develop as an industry specialist."

An Unmissable Event

The Exhibition industry was coping with radical changes for the last two years. Singh says, "IEIA Open Seminar is a must-attend event because it is an opportunity to celebrate the comeback of our industry and rediscover our purpose for existence. All the industry stakeholders forming a part of this dynamic industry must come together under one roof and share ideas on how India can become a global hub for exhibitions."

According to Ahmad, IEIA Open Seminar brings a catalytic value to the Exhibition industry as stakeholders from various facets of the industry join on one platform. This helps in boosting investments, enhancing export opportunities for Indian companies, increasing multi-sectorial growth, promoting business tourism, which has a cascading effect on the positive growth of the economy, and turning India into a US\$5 trillion economy.

Manek says that IEIA program agenda is well planned with series of sessions covering the role of venues in building a strong MICE industry, event Safety and Security as well as Sector Trends. He shares,

IEIA Open Seminar is an annual event that is attended by the senior management of international exhibition organizers and many large and medium Indian exhibition organizers. The added advantage of attending the flagship event is that the entire industry gets to know about the venue facilities available in various cities and the opportunities available in each of these cities.

Collaborations between venue operators and service providers to create a safer and more hygienic environment have become more important than ever. The IEIA program agenda is well-planned and packed with a series of sessions, covering the role of venues in building a strong MICE industry, Event Safety and Security as well as Sector Trends.

"I am particularly looking forward to the session on Moving Forward with Technology. Tech intervention is not new to the Exhibition industry but what we will see next is enhanced technology integration. For an industry insider, it can generate valuable information that can help catapult business in the right direction."

Taking pride in having hosted two editions of IEIA Open Seminar in the past at HITECH, Srikanth says, "IEIA Open Seminar is India's largest conglomeration of the Exhibition industry professionals and provides an opportunity to network with the who's who of the industry. Many exchanges of ideas take place, resulting in collaborations, joint ventures, and new businesses." He adds that IEIA Open Seminar is an annual event that is attended by the senior management of international exhibition organizers and many large and medium Indian exhibition organizers. The added advantage of attending the flagship event is that the entire industry gets to know about the venue facilities available in various cities and the opportunities available in each of these cities.

Sharing her experience in being part of the past IEIA Open Seminar editions, Gulati states, "The takeaways that impressed me the most were that professionals from the Exhibition sector from all over the world, including organizers, M&A experts, venue owners, service providers, technology suppliers, logistic service providers, stall fabricators, and many more, were successfully brought together at one place. The event attracted attendees from several nations, uniting the Indian and the international exhibition business community under one roof."

Speaking on IEIA Open Seminar topics, she adds that the panel discussion topics are thoughtfully curated and add value to the sessions. She names a few, including 'Building global business platforms', 'India as the preferred Exhibition and Conference Destination', 'Skilling and Upskilling', 'Addressing the Demands of the Industry', 'Building an integrated Indian Exhibition Ecosystem' and many more.

Expressing similar sentiments, Ahmad says that attending IEIA Open Seminar will always yield rich dividends as it serves as an ideal platform for discussing new launches, collaborations, and mergers and acquisitions.

Srikanth, too, confirms that as a platform for networking and exchanging of ideas IEIA Open Seminar is at par with similar events organized by other international industry organizations because the attendees get an opportunity to meet the senior management

of Indian as well as international companies operating from India.

It is All About Making Connections

According to Gulati, IEIA Open Seminar is the biggest MICE industry event and provides stakeholders an opportunity to connect with leading players in the Exhibition industry not only from India but also from many other countries across the globe. It also facilitates cross-vertical collaboration by promoting cooperation, alliances, and partnership ventures amongst regional, international, and global entities. She says, "IEIA Open Seminar is a must-attend event for the Exhibition and Event industry because the show acts as the most important catalyst in the economic and business development of the industry by providing a holistic platform to indulge in networking, gain knowledge, and witness the start to finish happenings in the industry."

"The seminar is also the most targeted business generation event I have attended to till date that delivers participants significant outcomes," she adds.

Going Forward

Manek points out, "It is vitally important that the industry has a strong unified voice to interface with the Government and regulatory authorities on the crucial role of exhibitions in the growth of the economy, and the doors our platforms can open for trade and investment into the country. This formula has been in place since hundreds of years in Germany through the German Messe's and one that China adopted, which propelled it as a global power within two decades."

To this end, he says, "IEIA Open Seminar, therefore, can act as a crucial link between the Government and industry to share these best practices and give our industry the tools to develop global marketplaces that can drive the country's economic growth." ////



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Managing Editor
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TOWARDS AN EQUAL WORLD



All image source: IEIA

The recently held Women in Leadership program by Indian Exhibition Industry Association in Mumbai comprised an insightful panel discussion on gender diversity and inclusion in the workplace and the steps the Indian exhibition industry must take to include a full spectrum of human differences. Highlights:

The 2nd edition of WeConnect WeRise program was organized by Indian Exhibition Industry Association on October 11, 2022, at Hotel Sahara Star, Mumbai. The panel discussion on 'Gender Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - Pathway to Walk the Talk' highlighted the challenges, on-ground realities, and best practices in the fields of DEI across our sector. The session, moderated by Soumi Mitra, Editor, IEIA's ExhiBits, had Suparna Dutta Gupta, CEO, G.S. Marketing; Satyendra Mehra, Member of the Management Board and Group Director, NurnbergMesse India Pvt Ltd; and Yogesh Mudras, Managing

Director, Informa Markets in India, as the esteemed panelists.

It is reported that when an organization takes in more women, it becomes more sustainable and peaceful. Do you agree with this? If so, what kind of grooming do you do to make people in your organization more sensitive regarding this?



Suparna Gupta: If we talk about the Exhibition industry, the fact that you have called me to partake in this panel indicates that my presence is being felt. I am equally appreciated and respected for being a woman in leadership, and I am truly grateful for that. So, it is a positive step. We are moving forward.

As far as intelligence quotient (IQ) is concerned, men and women have always been equal. Social conditioning has always been against women in India. This will take some time to change. However, we are way ahead when it comes to the emotional quotient (EQ). We are much more compassionate than men; hence, we feel much more for others. It has to do with how we have always been; the way we are with children and elders at home. We can carry that quality forward, which can help immensely in the holistic development of the organization.

Being women, we have an insight into what women go through. This is what I have been doing in my own small way. I wish today I could influence some men. Talking about inclusivity, I haven't seen that many women in our industry, and I wish more women were included. By this, I mean not just as part of the exhibition organizing team, but also as visitors and exhibitors. Sometimes 60 to

65 percent of women participants are present in our exhibition, which makes me very proud.

Organizations that are gender-diverse do much better in terms of revenue than the companies that are not. Your thoughts on the same...

Satyendra Mehra: When I joined my company in 2014, it was an all-women organization, and I was the first man to join. So for me, gender equality and inclusivity was quite the reverse. Even right now, as we speak, our demographic on gender equality is almost balanced, not even at the staff level but also at the managerial level. Thanks to the leadership of, as we all know, Sonia, who is also the President of IEIA. All I can say is that what's needed is to believe in oneself and break the prototype.





Women who are professionals are homemakers too. It is no hidden secret that women handle household matters much better regarding finances and carry on the same in their professional lives. Hence, companies that have women on board do well for this fundamental reason. They can handle things better. They are multitaskers. Not only that, but they have more resilience and patience, which is a challenge for men. When you are at that level, you must have a holistic view of things, which a woman does much better, and that's the reason those companies are quite successful.

Do you see any changes in the Exhibition industry regarding diversity and inclusivity?

Yogesh Mudras: As Satyendra said, he was the only male in the company in 2014. I remember when I joined UBM in 2010, the male-to-female ratio was 25:75. But now we are nearly 50:50 or 45:55. However, there is definitely a gap when it comes to leadership roles. But what better time than when the industry is headed by Sonia, a female herself? It is probably one of the best times in the industry. It is exemplary of how our industry overcame the challenges we faced in the last two years. This is the time when female leadership is evolving. As a company, we now see more females coming in. They hold positions in Marketing, Sales, Production, etc. They are doing exceptionally well, and their output is way better than their male counterparts.

Another factor to be highlighted is their EQ, which is way higher than men's. They get more attached to the organization. Many female



Key Takeaways

- The exhibition and events industry is putting all efforts to make events accessible and inclusive for all attendees.
- The exhibition industry is witnessing a sea change in gender equality as lot of organizations are making equal opportunities and resources available to women.

colleagues in my organization came before me and are still there. The way they handle things has much to do with multitasking. We men in India don't do much. Most of us just focus on our professional work. That's the reason this EQ is highly critical as you go. The Banking sector has so many female leaders. We, too, can have it in our industry. In the times to come, we will definitely see that.

In the future, should we have certain best practices in place, so there is equal access to women regarding resources, leadership roles, or opportunities in general? Should this come from the top management level, or should people, every person in the organization, take the initiative and work towards it?

Mudras: It works both ways. Of course, top management has a more significant role because how we set the tone matters. We should be open to diversity at the employment level itself. Not just for taking in women, but also for all the economic strata of society. We have had past cases where we hired from tribal areas. After taking them in, we need to look at their career growth and provide

them with equal growth opportunities. Our organization has started fast-track programs to offer both males and females an opportunity to grow. They are aimed towards grooming them to become the next generation of leaders for the company. If each organization does that and tries to groom the leaders within, we will surely see more female leaders come to the forefront.

Do you have policies where you absorb non-binary people or those with disabilities to have them in the mainstream?

Mudras: I haven't seen any candidates put forth to me, but something must be done. We, as an industry, have a long way to go to ensure that they are covered. The Hospitality industry has been doing an excellent job. We have a long way to go, but we must start somewhere.

Gupta: I haven't had the opportunity to take such people in, but they are unique and will be treated specially. If I get the chance, I will see to it that the necessary facilities are given to help that person work productively with the cooperation from all of us.

Mehra: We have made a conscious effort and have special people as part of our team. It's a conscious decision that we have taken, and there are various roles that we have identified where we can get support and help from such people. As of now, they are part of our data team, and the roles that we have identified are not restricted to that level. They can do much better and more, whether it is sales, marketing, or operations. Not everything necessarily needs a face in the front. We have created a structure that can support such kinds of causes. Going ahead, we will ensure we have more such employees as part of the team.

What is the attitude of the people in the organization towards these marginalized individuals? Do you have programs to sensitize your employees not to outcast them or make them feel different?

Mehra: Yes, that's important. You need to respect other people the way you want to be respected. That's the culture we have inculcated. These are the fundamental moral values we try to see in a candidate. We have workshops that we do quite frequently. We keep revisiting our policies. Times are changing. One size does not fit all. So, you have to be flexible in that particular aspect. We have a feedback mechanism. It's an open-door policy. Anyone can walk in and discuss things with anybody. We do not have a strict protocol. We have an open culture that helps us grow as an organization.

When we recruit people based on merit, we do not specify gender. We have equal representation even in the operations team. So, we do not say this cannot be done by a lady or gent. The only thing we can do is give them a little boost and motivate them. People frequently underestimate their own abilities. We need to sensitize them to their strengths. In our company, we give our team members a free hand to do whatever they want.

Mudras: This is the best time to have inclusivity. We have seen the benefits of working from home. Some of the good points of the pandemic include working from home, which has become an accepted model worldwide. We, as a company, are working on the hybrid model fully. This is the time you can employ such people who can deliver. It's something that we can try out as an industry. **////**



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Avisha Desai, Business Unit Head-Consumer & Capital Goods, Messe Muenchen India

All image source: Messe Muenchen India

“The Exhibition industry is now a welcome place for women. Having been part of the industry for a long time, I can say that it provides women ample opportunities to be creative, work in diverse teams, travel, meet new people, network, and cement relationships. All these opportunities help one improve skills and take on more leadership roles.”

Avisha Desai
Business Unit Head-Consumer & Capital Goods
Messe Muenchen India

DETERMINED TO RISE

Identifying and changing cultural norms that promote gender parity is a critical development for society. Avisha Desai, Business Unit Head-Consumer & Capital Goods, Messe Muenchen India, shares her overall leadership experience in the exhibition industry and the barriers she had to overcome to reach her coveted position.

Having a legacy of being associated with the Exhibition industry for over a decade, Avisha Desai, Business Unit Head-Consumer & Capital Goods, Messe Muenchen India, one of the leading organizers of trade fairs, heads six major trade shows such as India Lab Expo, analytica Anacon India, Pharma Pro&Pack Expo, drink technology India, Pack Mach Asia Expo, and World Tea & Coffee Expo. She believes, “Women exhibit unique qualities. They provide a much-needed perspective on the direction of the business.”

Change Takes Time

As with other sectors, the Exhibition industry has also navigated winds of change. The industry has changed in the last few years, especially in terms of accepting women in leading roles. Sharing a snapshot of her initial days, Desai says, “During the early stages of my career, I realized that female talent was scarce and concentrated primarily on entry-level



and mid-level positions. It’s also worth noting that until about a decade ago, the Exhibition industry was not a great talent magnet. There has been and continues to be no advocacy for the industry as a career opportunity employer.”

“However, as professionally organized private enterprise trade shows started gaining traction, young talent also started to see the sector through a new lens. Perhaps multinational organizers who set up shop in India took a leaf out of their home base’s playbook and started investing in growing female talent. Independent Indian organizers too began seeing talent from a gender-neutral lens,” she continues. “As a result, we now see women in leadership positions in many exhibition companies across the country. Young talent today is opting for a career in the industry as compared to a decade ago when they would stumble into it.”

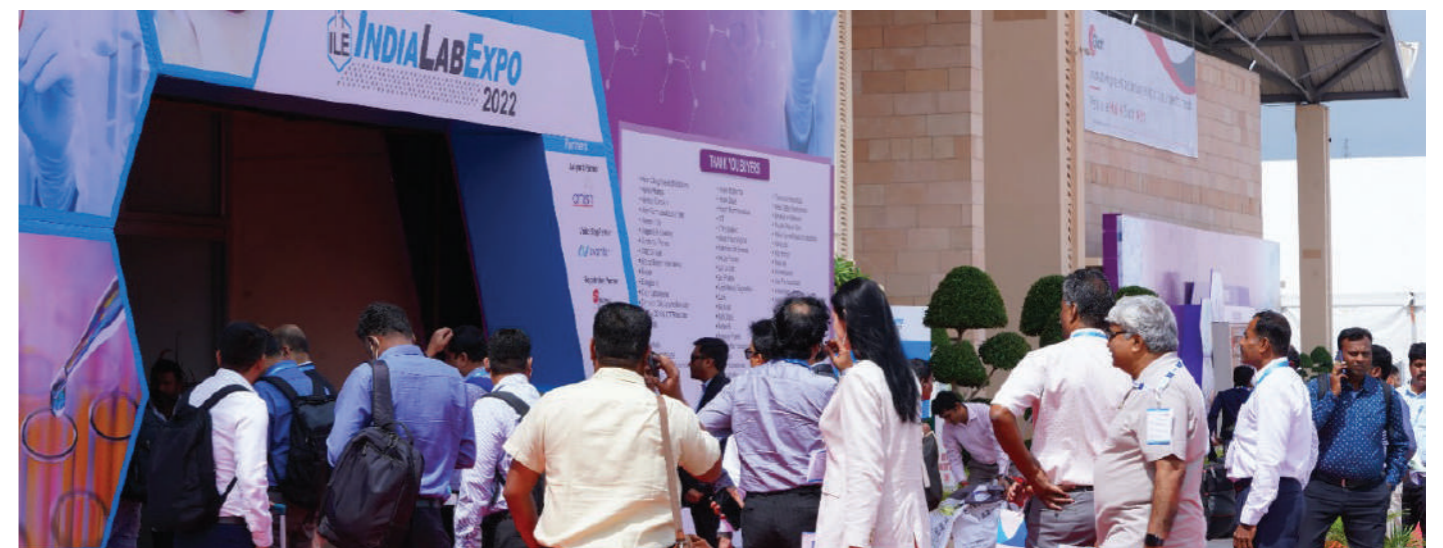
Learning from Challenges

Drawing from the experience of tackling challenges in the Exhibition industry, Desai points out, “Multi-stakeholder work environments always come with challenges such as defining ownership, vision alignment, conflict management, and more. The challenge is magnified when the leader is a woman.”

“At the time when I started my career in exhibitions, women did not form a large part of the workforce in the sector. Like other women in the sector, I had to go that extra mile to gain confidence and validation from

The women leaders of this generation are tech-savvy and know how to optimize technology to innovate their marketing strategies efficiently. They can efficiently update visitor data to sort and ensure good-quality footfalls at a trade show. With the wider acceptance of online meetings and conferences, connectivity with the stakeholders has improved. This has enhanced women’s productivity as they save time on travel to other cities.

my compatriots within the organization and outside. It took tremendous patience, perseverance, and hard work to be accepted as a peer in the workforce and get work done,” she adds.





Empowering Female Leaders

Strong female leaders are just as important as men in any given industry. “There was this prevalent notion that women could not work late hours to deliver on a project. I think the pandemic has very well busted this myth,” Desai states. “Women, unlike a lot of men, have to deal with the dual responsibilities of work and home and are highly efficient in their multitasking skills.”

She believes that organizations must consider these facts and provide more flexibility to women in their policies so that women can manage and take care of their official and personal duties effortlessly. “To empower female leadership, organizations must work towards having an equitable male-to-female ratio. They must encourage them to take up more leadership roles and responsibilities by having a women empowerment committee that does a lot of policy advocacy,” she suggests.

“Messe Muenchen India is one of those few organizations that not just provides flexibility to women through its policies but also grooms women to take up leadership positions,” she adds.

Honing Leadership Traits

Desai highlights essential leadership traits that can help women achieve goals in their workplaces, particularly in the Exhibition industry. According to her, women leaders need to find more opportunities to improve and keep an open mind while seeking advice from peers. A strong woman leader should continue to seek input from others.



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Messe Muenchen India

“We have an innate sense of asking the right questions at the right time. Hence, a situation must be clearly seen from different angles before making a decision,” she opines.

She also advises mastering the art of mindfulness. “This practice helps when you are looking at things minutely. One of the most important characteristics of a strong woman leader is taking responsibility when something is going perfectly fine. All these traits would help you achieve your goals at the workplace,” she adds.

Furthermore, upcoming changes in the employment landscape affecting women’s leadership include technology, which is the most significant tool used by the Exhibition industry to invite visitors, get exhibitors on board, and complete trade



‘IEIA Focus Group: Women in Leadership’ is an influential initiative for the development of the exhibition industry in India. It is a great initiative not just to encourage women but also to empower the entire industry.

show production. “The women leaders of this generation are tech-savvy, and they know how to efficiently optimize technology to innovate their marketing strategies. They can efficiently update visitor data to sort and ensure good-quality footfalls at a trade show. With the wider acceptance of online meetings and conferences, connectivity with the stakeholders has improved. This has enhanced women’s productivity as they can save more time on travel to other cities,” she points out.

Passing the Baton

The Exhibition industry is expanding, offering excellent career opportunities for women. “The Exhibition industry is now a welcome place for women. At Messe Muenchen India, women play a vital role



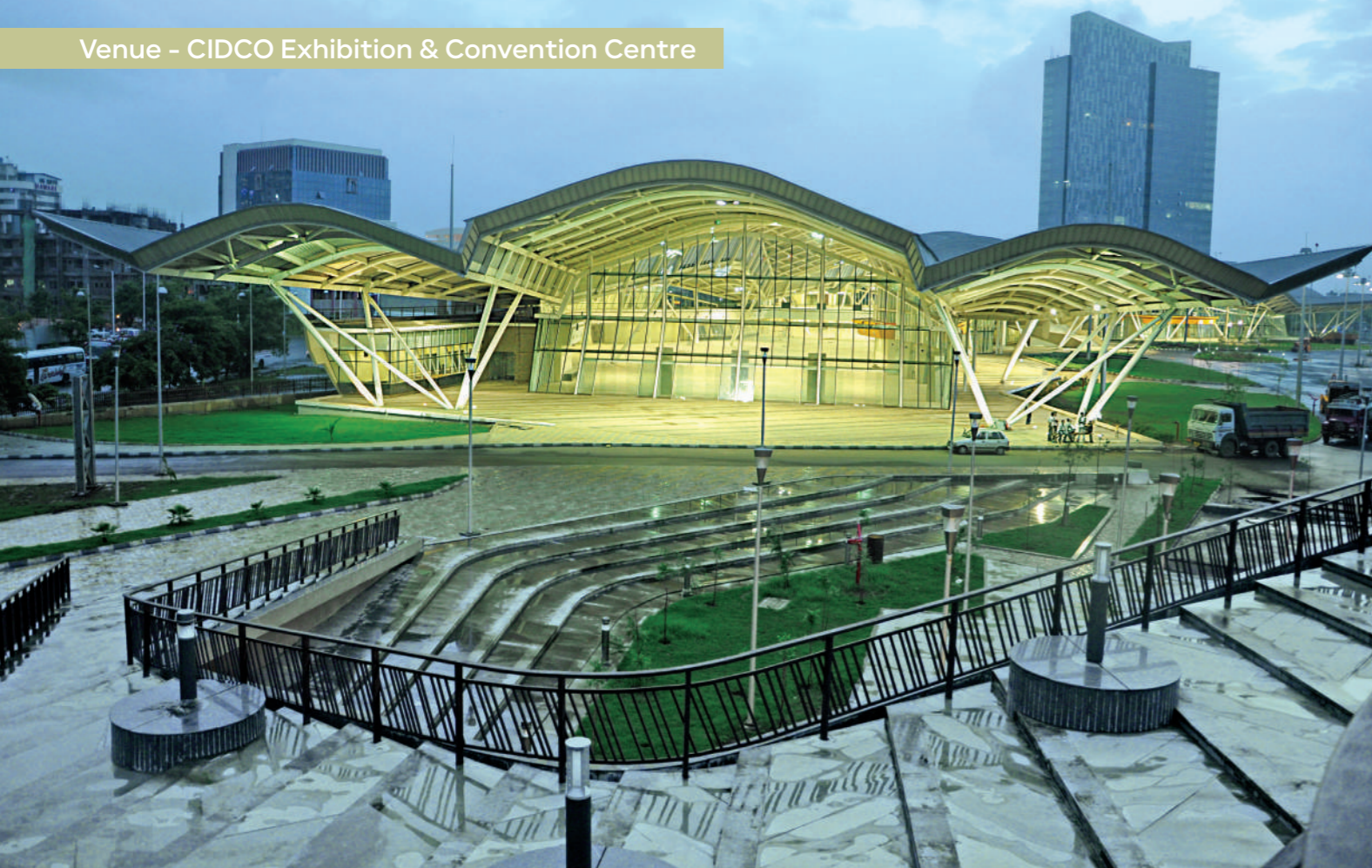
in enabling meaningful handshakes and unlocking business opportunities,” shares Desai. “Having been part of the industry for a long time, I can say that it provides women with ample opportunities to be creative, work in diverse teams, travel, meet new people, network, and cement relationships. All these opportunities help one improve skills and take on more leadership roles.”

“It is most important to keep your inhibitions aside, believe in yourself first, and think of yourself as a strong individual who can contribute. Though the industry is still male-dominated, your skills and opinions will be accepted enthusiastically,” she adds.

Furthermore, she elaborates on the thought process behind the recently formed ‘IEIA Focus Group: Women in Leadership’, hailing it as an influential initiative for the development of the Exhibition industry in India. “It is a great initiative not just to encourage women but also to empower the entire industry. The focus group would not just help nurture the skills of the women from the next generation but also help them excel and become strong leaders.”



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All image source: CIDCO

MUCH MORE THAN A VENUE

CIDCO Exhibition & Convention Centre was developed by City and Industrial Development Corporation of Maharashtra (CIDCO) to make Navi Mumbai a world-class exhibition and convention center in India. Here's how the venue intends to progress to the next stage of assisting the industry and community in achieving global success and economic prosperity.

Managed by Asian Conventions and Expositions Pvt Ltd, CIDCO Exhibition & Convention Centre is a state-of-the-art, purpose-built exhibition and convention venue spread over 7.5 hectares of land in Vashi, New Mumbai. The Centre has an aesthetic and attractive view that has been innovatively designed to international standards.

"The venue is easily accessible by car, train, and plane," says Dhaval J Kadakia, COO, CIDCO Exhibition Centre. "It can accommodate between 15 and 15,000 people at any given time, with a

mix of two major exhibition halls, a public hall, an art gallery, a lush green lawn, a conference hall, a banquet hall, a multi-purpose hall, an auditorium, and a boardroom (basically a one-stop shop)."

Some of the major events and exhibitions hosted include Optic India 2020 (12,850 sqm, 179 exhibitors, 11,000+ visitors), Navi Mumbai Property Expo (10,820 sqm, 135 exhibitors, 20,000+ visitors), Material Engineering Technology Expo 2018 (6,320 sqm + Convention Centre, 50 exhibitors, 2,500 visitors), IUFoST 2018 (6,320 sqm + Convention Centre, 74 exhibitors, 3,000+ visitors), Non-Destructive Evaluation Expo 2018 (6,320 sqm, 108 exhibitors, 1,000+ visitors), Prawaas 2019 (12,850 sqm, 173 exhibitors, 10,000+ visitors), World AYUSH Expo 2019 (12,850 sqm + Convention Centre, 136 exhibitors, 5,000+ visitors), CORCON Expo 2019 (4,500 sqm + Convention Centre, 101 exhibitors, 1,000+ visitors), Boiler India 2022 (12,850 sqm + Convention Centre, 250 exhibitors, 15,000+ visitors, 2,000+ delegates).

India in Focus

India's economy is one of the world's fastest-growing. The country has undeniably risen to become a unique and sought-after MICE destination because of its current status as a developing global power supported by its rich historical, cultural, and geographical assets. For a successful event, India provides an excellent selection of accommodations and other event support facilities. Our conference and meeting venues offer high-tech amenities that meet international standards.

"In our opinion, it will take consistent efforts from the Government and the business community, as well as effective marketing and communications initiatives, to establish India as a top destination for events and exhibitions. Given India's enormous tourism potential, our Tourism and Hospitality sector has become one of the main forces behind the expansion in the Service industry," adds Kadakia.

India's continued position as the world's largest economy with the fastest rate of growth and its 'Atithi Devo Bhava' philosophy make it crucial that the Hospitality sector focus on expanding and capitalizing on the country's expanding MICE market. "Only by making sizable investments in top-notch infrastructure, accessibility, and technologically oriented services and offerings will this be made feasible," he further states. "Additionally, there is more potential for the MICE category to grow in India due to the increasing importance of conferences and events across important industries, including the Pharmaceutical industry, Technology, and Sports-driven events in India. With all this inherent strength, now may be the best time to position India as a top event and exhibition venue."

Making India a Viable MICE Destination

MICE tourism is now one of the most significant revenue generators in the Travel and Tourism industry. The United Nations World Tourism Organization has played an influential role in identifying and popularizing MICE destinations worldwide since it recognizes the inherent strength of the MICE industry. Kadakia further implies, "The Tourism sector is one of the most important economic sectors in terms of income generation and major economic impact. As a result, the MICE industry is among the most successful in all of tourism."

According to him, MICE tourism has been in India since the dawn of time. "It is less susceptible to price fluctuations and exhibits less 'peak-to-trough' seasonal trends. As the MICE industry matures and attention changes from Europe to the Asia-Pacific region, India is poised for a huge breakthrough and the opportunity to become a leader in MICE tourism in the area," he asserts. "Due to its varied topography, which includes coastal regions, picturesque hill stations, energetic cities, and large desert areas, India has much potential as a MICE destination. Here, business travel planners of all stripes can discover something. One of the main forces behind the new age is the

Exhibition venues are an important tool for promoting the image of a destination. They act as a hub of communication for both visitors and exhibitors. When a venue is well-branded, it comes to life while still retaining the essence of the city that inspired it.



"It will take consistent efforts from the Government and the business community, as well as effective marketing and communications initiatives, to establish India as a top destination for events and exhibitions. Given India's enormous tourism potential, the country's tourism and hospitality sector has become one of the main forces behind the expansion in the service industry."

Dhaval J Kadakia
COO
CIDCO Exhibition Centre

tourist industry's robust and dynamic expansion, which is backed by the Government and stakeholders."

Understanding Industry's Requirements

Kadakia explains how, when viewed globally, the venue's quality varies greatly in all relevant aspects. "The following main aspects of our venue contribute to the ease of doing business: quality of service; efficiency; safety; and security. Each of these aspects caters to the various needs and expectations of exhibitors, visitors, and organizers," he elaborates. "The primary goal is to provide the highest level of service to organizers, exhibitors, and visitors by providing an extensive range of products, services, and facilities as efficiently as possible during their time at the venue, as well as before and after their visit."

He also affirms that his team is committed to delivering a high level of customer satisfaction by being adaptable in tailoring services to the clients' specific event needs.



As the facility operator, we permit highly flexible use of the resources. Without interfering with visitor and exhibitor logistics, we make it feasible to use various halls concurrently for a variety of events as well as different stages of events (for instance, shows in the building-up or dismantling phase, or exhibitions in progress).

Dhaval J Kadakia
COO
CIDCO Exhibition Centre

Branding and Marketing Aspect

Exhibition venues are an important tool for promoting the image of a destination. Venues act as a hub of communication for both visitors and exhibitors. When a venue is well-branded, it comes to life while still retaining the essence of the city that inspired it.

“Venue branding and marketing are critical because they leave a lasting impression on your target audience.

It communicates with your audience and establishes their expectations,” points out Kadakia. “Strong venue branding will determine how your event and brand are perceived, as well as whether your audience believes you are a better choice than your competition. In addition to using social media and other marketing strategies, we, as exhibition venues, sell the destination image of our exhibitors.”

“Special events, such as expositions and festivals, have been acknowledged as a significant approach for strengthening a destination’s image and creating brands for sustainable development, in addition to short-term increases in volume and revenue,” he adds.

Excellent Customer Service

The level of customer satisfaction that key stakeholders experience at a venue is critical. It also promotes the effectiveness and simplicity of conducting business at the location. “We also choose the types and extent of the services that will be provided, the requirements for technical equipment, standards, procedures, and quality management systems,” Kadakia continues.

Stressing the efficiency for event planners, he says, “We, as the facility operator, permit very flexible use of the resources. Without interfering with visitor and exhibitor logistics, we make it feasible to use various halls concurrently for a variety of events as well as different stages of events (for instance, shows in the building-up or dismantling phase or exhibitions in progress). This presents a constant challenge for venue planners and frequently necessitates some of the most difficult tradeoff considerations, but careful planning is tremendously beneficial. We directly translate that into increased revenue streams in the future.”

Discussing the point of security, Kadakia points out: “We frequently group all the procedures and tools used to ensure that

only those individuals with the proper authorization can enter buildings or, additionally, reserved areas. Contrarily, safety refers to the procedures and tools required to protect everyone taking part in the events’ integrity (well-being) (exhibitors, visitors, staff, media management, subcontractors, and other stakeholders).”

CIDCO’s Sustainable & Green Practices

Utilizing a Garbage Waste Compost Machine: All biodegradable wet waste—leftover food, vegetable and fruit peels, eggshells, non-vegetarian food discards, garden waste, and processed food discards—can be composted. “The compost will be used directly in gardens or plants,” Kadakia explains. “Since it is concentrated, it needs to be mixed with soil in the right proportion and then added to plants.”

Electric Vehicle Battery Charging: Two charging stations for electric vehicles have recently been installed at the location. “By operating an electric vehicle, we prevent fossil fuel pollution of the environment,” he mentions. “The EV can help mitigate the effects of population growth and human aspirations, which are contributing to global warming.”

India’s economy is one of the world’s fastest growing. India is undeniably a unique and sought-after MICE destination because of its current status as a developing global power supported by its rich historical, cultural, and geographical assets.

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COO
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Solar Panel: A 300 KW solar power plant has been installed on the Convention Center’s roof, reducing reliance on traditional energy sources. ////



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SHAPING MANUFACTURING LANDSCAPE

To boost the Indian machine tools industry on an international scale, Hyderabad International Trade Expositions Ltd (HITEX) organized the 6th edition of Hyderabad International Machine Tool & Engineering Expo (HIMTEX) and India Process Expo & Conference (IPEC) from August 18-20, 2022.



All image source: HIMTEX

TElangana's largest Machine Tool & Engineering Expo HIMTEX, with the concurrent show IPEC, held at HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, with the support of the Government of Telangana and several industry associations and bodies, turned out to be an ideal platform for forging business bonds, clocking a record 452 organized buyer-seller meetings.

Chief Guest Jayesh Ranjan, IAS, Principal Secretary, Industries &

Commerce (I&C) and Information Technology (IT) Departments, Government of Telangana, inaugurated the exhibition. He was joined by Guest of Honors K Siva Rama Prasad, Assistant Director, MSME Development Institute, Ministry of MSME, Government of India, and Meela Jayadev, Senior Vice President, The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI).

Show Highlights

The exhibition hosted 146 exhibitors and 5,548 trade visitors in a sprawling exhibition area of 7,000 sq mt. Exhibitors from 10 Indian states showcased their products and services, with international participation from Italy displaying live machinery. Buyer-seller meetings were held in the dedicated Buyer-Seller Lounge, where



buyers from Engineering, Aerospace, Defense, PSUs, and other industries interacted with the exhibitors and discussed their business needs with them. Machine Tools Manufacturers Association (MTMA) of Rajkot and Ludhiana Machine Tool Manufacturers Association (LMTMA) of Punjab also participated as a group.

HIMTEX & IPEC 2022 Conference

The three-day conference included a keynote address on Artificial Intelligence titled 'ASTANG AI', as well as a panel discussion on 'Discussing strategies and workable approaches - AI for manufacturers and industrial operations' and 'Metal 3D Printing and How It's Evolving Machine Tool Development' by the National Centre for Additive Manufacturing (NCAM).

A total of 452 one-on-one buyer-seller meetings were held over three days, with the buyers from industries such as engineering, aerospace, defense, and public sector organizations (PSUs).

It also included relevant technical sessions on topics such as 'Best O&M Practices to Improve Efficiency and Productivity of Process Plant Boilers & Equipment' and 'Latest Trends & Innovations in Application of Testing, Monitoring Tools & Techniques in Process Industries'.

Exhibitor Testimonials

Axis Global Automation's A Ezhilmaran reviewed HIMTEX as a great opening for new business opportunities and stated, "We received quality leads at the show. We realized that customers have many solution expectations in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh regions."

Participating for the first time in Hyderabad, Bhupinder Singh of Bhagwan Udyog said, "We got an encouraging response for our Hydraulic Milling Machine. The market is booming, and I hope to participate again next year."

KK Makwana, MD, KTM Techno Solutions, expressed his keenness to participate in the upcoming edition of the show. "I am happy with the organizer, as companies like MTAR, AZAD Engineering, and BHEL visited our stall and booked around 20 machines," he shared. **////**



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All image source: Hyve India Pvt Ltd

EXPANDING HORIZONS

Hyve India Pvt Ltd organized MMMM, HTF, CWE, IMEX, UMEX, and TECHINDIA Expo, representing the entire spectrum of the minerals, metals, metalworking, metal forming, manufacturing, and fabricating industries on a single business platform, from August 25-27, 2022, at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India. A brief report on the highly well-received co-located shows...

Identifying that the industry was actively exploring for a unified business platform for technology transfer, face-to-face interaction, new business partners, skilled workforce, new import and export destinations, and so on, Hyve India Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary of Hyve Group PLC, UK, and a leading event organizer, planned a 'Grand Business Carnival'. MMMM Expo - International Exhibition and Conference on Minerals, Metals, Metallurgy & Materials; HTF - Hand Tools & Fastener Expo; CWE - Cutting & Welding Equipment Expo; UMEX - Used Machinery Expo; IMEX - Latest Machine Tools (CNC, Laser, Shot Blasting, Measuring & Testing Equipment); and TECHINDIA Expo -

Engineering & Manufacturing were among the co-located shows at the Carnival.

Key Highlights

Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia, Hon'ble Minister of Steel, Government of India, formally inaugurated the 'Grand Business Carnival' in the presence of various steel and allied industry stalwarts. Concurrent business activities included a high-level international conference on 'Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy in Mineral & Metal Sectors in India' by Indian Institute of Metals-Delhi Chapter, exclusive industry excellence awards, various new launches by exhibitors, and so on.

The Carnival received an overwhelming response with around 272 leading exhibitors from six countries, 254 delegates, extensive media coverage, 26 trade bodies, and over 11,400 visitors. Algeria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, China, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Iran, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Poland, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia,



Turkey, United Arab Emirates, USA, and Zimbabwe are among the 29 countries represented.

Visitor profiles included CEOs, Plant Managers, Material Managers, Maintenance Managers, Factory Managers, Quality Heads, Production Managers, Industry Experts, and Distributors from the Design, Manufacturing, Engineering, Fabricating, and Allied Industries.

Expos in a Nutshell

MMMM is the largest and most prestigious event on Minerals, Metals, Metallurgy, and Materials, with a large number of leading companies from the Mining, Metals, and Materials industries in attendance. The event has always received worldwide acclaim from the industry as the best international business platform in India. The event was jointly organized by IIM-DC and Hyve India Pvt Ltd, the Indian subsidiary of Hyve Group PLC (UK).

MMMM 2022 was co-sponsored by the Ministries of Steel, Coal, External Affairs, Niti Ayog, Council of Scientific



The 'Grand Business Carnival' received a resounding response, with around 272 leading exhibitors from six countries, 254 delegates, extensive media coverage, 26 trade bodies, and over 11,400 trade visitors from 29 countries.

& Industrial Research (CSIR), Government of India and supported by World Metal Forum (WMF).

Hand Tools & Fastener Expo (HTF) series of international events play a significant role in showcasing the strength of the Indian and international Hand Tools, Power Tools, Industrial Tools, and Fasteners industry.

CWE-IMEX is a well-known international exhibition that focuses on Machine Tools, Welding and Cutting Technology, Metallurgy, Materials Testing, Nondestructive Testing,

PLANTING THE RIGHT SEEDS

Recognizing major business prospects in the Agri and Flori sectors, Media Today Group organized the 13th AgriTech India 2022 that took place from August 26-28, 2022, at BIEC, Bengaluru, bringing together leaders in agricultural technology from around the world to meet key stakeholders from all over South Asia.



Robotics, Automation, and related industries. The event's consistent growth reflects the growing capabilities and potential of the Indian Manufacturing industry.

UMEX segment offers a one-of-a-kind opportunity to buy or sell industrial machinery for a variety of industries such as Metal Working, Metal Forming, Fabricating, Construction, Paper, and Textiles.

Industry Feedback

Congratulating the organizers, Akash Singla, Managing Director, Xtra Power Tools (LSL Tools Private Ltd), said, "Every time I see the footfall, it is much bigger and larger than the earlier one. Now it has given a new edge to everyone."

While Somesh Mittal of Matrix Tools called it an excellent exhibition, Urvashi from SRCT (Berix Bearing) said she had a wonderful experience participating in it for the first time. "The exhibition helped us reach out to our customer base in one place," she added.

Saranjit Das, Manager - Marketing, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd, lauded the organizers' efforts of bringing in the industries associated with the MMMM sector.

Electrotherm India Ltd's Sharat Chojar indicated that such an exhibition showcases various emerging technologies that can help the

Concurrent business activities included a high-level international conference on 'Resource Efficiency and Circular Economy in Mineral & Metal Sectors in India' by Indian Institute of Metals-Delhi Chapter, exclusive industry excellence awards, various new launches by exhibitors, and so on.

industry become more profitable and efficient in terms of production. Srikanth Ojha of Powertex Tools Co Pvt Ltd, an exhibitor at HTF Expo, found the exhibition extremely relevant to buyers and dealers in the Indian Hand Tools and Power Tools industry, particularly for exploring new product ranges and increasing knowledge. ////



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All image source: Media Today Group

AgriTech India 2022, one of the largest exhibitions on agriculture, farm machinery, dairy, poultry, and livestock equipment and agri processing technologies, hosted a show that attracted over 10,000 visitors and over 250 exhibitors from all over India.

Over the three days, AgriTech India series aided in the promotion of investments and innovative efforts throughout the country. The

event provided unrivaled opportunities to launch products and services among the thousands of farmers and agro entrepreneurs as it acquainted attendees with the most recent trends in modern technological progression in terms of equipment, accessories, and so on. The goal was to facilitate agricultural diversification in India.

Other Highlights

The exhibition was inaugurated by representatives including Srikanth Bollapally, President, Growers Flower Council of India (GFCI); Bintu Srikanth, Director, Vensai Floritech; Dr HP Sumangala, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research; Faresha Nazeer, Sr Journalist, Floriculture Today Magazine; and MB Naqvi, Chief Coordinator, AgriTech India, and others.





The event series has made a concerted effort to investigate potential avenues for crop diversification, novelty, and technology transfer. Concurrent events and parallel activities were organized to improve trade relations for all industry stakeholders. The event's key sub-segments were Dairy, Grain, and Flora.

Addressing Key Challenges

The era following COVID-19 saw the emergence of three major issues: Agriculture finance, Women in Agriculture, and Food Production Organizations (FPOs). Over the past 15 years, annual increases in financing for agriculture from official financial institutions have been observed. The Kisan Credit Card (KCC) initiative has played a significant role in this success.

Recently, issues with giving due credit for the Kharif season have emerged as one of the most pressing issues. When an existing loan is still being serviced, banks hesitate to issue a new one. When the lockdown was lifted, banks immediately started recovering loans that had been temporarily suspended and making new proposals under various packages. The merger of many public sector banks, combined with the concerns about staff placement in branches, exacerbated the problems of farmer customers.



Building on the success of previous events, AgriTech India's 14th edition is scheduled for August 25-27, 2023. It will help stakeholders meet and connect with potential buyers, strengthen relationships with current buyers, learn about the products and strategies of competitors, choose and hire new business partners, and launch new brands or improve existing ones.

As the number of available jobs in agriculture has decreased, men in rural areas have sought work in other industries. Women's Self-Help Group (SHG) networks and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) play a more significant role in negotiating space for women.

Exciting new market opportunities have arisen for FPOs due to the dilution of APMC and the ECA. Some major corporations, like Godrej and ITC, are showing a marked preference for dealing with farmer cooperatives rather than the traders they have traditionally worked with. The extent of contract farming and superior corporate tie-ups has increased as corporate trust in FPOs has grown. The AgriTech show significantly raises public understanding and support for using technology to advance India's agribusiness sector.

Exhibitors' Profile

Agricultural Machinery & Equipment; Precision Farming Products; Climate Control & Automation Equipment; Planting Material/Seedling; Storage Equipment/Packaging Solutions; Dairy, Poultry & Livestock Companies; Banks



& Insurance Services; Soil Testing Equipment/Certification Companies; Horticulture Supplies; Floriculture & Nursery Industry; Cold chain Equipment; Herbal & Medicinal Plants Exporters; Plasticulture Products; Aquaculture Technology; R&D Organisations; Hydroponics Farming Technologies; Embassies/ Consulate /Trade Bodies; Industry Associations/ Cooperative Societies/FPO's; Agricultural products traders/wholesaler; and many other allied industries were among the exhibitor profile.

Many well-known businesses showcased their wares at the event. Among them were Adwaith Lakshmi Industries Pvt Ltd, Agri Life, Agriplast Tech India Pvt Ltd, Allround (India) Vegetable Processing Machines Pvt Ltd, Altius Agro Pvt Ltd, Aruna Green Ventures Pvt Ltd, BizGaze Ltd, Danrol Industries, El Sol Irrigation Solutions, Essen Multipack Ltd, Fertinagro Biotech International, GreenPlast (Unit of Abhinandan Petro Pack Pvt Ltd), Grow Rich, Haima Polymers Pvt Ltd, Jai-Kisan Greenizon Agritech Consultancy Pvt Ltd, Jain Irrigation Systems Ltd, Karnataka Agro Chemicals, Kisan Forum Pvt Ltd, MP Eco Products Pvt Ltd, Multiplex Drone Pvt Ltd, Murthy Agro Traders, Nano Ram Technologies, Parry Enterprises India Ltd, Tuflex India Division, Ringfeder Power Transmission India Pvt Ltd, Sri Lakshmi Industries, ST Fabmax, T&I Projects Ltd, Varsha Enterprises, and Wolkus Technology Solutions Pvt Ltd. //



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RESHAPING THE FITNESS INDUSTRY

Organized by Hyderabad International Expositions Ltd, HITEX SportExpo India, Telangana's largest exhibition on sports, fitness, nutrition, and wellness products and services, convened the key players of the sports business to showcase their innovations and share their expertise. A snapshot of the event...

SportExpo India, a dedicated sports sector event that serves as a platform to connect with athletes and fitness enthusiasts, attracted more than 50 exhibitors and over 18,000 visitors in its 5th edition. Held from August 26-28, 2022, at HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad, the event was inaugurated by Sushant Anumolu, a Telegu film star; Sumit Deb, Chairman & Managing Director, NMDC Ltd; Narayan TV, Chief Marketing Officer, IDFC First Bank Ltd; Rajesh Vetch, Founder, Hyderabad Runners; and Ashok Mahadev Tangadi, Director, ADMS Pvt Ltd.

The show was supported by Telangana Recognised School Management Association (TRSM), and the partners included GiggieMug Events, Hyderabad Runners, Vikendi, Flex Pilates, GravityZip, Nourish You, and Sproutz.

Sharing the expo's objective of catering to Hyderabad's rising demand for fitness, sports, and health products,



All image source: HITEX

Venkat Vasanth Reddy, Project Head, HITEX, added, "The expo is specifically designed to showcase the latest technology, sports equipment, facilities, services, and nutrition to help improve and enhance the performance of athletes, sporting clubs, and organizations, as well as individuals looking to enhance their health and lifestyles."

Marathon and Other Activities

Innovative sports such as Beach Volleyball, Chase TAG Championship, and Bullseye Arrow Attack were organized at the event venue. Hyderabad-based GiggieMug curated a dedicated activity area. Additionally, an indoor skydiving area was set up by GravityZip for the first time in Hyderabad.

The Hyderabad Runners Society organized a 5 km and 10 km run, as well as a Full (42.2 km) and Half Marathon (21.1 km) during the

HITEX SportExpo 2022 featured more than 50 exhibitors and over 18,000 visitors. Yoga Namami event and Mr. SportEx Champion Telangana Bodybuilding Championship attracted large crowds at the expo, in addition to a running marathon that drew around 16,000 runners.

event, which was sponsored by NMDC Ltd and attended by approximately 16,000 runners.

Yoga and Other Special Attractions

The cynosure of the expo was the presence of 126-year-old Yoga Guru Padmashree Swami Sivananda at the Yoga Pavilion. Over 1,000 yoga enthusiasts participated in the yoga program called Yoga Namami.

In addition, the Telangana Body Building Association hosted two competitions with around 250 participants from Telangana and neighboring states. Mr. SportEx Champion Telangana Bodybuilding Championship was held in nine categories based on the participants' weight. Mr. Men's Physique SportEx Champion competition was also held in three categories based on the participants' height. ////



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FOR THE LOVE OF FOOD

With the aim to provide impetus to the growth of the Indian food industry, Media Today Group organized the 13th India Foodex at BIEC, Bangalore, on August 26-28, 2022. The event offered significant business opportunities and assisted in value-addition and overall development.



All image source: Media Today Group

One of the largest exhibitions on food products, retailing, import & export, processing & packaging machinery, and allied industries, India Foodex 2022, attracted over 250 exhibitors and more than 10,000 trade visitors from India and neighboring countries.

The show provided exhibitors and visitors with opportunities to expand their businesses through B2B meetings. Potential clients held important

discussions and signed business contracts over the course of three days. Concurrently, the 11th DairyTech India 2022 and the 12th GrainTech India 2022 were held to facilitate improved trade relations for all industry stakeholders. The event's key sub-segments were Grain and Dairy.

Some of the notable exhibitors were Bry-Air (Asia) Pvt Ltd, Galaxy Sivtek Pvt Ltd, Hilda Automation, Kishor Agro Products, Mold-Tek Packaging Ltd, Pakona Engineers (I) Pvt Ltd, Russell Finex Sieves & Filters Pvt Ltd, Saurabh Engineers, Sepack India Pvt Ltd, Synergy Technics, Windsor Chocolatier, Absource Biologics Pvt Ltd, Agris Global Farming Pvt Ltd, Banday Impex Pvt Ltd, Eureka Analytical Services Pvt Ltd, Euro Foods Industries, and Zeutec Opto-Elektronik (India) Pvt Ltd.



Government Support

There are more young and middle-class consumers in India with a growing appetite for international food brands as well as for alternative and quick-to-prepare foods. India is also allowing full foreign direct investment (FDI) via the automatic route in the food processing sector. In addition, 100 percent FDI under the approval route is permitted for trading through e-commerce involving food products made or produced in the country.

To further promote value-addition and export of agri-commodities, 42 mega food parks have implemented cutting-edge testing facilities. The organizers recognized that as the country returns to 'normality', a number of constraints and adaptations are likely to remain, and food businesses must be prepared for this.

With the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI), the Indian Government has coordinated its numerous initiatives to encourage financial

investment in the Food Processing industry. Plans for joint ventures, international collaboration, and industrial licenses have been approved. In India, the Food Processing sector plays a critical role in connecting Indian farmers to customers in both domestic and global markets.

Food Retail in Focus

The proliferation of hypermarkets and superstores throughout India has brought about a significant shift in the Food Retail industry. India has emerged as one of the world's most appealing retail destinations, particularly in the Food & Grocery sector. This upward trend is remarkably stable,



even though the organized Retail sector has performed admirably in recent decades. Traditional retailers and unorganized retailers continue to dominate the industry.

India Foodex 2022 aimed to raise awareness about the importance of technical solutions to propel the Indian Food Processing and Agribusiness sectors forward. The expo demonstrated modern abilities and functionality and emphasized the importance of producing through well-organized automatic equipment systems. The event featured stalls with tools and machinery from the entire Agri-Food sector that are likely to aid in investment in the sector.

DairyTech India 2022

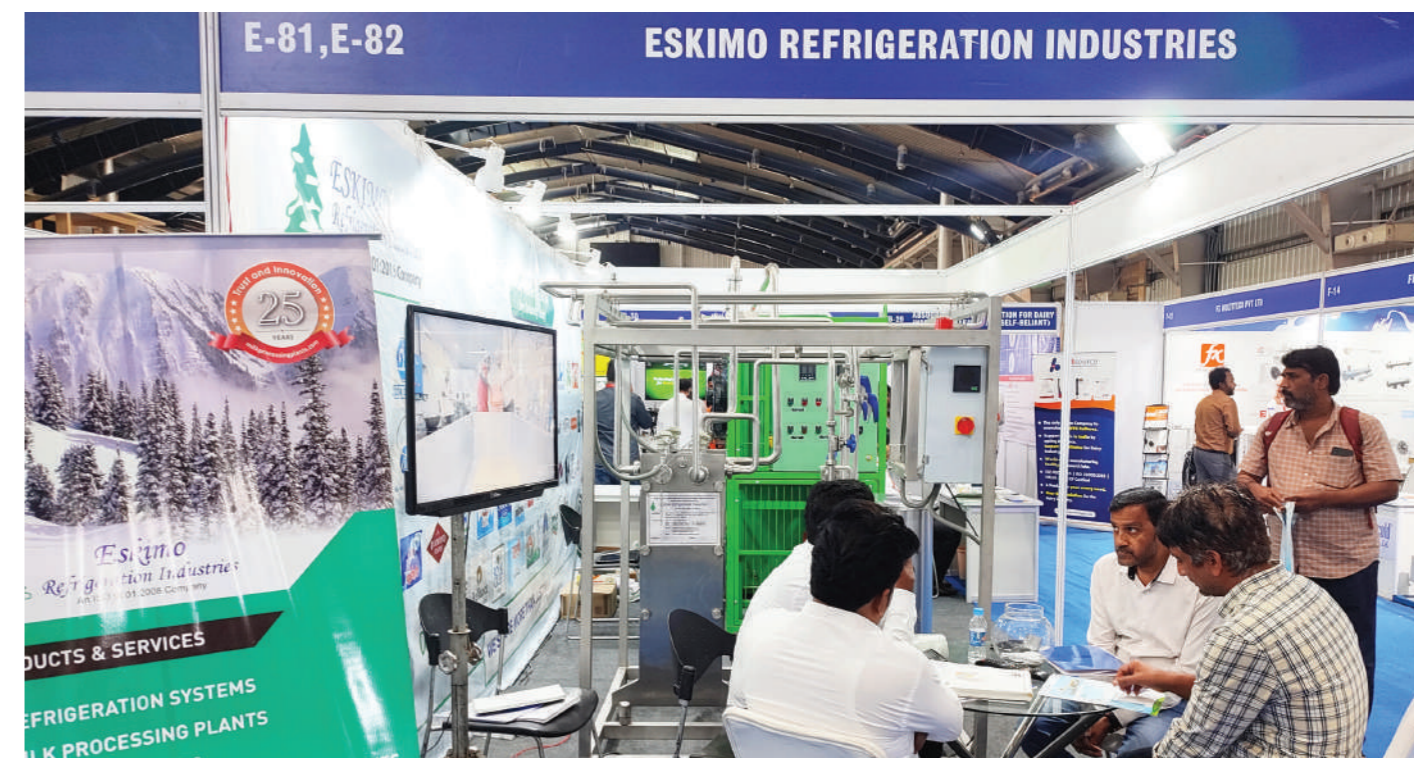
The 11th DairyTech India 2022, an exhibition on Dairy Products, Processing & Packaging Machinery, and Allied Industries, was organized to improve milk production and strengthen milk procurement infrastructure while providing farmers with improved market access.

India has grown to become the world's largest producer and consumer of dairy products, making the Dairy industry one of the most important economic sectors in rural India, contributing to employment and the economy. "It is significant to bring in quality feed material and well-organized feeding techniques, encourage



commercialization and automation of dairy farms, expand networks to promote processed food and beverages based on milk, and have well-managed cold chain amenities to reduce wastage and organize the sector further," S Jafar Naqvi, Chief Coordinator, Media Today Group.

Alfa Tech India, Basant Products India, Blue Cold Refrigeration Pvt Ltd, Eskimo Refrigeration Industries, Fillpack Technology, Frascold India Pvt Ltd, Fx Multitech Pvt Ltd, ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Southern Regional Station (SRS), Bengaluru, Indifoss Analytical Pvt Ltd, and Swastik Multipack were among the exhibitors.



GrainTech India 2022

The 12th edition of GrainTech India 2022 proved to be a common platform for the grain, feed, and auxiliary industries. Some of the notable companies present include Accord Automation Pvt Ltd, AGCO Trading (India) Pvt Ltd, Bansal Engineers (Grain Milling) Pvt Ltd, CPL Machinery India Pvt Ltd, Delta Technology Corp., Famsun Storage Engineering Co. Ltd, Fowler Westrup (India) Pvt Ltd, Gabbar Engineering Co., Henry Simon, Infoinfinet Technologies, Khandelwal Milling Technology LLP, Linux Magnetics, Milltec Machinery Pvt Ltd, Obial India Pvt Ltd, Regal Magnetics, Sankalp Recreation Pvt Ltd, TIA Technology India Pvt Ltd, Udawat Engineering Works, and Ventech Systems Pvt Ltd. ////

Banking on the previous editions' experience and success in promoting innovative efforts within the country as well as exploring potential JVs, India Foodex hopes to continue this winning streak for its next edition, which is to take place from August 25-27, 2023.



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All image source: Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd

HONING THE ART OF PERSUASION

Media Expo New Delhi, organized by Messe Frankfurt Trade Fairs India Pvt Ltd for over two decades, has been proving itself to be a perfect host for the indoor and outdoor advertising and signage industry. The latest edition, held from September 1-3, 2022, at India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, continued its legacy of being a comprehensive showcase of trendsetting products under diversified segments.

The international trade show for indoor and outdoor advertising and signage solutions, Media Expo New Delhi, has always been a forerunner in successfully converging the industry, offering insights into the latest trends in the market and providing networking opportunities to take one's business to the next level.

The three-day trade fair lived up to its repertoire and featured next-generation branding innovations. It housed over 132 exhibitors who displayed over 250 advertising and branding solutions.

Attracting approximately 11,338 visitors from 555 cities in 29 states and five union territories, Media Expo's 49th edition turned out to be an out-and-out success.

Seventeen countries, including Bangladesh, Germany, Iran, Japan, Nepal, Saudi Arabia, and the United States, participated in the show. The Federation of Airport Media Owners also extended its support to the event.

An Exhaustive Display

Media Expo's display of advertising and branding solutions exceeded many companies' business expectations. Mitesh Purohit, Director, Umpire Technologies, presented an exciting showcase of engraving technologies at the fair. "This edition, we ended up with record sales for our unique CNC woodworking and CNC stone engraving machines, CO₂ laser cutting, metal laser cutting, and channel letter



bending machines, among others," he said. "We will surely be back with a bigger stall and more products for the next edition."

Pleasantly taken aback by the number of inquiries and customers from across India, Nepal, Mauritius, and Andaman and Nicobar, first-time participant Kamalesh Pawaskar, Business Head - POSM, Shrinivas Papers Pvt Ltd, remarked, "The show has been amazing with genuine footfalls and serious inquiries."

For Shailesh Mahajan, the owner of Patna-based printing company Mahajan Arts, Media Expo has always been a go-to place for new machines and technologies. "This year, we have purchased a UV-based machine," he stated. "This show is important for our industry and acts as

a channel to connect with sector players to explore the latest developments."

Vedant Mittal, Project & Operations, Times OOH, commented, "I am already working with many of the brands on the show floor, and a visit to Media Expo allows me to learn about their recent launches and technology upgrades easily in one go. This is a platform where you can connect with experts from different fields and gain a lot of exposure."





New Launches

At the event, the Skytek Group debuted ENGIGO, India's first service portal for the signage industry. "Our participation has allowed us to understand market needs and the pain points of the signage industry players, which led to this development," said Santosh Nair, Group Director & CEO, Skytek India. "We are thrilled to partner with some prestigious customers in this association."

Lisco Systems Pvt Ltd also confirmed that it closed big deals across India and generated business worth ₹1.5 crore after launching its hybrid UV printer.

Setting the Stage for 50th Edition

Media Expo is approaching its 50th edition, which will mark a new chapter for the branding show. The grand edition will be held on March 2-4, 2023, at the Bombay Exhibition Centre (BEC), Mumbai. Raj Manek, Executive Director & Board Member, Messe Frankfurt Asia Holdings Ltd, explained, "The success and growth of our exhibitors is what defines the two-decade-long journey of Media Expo. As it approaches its landmark centennial next year, the show aims



to reflect the transition of 'Business of Branding' and the transformative journey of the brands associated with it throughout the years." ////



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All image source: Informa Markets in India

JEWELRY ALWAYS FITS

Recognized as North India's biggest and most significant international jewelry trade show, Delhi Jewellery & Gem Fair's gala 10th edition witnessed a whopping 51 percent increase in attendees, reflecting the jewelry community's high spirits to make the best of the festive season ahead...

Organized by Informa Markets in India, India's leading B2B events organizer, Delhi Jewellery & Gem Fair (DJGF) 2022 was a celebration of India's adeptness at jewelry making. Held from September 10-12 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi, the fair showcased the latest industry trends and offered a platform that stakeholders could leverage to upscale their businesses.

Showcasing India's Strength

DJGF, which significantly contributes to the development and growth of the Indian Jewelry sector, provides the most

suitable platform for new business opportunities and information sharing. According to India Brand Equity Foundation (IBEF), a Trust established by the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India, as of February 2021, India's gold and diamond trade contributed approx. 7.5 percent to India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and 14 percent to India's total merchandise exports. The Gems and Jewelry sector was likely to employ around 8.23 million people by 2022, up from about 5 million in 2020.

The show's latest edition saw the participation of over 350 exhibitors who showcased over 1,200 traditional, modern, and innovative designer brands and over 1,00,000 unique designs. The three-day affair revealed in our nation's unparalleled prowess in exquisite jewelry craftsmanship and convened jewelry manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, importers, and exporters; suppliers and traders in diamonds, gemstones, pearls, and precious metal; jewelry mounting traders and suppliers; representatives



from trade and governmental organizations; and other key industry stakeholders. The massive industry footfall made for ample opportunities for professionals to connect, exchange insights, and prepare themselves for the upcoming festive season, including Navratra, Dussehra, Diwali, and wedding season in a massive section of the country.

as Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh, and other parts of the country.

Who's Who Present

The event was graced by Smt Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India, as the Chief Guest. The other key dignitaries present were Yogesh Singhal, Chairman, The Bullion & Jewellers Association (TBJA); Chetan Mehta, Vice Chairman, National India, TBJA; Kamal Palwal, President, TBJA; Surendra Mehta, Vice Chairman, National India, TBJA; Yogesh Mudras, Managing Director, Informa Markets in India; Pallavi Mehra, Group Director, Informa Markets in India; and Pankaj Shende, Senior Portfolio Director, Informa Markets in India.





Shedding light on the Government's attempts to provide impetus to the Indian Gem and Jewelry industry, Smt Lekhi said, "It is good to be a part of an initiative or craft that provides value and employment to people. The Government is making efforts to galvanize the sector. Jewelry making and craftsmanship have always been an essential part of our culture, right from the Harappan or Indus Valley civilization until today. From a historical perspective, India has always been an important buyer and seller in the jewelry community, almost equal to many countries combined. That is why India has been called 'Sone ki Chidiya' or 'Golden Bird'. It generates massive employment and gives an immense boost to the country's economy. Craftsmanship in the jewelry business needs to be promoted and bolstered. I hope this happens through initiatives such as this show and that many more people, especially girls, join the business, whether as traders or craftsmen."

Mudras remarked, "With its expertise in the jewelry portfolio globally and across India in multiple Indian markets such as North, South, and East, Informa Markets in India understands India's love for sparkle. It was heartening to note that our efforts to make the 10th anniversary

of DJGF special drew widespread interest and engagement among all industry stakeholders. In the post-vaccination phase, there is optimism and festive cheer in the market. This gets translated prominently in the Gem and Jewelry segment too, which is currently seeing an approximate 10 percent appreciation year-on-year. India's growth story in this arena lies in the organized sector, and expos such as ours help to catalyze this growth. There's been a marked increase in the organized vs. unorganized ratio in 23:77 from 2016 to the expected 42:58 in 2023."

"The show reinforced the pole position of India's export-oriented and labor-intensive Gem and Jewelry industry. Apart from business and the various offerings under the well-crafted celebration, DJGF Utsav was immensely appreciated as a multiple focused platform within the show umbrella to network, innovate, compete and showcase variety, glamour, authenticity, and transparency," he added.

Other Features of the Show

The three-day show got significant support from jewelry associations like

The three-day affair revealed in our nation's unparalleled prowess in exquisite jewelry craftsmanship. It saw the participation of over 350 exhibitors who showcased over 1,200 traditional, modern, and innovative designer brands and over 1,00,000 unique designs.

The Bullion & Jewellers Association (TBJA), India Bullion & Jewellers Association (IBJA), Delhi Jewellers Association, Maliwada Jewellers Association, Meerut Bullion Traders Association, All India Gems and Jewellery Trade Federation, and many more.

To mark the 10th year of DJGF Utsav, the expo took the initiative and integrated ten unique features to give a special flavor to the event. Shakti, in association with SVAR Media, honored the women achievers from the industry. The Retail Jewellers Guild Awards felicitated deserving Jewellery Retailers under various categories.

A Fashion Show Night was organized that showcased pioneering brands, designs, and their latest jewelry collections. One of the key highlights of the show was 'DJGF Samvad', in association with SVAR. The Voice of Jewellers was an accumulation of podcast series highlighting the success stories of several industry influencers' journeys. The Fashion Show was held at The Lalit and invited famous personalities from the glamour world, including well-known actress Raima Sen, Femina Miss Grand India 2019 Shivani Jadhav, and Miss World Asia 2019 Suman Rao. They presented innovative craftsmanship and jewelry designs in the form of heavy chokers, pastel-colored neckpieces, multi-layered necklaces, and temple coin designs.

A 24x7 Vyapaar was also launched, which served as an effective, value-adding online B2B jewelry marketplace. It signified the successful evolution of the Jewelry industry into digital space. Another significant addition to the show was G-Ten, which talked about expanding the jewelry business to Tier 1-2 cities and spread knowledge about the industry with ten powerful roadshows.

The Power of Young Awards acknowledged dynamic talent and the contributions of young entrepreneurs in the industry. A unique add-on was Mahasabha, the talking stage for all the jewelry associations from

North India. 'Golden Hands' program acknowledged the role of jewelry designers in the constant rise of the industry.

The three-day expo had knowledge seminars, live workshops, and conferences on the current issues of the Gold Jewelry industry, Data Analytics, changing needs of modern-day consumers and their preferences in jewelry, and lab-grown and other facets of the Jewelry industry.

The DJGF forms an intrinsic part of the 'Festivity of Business -Enabling Progress. Powering Growth' campaign by Informa Markets in India this festive season. Festivity of Business is a medley of 28 back-to-back shows that started on September 10 and will continue until the year's end across different verticals in the physical, digital, and hybrid formats. It has been curated to facilitate the various industry sectors to grow and celebrate the world of business and trade this high season. **////**



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UNVEILING NEW MARKET OPPORTUNITIES

Organized by Messe Muenchen India, the biggest ever edition of analytica Anacon India, India Lab Expo, and Pharma Pro & Pack Expo at HITECH, Hyderabad on September 15-17, 2022, was a major hit with the participants flocking in unprecedented numbers.



All image source: Messe Muenchen India

The leading international trade fair for laboratory technology, analysis, biotechnology, and diagnostics attracted 316 suppliers, showcasing 5,000 products in an exhibition space of 17,500 sq mt. With a footfall of 16,039 over the three days, it achieved a higher 25 percent visitor turnout in an exhibition space which was increased by 35 percent as against the last edition held in 2019. Stakeholders from industries including Pharmaceutical/Healthcare, Chemical Processing, Petroleum & Petro-

chemicals, Life Science & Biotechnology, Water & Waste Management, Food & Beverage, Research Laboratories, Contract Laboratories, Diagnostic Laboratories, and many more thronged the venue.

An Event to Learn

The expo featured knowledge-rich conferences themed around 'Trends in Regulatory Aspects for Analytical Instruments'; 'AI/ML - Accelerating the Growth of Indian Pharma'; and 'Pharma 2030'. A round table on 'Technology and Automation - Futuristic Scenario' drew industry experts from the Pharma and Machinery sectors. Findings from the nationwide survey on the subject were shared at the round table. Experts deliberated on it and gave their suggestions on the way forward, considering the long-term benefits. It was shared that Indian



The next edition of analytica Anacon India, India Lab Expo, and Pharma Pro & Pack Expo, the international trade fair for laboratory technology, analysis, biotechnology, and diagnostics, will be held from April 27-28, 2023, in Mumbai, followed by another in Hyderabad from September 14-16, 2023.

Madan Mohan Reddy, Director, Aurobindo Pharma, expressed his excitement at being part of such a large gathering of exhibitors and visitors at India Lab Expo, analytica Anacon India, and Pharma Pro & Pack. He remarked that the enthusiasm among the participants, who were back at a physical event after a long period of time, was palpable.

Harshit Shah, President, IPMMA, had similar observations. According to him, everyone seemed highly excited about face-to-face meetings and conversations. The expo was fruitful for his company, as they could engage with many visitors, including top decision-makers and technology buyers.

Gautam Rajan, President, Indian Analytical Instruments Association, was happy with the quality of visitors. He hoped the leads that he received during the show would translate into real business opportunities. **////**



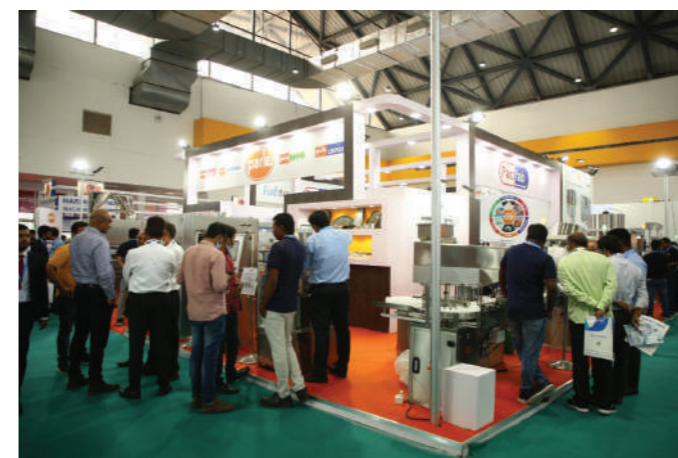
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Pharma Machinery Manufacturers' Association (IPMMA) was planning to make a position paper on digitization and automation and submit it to the Government of India to further the cause of Digital India. At the popular Buyer-Seller forum, stakeholders discussed technologies and market trends and explored mutually beneficial opportunities.

Stakeholders' Take

Devendra Vasant Chaudhary, Senior General Manager, Anish Pharma, one of the exhibitors, found the event encouraging due to its footfall. It was a significant opportunity, according to him, to have had the chance to interact with senior team members and key decision-makers.

Another exhibitor, Gautam Ram Ravi, Director, Craftsman Automation, was elated to have received an overwhelming response for the company's storage systems displayed for the first time for pharmaceutical companies. He looked forward to building on the relationship forged during the expo.



CELEBRATING COMMODITY THAT MATTERS

One of India's distinct players in the arena of conferences, exhibitions, and awards Tefla's organized Globoil India, an international forum for research, analysis, and dissemination of knowledge on edible oil and agri business. Held from September 21-23, 2022, at Taj Convention Centre, Agra, the event's special milestone anniversary was every bit as grand as it deserved to be...



All image source: Tefla's

The 25th edition of Globoil India, the premier international conference and exhibition on edible oil and agri business, drew over 1,500 delegates and 100 exhibitors from all over the world. The forum has been consistently supported by the Ministry of Agriculture; the Ministry of Food, Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution; and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, as well as leading national and international industry houses connected with the Edible Oil industry, such as Adani Group, Patanjali Foods, Sime Darby Berhad, GAPKI, Oil World, Godrej Group, Felda Marketing Services Sdn. Bhd., IFFCO, Musim Mas, Mewah Oleo, Bursa Malaysia, LMC International, TATA, Marico Group, Louis Dreyfus Commodities, ITC Ltd, Allanasons, Liberty Group, Cargill, Bunge, Unilever, SGS, AAA Oils, and National Commodity Exchanges.

Globoil provides analysis on a wide range of issues and subjects related to the changing paradigm of the global edible oil and agri business, in addition to focusing on the demand and supply and price trends for oilseeds, oils, and meals. It creates a conducive environment for information updates on market development and identification, technology transfer, investment potential, and collaboration opportunities, and, most importantly, a unique perception of changing ground realities that serves as the foundation for an actionable agenda for future edible oil trade.

Stalwarts Offer Figures

Key dignitaries at the event included Kailash Singh, Managing Director, Tefla's; Sandeep Bajoria, CEO, Sunvin Group; and Atul Chaturvedi, Director, Adani Wilmar Ltd and President, SEA and Chairman, APOA, along with Yoga Guru Swami Ramdev; Actress Parineeti Chopra; and Grammy Award winner Ricky Kej.

"It is a great pleasure to be hosting the 25th Globoil Summit in the historic city of Agra. Globoil India has become an iconic calendar event," Singh said at the inaugural session. "The event has emerged as a comprehensive platform due to its ever-increasing international participation. It is a symbol of India's growing importance in the global market."



Globoil India, the premier international conference and exhibition on edible oil and agri business, celebrated its silver jubilee, attracting over 1,500 delegates and 100 exhibitors from around the world. The Ministry of Agriculture; the Ministry of Food, Consumer Affairs, and Public Distribution; and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry have all consistently supported the forum.

Bajoria commented, "The conference attracts leading industrialists, policy-makers, domain experts, and analysts to share their views on a single platform."

Stating that India is currently the largest importer of edible oil in the world, Chaturvedi pointed out, "The market has once again gained momentum after coming out of the COVID-19 lockdown. The edible oil market of India reached around 24 million tonne in 2021."

Other eminent speakers during the event included Gustavo Idigoras, Chairman, CIARA Argentina; Kona Haque, Head of Research, ED&F Man, UK; James Fry, Chairman, LMC International, UK; Kevin M Roepke, Regional Director-South Asia & Sub-Sahara Africa (SAASSA), U.S. Soybean Export Council (USSEC); Anton Gritsay, Oil & Oilmeals Export/Import, EFKO Group, Russia; Dr Ling Hua, Technology Manager in Edible Oil Systems, Alfa Laval, Copenhagen; Sanjeev Asthana, CEO, Patanjali Foods Ltd; Angshu Mallick, MD & CEO, Adani Wilmar Ltd; Dr Rex Newkirk, Associate Professor & Research Chair in Feed Processing Technology, University of Saskatchewan; Moch. Edy Yusuf MA, Assistant to Deputy

Minister for Estate Crops Agribusiness Development, Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs; Sudhakar Desai, CEO, Emami Agrotech Ltd; and PR Thakore, CEO, IFFCO Singapore Pte Ltd.

Globoil India Awards

Globoil India Awards paradigm includes categories such as Globoil India Legend, Globoil Man of the Year, Awards for Excellence in Oil Industry Exports & Imports, Globoil Entrepreneur & Professional, Emerging Company / Brand of the Year, Globoil International Award, and Globoil Award for Industry Services. These awards are the top business honors in the Global Edible Oil industry, and they seek to recognize visionary leadership, exemplary performance, and the promise of future greatness. Past winners have included the who's who of the global edible oil trade and industry, such as Adi Godrej, Chairman, Godrej Group; Gautam Adani, Chairman, Adani Group; and Harsh Mariwala, Chairman, Marico Group, all of whom were chosen by a group of illustrious peers and other high achievers. ///



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REAL FOOD IS INGREDIENTS



Dignitaries at the inaugural ceremony of Fi India & Hi and ProPak India

Food Ingredients India & Health Ingredients and ProPak India by Informa Markets in India had a successful foray into the South Indian market. The co-located shows, held from September 21-23, 2022, at Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Karnataka, convened the country's leading players in the food and health ingredients, packaging, and processing industries to showcase the most diverse range of new and innovative ingredients and services.

The unique combination of the two shows—Food Ingredients India & Health Ingredients and ProPak India—in their 16th and 4th editions, respectively, turned out to be a perfect platform for the stakeholders of Food and Beverage Ingredients,

Packaging, and Processing industries who came from different parts of the country to test the waters in the South Indian market.

India is witnessing a positive change where people are resorting to a healthier lifestyle and have become mindful of what they consume. The COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated a significant shift in food habits, including consumer buying preferences and consumption patterns.



Greater awareness of the possible health problems related to particular foods has led to an increase in demand for health and wellness products and ingredients.

This mindset is bolstering the Food and Health Ingredients industry, which has a projected output of a whopping US\$535 billion by 2025. The shows have, therefore, chosen just the right time to offer a platform for the industry stakeholders to network in person, discuss the current trends, explore market demands, and equip themselves for future demands. While Fi India & Hi offers the industry an opportunity to source high-quality ingredients, ProPak India showcases packaging solutions for food products from medicines, cosmetics, appliances, industrial systems, and machinery, among others.

Starting it Right

The inauguration ceremony of the co-located B2B platforms for the Food and Health Ingredients, Packaging, and Processing industries was marked by the presence of key dignitaries such as Dr Alok Kumar Srivastava, President, Association of Food Scientists & Technologists (AFSTi) (India), H.O. Mysore; Nilesch Lele, President, Chamber for Advancement of Small and Medium Businesses (CASMB);

Alessandro Liberatori, Trade Commissioner, Italian Trade Agency; Chandrasekhar Rajagopalan, President, Indian Flexible Packaging & Folding Carton Manufacturers Association (IFCA); Yogesh Mudras, Managing Director, Informa Markets in India; Rahul Deshpande, Sr Group Director, Informa Markets in India; and Julien Bonvallet, Group Brand Director at Informa Markets.

This year's edition was the first in South India and saw participation from 250 leading exhibitors, over 1,000 brands, over 35 speakers, and over 7,000 visitors from across the industry, reaffirming the need and focus of Fi India & Hi and ProPak India 2022 as an industry event to boost and facilitate the Food and Health Ingredients and the Packaging sectors. The participants included manufacturers, distributors, and retailers of Food and Beverage Products, Research & Development and Scientific Professionals, Consultants in Manufacturing and Microbiology, Manufacturers of Ingredients, Food Safety & Quality Services Experts, Training Experts, and more.

Key exhibitors included Brenntag Ingredients (India) Pvt Ltd; Synthite Industries Ltd; Keva Flavours Pvt Ltd; DKSH; IMCD; Kerry Group; Biogen Extracts Pvt Ltd; Plant Lipids Pvt Ltd; Matrix Flavours & Fragrances India Pvt Ltd; Hilda Automation; Spookfish Innovations Pvt Ltd; Vaxom Packaging Pvt Ltd; Italian Trade Agency; Swiss Pac Pvt Ltd; and Gandhi Automations Pvt Ltd. The expos were supported by industry associations such as AFSTi Head Office - Mysore and AFSTi Bangalore Chapter; All India Food Processors' Association (AIFPA); IFCA; Authentication Solution Providers' Association (ASPA); Chamber for Advancement of Small and Medium Businesses (CASMB); SIES School of Packaging; Indian Institute of Food Processing Technology (IIFPT); and international partners such as Mintel.

Leaders Speak

Addressing the opportunities in this sector, Mudras said, "The Indian Food industry is poised for exponential growth, currently



growing at a CAGR of 11 percent, with a projected output of US\$535 billion by 2025. This high-growth and high-profit sector has emerged due to its immense potential for value addition, particularly within the Food Processing industry. Consumers' awareness of ingredients, changing food habits, consumption patterns, low production costs, and ever-changing diet fads, food preferences, and hygiene aspects of food packaging have significantly contributed to the boom in Food and Health Ingredients, Processing, and Packaging industries. Fi India & Hi and ProPak India give our exhibitors and buyers an opportunity to network in person, showcase innovations, grow their business, educate the market with the latest industry intelligence, and discover future trends that will dictate the course of these industries in the coming years."

Dr Srivastava congratulated the organizers for bringing the trade show to South India and elaborated on the Food Ingredients industry, "We are holding this event for the first time in South India, and hence we must compliment the entire team for putting this show together. This event would catalyze and propagate the networking of all stakeholders for their mutual benefit. AFSTi would like all stakeholders at

the event to connect with us and help make India a global hub for Food Ingredients, considering the changing geopolitical scenario in the background of the pandemic. The city is also the hub for Startups, with the need for an inter-disciplinary approach to accelerate the growth of the industry."

"The Agriculture and Food industry in India is valued at around US\$450 billion and growing at 12-14 percent, much faster than the economy. I am excited to meet and network with the exhibitors and other participants at the trade fair, and the other aspect of our work is to promote and help MSMEs grow, which will also be another session by itself at the event," said Lele.

Highlighting the importance of packaging, Rajagopalan said, "We, as an association, largely operate in North India and in Mumbai, and it has been an eye-opening experience for us to come down South. As IFCA, we are a non-profit organization, which is over five decades old when there was no organized Packaging industry even existing.

The Indian Food industry is poised for exponential growth, currently growing at a CAGR of 11 percent, with a projected output of US\$535 billion by 2025. This high-growth and high-profit sector has emerged due to its immense potential for value addition, particularly within the Food Processing industry.



Our endeavor is to give a voice to this end-user industry, especially in areas like food packaging. We roughly represent about 82 percent of the Indian converters in value terms, and our association with ProPak is very old, and we continue to look forward to associating with the organizers in their future shows as well."

Liberatori said, "As the Trade Commissioner of the Embassy of Italy, and as a Governmental agency it is one of our responsibilities to support businesses abroad, and packaging is an imperative part of every industry, be it necessities or luxury. The pandemic also brought out the importance of packaging and its consequence on health and hygiene. The Italian industry turned over more than US\$8.2 billion in 2021 in packaging, with a high propensity to export. Also, over 50 percent of all packaging and wrapping machines worldwide are either Italian or German. Hence, our Trade Commission, in partnership with the Packaging Association, has organized a special Italian Pavilion with the top eight manufacturers of packaging in Italy." He then thanked the organizers for offering the opportunity to showcase the best in Italian packaging to India.

Additional Features

Alongside the exhibitions, a conference was held to bring forth innovations in the Food ingredients domain and seek critical insights into the rapid expansion, challenges, and market of the Ingredients sector. The sessions included topics such as 'Food fortification and its impact on overcoming malnutrition'; 'Nutri-Cereals (Millets): Natural super foods as part of a healthy diet & flavoring solutions for them'; 'How India can suffice its need for value-added plant-based food ingredients?'; 'Health Ingredients, Health Supplements, and Sports Nutrition'; 'Food derived bioactive peptides and their health-promoting functions'; 'Digestion and absorption'; 'Food sector start-ups: Saga of success'; 'Packaging regulations and Safety evaluation for food packaging materials'; 'Trends in Active and Smart food packaging'; 'Sustainability in Packaging - Present Scenario & Way

Forward'; and 'Packaging Optimization - Tackling Functionality, Efficiency, and Cost'.

There were supporting features such as an Innovative Product Showcase, Live Demonstrations, and Fund Quest, wherein unique start-up companies got an opportunity to tap investors by participating and presenting their plans and innovation. The expos showcased Food Flavors, Colors, Enzymes, Additives/Natural ingredients, Soya products, Herbs, Spices and Seasonings, Starches and Gaur Gums, Food Fragrances, Nutraceuticals, Dietary Supplements, Plant Extracts, Proteins (Fish, Meat, Poultry, Milk & Plants), Sweeteners, Antioxidants, Prebiotics/Probiotics, Encapsulated Ingredients, Vitamins & Minerals, and Processing, and Packaging Machinery and Equipment, to name a few. ////



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DRIVING ELECTRONIC ADVANCEMENT

electronica India and productronica India, held from September 21-23, 2022, at India Expo Mart, Greater Noida, Delhi NCR, ended on a high note with actionable ideas and collaborations for Aatmanirbhar Bharat. Insights from South Asia's largest electronics trade expo.

The international trade fair for electronic components, systems, applications, and solutions, electronica India, and the international trade fair for electronics development and production, productronica India, spanned 25,000 sq mt and featured 325 exhibitors from 19 countries who displayed over 3,000 products. Domestic participation increased by 25 percent over the last

edition, with 20,942 people attending trade shows and programs.

Organized by Messe Muenchen India Pvt Ltd, the 2022 editions worked with industry associations like Electronic Industries Association of India (ELCINA), India Cellular and Electronics Association (ICEA), India Electronics & Semiconductor Association (IESA), and Indian Printed Circuits Association (IPCA) to encourage domestic manufacturing and investment in the Indian economy's future.

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) supported the trade shows and conferences with their 'Electronics



India' Pavilion. There were numerous other pavilions by the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, West Bengal, and Chhattisgarh. Leading firms like Oppo and Vivo, which have their manufacturing base in Uttar Pradesh, participated in a pavilion organized by the host state.

Semiconductors, Displays, Electronic Components, Surface Mount Technology (SMT), Electronic Manufacturing Services (EMS), Printed Circuit Boards (PCB), and more were featured during the exhibition.

Bhupinder Singh, CEO, Messe Muenchen India, commented, "The shows' success is demonstrated through a 25 percent increase in domestic participation over the last edition in Greater Noida. The ideas and opinions shared by industry leaders in the exhibition halls and the conferences will unlock the industry's potential and entrepreneurial spirit, thereby bringing the country closer to its vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat."

Semiconductor and Display Ecosystem in Focus

The launch of the India Semiconductor Conclave, a high-powered gathering of industry leaders, technical experts, and policymakers, who discussed relevant subjects and possible solutions for enabling the Indian semiconductor and display ecosystem, was one of the key highlights of the event. The conferences were powered by ICEA and IESA.

Presenting the conference on 'Promoting Semiconductor Ecosystem in India' at the inaugural edition of the Conclave, Vivek Tyagi, Chairman, IESA, said, "India is emerging as a formidable player in semiconductor manufacturing and the time is ripe to leverage our strengths in fabless design and move up the value chain by deriving greater value addition, particularly in semiconductors and IP domains."

Dr Martin Lechner, Executive Director, Messe München GmbH, commented, "The India Semiconductor Conclave has proven to

be a credible platform for policymakers and industry to collaborate for the growth of the semiconductor and display ecosystem in India. We are confident that this conclave will continue to deliver value for India's expanding Semiconductor industry."

Forums and Conferences

The events also hosted supporting programs designed to fulfill the needs of the growing Electronics industry. The 'CEO Forum' discussed the key topic of 'Shifting from Assembly to Deep Manufacturing - Building a \$300 billion ESDM Industry by 2026'. Similarly, experts shared ideas on developing India's PCB ecosystem, which is critical for an Aatmanirbhar ESDM Sector at the 'India PCB Tech Conference' organized with the support of IPCA.

Congratulating the organizers, Rajoo Goel, Secretary General, Electronic Industries Association of India (ELCINA), noted, "All attendees at this year's CEO Forum and India PCB Tech Conference provided important insights into building an advanced manufacturing ecosystem for increased value addition."

Stressing that PCBs are the core component of electronic products,



With the goal of breaking all previous trade show benchmarks, the next edition of **electronica India** and **productronica India**, along with **MatDispens** and **IPCA Expo**, is scheduled for **September 13-15, 2023**, at **Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru**.

M Thiyagarajan, President, Indian Printed Circuits Association (IPCA), said, "IPCA aims to strengthen the PCB industry through multidimensional efforts, ranging from technical seminars to policy liaison to industry exhibitions. The IPCA expo and India PCB Tech Conference are an earnest effort by us to develop the PCB ecosystem in India, and we are pleased that our efforts got the right platform at **electronica India** and **productronica India**."

The electronics community had over 1,500 meetings at the Buyer-Seller event to create new contacts and build business possibilities. Buyers included Bosch Automotive Electronics India Pvt Ltd, Genus Power Infrastructure, Havells India Ltd, Mahindra & Mahindra Interface Microsystems, Vivo Mobile India Pvt Ltd, Lava International Limited, VVDN Technologies Pvt Ltd, Lava India Ltd, Ola Electric, and Skanray Technologies Pvt Ltd.

Exhibitor Testimonials

Sumit Jain, Director, Sumitron Exports, a leading brand in the field of dry cabinets, has been associated with **electronica India** for over two decades and is impressed with the scale of the show. He finds it helpful to keep coming back to this platform to showcase innovative solutions and talk to current and potential customers.

David Greenman, MD, Humiseal, a provider of sealing solutions for the Electronics industry, primarily in white goods and automotive, shared his recent productronica experience, saying that he saw much interest from the electric vehicle market at the event, as well as many fascinating inquiries, and is optimistic about the coming months.

It was an overwhelming experience in terms of scale and quality of conferences, participants, and the technologies exhibited by first-time exhibitor Sanjay Kumar Das, Joint Secretary, IT&E Department and State Information Security Officer, West Bengal, who presented some of the innovative products developed by startups incubated at the West Bengal Centre of Excellence. **////**



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MEETING ENVIRONMENTAL NEEDS

A wide range of environmental technologies for water and waste management were on display at India's Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Solid Waste, and Recycling, IFAT India 2022, organized by Messe Muenchen India at Bombay Exhibition Centre (BEC) in Mumbai from September 28-30, 2022. Highlights...

The 9th edition of IFAT India, which brought together a diverse range of environmental technology solutions from Indian and European suppliers and industry leaders under one roof, saw a 35 percent increase in domestic participation, with 15,000 sq mt of exhibit space and over 250 exhibitors from 22 countries, along with pavilions from Germany, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands. The exhibition-cum-conference also featured more than 50 high-quality conference speakers, including environmental scientists, entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, think tanks, and government officials, among others.

Bhupinder Singh, CEO, Messe Muenchen India, remarked, "IFAT India has once again proved to be a

meeting place for ideas, innovations, and partnerships in India's water, sewage, solid waste, and recycling industry."

Highlights of the Event

Achim Fabig, Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Mumbai; Martin Maier, Swiss Consul General in Mumbai; Arne Jan Flolo, Norwegian Consul General in Mumbai; Bart De Jong, Consulate General of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, Mumbai; Damian Irzyk, Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Mumbai; and Dr Jairaj Phatak, Director General, All India Institute of Local Self-Government, were the chief guests at the inaugural ceremony. Ramveer Tanwar, also known as the Pondman of India, delivered a special address to emphasize the importance of technology solutions. He also highlighted the multilateral support he has received that has empowered his team to unclog and beautify nearly 50 water bodies in North India.

In collaboration with associations such as the International Solid Waste Association (ISWA), German Association for Water, Wastewater and Waste (DWA), German ReTech Partnership, Consulate General of the Netherlands in Mumbai, the Centre for Environment Education (CEE), International Council for

India's Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Solid Waste and Recycling



Western Technologies is Changing India's Sustainability Landscape', 'Changemakers: Women Leaders Driving Sustainability', 'Design Thinking for Enabling a Circular Economy', and 'My Plastic My Responsibility'.

Participation of Key Stakeholders

The Government's 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan' or 'Clean India Mission' is a significant factor in developing environmental technologies in India today. Corporate, institutional, and civil society contributors have responded to the mission's intense policy focus. As a result, leading corporations such as JSW Steel, Zomato, and Bisleri, among many others, participated in IFAT India 2022. Among the key public sector participants were the Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), Surat Municipal Corporation, and Delhi Jal Board.

This edition of IFAT India also witnessed a healthy representation of both water treatment solutions as well as solid waste management technologies from Indian and European suppliers. One of the participants in the Polish Pavilion, Bartosz Kubicki, said, "I am happy to learn about the vast opportunities in the Indian market and share my knowledge and experience of the e-waste recycling industry in Europe. We had exciting discussions at our booth as well as during the conferences and informal meetings. I am looking forward to more business from India."

The 9th edition of IFAT India 2022 saw a 35 percent increase in domestic participation, with 15,000 sq mt of exhibit space and over 250 exhibitors from 22 countries, including pavilions from Germany, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, and the Netherlands.





IFAT India 2022 featured presentations by Chief Sustainability Officers from various corporations and encouraged investments in environmental technologies inspired by a strong policy focus on Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan or Clean India Mission.

Appreciating the IFAT Platform

IFAT India 2022 also intrigued some important visitors looking to acquire proven environmental technologies. Experiencing enthusiasm among the stakeholders, Deepak Borkar, Executive Engineer, Municipal Corporation of Greater Mumbai (MCGM), said, "It is an excellent platform for both buyers and sellers who can meet and fulfill each other's requirements and achieve their respective goals. This, in a way, is helping our country achieve economic progress."

For Carla Rossitto, Technical Advisor at GIZ, IFAT India is a unique opportunity for knowledge exchange and peer-to-peer learning, as well as an excellent platform for those looking for new environmental technologies and solutions for a more sustainable urban infrastructure.

Neetu Singh, Manager - Environment, Tata Consulting Engineers Ltd, commented, "IFAT India helps us find the latest technologies. Here, we can directly interact with suppliers to learn about the best products and services that we can then offer to our clients." **///**



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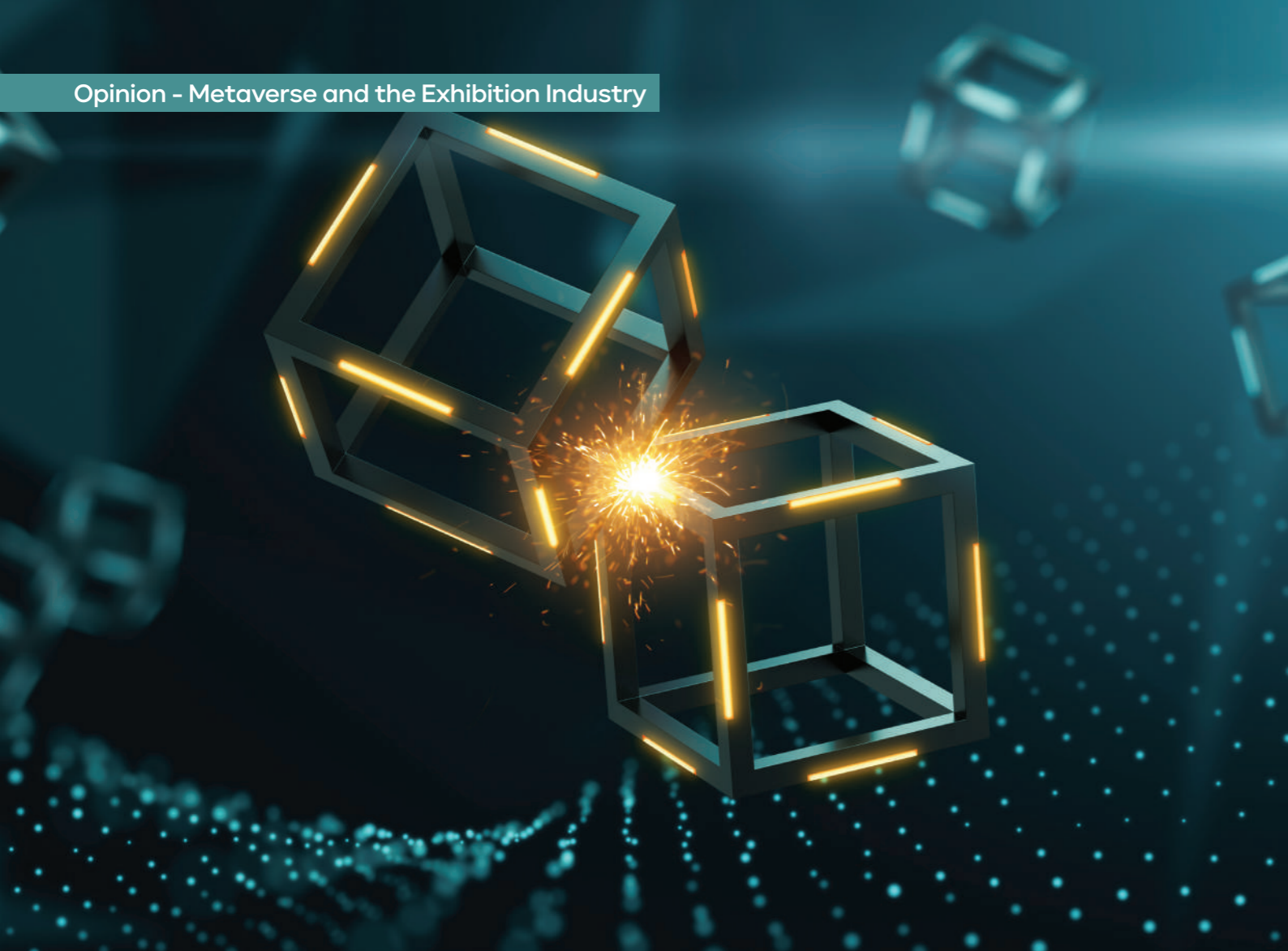
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THE FUTURE AHEAD

Are exhibitions in their physical avatars ideal, or do we prefer the metaverse over it? Below are few insights to plan and decide for ourselves

It is year 2018, Johnny English, an MI 17 agent, is entrusted with the task of fighting the global battle against cyber warfare and enters the home of Jason Volta, a billionaire, in a metaverse environment.

Armed with VR goggles and haptic motion sensors, Mr English is able to navigate the sprawling mansion and achieve success in his operation.

Let's go back a few more years to 1999, the pre-millennium year in which the top-grosser movie 'The Matrix' was released, where humans lived in a virtual world created by AI (Artificial Intelligence),

merrily unaware that it was not the real world.

The concept of Metaverse is not new. Shared digital universes, digital avatars, collaborative workspaces, marketplaces, and more have been around for over 20 years. Let's not forget the website 'Second Life' had a million users in 2003. Linden Dollars, anyone?

Add Blockchain, NFT tokens, Digital currencies, and 5G, and you enter Metaverse 2.0, the repackaged 'ultimate reality' offered to us in 2022.

The Exhibition Industry: Ready for Another Disruption?

If 2020 was the year of 'let's go virtual', 2021 was the year of 'the future is hybrid', and 2022 has been the year of 'there is no substitute for physical exhibitions'.

Globally, the industry opines that the Physical Exhibition industry is done and dusted with its short courtship with the Virtual Exhibition industry.

A handful exhibitions experimented with the hybrid model in early 2022, but as we near the end of 2022, the industry is convinced that physical exhibitions in their basic format have the highest acceptability amongst the exhibitor and visitor community. It offers a preferred transactional platform where goods and services can be seen, evaluated, and ordered during the emotional interface between buyers and sellers.

Having said that, are we ready to organize our exhibitions in the Metaverse? Would this effort be worth it? Do we need to invest in building an environment that will thrive on virtual reality (VR), augmented reality (AR), AI, social media, and digital currency? Are key stakeholders, exhibitors, and visitors keen to don VR goggles and visit exhibitions in a digital avatar?

Social Media Pressure

The Cryptic Cryptocurrency and NFT world is mounting immense social media pressure to convert all physical investments to digital assets. A few crypto experts are quite convinced that whole world will end and get subsumed inside a computing device.

Traditionally humans have invested in physical assets and experiences—Houses, Gold, a Mont Blanc pen, an Hermes bag, an iPhone 14 Pro, that trip to Alaska, or a World Cruise. Does the same investment in a digital NFT give us the same joy of ownership and experience of living it? Think about it.

Humans Thrive on Experiences

In a Metaverse, service providers endeavor to create a virtual world aspirationally, a digital twin of the physical world and expect humans to spend their lives in it.

Honestly, would we prefer to go to Costa Coffee and order a real Americano? Or is a gamified experience of entering a virtual cafe using VR goggles with haptic sensor devices and no coffee to drink good enough for us?

In an exhibition, the key metatag is physical. Physical meetings and discussions, physical examination of machinery and goods—are we ready to junk it? Think about it.

Another key metatag in an exhibition is meeting face to face (F2F). An F2F

“A few exhibitions experimented with the hybrid model in early 2022, but as we near the end of 2022, the industry is convinced that physical exhibitions in their basic format have the highest acceptability within the exhibitor and visitor community. It offers a preferred transactional platform where goods and services can be seen, evaluated, and ordered during the emotional interface between buyers and sellers.”



Sooraj Dhawan
Director
Falcon Exhibitions Pvt Ltd

interaction between humans adds enrichment and makes life beautiful. Are we contented to meet AI-managed virtual human bots and talk business with computing interfaces? Think about it.

Exhibition Industry and Metaverse

In my assessment, despite the commercial pressure by Metaverse companies, exhibitions will continue to be primarily a physical activity.

Virtuality should be tried and attempted on activities that cannot happen physically due to operational constraints. Complicated training for heart surgery or airplane pilot training is a good activity for the Metaverse. But can you bake a brownie without a real oven and eggs?

Exhibitions are a face-to-face medium and shall remain so.

Virtual Meetings Will Grow

If we do not wish to travel physically for meetings, online meeting apps have created reliable software for conducting meetings online. We welcome them and make use of them while sitting in our offices, homes, and coffee shops. In each of these meetings we often talk when are we meeting physically next. Do we need to become a digital avatar, enter a gamified environment, and do the same activity in the metaverse? Think about it.

Making 2023 the Year of Technology

Blockchain is a good system for securing assets and recording transactions. The physical world needs it to prevent fraud and theft and enable better governance. We can use Blockchain ledgers for exhibitor booking, exhibition manual form fulfillment and payment tracking.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) can help exhibitors meet most potential buyers and conclude business transactions. It can also help freight forwarders optimize freight booking costs and reduce transit time. It can also enable faster exhibitor move-in through sequencing algorithms and reduce construction time.

Drones and sensor-monitored CCTV cameras can help us monitor booth build-up and detect any health/safety violations.

Let's think together and make our exhibitions a better experience. Metaverse anyone? **////**

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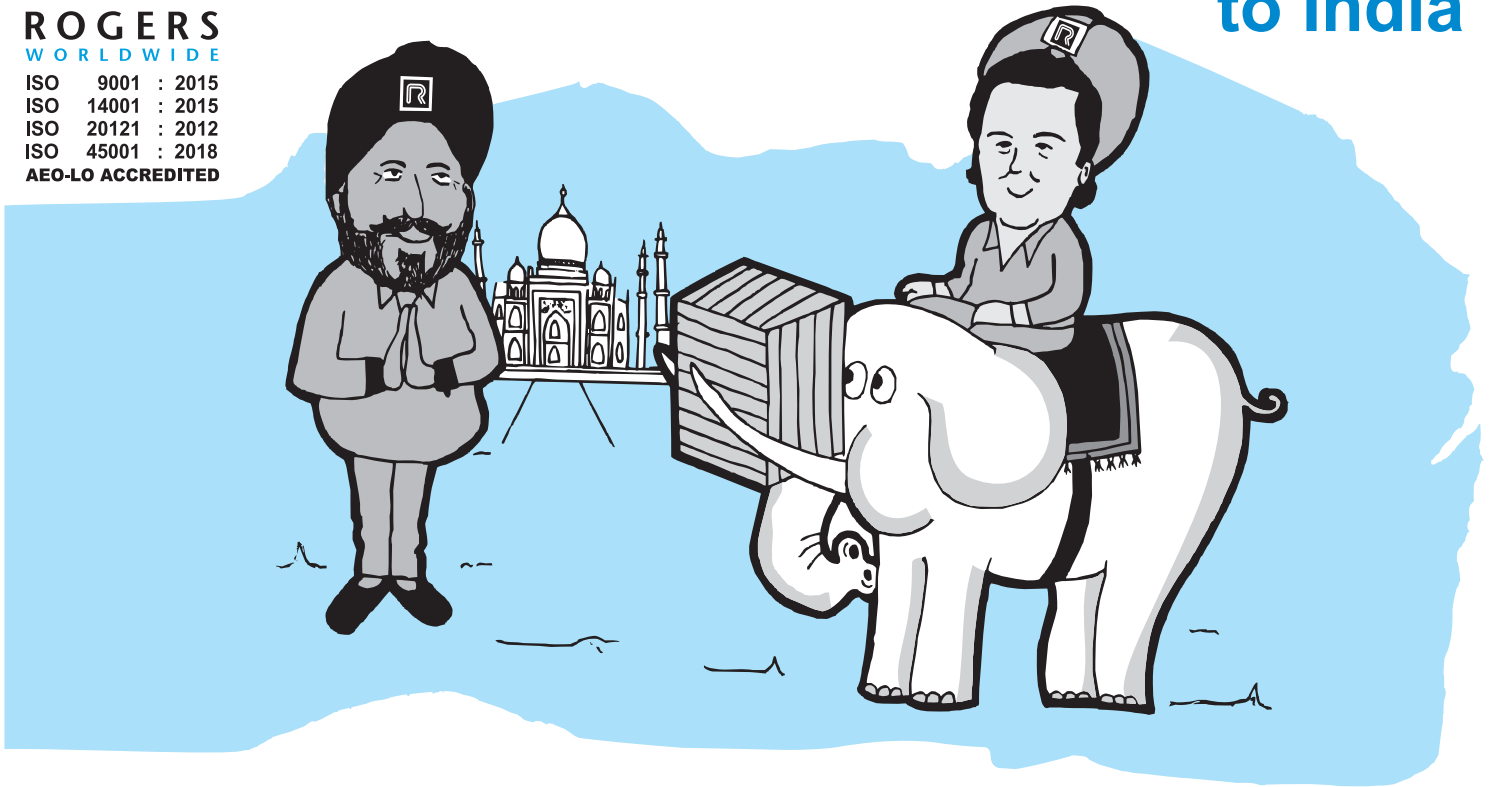
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