

CÉSAR GARBALENA, REMAINS IN FRONT OF AFM FOR TWO MORE YEARS

- The General Assembly of the Spanish Association of Manufacturers of machine tools, components, tools and accessories has been held today telematically from its headquarters in San Sebastián
- César Garbalena, General Director of LOIRE-GESTAMP, has been re-elected President of the Association for a period of two more years



San Sebastian, June 19, 2020.- César Garbalena was re-elected this morning as president of the association of manufacturers of machine tools, components, tools and accessories, AFM Advanced Manufacturing Technologies, for a period of two more years, during the annual assembly of the association, thus giving continuity to the work carried out throughout the last two years. Garbalena is the General Director of the company LOIRE GESTAMP, the largest Spanish company for the manufacture of hydraulic presses. Located in Hernani (Gipuzkoa) since 1962, it has facilities of more than 8,000 square meters, from where they design and manufacture the presses that are installed in production centers across the world. LOIRE GESTAMP, an emblematic company of the deformation subsector, has been part of AFM for more than 50 years.

2020's counts as the first AFM general assembly held telematically. After the presentation of the year-end results for 2019 and the plans for the 2020 financial year, the economist and professor at the University of Oxford Andrea Boltho talked as a guest speaker with a presentation titled "And now, what?". During the event, the association paid tribute to one of its heavyweights and a very dear and respected member, Javier Eguren, for his extensive and successful career in the advanced manufacturing sector, awarding him the AFM golden badge. Two videos by the Provincial Deputy of Gipuzkoa, Markel Olano and the Lehendakari, Iñigo Urkullu have also been broadcast.

The assembly has been joined by The Minister of Economic Development and Infrastructure of the Basque Government, Arantxa Tapia, Marcos Muro, Deputy Minister for Employment and Youth, Estíbaliz Hernáez, Deputy Minister for Technology, Innovation and Competitiveness, Ainhoa Aizpuru, Deputy for Strategic Projects, Imanol Laso, Deputy for Economic Promotion, Tourism and Rural Environment, Jabier Larrañaga, Deputy of Treasury and Finance of the Provincial Council of Gipuzkoa, the General Director of SPRI, Alex Arriola and Javier Serra, General Director of Internationalization of ICEX.

From the business world, the presidents of the various AFM Cluster associations, Alfonso Urzainki, from ADDIMAT, Miguel González, from ESKUIN, Alberto Pérez from AFMEC, Nerea Aranguren from UPTTEK, the director of Confemetal, Andrés Sánchez de Apellaniz, the general director of Elkargi, Zenón Vázquez, ADEGI, José Miguel Ayerza, ANMOPYC, Jorge Cuartero, as well as representatives of numerous companies associated with AFM were in attendance.

FEATURED EVENTS 2020

BIEMH: November 23-27, BEC, Bilbao.

For more information, please contact the Director of the Communication Department, María Ruiz-Lopetedi (maria.ropetedi@afm.es), phone numbers +34 943 309 009 /+34 679 979 083.

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ABOUT AFM CLUSTER

AFM CLUSTER is the organisation that represents the interests of Advanced and Digital Manufacturing in Spain. Made up of five industry associations, it groups more than 500 companies, which employ 16,500 people and have a joint turnover of over 3,000 million euros. From its headquarters in San Sebastian, and its set-up in Tianjin (China), AFM CLUSTER works to promote the internationalisation, industrial development, strategic positioning and training of people in its associated companies. The five related and synergistic sectors that AFM CLUSTER provides services to are the following:

- Machine-tool and advanced manufacturing technologies. AFM-Advanced Manufacturing Technologies is the founding association, which gives its name to the cluster. With more than 70 years of history, it has 127 members that provide the industry with machine tools and other equipment for the manufacture of components, accessories and cutting tools.
- Additive Manufacturing and 3D Printing. ADDIMAT brings together 92 companies operating in this new sector, destined to be a relevant part in many industrial sectors, such as, for example, the aerospace, biomedical and automotive sectors.
- Hand Tools, Hardware and Industrial Supply. ESKUIN represents 22 companies that manufacture hand tools and hardware products in Spain, under the highest standards of quality and safety.
- Machining and Metal-Mechanical Transformation. AFMEC joins the machining and meta-mechanical transformation workshop collective. With more than 185 member companies, it aims to give visibility and services to one of the most important industrial groups in Spain.
- Technology-based companies and startups. UPTTEK represents 75 technological companies and startups dedicated to advanced and digital manufacturing.

AFM CLUSTER also has 78 services companies for the industry as partners. All these companies form the great family of advanced and digital manufacturing in Spain. AFM CLUSTER forms part of various international associations such as CECIMO, ECTA or CEO, and organises trade fairs and international events such as BIEMH, ADDIT3D, INDUSTRY TOOLS, SUBCONTRATACIÓN, WORKINN, BEDIGITAL or the CMH-Congress of Advanced Manufacturing and Machine Tools.