



JOSÉ PÉREZ BERDUD, ELECTED PRESIDENT OF AFM CLUSTER

- *The General Assembly of the Spanish Association of Manufacturers of Machine Tools, Accessories, Parts and Tools was held today at the Auditorium of the Gipuzkoa Science and Technology Park*
- *José Pérez Berdud, CEO/general manager of FAGOR AUTOMATION was elected as president of the association, taking over from César Garbalena*



San Sebastian, 13 May 2022.- José Pérez Berdud was elected to the two-year tenure as president of the association of manufacturers of machine tools, accessories, parts and tools, AFM Advanced Manufacturing Technologies, at the association's annual assembly held this morning.

55-year old José Pérez Berdud, from Zumarraga (Gipuzkoa), is a Technical Electronic Engineer with an MBA from Mondragon University. He has been working at Fagor Automation since he entered the workforce in 1993 as a technician in the Research and Development department. He

has held a series of positions at the company, relating to manufacturing, logistics and purchases, acting as industrial director from 2005 to 2016, when he became CEO/general manager.

Fagor Automation develops and manufactures automation and machine control products and employs a staff of almost 700. In operation for over 40 years, it has 14 subsidiaries and over 30 offices distributed worldwide. It has its own technological centre, Fagor Aotek, with 36 active patents, and allocates over 10% of sales to R&D&i, as well as having around 90 researchers, 12 of whom are doctors.

The new president of the sectoral association is also widely experienced with AFM, being a board member since 2016. He is also a delegate of the European manufacturers' association, CECIMO, of which AFM has been a member since 1962.

In parallel to the AFM general assembly in which Pérez Berdud was elected and César Garbalena stood down, the assembly meetings were also held for the other four associations forming AFM Cluster: ADDIMAT, ESKUIN, AFMEC and UPTTEK.



After the general assemblies, all the attendees gathered at a joint celebration event, “2022 Advanced and Digital Manufacturing Day”, at which, after a presentation on the economic outlook by Xabier Ortueta, general manager of AFM Cluster, guest presentations were given by Tirso Maldonado and Isabel Moreno. During the event, the association paid tribute to two persons who are very beloved and respected in the sector, José Antonio Iriondo, of the company GRIP-ON, and José Ignacio Nicolás Correa of the group NICOLÁS CORREA, who were presented with the AFM gold insignia. José Ignacio Nicolás Correa also received a facsimile edition of the association's 1946 founding document, signed by his father, Baldomero Nicolás Correa.

The closing ceremony was attended by Arantxa Tapia, the Basque Government's regional minister of Economic Development, Sustainability and Environment, Markel Olano, president of the Regional Council of Gipuzkoa, and Galo Gutiérrez, the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism's general director of Industry and SMEs. Also in attendance were, Ane Beitia, mayor of Elgoibar, Mikel Amundarain, deputy minister for Industry of the Basque Government, Estibaliz Hernáez, deputy minister for Technology, Innovation and Competitiveness of the Basque Government, Cristina Uriarte, commissioner for Science, Technology and Innovation, and Aitor Urzelai, general manager of SPRI.

From the business world, the presidents of the AFM Cluster associations, Miguel González of ESKUIN, Aitor Alkorta of AFMEC, Nerea Aranguren of UPTEK, Mariel Díaz of ADDIMAT, the president of AIMHE, José Ignacio Ortiz de Urbina, the president of Gaia, Elena Zárraga, Javier Zubía, the president of the Mondragon Corporation, Íñigo Ucín, the president of ADEGI, Eduardo Junkera and its director, José Miguel Ayerza, as well as representatives from several companies associated to AFM.

EVENTS

13 MAY, AFM CLUSTER ASSEMBLY, Gipuzkoa Science and Technology Park

13-17 JUNE BIEMH, BEC, Bilbao

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ABOUT AFM CLUSTER

AFM CLUSTER is the organisation that represents the interests of Advanced and Digital Manufacturing. Made up of six industry associations, it groups almost 700 companies, which employ 16,500 people and have a joint turnover of over 3 billion 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 six related and synergistic sectors that AFM CLUSTER provides services to are the following:

- Machine-tool and advanced manufacturing technologies. AFM is the founding association, which gives its name to the CLUSER. With 75 years of experience, it has 128 members.
- Additive Manufacturing and 3D Printing. ADDIMAT brings together 108 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 to the highest standards of quality and safety.
- Machining and Metal-Mechanical Transformation. With 173 member companies, AFMEC aims to bring visibility and services to one of the most important industrial groups in Spain.
- Technology-based companies and startups. UPTEK represents 147 technological companies and startups dedicated to advanced and digital manufacturing.
- Companies offering smart tech for advanced manufacturing. STECH groups together 57 businesses to form a collective with specific offerings in smart tech for manufacturing.

AFM CLUSTER also has 92 services companies for the industry as partners. AFM CLUSTER forms part of different international associations, such as CECIMO, ECTA or CEO, it is the co-organiser, along with BEC -Bilbao Exhibition Centre-, of the international fairs BIEMH, ADDIT3D, WORKINN and BEDIGITAL and it actively collaborates in the fairs INDUSTRY TOOLS and SUBCONTRATACIÓN. It is a co-organiser of CMH - Congress on Advanced and Digital Manufacturing and Machine Tools.