

ELEVATOR WORLD

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EFESME FORMAL PRESENTATION AT INTERLIFT

At Interlift 2005, the new European Federation for Elevator Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (EFESME) was formally presented to stakeholders and special press members. Giovanni Ferrarini and Oronzo Centoducati, respectively president and vice-president of EFESME, held a press conference to explain the aims of the new group and to introduce the three new member organizations that have joined the five founding members.

EFESME, which was created in April 2005 (ELEVATOR WORLD, June 2005) as a nonprofit association according to Belgian law, is based in Brussels and draws together small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) belonging to all sectors of the lift industry. Indeed, the creation of EFESME was in response to the important structural changes taking place in the European lift market, which lacked an effective mouthpiece committed to specific SMEs' interests.

Today, EFESME represents six European Union (EU) member states and embodies a wider European initiative aimed at redefining SMEs' representation. This group constantly promotes its presence at the European level, seeking a common and meaningful participation in the technical sector, and normative evolution for the lift sector. EFESME's goal is twofold: to represent the interests of all SMEs, such as installers, contractors, manufacturers and/or component producers; and to provide European institutions with technical and informative support, offering a clear and comprehensive view about the manufacturing systems of lifts, including the normative implications. Consequently, EFESME will be actively involved in all matters that directly or indirectly affect SMEs, and their survival in the open market.

EFESME current activities and priorities include:

- Defining common initiatives between member organizations to promote national debate on European issues
- Opening dialogue with other European organizations from lift-related sectors, drafting political and technical shared positions for submission to European institutions and setting up an information-exchange framework to encourage permanent dialogue and reflection among its members
- Developing functional actions supporting the constitution of national SME associations where they do not exist, and providing the necessary assistance to successfully cope with EU methodology and structure. EFESME is open to both installer and component producer organizations. According to its charter, all national lift SME associations from EU member states can join as Full members. Moreover, such SME associations from European countries not a part of the EU can join as Associate members. EFESME is currently working to increase its membership.

EFESME Full members:

- Belgium: FAI - Federation des Ascensoristes Independants
- Hungary: Hungarian Association of Elevator Companies
- Italy: Association of Italian Associations (ANACAM), Italian Association of Lift Component Manufacturers (ANICA) and Confartigianato-Ascensoristi
- The Netherlands: Nederlandse Liftechnische Bedrijven (NLB)
- Poland: Employer Association from Elevator Branch
- Slovak Republic: Slovak Association of Lift Installers.



Members of the EFESME board of directors: (l-r) De Fusco, Trudnowski, Ferrarini, Centoducati, Vergati, Lukaacs and Tuchyna



Attendees