BUSINESS FORUM / 5th Edition
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BolognaFiere – Italy

INITIATIVE

‘From e-mail to handshake’
‘From virtual contact to real business opportunities’

With this initiative FARETE Business Forum was launched in 2012, gathering hundreds of Italian companies in one place in Bologna for a two days event full of networking activities, conferences and new business opportunities.

ORGANIZER

FARETE is organized by Unindustria Bologna, an industrial association, established in 2007 to gather, represent the concerns and interests of entrepreneurs of Bologna. Unindustria Bologna with over 2,000 member companies is one of the largest enterprise associations in Italy. Unindustria Bologna is a member of Confindustria - the Confederation of Italian Manufacturing and Service Companies. With 259 member associations, Confindustria represents 147,000 companies, accounting for more than five million individuals.
The mission of Unindustria Bologna is to represent its members in relation to institutions, trade unions and banks. Unindustria Bologna is also a large organization employing more than 60 experts.

Composition of sectors belonging to Unindustria Bologna

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Metalworking and mechanical engineering</td>
<td>40.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information and communication technology</td>
<td>6.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Construction related products and interiors</td>
<td>4.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing and textiles</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and beverage</td>
<td>2.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paper products and publishing</td>
<td>4.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical and related</td>
<td>7.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity, water and waste disposal</td>
<td>2.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other industrial sectors</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transportation and logistics</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tertiary sector</td>
<td>14.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tourism, culture, sports and wellness</td>
<td>3.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

HISTORY

Farete was created in 2009 as a social network, with the sole purpose of connecting companies on the web, and to facilitate the meeting of supply and demand.
In 2012, Unindustria decided to transform this network to a larger scale by creating an annual business forum that brings Italian companies in one place. A new initiative was born ‘From e-mail to handshake’ ‘From virtual contact to real business opportunities’ and new business achievements were done.

To create the right business environment with new business opportunities for Italian companies, a set of activities is organized every year:
- Dedicated mentoring for Start-ups
- B2B meetings
- Conferences
- Workshops
- A large exhibition area

**KEY FIGURES 2015**

- more than 600 exhibiting companies
- more than 14,000 visitors during the two days
- 2,500 appointments set through the portal’s scheduler
- 41 workshops
- 20,000 sq.m. of exposition space

**FARETE INTERNATIONAL CLUB**

Since 2013 international delegation of economic operators are invited to FARETE INTERNATIONAL CLUB, where they can have B2B meetings with Italian expositors.

**Edition 2014:**
- International Club stand of 250 sq.m.
- 32 foreign buyers from 11 countries
- 101 companies involved in the International Club
- 303 meetings B2B.

**Edition 2015:**
- International club stand of 500 sq.m.
- 77 foreign operators from 24 different countries
- About 200 companies involved in the International Club
- An outstanding total of 834 B2B meetings

For more information
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