

October 2010

Legal Industry Council of IFMA

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Message From Your President

I read recently that the president of the Segway company was killed while riding one of the vehicles his company made. He apparently rode it off a 30 foot cliff and into a river. While I obviously feel remorse for the loss of life. I could not



help having a "Roadrunner" moment when I read this. A little "beep,beep" went off in my head, followed by that "whoosh" accompanied by a cloud of smoke. I never trusted those things. They looked broken from the beginning. There is an older gentleman I see on occasion riding one on Park Ave. in the early morning hours when cars are scarce. He has attached two canes to the handlebars which rock back and forth. I assume they are supposed to stop the forward motion if he is about to "face plant". Think of that, two wooden canes to fix a \$7200.00 dollar vehicle. Yep, it's broken.

Ironically the owner of Segway, Jimi Heselden, made all his money by providing an alternative for sandbags at military encampments. He built a better sandbag. He fixed it. Jimi actually took a look at what mankind had been using for thousands of years, sandbags, and said there has to be a better way. That new way was the Hesco bastion barrier system, which is now used worldwide to protect people. If only there had been one near the side of that cliff.

This is what we do. We fix things. We make things work better, smarter and faster. Sometimes we invent things so we do not have to fix them later. We are like Scotty in the engine room when Captain Kirk is calling for more power. Only we have to provide it in separate quadrants, with a high ROI, and we must make sure there is no offensive smell associated with the aforementioned more power. We cannot say "Cap'n if I give it any more power it's gonna blow!!" Our Captain Kirk needs it now. When things break we cannot say "that was an anomaly" even if it is in fact a bird that does not fly. We need to get er done.

Many times we get it done with the help of our peers. We take advice and use it. We share ideas to create new solutions. I keep an entire electronic file on all the subjects that come up on what was the list

serve and is now IFMA community which I refer to constantly. I do this because the people making the suggestions and sharing the ideas are smart people. They are innovative on a daily basis. I think of FM's and OS managers and

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Operations managers as organisms that quickly adapt and make the environment in which they operate easier to survive in.

On October 26th 2010 we will be having the annual business meeting of the Legal industry Council. It is scheduled for 3:00PM EDT. We will be coming to you live from King & Spalding in Atlanta. Please mark your calendar so you can join us, via teleconference if you won't be in Atlanta, to offer your ideas, your solutions and even your problems. We need your participation. We need suggestions on what you think should be in or edited out of the next benchmarking survey. We need you. Without your participation, we are just rolling along the river bank waiting to hear the inevitable "beep beep"...cue smoke.

Stay Positive

Mark E. Roberts LIC President

UPCOMING EVENTS!

Legal Industry Council Annual Business Meeting

October 26, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. EDT King & Spalding (Atlanta, Ga., USA) Or via teleconference at 1-866-846-3997 / participant code: 795439

IFMA's World Workplace Conference & Expo

Oct. 27-29, 2010 Atlanta, Ga., USA

IFMA's World Workplace is hosted annually by the <u>International Facility Management Association</u> (IFMA), the largest and most widely recognized professional association for facility management.



Creating Efficient Law Firm Facilities Across a Global Platform Webinar November 2, 2010 at 11:00 a.m. Central Time

Whether you manage a few facilities in a region, several in the United States or multiple facilities across the world, Mace Macro, an award winning international facilities management and consultancy firm, will share its expertise in how you can overcome and address challenges, create standards across facilities, countries, cultures and languages, identify when / where location specific exceptions are made (when you 'bend the rules') and manage performance of a global / national facilities portfolio. Creating Efficient Law Firm Facilities Across a Global Platform



Click on the link below to RSVP to this webinar! https://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dGJVaTIXaHBKLW50dHlvYzhxcnB0ZGc6MA

<u>About the LIC:</u> The Legal Industry council shares information among FMs from law firms and legal departments in corporations, academic institutions and government agencies. Discussions center on topics such as space planning and utilization, creative office services, outsourcing, regulatory information, emerging technology and software solutions.

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The cost of admission for the tour will be paid for by the LIC for those who attend the LIC business meeting on October 26th at the offices of King & Spalding at 3:00PM EDT. Agenda to follow. Contact Mark Roberts at mroberts@kslaw.com.



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Member Spotlight- Jeannie Nguyen, Council Liaison



This month we're shining our Spotlight on a guest rather than a member. We thought that those of you who don't know her might like to meet Jeannie Nguyen, our Council Liaison at IFMA in Houston. Jeannie supports the Council and the Board in numerous ways and we wanted to bring her out from behind the scenes. If you plan to attend World Work-place in Atlanta you may cross paths with Jeannie there or you can contact her any time at jeannie.nguyen@ifma.org or (713) 623-4362 x120.

Please give Legal Council members a brief description of your duties as Council Liaison and what assistance you're able to offer members who are not on the Board.

As Council Liaison I support all aspects of the Council. I am responsible for providing total administrative support and strategic direction to Association Councils. I also maintain Council web sites, create newsletters, moderate webinars and administer online community postings on Community Server. For members not on the Board I am able to answer any questions in regards to membership, upcoming events and any Council information. If you do not know who to contact within IFMA for an educational question or benchmarking you can contact me I will direct you to the appropriate person.

How long have you been Council Liaison? If you've held other positions at IFMA what were they?

I have been with IFMA since July 2006. I am currently the liaison for 10 of 16 councils: Academic Facilities, Airport Facilities, Banking Institutions and Credit Union, Corporate Real Estate, Environmental Health and Safety, FM Consultants, Health Care, Legal Industry, Museums/Cultural Institutions and Research and Development. I have only been in the councils department which is part of the overall membership team. To tell you the truth, I would not want to be anywhere else except for working with members and council leaders with whom I get daily interaction. I enjoy working at IFMA and at council events, especially when I get to meet the members face to face.

What tips can you give members to help them take full advantage of their Council memberships?

Get involved! Take advantage of your membership and get involved in your Council. Write a short blurb for the newsletter, post a reply/question to the online community, conduct a webinar for the members, and join a committee or a Board position within the Council. The Council is a great resource for information sharing and networking among those in the same industry.

Do you happen to have any interesting articles you have read or written that you'd like to share with your fellow LIC members? Please email <u>genglish@cgsh.com</u>.



Legal Industry Council—Online Community

TIPS FOR NAVIGATING:

After your first login, you <u>must</u> subscribe yourself to the council postings to activate email deliverability to all council postings, similar to the listserv. You are <u>not</u> automatically subscribed to email delivery.

1. Log in to http://www.ifmacommunity.org

2. Click on Forums on the top left menu tab

3. Click on Forum Subscriptions (located on the left hand side of the page, under Shortcuts)

4. You can then change the default setting from not receiving subscriptions to receive postings via email. **Click under the Subscription to "YES**" (to receive postings by email similar to the listserv) **or "NO"** (which means you will need to login to the IFMA Online Community to view the discussions) The subscription's default setting is "NO" in order to change it to "YES" simply click on the "NO".

TIPS FOR POSTING & REPLYING TO QUESTIONS:

1. To **reply** to emails that you receive, you can post your responses (just like the listserv).

2. If you would like to **post a new message/question** to the Legal Industry Council Online Community without having to login to IFMA Online Community, just send your email to this email address for your specific council, <u>lc.council@ifmacommunity.org</u>. This will allow for you to post and reply by email, similar to the listserv tool we were using.

Legal Industry Council Web site Click here: <u>http://www.ifmalic.org/</u>

Check out the LIC Web site for the latest information on conferences, officers contacts and much more!



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