



How to succeed in this dynamic FM profession.



Facilities Management (FM) is a multi-disciplinary profession whose objective is to ensure that facilities and support services are operated and maintained with the security, safety, health, comfort and productivity of their occupants in mind. To succeed in this dynamic profession, FM requires people with a mindset to see beyond the bolts and nuts of the building. An FM professional has to be a **people person, flexible and adaptable** to the needs and changes of the organization in his care, and also treat fm like a business. FM professional who are new to the job may find the sheer number of tasks somewhat overwhelming. They should take a cue from the saying ***“To start, you don’t have to be good. To be good , you have to start”***.

To succeed in FM, you have to learn step by step and be willing to adapt your approach to the needs of each organisation you are working with. Here are some pointer to help you chart your progress in the FM profession.

Know what you have. Be aware of the facilities and services that support the organisation that is under your management. Find out about the air-conditioning and communication systems, as well as the janitorial and security services that have a major impact on the organization's effectiveness and efficiency.

Plan and manage. FM is often dynamic and you need to be on top of certain key operations. After finding out what facilities you have, pay attention to those that may have a high impact on the organisation should they be disrupted or those which form the bulk of the organization's operating and capital expenses. These are critical facilities and services that need to be managed well with a effective plan. Any disruptions to them or downtime may incur significant losses to the organisation.

Project performance. Your ability to predict the short and long-term performance of the facilities and services will impress your management. They will be aware of your team’s ready support of the organization's strategic plans to anticipate and meet the challenges of business competition.

Enhance and innovate. When things are under control and you have gained some experience in fm, look for ways to create and retain value and generate income or offset expenses. There are numerous opportunities to enhance systems and processes in FM - you just need the information, knowledge and skills to do them.

A career in FM can be promising for someone who is competent, both in the knowledge of FM and the skills to do it.

Upcoming workshop:

December 2011

- IFMA’s FMP: Project Management on the 8th & 9th December 2011

- CFP Intermediate Level: Facilities Operations & Maintenance on 12th & 13th

January 2012

- CFP Foundation : Facilities Management Essentials on the 5th & 6th Jan

- How FM can add value to organisation on the 16th & 17th Jan

February 2012

- CFP Foundation : Facilities Management Essentials on the 2nd & 3rd Feb

- CFP Intermediate Level: Facilities Operations & Maintenance on 13th & 14th

- IFMA’s FMP: Leadership & Strategy Essentials on the 20th & 21st Feb 2012