



43rd ASEAN Glass Conference preview

With *Glass Worldwide* as official journal, the 43rd ASEAN Glass Conference will be hosted by the Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines (GMAPI) in Mactan, Cebu on 14-17 October 2019. Conference Chairman, Gilbert Alvarez, explains how the event will bring together leading personalities from South East Asia's regional glass communities to meet their peers and international suppliers.

GW: What can visitors expect from the 43rd ASEAN Glass Conference, to be staged for the twelfth time in the Philippines and the fifth occasion in Cebu?

Cebu, Philippines has always been a great destination for a conference. It is accessible to many parts of the world and very conducive to the exchange of ideas, learning new innovations and forging new partnerships. The conference aims to provide an effective venue for technology providers and AFGM members to connect and learn from each other and develop fruitful endeavours. The conference will provide industry insights, economic briefings on the Philippines and ASEAN, a business connect and a technical forum. It will also showcase the culture and what the Philippines can offer to the rest of the world.

GW: What was the motivation to adopt the theme 'Glass – Inspiring New Frontiers of Development' for the conference?

Glass has always inspired man to be innovative and creative in all his daily pursuits. It has been a key in the development of modern building, effective preservation and distribution of food, the development of new technologies and innovation, as well as in the creation of art.

The theme for this year's conference, 'Glass - Inspiring New Frontiers of Development' highlights the continuing role of glass in progress and development and at the same time, poses a challenge and call to the glass industry about the role we play in future development, innovations and in creating new frontiers for glass to lead. The conference also hopes to inspire the industry to be more proactive in developing new technologies that address social, economic



The 39th ASEAN Glass Conference, staged in Cebu in 2015, attracted approximately 300 attendees from 24 different countries in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North America and Oceania.

and environmental trends, as well as future customer demands. Customer requirements tend to become stricter over time and the technology should be ahead of it.

The environmental impact of a product has started to be at the forefront of issues faced by all industries and it may soon be a major determinant of survival. We know that glass, by its nature, has been and will always be a premier material in many industries, be

it packaging or construction especially with regard to the environment and recyclability. However, it needs continuous support, innovation and exploration of its very nature and character to be able to harness its full potential. To this end, the conference wishes to inspire further exploration of glass, create and discover new frontiers of what glass can do and how the inherent goodness of glass as a material can be of further benefit. ▶



In addition to the technical programme, attendees benefit from a social programme aimed at strengthening business networking and collaboration.



The technical conference session will be a full day event, with papers adopting the theme 'Glass – Inspiring New Frontiers of Development'.



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Emmanuel Alcantara is Chairman of the Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines.

GW: How beneficial will the technical conference presentations be to attendees?

The technical session will be a whole day event and is designed to maximise participation and interaction. It will have well-screened papers and may feature a moderated, panel-type forum on special topics.

GW: How important will the networking opportunities be during the event?

The ASEAN Glass Conference has always been well-attended by industry representatives, not only from ASEAN countries but also from different parts of the world. The design of the conference is meant to foster bonds and interactions among delegates. There will be business connect sessions and areas where technology providers and users can have time to clarify needs and expectations, as well as creating new ties and strengthening relationships.

GW: What role does the Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines Inc (GMAPI) play in the glass industry in the ASEAN region?

GMAPI has been very active in the AFGM and has always been supportive of its plans and programmes. *Glass Worldwide* has been the official partner of the AFGM for a long time and is very effective in disseminating information about the organisation. It has also proved to be instrumental in the successful conduct of the conference. ●



GMAPI Chairman, Emmanuel Alcantara (third from left) and AFGM Chairman, Thai Tran Quoc (second from right), with representatives from fellow AFGM member associations at the 42nd ASEAN Glass Conference in Indonesia last year.



The 43rd ASEAN Glass Conference is the twelfth to be staged in the Philippines.

ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers

With Emmanuel Alcantara as Chairman, the Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines is a member of the ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers (AFGM), now in its 42nd year as a regional industry association, composed of glass manufacturers in South East Asia. Fellow member associations include the Indonesian Glass Manufacturers Association, Glass Manufacturers Association of Malaysia, Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries and Vietnam Glass Association (Vieglass).

Earlier this year, Thai Tran Quoc, Honorary Chairman of Vieglass, was appointed AFGM Chairman. With Vieglass being an AFGM member since 2009 and boasting more than 100 members, Mr Thai Tran Quoc commented: "This is the first time a representative of Vieglass has taken over the AFGM chairmanship. It's a real honour rendered to Vieglass and to me personally. Together with national chairmen, we will do our best to make AFGM's activities more effective, in order to develop collaboration among our member associations continually."



AFGM Chairman Thai Tran Quoc with immediate past Chairman Viwat Supatham at the 42nd ASEAN Glass Conference.

Further information:

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