

The Piedmont Technological District Meets Mechatronics

The fifth Mechatronics Forum was a great success, with more than 700 visitors attending in Turin.

Conceived by the **Federazione ANIE** and staged in partnership with **Messe Frankfurt Italia**, the Mechatronics Forum is a must-attend event for Italy's mechatronics supply chain. An opportunity to talk and stay abreast of the latest developments in this specific sphere of automation, the *Forum Meccatronica* welcomed more than **700 visitors** to the CNH Village in Turin. The **Mechatronics Group** at **ANIE Automazione** — an association that, as part of the Federazione ANIE, represents factory automation technology, processes and networking supply companies, and which is the *de facto* focal point for industry players in Italy, staged the fifth edition of the Forum, which was titled: "Italian Manufacturing Experience during the Transition to 4.0: Technologies and Skills".

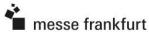
The day offered a chance to delve into this world at the meeting spaces, where 35 partners met with industry players and enjoyed the benefits of networking, as well as at conference sessions covering the three main areas of design, manufacturing and performance.

Sabina Cristini, Chairperson of the *Gruppo Meccatronica*, says: "The day was put on to underline that these technologies are here today, and that they offer opportunities throughout the value chain, enabling results in terms of competitivity and productivity. Interaction among supply chain players is vital. At the Mechatronics Group, we came up with this idea of fostering dialogue and stimulation in a roadshow format, an approach that also promotes dialogue with academia and local technological districts."

Francesca Selva, Vice President Marketing & Events at Messe Frankfurt Italia, says: "The *Forum Meccatronica* is one of the events in our busy calendar. It helps players in different spheres to engage in dialogue, fostering cross-pollination between different experiences and driving innovation. The approach deployed at Meccatronica continues at the E2 Forum for the elevator, escalator and building automation industry (October 24-25); the Industrial Software Forum, dedicated to software solutions for industry (February 6); SPS IPC Drives Italia, a trade fair for industrial automation and the digital sphere (Parma, May 28-29, 2019) and the Remote Control Forum for publicly-useful networks in October 2019."



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The roadshow format specifically addresses and involves the area it targets. Speakers at the opening session included **Francesco Mosca**, Head of Competitivity and Innovation at Confindustria, Piedmont Region; **Franco Deregibus**, Head of the Digital Innovation Hub (DIH Piedmont); and **Giuseppina De Santis**, Councilor for Productive Activities. The event featured a sneak preview of annual data on territorial skills put together by the **Milan Polytechnic**. After travelling to provinces in Lombardy and Veneto, Emilia and the Marches, this year's analysis focuses on the entrepreneurial fabric of the Piedmont region. Along with previous editions, the results will be available online after the full presentation, which is scheduled to take place at the SPS IPC Drives Italia press conference.

Giambattista Gruosso, Professor at the Milan Polytechnic and curator of the Mechatronic Skills Mapping exercise, says: "The trend picked up in previous surveys is for a growing awareness of the role of automation, innovation and digitization under the framework of Industry 4.0. Spending on research and development is on the rise, and this is the backbone of Mechatronics 4.0."

The Forum Meccatronica is next being held in **September 2019**, in **Tuscany**.

www.forumeccatronica.it/en

ANIE Automazione represents and supports companies operating in the following industrial sectors: Process Automation, Variable Speed Drives, HMI, IPC, SCADA, PLC, Distributed I/O, Mechatronics, Components and Technologies for Measurement and Control, Industrial Software, Remote Control Systems and Automation of Networks, Intelligent Transport Systems, UPS. ANIE Confindustria, with over 1,300 member companies and about 468,000 employees, is the most strategic and advanced area among Italian industrial sectors, with aggregate turnover of 78 billion euros in 2017. Its member companies invest 4% of their total turnover in R&D - more than 30% of the entire R&D investment made by the private sector in Italy. Further information is available on: www.anie.it - www.anie.utomazione.it

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