

PRESS RELEASE



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Contact: Alex Duggan, 480-620-8082
MediaIFMAPhoenix@cox.net

IFMA Phoenix Unveils Live Educational Training for New Sustainability Facility Professional Credential

PHOENIX, AZ (July 19, 2011) – Facility management professionals throughout the Southwest have a new training opportunity to help them make a positive impact on their company’s financial and environmental bottom lines – the new IFMA Sustainability Facility Professional (SFP) Credential Program. More than a building certification or a rating system, the SFP credential helps facility professionals play a key leadership role by creating, managing, and operating sustainable facilities and to continually improve their facility’s impact on the environment and the community.

The Greater Phoenix Chapter of the International Facility Management Association (IFMA Phoenix) will be among the first to offer live, instructor-led programs. The 7-day course will be offered Aug. 25 & 26, Sept. 8 & 9, and Oct. 5-7, 2011, in Scottsdale, AZ.

Who should pursue the SFP Credential?

IFMA’s SFP credential is designed for facility managers (FM) and like-minded professionals with an interest in sustainable practices, including:

- Facility management practitioners with a baseline of FM industry knowledge;
- FM professionals with proven experience transitioning into sustainability-related positions;
- Related industry practitioners, such as building owners, architects, designers, and safety engineers; and
- Certified Facility Managers® (CFM®) and Facility Management Professionals (FMP®) interested in expanding their depth of expertise in the area of sustainable facility management.

The SFP is open to all professionals, and those pursuing the credential are not required to have the association’s Facility Management Professional or Certified Facility Manager® designation beforehand. A foundation of facility management knowledge, however, is needed to get the most out of the program.

The SFP Credential

Earning the SFP credential helps teach facility managers how to implement sustainability concepts that align with corporate strategy. The program offers training and assessment materials in three course areas: Strategy and Alignment for Sustainable Facility Management, Managing Sustainable Facilities, and Operating Sustainable Facilities. The SFP Credential Program will equip practitioners to: integrate sustainability efforts with their organizations’ values and strategies, present a business case for sustainability initiatives, evaluate their efforts from a financial perspective, and track and report their progress. For more information about the program, visit www.ifma.org/sfp.

Where to find the SFP Credential Program

IFMA Phoenix will offer a series of instructor-led SFP trainings in the Phoenix area and Southwest region beginning in August and taught by Patrick Okamura, CFM, CSS, CIAQM, SFP, LEED AP BD+C, IFMA Fellow and Facility Manager at General Dynamics C4 Systems.

The all-day classes for the 7-day course will be held:*

- Monday and Tuesday, July 25 & 26, 2011
- Thursday and Friday, August 25 & 26
- Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, September 7-9, 2011 (note, Sept. 9 is a ½ day class)

**Note: all classes must be attended in order to be eligible to earn the SFP Certification.*

Pricing: Members: \$1,400 / Non-members: \$1,500 and includes continental breakfast and lunch. Registration is now open and class size is limited to first-come, first-served. To register or for more information, visit www.ifmaphoenix.org.

About the Greater Phoenix Chapter of IFMA

IFMA is the world's largest and most widely recognized international association for professional facility managers, supporting more than 19,500 members in 78 countries. The association's members, represented in 125 chapters and 16 councils worldwide, manage more than 37 billion square feet of property and annually purchase more than US\$100 billion in products and services. Formed in 1980, IFMA certifies facility managers, conducts research, provides educational programs and produces World Workplace, the world's largest facility management conference and exposition.

The Greater Phoenix Chapter of IFMA is one of the top association chapters in the world. They are dedicated to continuous improvement of the facility management profession by providing relevant educational and networking opportunities for our membership while supporting the community as a whole. To join and follow IFMA's social media outlets online, visit [NETworkplace page](#) at www.worldworkplace.org. For more information, visit [IFMA press room](#) or www.ifmaphoenix.org.

About Patrick Okamura, Instructor for IFMA Phoenix SFP Credential Program

**Patrick Okamura, CFM, CSS, CIAQM, SFP, LEED AP BD+C, IFMA Fellow
Facility Manager at General Dynamics C4 Systems**

With 30 years of Facilities Management experience, Patrick manages a 1.6M square foot campus for General Dynamics C4 Systems in Scottsdale, Arizona which include responsibilities for operations and maintenance, construction, engineering, site tenant services and facilities IT needs. Patrick guided General Dynamics C4 Systems to achieve their first and second corporate LEED EB Certified buildings in 2005 and 2009. Patrick has supported numerous local and national corporate Facilities Organizations to achieve Existing Building LEED Certification as well. Patrick holds an MBA and a Master of Arts in organizational management from the University of Phoenix, and a Masters of Science degree in construction with an emphasis in facilities management from Arizona State University.

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