



International Federation of Hospital Engineering

The International Federation of Hospital Engineering (IFHE) is a non-profit, non-governmental body that was established in 1970 to enable national engineering professional organisations to join in a worldwide federation. The purpose of IFHE is to encourage and facilitate exchange of information and experience in the broad field of hospital and healthcare facility design, construction, engineering, commissioning, maintenance and estate management.

Membership of IFHE has spread to over 30 countries, embracing some 11,000 people. In addition to national healthcare engineering organisations, IFHE admits governmental institutions, corporate consultants and commercial and industrial firms as members, as well as individuals or small groups of interested people.

IFHE is recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO) in Geneva as a non-governmental organisation in official relations with the WHO.

Objectives

- To promote, develop and disseminate hospital engineering technology;
- To compare international experience;
- To promote the principle of integrated planning, design and evaluation by improved collaboration between the professions;
- To promote efficient management of hospital operation, maintenance and safety, their engineering, installations, equipment and buildings; and
- To offer collaboration with other international organisations

Activities

IFHE has arranged international congresses every two years since 1972, at various venues around the world. The congresses, usually in conjunction with a healthcare trade exhibition, have recorded delegate attendances averaging over 500. A general assembly takes place at each congress, where all IFHE members can discuss IFHE policy and activities.

IFHE provides a source for international communication of healthcare engineering matters by maintaining and making available a database of members who may be contacted for information and to arrange technical visits.

IFHE publishes a newsletter containing summaries of IFHE activities, describes member national organisations, draws attention to publications of interest and to further education opportunities and diaries healthcare-related events.

IFHE maintains a website – www.ifhe.info – which provides information about the organisation and its activities.

IFHE distributes a free copy of international issues of *Health Estate*, the journal of the Institute of Healthcare Engineering

and Estate Management, UK, to its members. These issues convey major IFHE announcements and publish papers selected from IFHE congress proceedings and other sources.

IFHE consults and co-operates with WHO, through a designated technical officer, in the development and implementation of a plan of collaborative activities.

Membership Benefits

IFHE congresses provide an ideal forum for the interchange of information, making contacts and development of friendships. Members receive direct mailing of congress information, an invitation to submit a paper for consideration and an early opportunity to book a stand at the exhibition. Members:

- have access to databases via the IFHE to enable contact with colleagues;
- receive the IFHE newsletter three times a year;
- receive international issues of *Health Estate* four times a year. This journal lists all IFHE 'C' and 'D' members, following a complimentary introductory article; and
- are provided with and are entitled to use the IFHE logo on publicity documents and letterheads.

Membership Classes

- National members – national organisations of hospital engineering whose membership is open to all technologists and technicians engaged in the broad field of hospital engineering, and whose objectives are those of the IFHE.
- Associate members – individuals who are interested in promoting the objectives of the IFHE, and small groups of individuals who are similarly interested and are in the process of establishing national organisations with a view to eventual admission as national members.
- Institutional members – governmental organisations, health authorities and other organisations, associations or institutions directly concerned with the healthcare field.
- Affiliate members – professional, commercial or industrial firms interested in the healthcare field.
- Honorary members – persons or organisations who have rendered special service to IFHE, or who have distinguished themselves in the field of healthcare engineering. ■

For further information please contact:

IFHE Administrative Secretariat
2 Abingdon House
Cumberland Business Centre, Portsmouth, Hants
PO5 1DS, UK

Tel: +44 2392 823186

Fax: +44 2392 815927

E-mail: ifhe@iheem.org.uk