

Press release, 14 June 2018

**THE SECOND EDITION
OF AUTOPROMOTEC CONFERENCE – 2018 STATE OF THE INDUSTRY COMES TO
A CLOSE.
RENZO SERVADEI (CEO AUTOPROMOTEC): “READY TO MEET THE CHALLENGE
OF CHANGE”**

“The future imposes the need to share and make quick decisions to meet the challenges of change. This is done by stimulating the market of technology, which we must expand by building a system”.

Those were the remarks of Autopromotec CEO Renzo Servadei to close the second edition of Autopromotec Conference – 2018 State of the Industry.

On Wednesday and Thursday, 13-14 June at the Unipol Arena in Casalecchio di Reno (Bologna), over 500 people attended sessions in preparation for the biennial Autopromotec trade exhibition to be held 22-26 May 2019 at the BolognaFiere Exhibition Centre.

National and international figures in the automotive aftermarket took part in a series of round table discussions and debates focused on the issues of digitalization and new trends in mobility. Special focus was given to connectivity, electric and hybrid cars and shared mobility. But attention was also placed on training and the human resource skills required to meet the challenges of the future in an industry undergoing constant and rapid development.

The Emilia-Romagna region, which embraces a production model based on highly specialized supply chains of automotive components, claims a network of excellence when it comes to high technology: 6 universities (Bologna, Ferrara, Modena and Reggio Emilia, Parma and the Piacenza Campus of the Catholic University and Polytechnic of Milan); 90 laboratories and 15 centres for innovation. Added to the offer of advanced technical training in Emilia are 7 technical-vocational institutes with post-diploma technical specialization programmes intended to serve the areas considered a priority for the economic development and competitiveness of the country. They provide highly qualified training, new and enhanced technical skills to promote the processes of innovation and technological transfer based on the logic of Smart Specialization.

Included among them is the Istituto Superiore Meccanica, Meccatronica, Motoristica e Packaging dell'Emilia Romagna, which is based in Bologna and issues a diploma (V Level EQF) valid in Italy and Europe. This institute is highly appreciated by the companies in the mechanical engineering field.

Presently 100% of students find employment within one year of the completion of their studies.

Other studies highlight the need to develop new skills in line with the changes on the horizon. According to the report “Man and Machine in Industry 4.0” by the Boston Consulting Group, employees must be more open to change, possess greater flexibility in order to adapt to the

new roles and work environments and become used to ongoing interdisciplinary learning. That is not all, however: there will be an enormous need for retraining in industry, with problem solving, creativity and critical thought representing the three top skills for industry in 2020.

According to estimates for Europe, a 1% increase in training days generates a 3% increase in productivity. In general, the growth in productivity attributable to training is estimated at 16%.

In addition, to manage this era of technology disruption, there is a need for new leadership capabilities, horizontal management structures, intellectual curiosity, new creativity and new ways of thinking.

There is also the necessity to redesign work in order to release human potential,: the adoption of a flexible model for employees because the rigid and formal structures no longer support the speed of change imposed by digitalization, and the support and development of start-ups as a primary channel for producing creativity.

To keep updated on the event, follow us on: www.autopromotec.com/conference

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