

May 2010 - IFMA Sacramento Member Spotlight Charles Esgro - CFM

Charles Esgro's first contact with IFMA Sacramento Valley chapter came after his graduation with a BA in Business from CSUS ten years ago. He went out to the Continuing Education department and discovered the Facility Management Certification program taught by IFMA members. Many of his years of work experience had been in fields related to facilities management.

Charles' facility related career started with four years in the USAF Civil Engineering squadron operating water and sewage plants. During years as an Audio-Visual Manager for Photo & Sound Company at several convention hotels he interfaced with facility maintenance, space planning, food service, communications and came to understand the wider budgeting issues within facilities. He organized the AV warehouse and designed their first computerized equipment tracking system.

Charles was introduced to commercial facility remodeling as assistant Facility Manager during in the construction of a church facility within an existing commercial shell. Within this six hundred person facility, he installed the sound, telephone, and alarm systems. As a contract employee at Hewlett Packard, Charles worked on service support contracts for large mainframe computer hardware and software and gained detailed knowledge of the facility requirements for the new technologies.

Charles' relationship with IFMA began during his classes at CSUS. He started attending IFMA functions and workshops. The study group for the Certified Facility Manager (CFM) credential led him to be able to pass the CFM test on his first try!

Favorite Quote:

"Do not let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do."

John Wooden – Coach, UCLA Basketball

The CFM on Charles' resume led to two positions within the wireless telephone tower construction industry. As the Architect and Engineering Manager for these wireless firms, he coordinated construction documents for cell phone towers and related facilities. He served as a Warranty Inspector for Renaissance/Lennar Homes, supervising work done by all the construction trades and providing research and recommendations on special projects. Charles is currently available for new career opportunities.

On Facilities Management Career

Charles became a CFM through a non-traditional path. He says "Be open to any level of job opportunity. Even if you do not have a position called Facility Manager, your knowledge of facility management could make you a more effective contractor, salesperson, or tradesperson. Remember, a higher level of FM knowledge will make you a more valuable support person in any related industry."



On IFMA

Charles also says, "I am a firm believer that participation in IFMA, not just attendance, makes membership meaningful. Get on committees. Participate in special events. Actively network. Share ideas. Go to IFMA programs and SMUD or PG&E seminars, many of which are free. Always be ready to add to your toolbox." In addition to CFM certification, Charles is also a LEED AP and California Real Estate Salesperson licensee.