



WNE reaffirms its international dimension for the 2018 edition

Under the theme of “Nuclear Excellence, a New Era”, the WNE show closed its doors in Villepinte on 28 June 2018.

This third edition was marked by two key features: an increased international presence and a business climate which fostered numerous agreements and partnerships.

Over three editions WNE has emerged as the major event for the world’s nuclear community, bringing together show, business opportunities and innovation promotion via the WNE Awards, round tables, the Start-Up Planet, guided tours, lunchtime debate ([soon available online HERE](#)) and business meetings.

680 exhibitors, 40% from outside France, were given the opportunity to meet 9,119 visitors (21,407 participants), from 62 countries, with this edition recording a significant increase in international visitor numbers, up by 20%.

“Business First”, WNE kept its promise to bring together stakeholders from the worldwide community as evidenced by the number of partnership/cooperation agreements signed and important announcements made, such as the creation of GIFEN (Group of French Nuclear Energy Industries), which also marked this edition.

“The feedback from the nuclear community is unanimous; all welcomed the new venue, the auditorium format of the Exhibitor Workshops, the ability to interact with panellists, the “turnkey” guided tours, the lunchtime debate, and especially the networking and constantly changing business. And business is the DNA of WNE. International business, business through partnership, business through innovation”, declared Gérard Kottmann, the President of WNE and of AIFEN.

Key Figures

EXHIBITORS

- 680 exhibitors
- of whom 40% international
v 37 % in 2014
- from 35 countries
- 16 pavilions
- 4,100 B2B meetings
- 147 applications for the WNE Awards
- The Start-Up Planet with 19 Start-Ups

VISITORS

- 9,119 visitors
up 3.5% on 2016
- of whom 33% international
v 28 % in 2014
- from 62 countries
- an increase of 20% from abroad

Highlights

Opening ceremony



The opening ceremony with the inaugural speech by Yukiya Amano, Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency, who speaking before the worldwide nuclear community insisted on the need to help developing countries access nuclear energy. “Energy is essential for development. An increased energy supply will help two million people overcome energy poverty”, he declared, continuing “nuclear power stations offer stable supply and limit greenhouse gases ... and to meet CO2 emissions targets, the world needs to move away from its current 70% dependency on fossil energies to 80% low-carbon energies, such as nuclear or renewable energy. Although technological development is important, the priority is public acceptance. The investment in improving safety since Fukushima is helping here so we need to continue to work in this direction”, he concluded.



Bruno Le Maire, French Minister for the Economy and Finances, underlined the importance of the nuclear industry in France, for its economy and its industrial future.

With its great champions the nuclear sector is the third largest in France, with 220,000 direct employees, and for the Minister, France must continue to invest in this sector to maintain its world leadership in terms of skills and technologies.

He also called for a balance between renewable and nuclear energies ... and added that people should have "no doubt: **nuclear will remain essential in the long run for competitiveness and the energy independence of the French nation.**"

Closing ceremony



The third edition of WNE closed with a vote of confidence by the European Commission (EC) in the nuclear sector and encouragement to prioritise security and safety. **During the closing ceremony, Massimo Garribba, Director of Nuclear Energy, Safety and ITER**, called on WNE attendees to contribute to the first review of the new European directives on nuclear safety concerning ageing nuclear power stations. "This is a major challenge for future operations", he declared. He also confirmed the EC's support for ITER. "For us, ITER is absolutely strategic. ITER represents the future for energy but also its present," because it is spearheading the development of leading-edge technologies such as superconducting materials. Investment in future nuclear technologies will bring "opportunities that no-one in the nuclear industry will want to miss", he added.

The WNE Awards 2018

For the second edition of the WNE Awards on the first evening of the show, **eight prizes were awarded, with - new for 2018 - 4 prizes for SMEs**. As well as these awards, the judges were unanimous in their praise of the quality of the 147 projects presented, confirming WNE as a community platform for excellence in the sector.

INNOVATION WINNERS

- **Micro- and small & medium-sized enterprises:** OREKA GROUP - DEMplus® for nuclear_
- **MAJOR GROUPS:** ORANO PROJETS - An ultra-compact gamma camera in support of nuclear investigation operations.

NUCLEAR SAFETY WINNERS

- **Micro- and small & medium-sized enterprises:** LABORATOIRE CEVIDRA - Protection of nuclear workers: a new emergency medical treatment for external exposures to Uranium, Plutonium, Americium and Thorium
- **MAJOR GROUPS:** EDF - Innovative foundations to avoid the collapse of buildings due to soil liquefaction as a result of earthquake.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE WINNERS

- **Micro- and small & medium-sized enterprises:** NEWTESOL -Cladding welding technology pushed to its extreme limits
- **MAJOR GROUPS:** ABB -ABB AbilityAsset Suite.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS MANAGEMENT WINNERS

- **Micro- and small & medium-sized enterprises:** EXPERCONNECT -EXPERCONNECT: Innovaging Management
- **MAJOR GROUPS:** ROSATOM - Integrated Approach to Implementation of the Knowledge Management System at JSC "Afrikantov OKBM"

Discover other highlights of this edition, with the [WNE Tribune HERE](#)

EXHIBITOR TESTIMONY

"The third edition of WNE confirms the show's international dimension, with 18 international delegations hosted in the French pavilion and 230 overseas companies, the pavilion exhibitors are delighted, as we are!"

Céline CUDELOU, Executive Director - Groupe Intersyndical de l'Industrie Nucléaire (GIIN)

EXHIBITOR TESTIMONY

"I would like to thank the whole WNE team for their help before and during WNE 2018.

All the exhibitors in the United Kingdom Pavilion expressed satisfaction with their experience and got a lot out of attending the event. (...) We would like to continue to expand the pavilion. ..."

Pamela Nicholson
Overseas Event Manager - EIC (Energy Industries Council)

EXHIBITOR TESTIMONY

"On behalf of the CNNC, I would like to thank your team for organising WNE 2018, which gave CNNC an excellent opportunity to interact with companies from all over the world (...). President Wang was pleased to be able to communicate with other company executives, particularly during the Panel discussions. (...). Our whole team was impressed with the organisation of WNE 2018."

Chen Haofang
International Marketing Department CNNC - China National Nuclear Corporation

On the strength of this success, WNE is already preparing the fourth edition and invites you to attend 23 - 25 June 2020 at Paris Nord Villepinte.

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Connect to Nuclear!



About AIFEN

WNE is organised by AIFEN, the French Nuclear Industry Exporters' Association, which represents over 300 French companies and major organisations (PFCE, PFME, GIIN and PNB) covering the entire nuclear cycle, from fuel manufacturing to decommissioning.

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