

**REPORT OF FIGSI DELEGATION TO MARMOMACC 2015 AT VERONA FROM 30TH
SEPTEMBER 2015 TO 3RD OCTOBER 2015.**

Following were the members of the delegation

Sri. R. Sekar, President
Sri. Ishwinder Singh, Chairman –STONA 2016
Sri. Jitendar Kothari, Deputy Chairman – STONA 2016
Sri Aniel Dube, EC member
Sri. S.R. Prasad, Special Officer

Marmomacc celebrated the 50th edition of the fair .The federation was having a stall of 16 sq mts in hall 10 and in the same hall, many of Indian exhibitors exhibited their products. On the whole we were having about 82 stalls from India which includes the Granite, Marble, Slate, Machinery, Diamond tools etc, which were there in Hall 7, 9,11 and 5 also.

On 30th September and 1st October 2015, Marmomacc fair authorities celebrated their 50th Anniversary. On this occasion they invited all the leading Federations related with the Natural stone industry across the world. From India, President was invited to present a paper. On 1st October 2015, president attended the summit and presented the paper. The summit was attended by various federations and agencies related to Natural stone Industry across the world.

On of the main issue deliberated in the summit was about the impact of the artificial stone on use of Natural stone and how to overcome this situation. Majority of the speakers mentioned that only in USA the artificial stone has captured 30% share. This is because of the aggressive marketing of that sector which is not there in case of Natural Stone. In view of this it was decided that proper publicity on the advantage of the Natural stone over artificial stone has to be done all over world to educate the end user about the benefit of Natural stone. It was also mentioned that similar type of conferences/seminars has to be organised periodically and to strengthen the Natural stone sector.

On the same day, discussion was held with Arch. Marcarntonio Ragone, from IMM Carrara, regarding the MOU signed between both organisation and also to have their involvement in the R & D Project and the Testing centre of the Federation. He has assured that he will forward a detailed proposal to Federation separately.

Mr. Minson, our agent from China Valued Show Inc, China and Ms. Gonul, agent of STONA 2016 in Turkey also visited our stall and gave the first hand information on the booking position for STONA 2016 in their area.

President and Chairman and other members of the team visited all the stalls and invited the exhibitors of Marmomacc to visit STONA 2016.

To promote the natural stone, earlier it was decided to create awareness, a sticker was printed about Natural Stone and was displayed in Indian Stalls in Marmomacc fair.

Brochures were distributed to all the exhibitors and visitors.

Our stall was visited by the following members of our Federation.

1. Sri. R. Veeramani, Founder President
2. Sri. J.B. Surana, Immediate Past President
3. Dr. K. Subbaa Reddy, Vice President
4. Sri Manoj Kumar Singh, Treasurer
5. Sri. Sunil Kumar Bhandari, Chairman- Finance Sub Committee
6. Dr. D.L. Ramesh Gopal, EC Member
7. Sri. R. Shiva Kumar, EC Member
8. Sri. Vishal Surana, EC Member
9. Sri. Hari Mohan Sharma, EC Member
10. Sri. N. Ashoken, EC Member
11. Sri. Ashish Bhuta, EC member
12. Sri. Rajesh Sharada, EC Member
13. Mr. Zakir Hussain EC member
14. Sri. S.K. Bhasin, Life Member
15. Sri. K. Vikram, Life Member

We would like to thank Sri. Vishal Surana, EC members who was very helpful to set up the stall of the Federation in a Marmomacc Fair.

Even though the all the 12 halls were created, the organisers made sufficiently big passages which shows that the participation has dropped when compared to earlier fairs.

Even the business visitors has also dropped when compared to earlier fairs, and majority of our Indian exhibitors expressed that the response for their stall was not appreciable. This is because of the slow down the construction activity all over world.

This trend in the Verona fair may have some impact in our STONA 2016 since some of the exhibitors may have second thinking about their participation.

