



Dear fellow colleagues,

Over the last year, we have seen a steady increase in capital improvements and investments into the facilities of manufacturers across the nation. With this steady growth brings even more importance to the role of facility managers. We should be honored to be responsible for such large investments. But we must also recognize our efforts should strive to lead to additional savings that only makes our companies stronger and in turn creates more jobs and security for all involved. This effort is substantially increased with knowledge that can only come from industry data and education. We must endorse the great resources that IFMA offers to continue our knowledge.

Our interest and commitment to sustainability will also drive our technology and resources to a new heights. We have already seen this effort reduce fuel costs and thus with the new drilling technology we have reduce gas costs. All these savings will hopefully lead to more investment in our facilities but we must be vocal to request our funding needed to conduct our work efficiently or face dealing with reactive repairs.

We also must be advocates of our industry and our IFMA organization by promoting membership for the learning and networking of our colleagues. If each of us could just entice one new member, our networking would double and the amount of knowledge as a resource would be indefinite. Collaboration will be the key to gaining our knowledge and shared innovation. In addition, we must stay close to our supplier and appreciate they are also continuously looking for new innovation to grow their business which we can benefit from. Encourage meetings and conversations to create the opportunity to match a need and solution. Identifying the solutions and understanding the costs associated will allow us to submit the proper budget request.

Together through collaboration, innovation and data sharing we can with together!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth Vandenberghe". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.