



COG President and CEO Fred Dermarkar facilitated a panel at the Global Forum on Innovation held June 10-12 in Gyeongju, Korea.

International community converges on the future of nuclear

COG president contributes to two global discussions on innovation and knowledge management during June travels to member countries

Earlier this month, CANDU Owners Group (COG) President and CEO Fred Dermarkar participated in conferences in Romania and Korea; two opportunities to meet and exchange ideas with international colleagues about frameworks for innovation and continuous improvement within the industry.

On June 4, Dermarkar presented at the **Nuclear International Conference 2019** in Pitesti, Romania. From June 10-12, he was in Gyeongju, Korea for the **Global Forum on Innovation for the Future of Nuclear Energy**.

“The relationships formed by participating in events like these contribute significantly to global collaboration and innovation,” says Dermarkar. “Advances in technology – safety, reliability and environmental and cost performance – can take place independently but when collaborative connections are made between people and organizations, we can leverage each other’s work to everyone’s benefit.”

Global Forum on Innovation for the Future of Nuclear Energy (Korea)

With more than 250 nuclear industry leaders, regulators, researchers and government officials in attendance, the Global Forum focused on tackling urgent challenges facing the sector as well as barriers and opportunities for deploying innovative technologies and process solutions. At the conclusion of the three-day event, participants issued a ‘Call to Action’ linked to four areas for innovation growth:

1. Machine learning/big data
2. Framework to share comparable, reliable data – R&D operations, maintenance
3. Digital twins
4. Advanced manufacturing

The innovation actions on big data and R&D strongly align with COG initiatives focused on advancement of data-use among members for improved search capability and analysis along with COG’s efforts to further progress global R&D collaboration through the development of an industry innovation framework.

At the Global Forum, Dermarkar facilitated a panel that explored the challenges and opportunities associated with identification, development and deployment of innovations in the global nuclear industry.

For an IAEA story on the event, click [here](#).

Nuclear International Conference 2019 (Romania)

This conference brought together approximately 500 nuclear industry stakeholders to examine issues related to nuclear safety and technology, environmental protection and sustainable development within the sector.

Dermarkar’s presentation, at the conference, highlighted how COG serves as an umbrella for collaboration on innovation and development of research, knowledge and best practices within the CANDU and PHWR technology community. The presentation also provided insight into the COG collaboration model and its evolution over the past 35 years into an increasingly global presence in nuclear R&D, innovation and knowledge management.



On June 4, attendees listen as COG President and CEO Fred Dermarkar shares the organization’s story of global nuclear collaboration at the Nuclear International Conference 2019 in Pitesti, Romania.