

DAY 2

SHOW DAILY

FEBRUARY
13

74th IFC & 22nd IFEX 2026

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DAY 2: TECHNOLOGY, SUSTAINABILITY & FUTURE READINESS

Recipient of Arjan Vaswani
Founders' Leadership Award
2025-26

Shri Vinod Aggarwal
Vice Chairman
Eicher Motors Limited
Managing Director & CEO,
VE Commercial Vehicles Limited

The Institute of Indian Foundrymen is honoured to present the Arjan Vaswani Founder's Leadership Award to Vinod Aggarwal, Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, VE Commercial Vehicles Ltd (VECV).

Day 2 of **IFEX 2026** unfolds with a strong focus on future technologies, sustainability, and operational excellence, reflecting the evolving priorities of India's foundry industry. The exhibition floor remains active with exhibitors engaging with buyers, OEMs, and global partners on advanced solutions and sourcing opportunities.

Alongside the exhibition, the **74th Indian Foundry Congress (IFC)** continues with high-level technical and strategic sessions addressing artificial intelligence, energy efficiency, decarbonisation, and long-term industry vision. Together, IFEX and IFC reinforce their combined role as a platform linking technology adoption with effective networking and policy direction.

IFEX 2026: EXHIBITION IN ACTION – DAY 2

The IFEX 2026 exhibition continues to serve as a comprehensive marketplace for foundry technology and solutions. Exhibitors across ferrous and non-ferrous segments are showcasing innovations in automation, furnaces, materials, tooling, testing, and digital systems.

Key Engagement Areas

- Technology sourcing for productivity and quality improvement
- Automation and robotics for shop-floor efficiency
- Energy-efficient furnaces and process optimisation
- Sustainable materials and recycling solutions

With strong buyer footfall and structured interactions, Day 2 reinforces IFEX's role in enabling meaningful discovery and time-efficient business engagement.



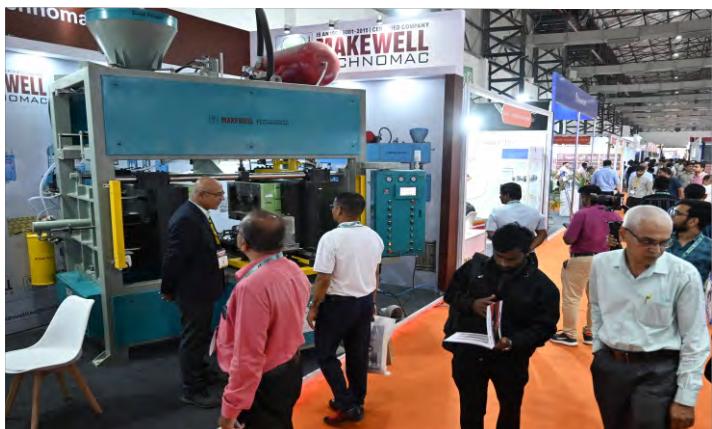
Future Tech: AI Driving the Next Phase of Foundry Excellence

The first session of Day 2, chaired and moderated by Mr Bhushan Bhatt, focused on AI-driven transformation in foundry operations. Mr Harishankar Durairaj, Chief Technical Officer, SeeWise AI, presented predictive furnace monitoring systems that optimise melting, reduce energy use, and enable proactive maintenance. Dr Himanshu Khandelwal, Assistant Professor, NIAMT Ranchi, showcased AI applications in casting design, automated methoding, and smart foundry development. Mr Michael Nutt, Executive Vice President, Inductotherm Corp., highlighted AI in melting and pouring, including robotics, adaptive controls, and Digital Twins. The session emphasised integration, safety, and real-time intelligence as the future of foundry operations.

FUTURE TECH. SESSION



Glimpses of Day 1



VISION 2047: FROM COST ADVANTAGE TO GLOBAL LEADERSHIP



INDIAN FOUNDRIES – VISION 2047



MODERATOR



SANJAY DESAI
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
RBD ENGINEERS PVT LTD, AHMEDABAD



DEEPAK REDDY
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
NELCAST LTD, CHENNAI



MAYANK KEJRIWAL
DIRECTOR,
KISWOK INDUSTRIES PVT LTD, KOLKATA

PANELIST



ANAND BHATTAD
DIRECTOR,
STAR PIPES INDIA LTD, RAJKOT



VINAY DODDAMANE
DIRECTOR,
SHANTHALA SPHEROCAST PVT LTD, SHIVAMOGGA



GOPI RAMANATHAN
EXE. VICE PRESIDENT,
SIGMA CORP, US

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Moderated by Mr Sanjay Desai, Managing Director, RBD Engineers Pvt Ltd, the session featured Mr Deepak Reddy, Managing Director, Nelcast Ltd; Mr Mayank Kejriwal, Director, Kiswok Industries Pvt Ltd; Mr Anand Bhattad, Director, Star Pipes India Pvt Ltd; Mr Vinay Doddamane, Director, Shanthala Spherocast Pvt Ltd; Mr Gopi Ramanathan, Executive Vice President, Sigma Corp.

The discussion highlighted the industry's transformation into a modern, technology-driven sector. Key themes included transparency in buyer-supplier relationships, early design engagement, strict safety enforcement, ESG compliance, and process discipline. The panel underscored India's opportunity to emerge as a trusted global manufacturing hub through long-term partnerships and value-driven growth.

FROM 3D TO 3D: DECARBONIZING THE FOUNDRY OF THE FUTURE

Chaired by Mr A.M. Deshpande, the session addressed decarbonization and Net Zero pathways. Mr Ch. Srinivas Reddy, Senior Vice President, Brakes India Ltd., shared renewable energy adoption and water-positive initiatives targeting Net Zero by 2040. Mr Vipul Patel, Manager HSE, Metso India Pvt. Ltd., highlighted electrification and waste recycling. Mr Kalpesh Gupta, AGM EHS, Vulkan Technologies, presented heat recovery and energy efficiency gains. Mr Biju Baby, Co-Founder, Bacuti Technologies, demonstrated AI-led carbon accounting and Scope 3 optimisation. The session reinforced sustainability as both an environmental and business imperative.

3D TO 3D - DARK, DANGEROUS, DUSTY TO DEVELOPING, DECARBONISING, DIGITIZING



ADVANCING NON-FERROUS EXCELLENCE: QUALITY, INNOVATION, AND PERFORMANCE

In the session on Enhancing Casting Quality through Additives and Coatings, Mr Christian Fourberg, Global Product Manager, HÜTTENES-ALBERTUS Chemische Werke GmbH, Germany, discussed low-emission binder systems and olivine mono sand processes. Mr Jurgen Radstake, Global Product Manager Coatings, FOSECO, UK, highlighted advanced coatings for brake disc castings. Mr Vijay Ghangale, Head – Technical Services, Ashapura International Ltd., Mumbai, focused on thermally durable bentonite solutions.

AluConf Session 3, moderated by Mr Anant Bam, Foundry Consultant, featured Mr Claudio Mus, R&D Director, Endurance Overseas, on innovative HPDC aluminium battery housings.

AluConf Session 4 included Mr Prakash Maladkar, Managing Director, AFECO Heating & Automation Pvt Ltd., Kolhapur, on aluminium scrap recycling, and Mr Jayeshkumar Rathod, Sr. GM and Head Engineering Tooling, Godrej & Boyce Mfg Co. Ltd., Mumbai, on advanced tooling.

AluConf Session 5 featured Mr Babaji Tukaram Shinde, Sr. Manager, Sigma Electric Mfg. Corp., Pune, on TPM implementation, and Mr Sanjeev Tungatkar, CMD, Ceraflux India Pvt Ltd., Kolhapur, on alloying in aluminium castings.

The vote of thanks was delivered by Mr Probal Sen, Hon. Secretary, IIF Western Region, and Mr Rajendra Newadkar, Mentor, IIF NCTS. The sessions reaffirmed the non-ferrous sector's readiness for future growth through technology and process excellence.

STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS BEYOND THE EXHIBITION FLOOR – FOCUSED DIALOGUE. MEANINGFUL OUTCOMES.

Structured buyer-seller meetings enabled focused sourcing discussions between exhibitors and domestic and international buyers. Day 2 reinforced strong business engagement and technology exchange. The evening featured the IIF Awards and MTC Foundry Durbar, followed by an industry networking dinner, strengthening professional relationships beyond the exhibition floor.



B2B Meet – Same Deutz



B2B Meet – Konnecranes



B2B Meet – Tata Motors

Testimonials



Dr. Anchal, Research & Development – Saint Gobain, Buyer: Having visited IFEX last time in Kolkata, revisiting IFEX 2026 has been nothing short of exhilaration. The exhibition is brimming with wonderful new editions and trends in foundry and casting. Most importantly, I am witnessing a remarkable showcase of copper-related castings—something truly new and fascinating that I had never seen before. With ample suppliers present, the opportunities are immense, and I am hopeful of making great deals here. IFEX continues to prove itself as the ultimate platform for innovation and excellence in the foundry industry.



Puneet Srivastava, Wesman, Exhibitor: We are one of the leading and oldest organizations in the foundry industry, and IFEX 2026 holds a very special place for us as we continue to participate year after year. Witnessing such varied and capable suppliers offering comprehensive foundry solutions is truly a great feeling. The exhibition has seen excellent footfall, and the emerging trends are inspiring. Customers are sharing their requirements directly, which helps us serve them better and align our solutions more closely with industry needs. IFEX remains the perfect platform to showcase our expertise and connect with the future of foundry excellence.



Abhishek Mukati, CEIL, Buyer

As a certification and inspection body, IFEX 2026 has been an excellent platform for us. We are planning to open a lab, and for that reason, we are keen to collaborate with capable suppliers. Here, we have explored spectro machines and engaged with both Indian and foreign manufacturers. Our next step will be to float a tender to partner with these suppliers, and IFEX has proven to be the ideal convergence point for all comprehensive foundry solutions. The exposure and opportunities here are truly invaluable.



Ying Li, Ningxia Hengying Carbon Co Ltd, Exhibitor – China: Being one of the exhibitors at IFEX 2026 has been a truly profound experience. We come from China, and I am genuinely pleased to be here. Mumbai and India as a whole represent a dynamic economy, giving us the chance to expand and grow prolifically. The show is a great success, and I have had the opportunity to meet excellent buyers and establish valuable connections. IFEX continues to stand out as the right platform for global collaboration and showcasing comprehensive foundry solutions.