Lorenzo Fazzini EngTech GIFireE

**What made you choose this career path?**
It was fate. Ever since 1960, the LAF Group has been in passive fire protection consulting, manufacturing and contracting and it was inevitable for me to be a part of and eventually take over the family business.

**What do you most enjoy about your job?**
The daily mix of challenges! Design, manufacturing and construction problems challenge our team on a day to day basis in very unique ways and no two projects are ever alike. It is very exciting to steer this organisation through the different challenges it faces and ultimately overcome them.

**What is the greatest challenge you face in your job?**
There are undoubtedly quite a few hurdles, including the inflexibility of authorities and individuals unwilling to yield to innovation, the unchartered internet ‘topography’ allowing unscrupulous individuals to ignore national standards and import non-compliant product alternatives, the lack of knowledge and understanding in developing countries and, last but not least, impossible delivery schedules.

**Please describe a typical working day:**
There is no such thing as a typical day for me, however each consists of debriefing sessions with the construction team, site visits, reviewing government policies, technical and design meetings, administration and accounting and of course an inbox full of emails.

**What is your greatest professional achievement to date?**
My company’s involvement in two extraordinary projects: the multi-use arena, a venue for the Sydney 2000 Olympics, and the Venetian casino in Macau. On both occasions, the company successfully designed, provided and installed comprehensive and innovative fire protective systems.

**What attracted you to gain professional registration as an EngTech?**
After completing my fire technology studies, I joined IFE and became interested in professional registration with the Engineering Council. For me, EngTech demonstrates professional skill and commitment. It also provides independent evidence that a person is academically and vocationally qualified and competent.

**How has gaining EngTech helped with your career?**
Becoming an EngTech has gained me greater acceptance from my peers, provided stronger influence within the industry and has opened the doors for international assignments.

**What advice would you give someone considering professional registration as an EngTech?**
I would absolutely advise others to seek professional registration because it indicates a high level of expertise and a commitment to remaining at the forefront of developments within the engineering profession. This might support a candidate in their job search and endow an employee with greater influence within their organisation. Furthermore, it provides international recognition of qualifications.

**What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?**
Giving back to the community as President of Co.As.It, a not-for-profit organisation which promotes the Italian language and culture in Australia and organises education and community services for migrants, a cause I passionately support. Also as a ‘once in a year’ golfing fanatic, I dream of ‘firing’ at 1 under par.... constantly!

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Registered 2003

**Education and qualifications:**
- Advanced Certificate in Fire Technology and a Diploma in Informatics (Italy)
- Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE)

**Which institution(s) are you a member of?**
- Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE)

**Grade of membership:**
- Graduate

**Job title:**
- Principal

**Employer:**
- LAF Group

**Length in current job:**
- 27 years

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- Institution of Fire Engineers (IFE)

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