IFMA™ Sverige Chapter
International Facility Management Association



NORDIC WORKPLACE 2026

Highlights and Key Insights

A Summary of Nordic Workplace 2026

Stockholm · 21 October 2026

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NWP 2026

STABILITY IN A CHANGING WORLD - THE WORKPLACE AS AN ENABLER

This year's Nordic Workplace set a new attendance record, welcoming a total of 300 participants! Led by IFMA Sweden Co-chairs, Joachim Boëthius and Marie Andersson, the conference featured a broad international programme, three parallel tracks and new opportunities for knowledge exchange. At its core was a question for the entire industry: how do we create stability in a world where the conditions are constantly changing?

With three parallel tracks, 18 programme sessions and around 20 exhibitors, participants had opportunities to gain knowledge, find inspiration and explore new solutions. Two lecture halls and a dedicated breakout room provided space for both broader perspectives and more in-depth discussions. In the activity area, participants could also explore products and solutions presented by exhibitors.

This year's theme, *Stability in a Changing World,* ran throughout the conference. Presentations and panel discussions explored how Facility Management can contribute to organisational development and enable organisations to navigate change. One of the key takeaways from the day was that stability is not about preserving the status quo, but rather about the ability to adapt without losing direction.

Equally important were the interactions between participants. Conversations during breaks, the exchange of experiences among industry colleagues and the spontaneous insights that emerged when different perspectives met all formed an essential part of the conference experience. The day before the conference, study visits and a networking reception brought participants together for an early start to the event. And even after the final session, there was still plenty to discuss as participants gathered for a closing networking reception.

With 300 participants, an international programme and numerous opportunities for cross-industry exchange, Nordic Workplace became more than just a platform for sharing knowledge. It was a place where new ideas emerged, perspectives were challenged and connections were made, leaving participants with fresh inspiration and valuable insights to bring back to their own organisations.



NWP AT A GLANCE

- 21 October - Sheraton - Stockholm
- Record attendance: 300 participants
- **A Breakdown:**
  40 % End Users
  40% Suppliers
  20 % Consultants and others
- 22 exhibitors
- 35+ speakers
- Countless ideas and insights shared!

SPEAKERS

This year's theme, *Stability in a Changing World – The Workplace as an Enabler,* was woven throughout the programme. Our ambition was to offer participants more than new perspectives and theoretical knowledge; we also wanted them to take away practical insights that could be applied within their own organisations. To achieve this, we asked the speakers on the main stage to submit three key takeaways from each presentation, summarising the most important lessons and insights for participants to carry forward.

MATT TUCKER, IFMA



FM BEYOND WALLS

- FM creates social value every day — even when we don't call it that. The opportunity is to make that contribution more intentional, visible and measurable.
- FM's responsibility extends beyond the walls of individual facilities. Decisions made within FM can have an impact on entire societies.
- Social sustainability makes good business sense. Creating social value can strengthen communities while also enhancing FM's strategic position.

ERIK JASPERS, PLANON



THE NEW WORKFORCE: PEOPLE, AI AND THE FUTURE OF THE WORKPLACE

- AI has significant potential to improve efficiency and free up time for other tasks.
- When everyone uses AI for everything, the opportunity to differentiate oneself diminishes.
- AI has limitations when it comes to the physical world and uniquely human capabilities.
- Develop models for measuring the return on investment (ROI) of AI to ensure both financial and environmental sustainability.

SPEAKERS

JONAS WESTERLUND, JONWEST & FLAVIO CAROSELLI, LEESMAN



WHAT DEFINES HIGH-PERFORMING WORKPLACES – AND HOW DOES IT WORK IN PRACTICE?

- Focus on what makes a workplace good and functional, rather than one that simply follows every trend.
- Focus on what makes a difference. Identify the factors that influence people's everyday experience and working environment.
- With the right knowledge and measures, office noise levels can be improved relatively easily.

MARCUS JARL, EY & YOY BERGS, BREDA UNIVERSITY



NAVIGATING A COMPLEX WORLD – AS INDIVIDUALS AND TEAMS

- The real design challenge is to create environments that accommodate both stability and change.
- Find the balance through leadership and organisational design. It is not about constantly seeking stability or pursuing continuous change, but about developing the ability to manage the tension between the two.

SPEAKERS

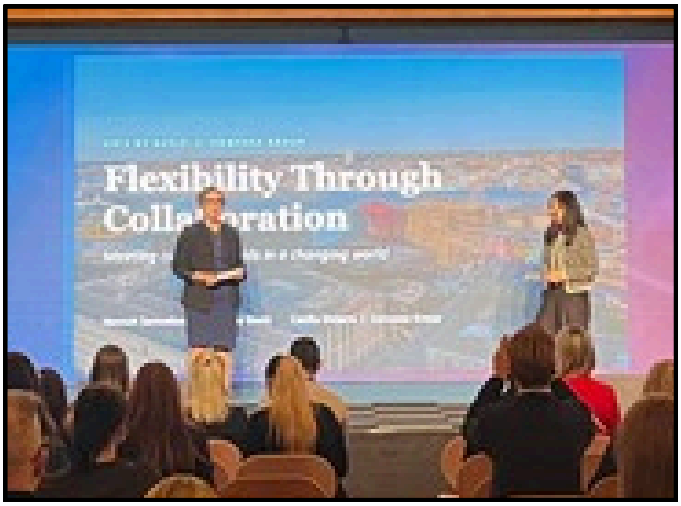
VICTORIA EK, DANDERYD HOSPITAL & RICHARD SCHAGER, SODEXO



CAN BETTER-TASTING HOSPITAL MEALS CONTRIBUTE TO FASTER RECOVERY?

- Food is medicine.
- Make use of each other's expertise.
- Getting the food texture right is a matter of quality of life.

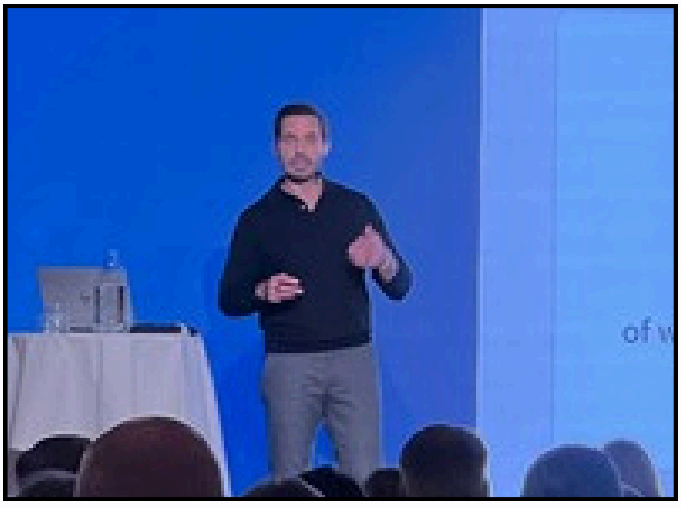
CECILIA DICKENS, COMPASS GROUP & HANNAH SAMUELSSON, UNI3 BY GEELY



FLEXIBILITY THROUGH COLLABORATION – MEETING CUSTOMER NEEDS IN A CHANGING WORLD

- Stay one step ahead. Anticipate needs and changes before they become necessary.
- Support and enable collaboration. Help tenants adapt to changing needs and create the conditions for effective cooperation.
- Continuously evolve. Keep pace with change – standing still means risking falling behind.

BRENNAN MCREYNOLDS, MICROSOFT



LESSONS AND INSIGHTS FOR ENABLING THE AI-DRIVEN WORKPLACE

- AI makes human interaction more valuable, not less.
- Make the office worth the journey, rather than simply a place to register attendance.
- Scaling up requires shared ownership, reliable data and employee trust.

KEY NOTE SPEAKER

KAY SARGENT



The Hybrid Office is Dead:
The Rise of the Purpose-Driven Workspace

This year's keynote was one of the conference's highlights and was particularly well received by participants. With humour, energy and an engaging delivery, Kay challenged conventional perceptions of the hybrid office and encouraged the audience to reflect on what truly makes a workplace worth coming to.

Here are Kay's three key takeaways:

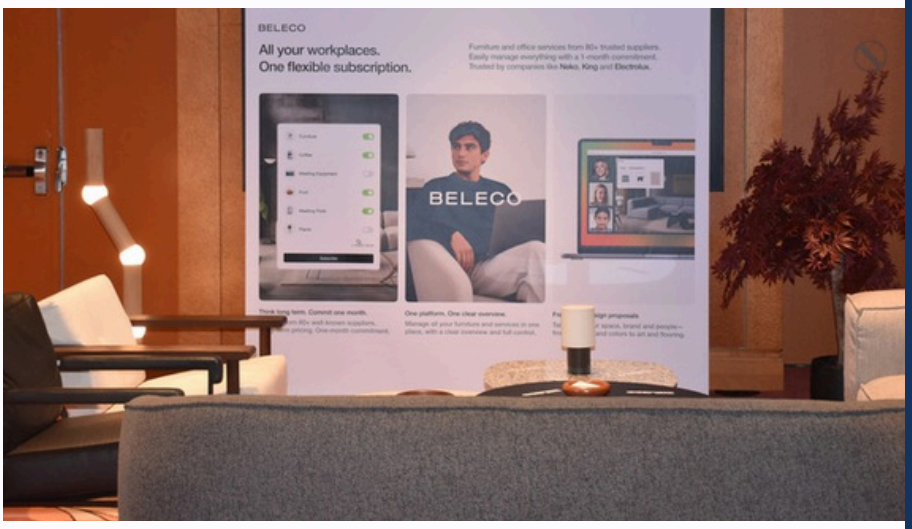
- **Embrace curiousity.** Be observant, recognise connections and dare to ask, "What if…?"
- **Adopt a learning mindset.** Identify the skills you need to develop and take small, daily steps to strengthen them.
- **Embrace change.** Be open to new ideas and changing circumstances. It is not the smartest who survive, but the most adaptable.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM NORDIC WORKPLACE 2026:

ACTIVITY ROOM

In addition to the main exhibition, several of this year's exhibitors joined forces to create a shared experience in the Activity Room. This appreciated initiative demonstrated the value of collaboration and the exhibitors' shared commitment to enhancing the conference experience. The Activity Room gave participants the opportunity to explore, try out and discover different solutions, as well as take a moment to pause and unwind.





With **Beleco**, participants could relax, network and explore their stylish furniture.

Octacell set up one of its soundproof meeting rooms on site, giving participants the opportunity to have a private conversation, take a work call or enjoy a moment of privacy amid the conference buzz.



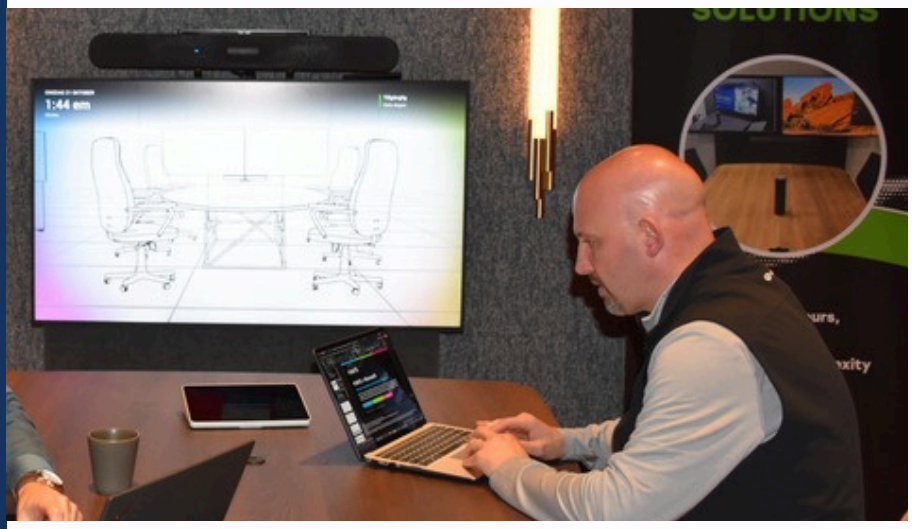




HIGHLIGHTS FROM NORDIC WORKPLACE 2026:

ACTIVITY ROOM

At **Forté**, participants could explore their meeting space concept and Velocity Solutions.





And last but not least, **Planon** brought plenty of energy and laughter with a live caricature artist!









PRE-CONFERENCE FACILITY TOUR

On the day before Nordic Workplace, 20 October, this year's exclusive pre-conference facility tour took place. During the afternoon, participants visited two organisations offering different perspectives on how workplaces are evolving and their role in everything from corporate culture to urban development.

At **Lovable**, participants gained a behind-the-scenes insight into a fast-growing AI company where the workplace plays a central role in shaping corporate culture. With a clear ambition to bring employees together in person, the focus was on creating an environment where people want to spend time, collaborate and grow together. Among other things, the visit highlighted how social activities, a sense of community and elements of Swedish cultural heritage contribute to shaping the workplace.





At **Sturekvarteret**, participants explored a different kind of development journey. Here, historic buildings and cultural heritage environments meet modern offices, retail, restaurants and services. The visit offered insight into one of Stockholm's most extensive urban development projects and how historic environments can be preserved while adapted into vibrant urban spaces.

As always, the day was about more than the workplaces we visited. Just as valuable were the conversations, questions and exchange of experiences among participants. An inspiring start to Nordic Workplace, bringing new insights and a strong sense of community.

MEET & GREET AT EY







The evening before Nordic Workplace, conference participants and speakers gathered at EY for this year's Meet & Greet. In a relaxed setting, the evening offered opportunities for networking, conversations and trend insights, with a focus on workplace strategy, AI and the workplaces of the future.

Building on this year's theme, EY highlighted current trends and perspectives on how the workplace can serve as a strategic enabler – from culture and leadership to technology and Facility Management. Participants gained insights from both Nordic and international perspectives, as well as an introduction to several of the topics that would continue throughout the conference day.

The evening provided an appreciated opportunity to make new connections, exchange experiences and embrace the Nordic Workplace spirit ahead of the conference. An inspiring start, with *Connect, Learn & Inspire* at its heart.

POWERED BY

A conference like Nordic Workplace would not be possible without the strong commitment of our partners. We are therefore delighted and proud to have collaborated with this year's Powered by sponsors: **Fabege, Lexium** and **Spacewell.**

Fabege







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"At Lexium we saw Nordic Workplace as an excellent opportunity to increase our visibility alongside Spacewell at a well-established and highly regarded industry event. It gave us the opportunity to present our business, expertise and close partnership with Spacewell. This year's conference also marked our first time participating in IFMA Nordic Workplace, something we were very much looking forward to making the most of!"

A WORD FROM SOME OF OUR

EXHIBITORS



Pythagoras

A big thank you to everyone who took part in our roundtable discussion on AI and cleaning services, and to everyone who visited our booth. See you again next year!

COOR

NWP is a valuable meeting place for sharing experiences and discussing the future of FM. This year was particularly rewarding as it gave us the opportunity to demonstrate how AI is already creating tangible value in operations and services, and to discuss the possibilities of taking the next step towards new applications and wider implementation.





Planon

Inspiring, thought-provoking and full of networking opportunities. Nordic Workplace is one of the year's most important meeting places for discussion, inspiration and development within FM, and a natural fixture in our calendar.

A WORD FROM SOME OF OUR

EXHIBITORS



Sodexo

This year's Nordic Workplace was well attended, highly relevant and an excellent opportunity to build relationships. We are pleased to take part, share our knowledge, connect with the industry and build valuable relationships.

Octacell

Nordic Workplace offered a positive and professional atmosphere, with great energy and a valuable exchange of knowledge and insights. For us, it was an excellent opportunity to establish new industry connections and meet potential customers. Above all, we take away the energy and all the rewarding encounters from the day.





Ambius

At Nordic Workplace, we wanted to meet industry colleagues and discuss how greenery and well-considered interior design can contribute to workplaces where functionality, aesthetics and wellbeing go hand in hand.

A WORD FROM SOME OF OUR

EXHIBITORS



Tenant & Partner

We want to help more organisations elevate workplace strategy to the executive level. Both from the stage and at our exhibition stand, we demonstrated how AI-enhanced strategic foresight can help organisations take a long-term approach to workplace development, enabling the workplace to become a strategic tool for the organisations of tomorrow.

IOT Fabrikken

At Nordic Workplace, we wanted to demonstrate how smart sensors and AI in building operations can help organisations optimise their spaces. Our goal is to free up time from manual tasks and create better conditions for both efficiency and human wellbeing.





Essity

We chose to highlight the often-overlooked barriers to hygiene, as a public restroom may appear fully functional while still being difficult for many people to use. The strong engagement and exchange of experiences with the audience clearly demonstrated that inclusive hygiene is an issue that resonates with people and deserves greater attention.

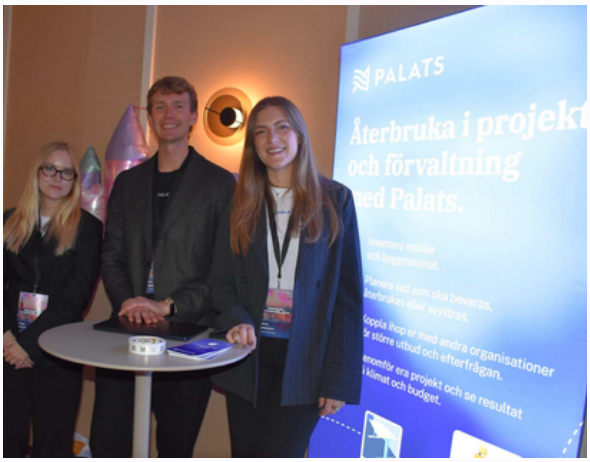
A WORD FROM SOME OF OUR

EXHIBITORS

-As the exhibition area hosted far more conversations and encounters than those featured here, we also wanted to capture some of the moments that shaped the overall experience. A glimpse into an area filled with lively discussions, where networking continued from morning until evening.



















IFMA SWEDEN

INNOVATION PRIZE

2026



Congratulations - COOR!

Each year, IFMA Sweden presents the Innovation Award to recognise and encourage innovations that help drive the FM industry forward. This year's winner has succeeded in taking a technology that is widely discussed and demonstrating how it can make a tangible difference in everyday operations.



By combining AI with the collective knowledge and expertise of people, new opportunities are created to share knowledge, make better decisions and develop operations. The jury was particularly impressed by the innovative approach, practical application and clear, measurable business value.














The new value equation:
Leading a resilient FM future



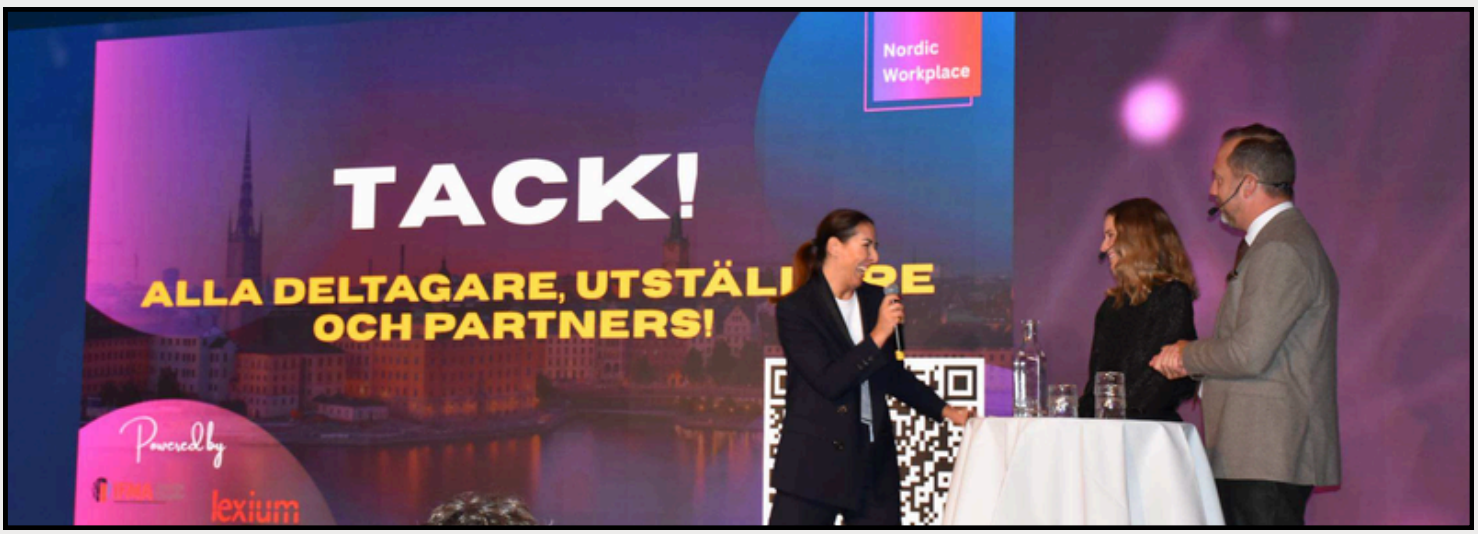





DAGENS RÖDA TRÅD
AFFÄREN
MÄNNISKAN
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Stabilitet skapas när perspektiven fungerar tillsammans






Nordic Workplace
TACK!
ALLA DELTAGARE, UTSTÄLL
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THANK YOU!

We would like to extend our sincere thanks to everyone who attended Nordic Workplace 2026, as well as to all the speakers and exhibitors who contributed their knowledge, perspectives and commitment. Special thanks to our sponsors and partners for their valuable support and contribution to this year's conference.

We would also like to express our warm appreciation to the IFMA Sweden Board for their dedication and hard work behind the conference. A special thank you to our moderators, Joachim Boëthius and Jessica Schmidt, who guided us through the day's programme with valuable insights, enthusiasm and professionalism, helping to create a great overall experience.

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