



# Institute of Management Services

*The home of Productivity Professionals*

## Newsletter September 2020



The Institutes AGM will be held on Friday 25th September 2020. The meeting will be a virtual one using Zoom.

Full details are in the email circulated previously to members and also on the website

### Institute New Offices

The Institute moved into its new office accommodation on 18th December 2019 which is located in the modern prestige Lichfield Business Village in the centre of Lichfield. The move to the new new office was a progressive development with the Institute once again having its own office and employing its own staff.

Sadly the office move has been overshadowed by the advent of Covid-19 with our having to close the office in March of this year in order to comply with the Covid-19 regulations introduced by the Government, with our staff now working from home.

The new and fully serviced modern, ground floor, office will cater for the Institutes increasing membership and demand for the Institutes training and qualifications.



We are pleased to indicate that working from home we have been able to continue to supply a full service to Institute members by offering them access to our services by both telephone and email.

If you wish to contact the Institute in the first instant please email us on the below email as due to our staff working from home the office telephone is not being answered.

**Institute of Management Services**

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**Staffordshire University Centre**

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Choose a job you love, and  
you will never have to  
work a day in your life.

-Confucius

“UN asks people  
to present ideas on  
how to tackle the  
Challenges the  
World faces “

## The productive greenhouses of Almeria

The greenhouses of Almería account for just 3% of the total acreage of this Andalusian province; however, these have the capacity to supply fresh fruit and vegetables for salads to countries and markets in more than half of Europe, mainly Germany, the United Kingdom, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Belgium and Scandinavia.

Productivity is not the only factor that helps Almeria's greenhouses stand out. According to a report by CUTE, a consortium made up of European fruit and vegetable associations from France, Greece, Poland and Spain, “the greenhouses in southern Europe are a sustainable option, since they use renewable and natural energy sources, such as the sun, they save water, reduce the use of phytosanitary products and absorb CO. In fact, they consume up to 30 times less energy than other production systems.”

The report also highlights that, in addition to obtaining great yields from such a small acreage, the province has one of the highest percentages of protected natural areas, which account for more than 50% of the total area. This is unmatched in any other European region.

## United Nations 75 Anniversary

The UN is marking its 75th anniversary at a time of great disruption for the world, compounded by an unprecedented global health crisis with severe economic and social impacts. Will we emerge stronger and better equipped to work together? Or will distrust and isolation grow further? 2020 must be a year of dialogue, when we come together to discuss our priorities as a human family, and how we can build a better future for all.



## Foundation of United Nations



The ideas around the United Nations were developed in the last years of World War II, particularly during the UN Conference on International Organization in San Francisco, the United States, beginning on April 25, 1945. The UN was officially created when a UN charter was ratified on October 24 that year.

All the articles in the current issue of the Journal relate to the Covid topic.

On page 25 Dr David Parker and Morris Jones discuss the challenges and opportunities of working from home.

On page 22 Dr David Floyd explores the implications and impact that Covid will have on debt and inflation in 2020 and beyond.

here is a very interesting article by Cliff Moyce on Zoom security in which he offers guidance on what is fast being the new working norm of virtual meetings and the essential need to ensure safe working and security.

The Institute's President Professor Colin Coulson-Thomas presents an interesting article on how to tackle Covid to support a proactive recovery from recession .

### Let's Get Practical

Our popular series from the productivity experts at Scott-Grant continues by discussing the impact of Covid and the productivity challenge it presents.

All this and much more which will be of practical use to productivity professionals working in organisations across the world is contained in the Journal.

## Decline of European Car Production

European car sector remains in a state of far-reaching upheaval and its ability to revamp its business model from combustion engines to electrically chargeable vehicles will be essential for future growth prospects.

It is anticipated that the ongoing changes to global value chains could lead to the car industry losing some of its economic importance for Europe. Leaner, automated production lines and reduced overcapacity do not necessarily have to be negative developments, as these could result in boosting European productivity.

Even before the coronavirus, Europe's car sector was in the doldrums. After strong demand from 2011-17, car sales slumped in

2018 when a switch to new emission test procedures (WLTP) triggered a collapse in car production by over 20%.



In 2019 sales recovered slightly but never matched previous production levels, as they were weighed down by a combination of intensifying global trade tensions, driving bans on diesel cars and stricter EU car emission standards and shifting consumer preferences towards electric and hybrid cars.

Entering the COVID-19 crisis already in a fragile state, the car sector has experienced one of the biggest declines in activity. Euro area passenger-car registrations tumbled by a substantial 78.5% year on year in April 2020 and were still down 28.6% year on year in June. With factories closed under lockdowns, the European Automobile Manufacturers' Association estimates that EU-wide production losses amount to at least 2.4m units so far. As consumers have become increasingly reluctant to make big-ticket purchases amid deteriorating employment prospects, a big turnaround in demand seems unlikely.

## IMS Members Contact Details

### Do we have the Correct contact details for you?

It would help if members updated the Institutes office with any recent changes to their contact details be they postal addresses, phone numbers or email addresses. Up to date email contact details are essential to notify members when our on-line journal is available to view on our website. Email: [admin@ims-productivity.com](mailto:admin@ims-productivity.com)

## Denmark aims to improve gender balance

Denmark has lagged behind many European Union countries in achieving gender balance in science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine. Female researchers in the country account for 33% of associate professor positions and 22% of full professorships. They also secure fewer large grants and feature less frequently as first or last authors in high-impact journals than do their male counterparts.

Last year, the non-profit organization DANWISE (the Danish Society for Women in Science) was founded and, since then, 18 women, mainly academic re-

searchers, have been working to eliminate this gender gap. There are encouraging signs of improvement, some of which have happened since the foundation the organisation.

The country's major universities, including Aarhus, Copenhagen and Southern Denmark, have initiated diversity programmes. Large funding bodies, including the Independent Research Fund Denmark and the Lundbeck Foundation, are reporting a slow rise in the proportion of successful grant applications from female scientists.

## IMS Website Knowledge Bank



We are asking members to submit write-ups on specific topics for use in the Institutes website [Knowledge Bank](#). Please email submissions to [admin@ims-productivity.com](mailto:admin@ims-productivity.com)



*“Achieving excellence through people and productivity “*

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[Current Issue](#)

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