

SLC

2024 EDITION

From September 25th to 26th, 2024, the region of Cantabria, in Northern Spain, once again hosted **Santander International Lift City (SILC)**, gathering over 200 professionals from the vertical transportation sector. **The event, organized by IMEM Lifts**, confirmed its status as a leading conference for the industry.







The 2nd edition

Of SILC focused on **the transformational forces of digitalization**, which has completely changed the scenario in all industries, and the pivotal role of connectivity, as lifts are now smart and connected devices that interact not just with intelligent buildings but also smart cities and societies.

Participants from more than **20 countries** engaged in lively discussions on the present and future of elevators, and enjoyed a programme of presentations by world-class experts from across the globe that cements SILC as a boutique event designed to drive the industry forward.







BÜLENT YILMAZ

Managing Director of the world-renowned trade magazine Elevator World, explained to the audience that as a visitor to many events organised by private companies around the world, the first edition of SILC caught his attention due to its excellent organisation and differentiated approach as a knowledge dissemination forum.

Thus, Elevator World decided to cover the second edition as well as the incoming ones.





science in
industry

INTERNATIONAL
LIFT CITY
BY IMEM

SILC
2024
LIFT CITY
BY IMEM

SILC
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LIFT CITY
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SILC
2024
LIFT CITY
BY IMEM
State of the art and science
in the lift industry
November 2024 and 2025 (tentative) | Location



ANTONIO PÉREZ

IMEM Lifts Managing Director Antonio Pérez, who initiated SILC, highlighted the relevance of bringing together expert voices not only from the elevator sector, but also from converging industries in the fields of **telecommunications or cybersecurity**.





Digital Transformation and 5G Connectivity

The first day of SILC 2024 started at the Botín Centre, a building designed by architect Renzo Piano that is not just a relevant hub for art, culture, knowledge and creativity, but also an icon for the city. From the stage of its luminous auditorium overlooking the beautiful bay, key players in the lift industry provided the audience with highly specialised presentations.





GEMA IGUAL

Gema Igual, the Mayor of Santander, officially opened the event. Then, attendees were greeted by Antonio Pérez, whose passion for innovation in the lift sector set the tone for the day's discussions.





JUAN DE LA GUARDIA

The morning's agenda began with **Dr. Juan de la Guardia**, who after many years at the German multinational Thyssenkrupp company, is now Managing Director of ADVANTERE School of Management. **He tackled the question of how small to medium-sized enterprises** can harness digitalization to improve profitability.



FRANCISCO VALLEJO

The role of 5G technology as an accelerator for smart industries was explored by Francisco Vallejo, Vodafone Spain Head of Product & Enterprise Solutions, whose insights on the transformative power of private 5G networks captivated the audience.

SILC
SANTANDER
INTERNATIONAL
LIFT CITY

by **IMEM**





ELENA MAURO

Safety, a constant concern in the industry, was the focus of **Elena Mauro**, Functional Safety Certification Expert at Lift Instituut. She presented the integration of Programmable Electronic Safety Systems (PESS) into lift designs, emphasizing the importance of adapting to new safety technologies while maintaining reliability.





RALF ARNOLD

Head of Product Management at ZIEHL-ABEGG DRIVES, he brought his wealth of **experience to the stage with a presentation on the interaction of components and digitalization.** He explained how the digitization of elevator components is leading to significant cost savings, enhanced quality, and quicker response times for customer needs.





DAVID COOPER

David Cooper, CEO of LECS (UK) and LECS (UAE) offered a more human-centric perspective on the industry's digital transformation delving into the critical role of knowledge management, communication, and talent development within the lift sector.







EXPERT PANEL

The expert panel that concluded the first day of **SILC 2024** brought a discussion on the critical topics of Digital Transformation and Connectivity.

The panel involved speakers David Cooper, Juan de la Guardia and Francisco Vallejo, as well as Alfredo Gómez, Technological Innovation Consultant from the Aragon Institute of Technology and Vicente Pacheco, R&D and Engineering Director at IMEM Lifts.









SMART CITIES, IA AND THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK

The second day of SILC 2024 unfolded in the idyllic town of Comillas, one of northern Spain's most picturesque gems. This charming fishing village is known for its narrow cobblestone streets, scenic squares, and beautiful sandy beaches.

Beyond its natural beauty, Comillas boasts remarkable architectural treasures, including the magnificent Pontifical University, now the Espacio Comillas, an exquisite venue where the event took place.



M^a JOSÉ SAENZ

The day began with a welcome from **María José Sáenz de Buruaga**, President of the Government of Cantabria, who opened the session with a speech highlighting her government's commitment to digitalization projects, praising companies Lifts for their role in driving innovation and economic growth.





IÑIGO DE LA SERNA

Former Spanish Minister of Development and Public Works **Iñigo de la Serna** delivered a keynote address on the current state of smart cities. De la Serna's deep expertise, drawn from his tenure as Mayor of Santander and his leadership in smart city initiatives, underscored the crucial role of all urban mobility solutions in the success of connected societies.





ALFREDO GÓMEZ

Alfredo Gómez, Technological Innovation Consultant at the Aragón Institute of Technology, offered a compelling presentation on Digital Tools and Advanced Technologies in Lift Design. From digital twins to predictive maintenance and virtual tests, Gómez highlighted how these tools can lead to smarter, more efficient lifts that meet the evolving needs of modern buildings and smart cities.



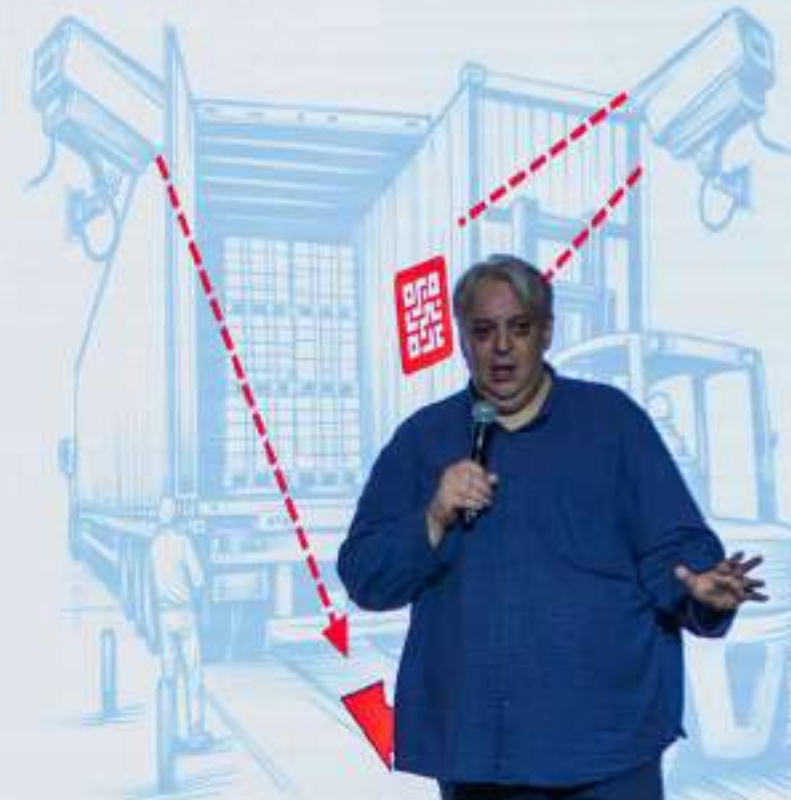


Descripción

Identificación y Seguimiento de palés en el proceso de carga en muelles **evitando acciones manuales** y ayudando en la **prevención de fraude**

Solución

- Diseño de **etiquetado**
- Implantación **sistemas IoT** acorde a necesidad
- Diseño de **3 modelos de IA** para dar respuesta a negocio
- Despliegue y configuración de **sistemas Edge**
- Sistema **MLOps** en Cloud



JAVIER MENÉNDEZ & MIGUEL TABLADO

Next presentation was delivered by **Miguel Tablado**, Chief Technology Officer at Kyndryl, and **Javier Menéndez Pallo**, the company's Artificial Intelligence Advisor and co-creator of the Spanish chapter of the Global AI Community.

Their session, focused on the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in various industries, centered on building a 360-degree AI model. They provided several real-world examples of how AI is transforming industrial processes, emphasizing the importance of strategic partnerships in designing effective AI strategies.



DAVID MECA

As SILC 2024 drew to a close, the conference took a unique and inspiring turn with a motivational talk by **David Meca**, the world champion swimmer known for his incredible endurance and record-breaking feats.

He spoke of perseverance, teamwork, and determination. With 28 world swimming championships, over 100 international titles, and several world records, Meca is no stranger to pushing limits. He remains the only athlete to win four medals in a single World Long Distance Swimming Championship, and his legendary accomplishments include a 130-kilometer swim from the Iberian Peninsula to Ibiza and setting the world record in crossing the Strait of Gibraltar or his famous “escape from Alcatraz Prison”, which he repeated after 25 years, just two days before flying to Santander to talk at SILC.



In his talk – which was as inspiring as emotional, he drew parallels between his experiences and the challenges faced by anyone, be it an individual or a whole industry, emphasizing that just like in sports, overcoming obstacles requires resilience, collaboration, and shared goals. His message reinforced SILC’s spirit of unity, reminding attendees that real success comes when everyone works together to drive the industry forward.

SILC CHAPTER FOR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONALS

As part of SILC 2024's commitment to fostering collaboration across all key stakeholders in the vertical transportation sector, a special session was held for property managers from various regions in Spain.

Understanding the critical role that property managers play in the smooth operation and maintenance of buildings, the conference included a series of presentations dedicated to aligning the lift industry with the needs and concerns of this important group.

These sessions ran concurrently with the main event on the second day of the conference at Espacio Comillas, addressing topics central to the day-to-day responsibilities of property managers.





JOSÉ CARLOS FRECHILLA

The first presentation, focused on Industrial Security in Lifts, was led by a panel of seasoned experts, including **José Carlos Frechilla**, Director at FEEDA.





ISABEL LINARES

Head of Industry & Equipment Market Surveillance at UNE (Spanish Association for Standardisation).



& JOSÉ MANUEL FLOREZ

Industry Division Director at TÜV SÜD ATISAE. Together, they shared their extensive experience and technical knowledge, discussing the latest safety standards and regulations that govern lift security.





ALBERTO RUÍZ-CAPILLAS

Following the technical discussions, **Alberto Ruiz Capillas**, President of the Professional Association of Property Managers in Cantabria, delivered a talk about the importance of close collaboration between building administrators and the lift industry.





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State of the
art and
science
in the lift
industry

23 & 25
SEPTEMBER 2024

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LOOKING AHEAD: SILC'S ROLE IN THE INDUSTRY

SILC 2024 demonstrated the elevator industry's commitment to staying at the forefront of innovation. SILC has successfully positioned itself as a biannual event where global experts gather to discuss the forces shaping vertical transportation, with a clear focus on the practical implementation of cutting-edge technologies.

The event also offered valuable networking opportunities and a cultural immersion, making it an unforgettable experience for all participants. The next edition, scheduled for 2026, promises to build on this momentum, ensuring that SILC remains a key event in the global elevator industry calendar.









SUMMARY VIDEO

SILC



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