

Job Search Group Recap – October 2003

October 16, 2003

This Thursday four FM professionals met at the weekly Job Search Group meeting. We continued our discussion on the intricacies of networking. We addressed the question of where do you start networking especially if you are not "used to doing so." There are a number of how to network articles. We looked at identifying the various types of networking contacts and will discuss how to approach them. These skills are important because 85% of all jobs are filled through networking. Most are filled even before the job is posted. Curiously, most job seekers limit their efforts to that 15% of jobs that are posted.

October 9, 2003

Today five facilities professionals met for breakfast and information exchange at the Citrus Cafe. One participant shared about growing her own business in the interiors industry as a color consultant. Another member reported that after being hired three weeks ago the person she was replacing suddenly returned and she was let go. Life can be tough in the trenches. Even when you land a job there is no guaranteed security. The lesson for everyone, both employed and unemployed, is to keep your network fresh and working. The US Labor Department says the average American now changes jobs every three to five years.

A good way to keep in touch with what is going on is to be active in IFMA. At the next monthly meeting ask five people how their employer is doing or if they know of companies that are growing.

One of the most overused words in business today is "networking." This word from the 1970's haunts us every day. For example, the Labor Department tells us that 85% of all jobs are filled through networking. What does "networking" mean? Most people really don't know. The Job Search Group started a conversation at today's meeting by asking: What is networking? How do you do it? We will be sharing networking tips and ideas at the next few meetings. See you there!