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NEW CDIO MEMBERS

The UK & Ireland region had one new candidate that presented themselves at the regional meeting early January. The new member was accepted to join the CDIO initiative by the CDIO council.

The new member is **Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU)**, which is a large UK university recognised for its excellent student experience, strong industry links, and high-impact research. It has been named the "Modern University of the Year 2026" by the Good University Guide.

The CDIO community warmly welcomes them to the CDIO initiative!

NEW REGIONAL LEADERS

The European region has a new co-leader working together with Reidar Lyng and Suzanne Brink. The new co-leader is Carl Johan Carlsson from Chalmers University, Sweden.

Carl Johan Carlsson

European region

Co-leader for 2026-2029.



Having been involved in engineering education for around 25 years, I am very happy and honoured to join the CDIO Council as a co-leader for the European region. I fondly remember the first international CDIO conference I attended, at Linköping University in 2006, and I have been a regular participant since then.

In my new role as regional co-leader, I want to further promote and advance our CDIO community of practice and our shared commitment to developing engineering education through collaborations, collegial support, and exchanges. I also hope to be able to contribute my own knowledge and experience regarding the integration of generic, core, and discipline-specific competencies in the engineering curriculum.

In a world characterized by uncertainties and rapid change, we need to be able to adapt and refine (redefine) our engineering education to address emerging and evolving challenges. The concept of Curriculum Agility is something we have developed through extensive collaboration within the CDIO community. Therefore, I hope that this will be a part of the ongoing transformation of our education practices, and that our CDIO community will continue to explore and provide insight for the future of engineering education.

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE LATIN AMERICA REGIONAL MEETING 2025 IN SAO PAULO

The 2025 CDIO Latin America Regional Meeting, hosted at FATEC São José dos Campos (São Paulo, Brazil), marked an important milestone in strengthening the CDIO community across the region. The hybrid academic–industry event brought together 168 registered participants, with strong online engagement and an active in-person audience, reflecting both accessibility and growing regional interest in CDIO-driven innovation.



Focus on Artificial Intelligence in Engineering Education

The central theme of the meeting was “How to integrate Artificial Intelligence into Engineering Education”, explored through two expert-led round tables. Discussions addressed both curriculum design and technological implementation, highlighting AI not only as a technical subject but also as a catalyst for inclusive, high-quality engineering education.

From a curricular perspective, participants emphasized the need for:

- Clearly structured learning pathways in AI
- Adequate and accessible technological infrastructure
- Continuous faculty development to support emerging competencies

From a technological perspective, discussions focused on:

- The role of AI systems in modern software architectures
- AI-supported agile project development
- The use of software platforms with embedded libraries to support learning and user training.

Broad and Diverse Participation

The meeting attracted a diverse audience representing academia, industry, students, and the wider public. Faculty members, students, industry representatives, and CDIO member institutions engaged in dialogue on the future of engineering education in Latin America. International participation from CDIO leadership further reinforced global connections within the network.

Strengthening the CDIO Network in Latin America

A key outcome of the meeting was the continued strengthening of the CDIO network in the region. Representatives from numerous CDIO member institutions participated, and at least three new institutions applied for CDIO membership for 2026, signaling sustained growth and institutional commitment.

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Looking Ahead

The 2025 Latin America Regional Meeting demonstrated the maturity, ambition, and collaborative spirit of the Latin American CDIO community. By bringing together educators, students, and industry partners around the transformative potential of AI, the event reinforced CDIO's role as a shared framework for innovation in engineering education. Recordings of the sessions are publicly available via the official FATEC São José dos Campos YouTube channel, extending the impact beyond the event itself.

CDIO 2026 EUROPE, UK & IRELAND REGIONAL MEETING – EVENT SUMMARY

Dates: 12–13 January 2026

Location: University of Hertfordshire, SPECTRA Building, College Lane Campus, Hatfield, UK

The University of Hertfordshire was delighted to welcome collaborators from across Europe to the CDIO 2026 Europe, UK & Ireland Regional Meeting on 12–13 January 2026, which was held in the newly opened SPECTRA Building. The event's sessions were held in the purpose-built CDIO spaces designed to support collaboration and CDIO principles in learning.

The meeting opened with a warm welcome from the Dean of School, Professor Daniel McCluskey, setting an enthusiastic tone for the programme. This was followed by a keynote session on “Graduate Attributes – an Industrial Perspective”, featuring an engaging panel of business leaders who emphasised the evolving competencies industry now requires from engineering graduates. The contributions of industry speakers David Palmer (Secomak) and Paul Morrison (Kane International) provided important insights into industry needs and expectations which resonated strongly the attendees.



A historical overview of the CDIO organisation by Svante Gunnarsson followed, providing a fascinating and personal account of the organisations' evolution, which was warmly appreciated by everyone. Delegates then explored a series of parallel sessions covering future competencies, aerospace curriculum enhancements at TU Delft, and a technicians' perspective on CDIO.

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The early afternoon focused on the Design of CDIO Spaces, led by Helen Goddard who was instrumental in SPECTRA's design and construction, before delegates were given a guided tour of the building. The day concluded with a showcase of University of Hertfordshire CDIO student projects, introduced by the Engineering Head of Department, Susan Murray, which provided inspiration and ideas through the many conversations between attendees and the UH CDIO Academics and Technical Team.

The Evening Dinner at Hatfield house was a real highlight and which included a fascinating tour of the historic venue.

The second day opened by considering the use of simulation in equipping students for industry, and attendees enjoyed the fascinating case study of how simulated supply chain and logistics activities can provide the context for CDIO style learning in cases where physical implementation of a project is not feasible. Delegates were then treated to experiencing the university's extensive simulation facilities in parallel sessions on the automotive and aerospace simulators or the virtual reality mechanical engineering facilities.

After lunch, a forward-looking discussion on The Future of CDIO continued the conversation in this area, which was followed by regional meetings which included a presentation from Manchester Metropolitan University as they seek to join the organisation.

As the two-day meeting drew to a close, there was a sense of inspiration and renewed momentum across the attendees. Overall, the meeting fostered new connections, strengthened existing collaborations, and generated ideas for future improvement and development.



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ELECTIONS

The CDIO council election happens during the international CDIO conference. The current election procedure rules:

1. Candidates:
 - Applicants are required to be from a member university.
 - Candidates will include a personal letter as part of the application process.
2. Voting:
 - Each CDIO member university will have one vote per open position.
 - During the election period, the CDIO university's contact person(s) will be asked to identify their university's voting representative. The identified voting representative is then sent the ballot. If no response is attained from any contact people, the university will not receive a ballot in the vote.

Please, make sure that your university's contact information in the CDIO website is correct. In case of errors, be in contact with the CDIO office (info@cdio.org).

The open positions in the CDIO Council are as follows:

- Co-director 2026-2028
 - Currently held by Juha Kontio (eligible to run for third term)
- 2 * Member-at-large 2026-2029
 - Currently held by Matt Murphy (3 terms done) and Vairavel Gurusamy (eligible to run for another term)

Furthermore, there will be regional leader positions to be filled at the Liverpool conference:

- Europe: 2 positions (Liverpool)
- Uk&Ireland: 1 position (Liverpool)
- Australia & NZ: 1 position (Liverpool).

More information to come from the CDIO election committee.

CALL FOR HOST FOR 2028 INTERNATIONAL CDIO CONFERENCE

We invite you to submit a proposal for hosting the International CDIO conference 2028 that will take place in June 2028. Now we invite proposals for onsite conference. In your proposal the candidate should answer a set of questions. The organizer of 2028 conference will be decided in the council meeting at CDIO International conference in June 2026.

The proposal submission deadline is May 15, 2026.

The full call has been sent to the CDIO leaders email list on 29th January 2026. You can request more information from the CDIO co-directors (juha.kontio@turkuamk.fi, nicoleta.maynard@monash.edu).

LIST OF FUTURE CDIO MEETINGS

Following are all the future CDIO meetings that have been agreed. List of future meetings is available at the CDIO Website as well. A welcome message of the next three meetings follows in the later sections of this newsletter.

Meeting	Place	Date
The 22nd International CDIO conference	Liverpool, UK	June 22 – 25, 2026
Asian regional meeting	Kazakhstan	September 23 – 26, 2026
2026 CDIO International Working Meeting	Barcelona, Spain	October 21 – 23, 2026
The 23 rd International CDIO conference	Online, hosted by D. Serikbayev East Kazakhstan Technical University (EKTU)	June 2027

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WELCOME TO THE 22ND CDIO CONFERENCE IN LIVERPOOL

Dates: 22–25 June 2026

Location: University of Liverpool, United Kingdom

Conference theme: “Enhancing Student Professional Development: Innovation in Assessment and Feedback”

Website: <https://www.cdio2026.co.uk/>

Updates for February Newsletter

- **Registration for the 2026 international conference is now open** with details for accommodation and travel arrangements added to the conference website.
- **Applications for CDIO Academy 2026 are now open.** This year’s challenge will be the “Aerobatic Aircraft Design Challenge”. Liverpool’s CDIO challenge will task teams of students to create an aerobatic aircraft to compete in a digital ‘Red Bull Air Race’ around the city of Liverpool. Entrants will design and ‘build’ their aircraft using integrated simulation tools, before testing them in Liverpool’s state-of-the-art HELIFLIGHT-R flight simulator with a professional test pilot. All information can be found at the conference website. Applications close 13th March.
- There will be two **Working Groups** at this year’s conference: “**Sharing Good Examples of Curriculum Agility**” and, “**Strengthening CDIO Practice Worldwide: A Competency Framework and Development Pathway**”. Groups will have a dedicated session at the conference as well as working together in the lead up to the conference. If you are instead in joining a working group you can find more information at the conference website along with details on how to join.



22nd International CDIO Conference

University of Liverpool, UK
22nd – 25th June 2026

**“Enhancing Student Professional
Development: innovation in
assessment and feedback”**



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WELCOME TO CDIO ASIAN REGIONAL MEETING 2026 — NEXT-GEN ENGINEERING: THE NEW TRIAD OF ACADEMIA, INDUSTRY AND AI

We are pleased to announce the 2026 CDIO Asian Regional Meeting hosted by D. Serikbayev East Kazakhstan Technical University (EKTU), Kazakhstan. The event will take place from 23–26 September 2026 in Ust-Kamenogorsk (Oskemen), Kazakhstan, bringing together engineering educators, researchers, and industry partners from across Asia.



D. Serikbayev EKTU is the only member institution of the global CDIO Initiative in Kazakhstan and Central Asia and has been selected by the CDIO Asian International Committee to serve as the host for the 2026 Asian Regional Meeting.

Theme and Focus: “Next-Gen Engineering: The New Triad of Academia, Industry and AI”

The meeting will highlight how academia and industry can collaborate—supported by AI technologies—to prepare engineers who are adaptable, innovative, and ready to address rapidly evolving technological challenges. Sessions will include:

- Keynote speeches by international CDIO leaders
- Parallel sessions on emerging approaches in engineering education
- Workshops and roundtable discussions
- Poster presentations and collaborative dialogues
- Networking events designed to foster regional partnerships

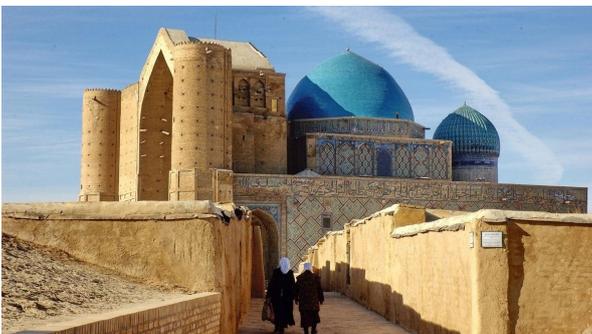
Advancing Engineering Education in Asia

The CDIO ARM 2026 represents a major opportunity for professionals across the CDIO network to exchange best practices, share insights into curriculum design and implementation, and strengthen collaboration across institutions in the Asia region. Hosting the meeting in Kazakhstan also marks a significant milestone, reinforcing the country’s growing role as a bridge between Central Asia, East Asia, and Europe in the global engineering education community.

Experience Kazakhstan: A Unique Cultural and Academic Setting

Beyond the academic program, participants will experience the unique cultural heritage of Kazakhstan, shaped by centuries of interaction between nomadic traditions and global influences along the historic Silk Road. East Kazakhstan offers a distinctive setting where traditional hospitality, cultural diversity, and modern technological development coexist. Participants will have the opportunity to engage with the region’s industrial, educational, and innovation ecosystem, gaining insight into how local context and culture contribute to contemporary engineering education and practice.

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We warmly invite engineering educators, researchers, academic leaders, and industry partners to participate in the CDIO Asian Regional Meeting 2026 and join the discussion on the future of engineering education.

For updates, program information, and registration details, please visit the official event website:

<https://cdio.ektu.kz>

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WELCOME TO INTERNATIONAL WORKING MEETING IN BARCELONA

Dates: 21–23 October 2026

Location: Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC), Barcelona, Spain



The **International CDIO Working Meeting 2026** will take place on **21–23 October 2026** in **Barcelona**, hosted by **Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)** at the **UPC North Campus, Telecom Engineering School**.

Building on experiences from recent working meetings, the Barcelona event will expand to a **2½-day format**, allowing more time for in-depth discussion, collaboration, and interaction. The preliminary structure includes an opening afternoon on Wednesday, a full working day on Thursday complemented by a social activity and dinner, and a concluding session on Friday morning.

The meeting will follow the established **interactive CDIO working meeting format**, with a strong focus on dialogue, shared reflection, and collective development. In addition to core CDIO topics, the program will include interaction with the host institution, featuring a short introduction to CDIO development at **Telecom-BCN (UPC)** and selected ongoing projects addressing societal integration in curricula and sustainability in electrical and electronic engineering.

Practical arrangements, including the **registration fee**, recommended hotels, and transport information, are currently under preparation. The registration fee is expected to cover lunches, coffee breaks, and the Thursday evening social program. Further logistical details will be communicated later.

Save the date and plan to join colleagues from across the CDIO community in Barcelona for three days of focused collaboration, shared learning, and strategic discussion on the future of CDIO.