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FIERGS and CIERGS

The isolation of Rio Grande do Sul's economy in the 1930s required that an organization be created to join forces around promoting and defending the state's development. Those were difficult times and the Revolution during that period made matters worse, primarily in terms of the inconsistent supply of raw materials from other regions, as well as obstacles to product distribution to markets in the center of the country.

On November 7, 1930, the Center for the Manufacturing Industry (Cinfa) was born, later adopting the name Center for Industries of Rio Grande do Sul (CIERGS). Through its members, the organization represents businesses and associations, Centers and Chambers of Commerce in all regions of the state.

Seven years later on August 14, 1937, the Federation of Industries of Rio Grande do Sul (FIERGS) was founded, falling under Brazilian trade union legislation. That year the Center for Manufacturing Industries had 147 members and FIERGS represented 21 member trade unions. .

One year after FIERGS was founded the National Confederation of Industry issued the Trade Unions Letter on September 29, 1938, congregating the first organized Federations in Brazil, namely Rio Grande do Sul, São Paulo, the Federal District and Minas Gerais.

FIERGS and CIERGS have a unique background and are today part of the Industrial System of Rio Grande do Sul, which also includes Social Services for Industry (Sesi/RS), the National Service for Industrial Training (Senai/RS) and the Euvaldo Lodi Institute (IEL/RS).

FIERGS currently has 115 member trade unions and CIERGS has 2000 members. As a mark of their origins based on union, the two organizations also have the same president. Together they represent all of the 47,000 factories in operation in Rio Grande do Sul, which directly employ 680,000 people.
