



Inside Darwin Convention Centre

DARWIN, WHERE INDIGENOUS AUSTRALIA CONNECTS

Looking out to Darwin's harbour, an ancient meeting site for the Larrakia people, Darwin Convention Centre is the natural hub for sharing Indigenous ideas, innovation and continuing knowledge. Within the past several weeks alone, the Convention Centre hosted four key conferences on topics that ranged from chronic diseases, environmental health, Indigenous business enterprises, and education. The venue hummed as scientists, business leaders and experts brought insight, academic rigour and wealth of experience to advance Indigenous matters. With the Northern Territory home to Australia's largest Indigenous population per capita, the Top End and Darwin City remain the cultural and spiritual heart of Aboriginal culture.

www.darwinconvention.com.au

NEW LEADERSHIP FOR THE JOINT MEETINGS INDUSTRY COUNCIL



The Joint Meetings Industry Council (JMIC) announced that Philippe Fournier, President of the International Association of PCO's (IAPCO) and Managing Director for France, MCI Group, has assumed the Presidency of the Joint Meetings Industry Council. Fournier replaces Leigh Harry, Past President of ICCA, who led the Council for the past three years and recently moved to a senior government post in Australia. Fournier has over 25 years of experience in the meetings industry and has held numerous positions in prominent industry organizations.

www.themeetingsindustry.org

BESTCITIES WELCOMES TWO NEW PARTNERS

The international portfolio of Best Cities partners continues to grow with the cities of Berlin and Houston. Making the

announcement at IMEX America, Jerad Bachar, Incoming Board Chair for 2012, said: *'The BestCities Global Alliance consists of convention bureaux that deliver the world's best service experience for international meeting planners. These premier meeting destinations already include Cape Town, Copenhagen, Dubai, Edinburgh, Melbourne, San Juan, Singapore and Vancouver and now welcomes the cities of Berlin and Houston. Both cities ably demonstrate the attributes to meet the strict BestCities criteria for membership which includes state-of-the-art convention facilities, a minimum 10,000 hotel rooms, safe, public transportation and excellent air access.'*

www.bestcities.net

KOREA PREPARES FOR 2012 KOREA CONVENTION YEAR

Since the turn of the century, Korea has achieved an enormous growth in meetings and convention industry. In recognition of this, the Korean government has been nurturing and fostering this sector as one of strategic and new-growth industries. In order to boost the country as one of the

top five convention destinations in the world, the Korean government has declared the upcoming year as the 2012 Korea Convention Year. Various programs by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Korea Tourism Organization in cooperation with seven MICE Alliances in regional convention destinations have been planned with the goal to provide better services and support to MICE participants and organizers.

k-mice.visitkorea.or.kr



Hyangwonjong Pavilion, South Korea