



## Global coverage with a focused agenda

### AIPC

International Association of Congress Centres  
"A Global Standard of Excellence"

**Founded:** 1958

**Membership:** 149 members in 53 countries

**Mission statement:** To promote the advancement of the congress centre industry through the encouragement of high management standards and the recognition of excellence in facility operation.

#### Activities:

- Industry research, analysis and technical publications
- Training, educational and professional development activities
- Global marketing and communications for the industry
- Member networking and information exchange forums
- Performance standards and recognition programs
- The annual Apex Award for 'World's Best Congress Centre'.

**Characteristics:** AIPC is a true international organisation with representation from 49 countries world-wide. It focuses on the issues, opportunities and challenges facing convention and exhibition centres and promotes facility and operational excellence by encouraging and recognising high standards of facility management through a variety of association programmes.

#### General Assemblies:

July 14-18, 2007 Graz, Austria  
July 2008, Singapore

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At AIPC, we say that our greatest resource is the knowledge, experience and expertise of our own members. And with 149 of them in 53 countries around the world, the level and diversity of that resource has grown to truly global proportions!

That's why AIPC is now the international organisation representing the issues and interests of congress centre management worldwide. It's also why we can lay claim to delivering on our mission of encouraging and recognising excellence in congress centre management. Our membership, combined with AIPC's educational, networking, research and industry relations programs, make for the perfect combination: knowledge, along with the ability to disseminate it effectively.

At the same time, this puts us in an excellent position to represent our members' positions on key issues facing the industry. For a number of years, AIPC has been aggressively pursuing a direction of promoting industry cooperation and coordinated action by exchanging information and strategies with other industry sectors and developing joint activities that bring all these sectors closer together. Our belief is that our industry will only prosper when we can address collective issues in a coordinated way, and cooperation is the first step in building the kind of relationships necessary to achieve this. However, we need to be sure that we fully understand our own positions in order to be able to represent them properly in such a forum, and this is what a diverse and well networked membership can deliver.

For all of these reasons, AIPC has enjoyed significant growth in membership over the past several years. We offer member congress centres a very specific focus and an efficient use of their time and resources. AIPC is the perfect vehicle to explore and pursue issues that are unique to this sector, and members know that by engaging with their colleagues in such a focused way, they will be gaining knowledge that is directly applicable to their ongoing management needs.

As the meetings industry becomes more complex, so do the requirements for technical, operational and research-based decision making. By focusing on issues and opportunities that are unique to our sector, we can assure members the best possible investment of their time and energies – and the greatest collective ability to influence issues that are critical to our future.

**Barbara Maple**  
**President, AIPC**