

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CONGRESS CENTRES

AIPC 2007 Annual Conference and General Assembly in Graz

Each year a member facility hosts the Annual Conference and General Assembly of AIPC - the International Association of Congress Centres. The Annual Conference brings together members to consider key industry issues and hear from top professionals in a variety of related fields. The General Assembly is the business session where AIPC executive and staff provide reports and outline the programme of activity for the organization.

The 2007 Annual Conference and 49th General Assembly of AIPC will be held in Graz, Austria, 15-18 July 2007, at the Grazer Congress - Convention Center Graz.

Given the rapid changes in the international congress industry – in everything from client expectations to new technology – often within the constraints of buildings

designed for different needs and demands, facility managers need the very latest intelligence and the benefit of both global experience and good advice from their colleagues to operate under these challenging conditions.

In this year's AIPC Annual Conference (www.aipc.org) senior figures from related industries will present the developments they see in their own areas that will impact AIPC members' business as well. Key client groups will present their expectations regarding congress facilities and services – and what changes are taking place in their sectors. Once again, insights, experiences and strategies will be shared among the delegates that will help broaden everyone's thinking about how to deal with issues of common concern.

Annual Conference Format

The more interactive format that was launched last year and facilitated greater opportunities for discussion about selected conference topics



will be maintained in the 2007 programme of AIPC Annual Conference and General Assembly. At the same time, an association business and update session will be held on the final conference day prior to the General Assembly. This will be a members-only session, providing an opportunity for an open exchange of views on AIPC activities and programmes along with a greater level of detail on how members can get more involved in new programme offerings. Amongst the areas to be discussed will be the AIPC Academy, the Sales and Marketing Summit, the Quality Standards programme initiative, the AIPC Awards programme and the results of the AIPC "top ten" issues survey which will have been completed earlier in the year. Each of these will be the subject of updates, evaluations and implementation discussions, and all members are urged to provide for their participation in their schedules to enable the greatest possible input to the planning for these important areas.