
Australia

Discover why associations say
Australia is the place to meet.

Australia has been one of the world's top destinations for association meetings for over 20 years.

Convention cities of Australia:

1. Darwin
2. Cairns
3. Brisbane
4. Gold Coast
5. Sydney
6. Canberra
7. Hobart
8. Melbourne
9. Adelaide
10. Perth





Why Australia is the place to meet.

There is nothing like the vibrancy and appeal of Australia as a destination for businesses to succeed. That is why Australia has been one of the world's most sought after destinations for association meetings for the past 20 years.

Every year hundreds of international conferences and congresses attract thousands of delegates from across the globe to see and hear world class views in Australia.

They come because of the value Australia offers for members, from high quality scientific programs supported by our world-class industry, academic, research and university institutions, to our passion for early adoption and innovation.

They come to develop their professions and industries, to find solutions to global problems, to be the first to hear leading thinking and to expand their reach into one of the fastest growing regions of the world right on the doorstep of Asia.

They come to expand their sector's future, promoting international collaboration and highlighting the relevance of their work to new audiences. Just as the Australian Government is building a stronger, more innovative future for its \$34 billion tourism and business event industry through its National Long Term Tourism Strategy.

Meeting in Australia is an opportunity to take advantage of the country's world-leading excellence, strong economic growth, pivotal geographic position and importantly, to enjoy Australia's unique natural and cultural experiences.

Australia is a magnet for delegates, routinely exceeding both past conference and congress participation and expectations for delegate attendance among some of the most spectacular and inspiring environments in the world.

Delegates return time and time again because they discover that Australians are warm and welcoming hosts, helping to stage outstanding events that exceed expectations for both organisers and visitors alike.

This book is an opportunity to discover all you need to know about meeting in Australia from the associations and hosts who have already benefited from what Australia can offer.

We look forward to the opportunity of welcoming you in Australia for your next association meeting or congress.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martin Ferguson'. The signature is fluid and cursive.

The Hon Martin Ferguson AM MP
Minister for Tourism

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Discover Australia's convention cities.

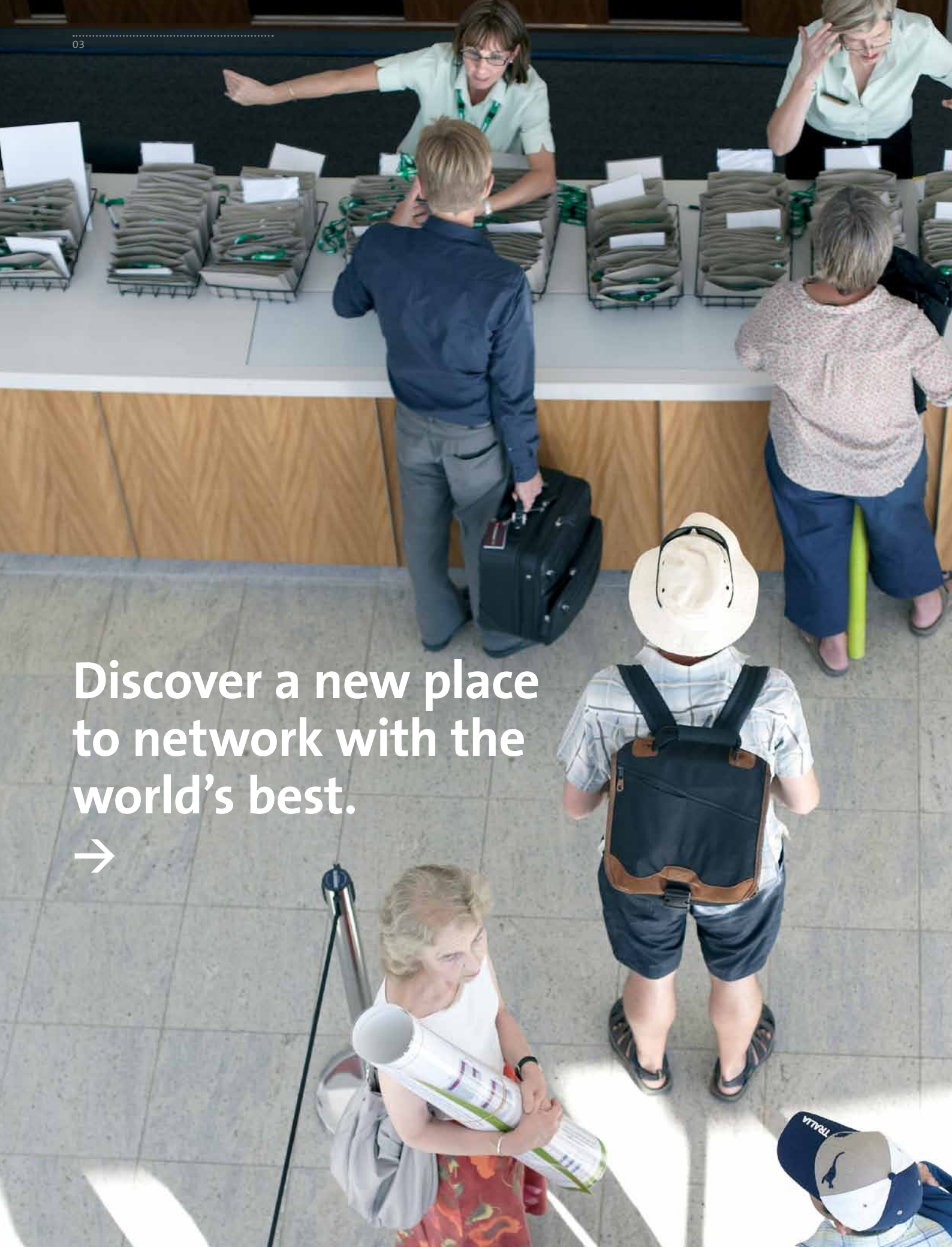
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Discover a new place
to network with the
world's best.





15th International Conference for Women Engineers and Scientists (ICWES15)

Delegates

500 delegates

Destination

Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

Duration

July 2011

Since 1964, the International Conference for Women Engineers and Scientists has been held every three years to provide an important forum for the exchange of information and ideas for women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.

The 15th conference in the series, ICWES15, was hosted in Adelaide, Australia, in July 2011, attracting around 500 delegates from as many as 40 countries around the world.

“This conference series is incredibly important in providing an opportunity for women in our profession to discuss innovative engineering, science and technological practices, to network with colleagues in business, academia and government, and to showcase and celebrate the valuable contributions women have made,” said Dr Marlene Kanga, co-chair of the organising committee.



“This is the first time such an international conference for women was held in the Southern Hemisphere, and is testament to the attraction of Australia as a destination as well as the health of our profession,” she said.

The idea to host the event in Australia was initially seeded more than 10 years ago. Since that time many people – including those from the Engineers Australia National Committee for Women in Engineering and the Adelaide Convention Bureau and the Adelaide Convention Centre – have been committed to successfully securing the bid and developing an extremely high quality program.

Dr Kanga said she believed the choice of Adelaide was driven by well established local support, particularly from the South Australian business event industry, government of South Australia and local government in Adelaide, and the engineering profession.

Keynote speakers included Ms Janet Holmes a Court, Chair of the John Holland group and many other entities and listed as one of Australia’s living treasures; distinguished astrophysicist Dame Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell from the UK, who worked on the Nobel winning discovery of the first radio pulsars; Dr María Jesús Prieto-Laffargue, a telecommunications engineer and the first woman to be President of the World Federation of Engineering Organisations; and Emeritus Professor Elizabeth Taylor, AO, a leading academic and Executive Dean of the Faculty of Sciences, Engineering & Health at Central Queensland University.

“These addresses, plus a carefully designed program of workshops and other sessions, provided a wonderful platform for participants to network, meet successful women in their chosen fields and celebrate the achievements of women engineers and scientists,” Dr Kanga said.



6th World Congress on Paediatric Critical Care

Delegates

1,500 delegates from
80 countries

Destination

Sydney, New South Wales,
Australia

Duration

13–17 March 2011

Research has demonstrated that approximately 23,000 children under the age of five die unnecessarily every day. That is 960 unnecessary deaths every hour. A desire to improve this disturbing statistic was the common goal for more than 1,500 specialists who convened in Sydney over five days in March 2011 for the 6th World Congress on Paediatric Critical Care.

Congress co-Chair Dr David Schell, of the Paediatric Intensive Care Unit at The Children’s Hospital at Westmead, said since the first Congress in the series in 1992, the event had become a vital forum to harness international expertise, experience and influence to improve the outcomes of children suffering from life-threatening illness and injury.

“Australia has played a key role in the global development of paediatric critical care, so we were delighted that our bid to bring the 6th World Congress to Sydney was successful. In fact, this was the first time it has been hosted outside the US or Europe, which demonstrates Australia’s leadership in the field,” said Dr Schell.

“The Congress attracted more than 1,500 specialists from around the world who shared their knowledge on best practice in the field, and generated practical discussions on issues of relevance to developed and developing countries – all of which will ultimately lead to better help for children who are critically ill.

“Importantly, it provided a forum to build international connections between specialists, which should lead to further global collaboration – this is a particularly important way to advance paediatric critical care around the world,” said Dr Schell.

In addition to exposing local specialists to global leaders, the Congress also highlighted Australian innovation, research capacity and facilities in the field.

Australia’s uniquely inclusive approach was reflected in the decision to jointly host the Congress for the first time by both the medical and critical care nursing communities – through the Australian and New Zealand Intensive Care Society and the Australian College of Critical Care Nurses.

“In Australia, we look at the important roles played by everyone in the paediatric intensive care cycle – not only the doctors, but also the nursing and allied health staff, such as physiotherapists and psychologists. Our workshops and scientific program were structured to accommodate the diversity of skills, interests and experiences of all delegates attending, and we’re confident that this approach will set the standard for future Congresses,” Dr Schell said.



34th International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research Congress

Delegates

Around 800 delegates from more than 60 countries

Destination

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Duration

June–July 2011

Engineers Australia and its National Committee on Water Engineering (NCWE) collaborated with the International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research (IAHR) to organise the 34th IAHR World Congress together with the 33rd National Hydrology and Water Resources Symposium and the 10th National Conference on Hydraulics in Water Engineering.

The IAHR was founded in 1935. It is a worldwide, non-profit, independent organisation of engineers and water specialists working in fields related to the hydro-environment, in particular hydraulics. The IAHR was called the International Association of Hydraulic Engineering and Research until 2009.

The Brisbane congress was organised by an executive steering committee assisted by a Brisbane organisation committee and a scientific committee, as well as by Engineers Australia, the IAHR, and a professional conference organiser.

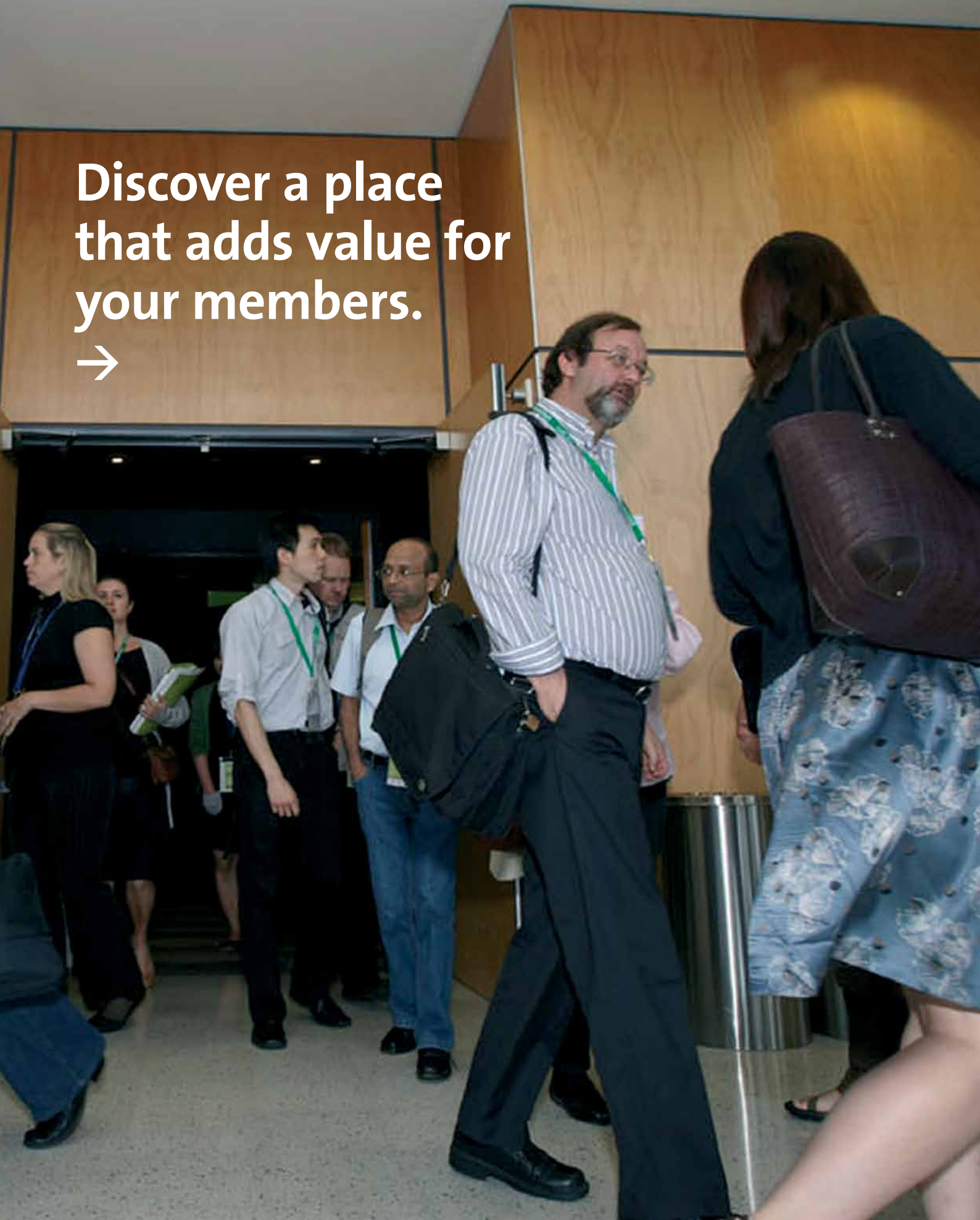
The congress theme "Balance and Uncertainty: Water in a Changing World" focused on the central roles of hydraulic engineering, hydrology and water resources in our changing world, and how these roles link to the broader issues.

“The principal role of the congress is as a technical event to present the latest research and projects and learning in water resources and hydraulics,” Mr McGrath said. “It’s an international networking event where people talk to each other and share their experiences.”

“There were 570 papers presented at the congress and around 200 of those were by Australians. There were several keynote speakers from Australia too providing increased connections and worldwide knowledge of our abilities.”

Highlights included a technical program encompassing keynote lectures given by leading experts. Other highlights included a strong technical program of peer-reviewed presentations, a welcome reception at the Maritime Museum, a congress dinner at the convention centre featuring water engineering games, a strong student and young professionals program, a student dinner and technical tours.

Discover a place
that adds value for
your members.





21st International Federation of Information Processing World Computer Congress

Delegates

More than 1,250 attendees from over 50 countries

Destination

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

Duration

September 2010

The World Computer Congress is held every two to three years under the auspices of the International Federation of Information Processing (IFIP). It is the peak meeting for the world's information and communications technologists and scientists.

"Australia is a major Information and Communication Technology (ICT) hub in South East Asia and a convenient, affordable and safe location for our many neighbours," Mr Simon Kwan, the General Manager of Corporate Affairs and Policy at the Australian Computer Society (ACS).

"IFIP chose Australia for our capabilities as an ICT nation of global significance. We have world-class industry, academic, research and university culture as well as our great track record of early adoption and development of ICT products and services."

More than 1,250 delegates attended the congress, from more than 50 countries. Close to 40 per cent were international visitors. "The World Computer Congress 2010 was one of the largest ever IFIP conferences. It was well supported with sponsorship, including Queensland Government and the ACS," Mr Kwan said.

The principal purpose of the congress was to provide a platform for bringing together some of the best minds in ICT from around the world to share their knowledge and encourage thought-provoking discussion on the use, impact and future of ICT.

"Overall, the conference was very successful. It attracted over 400 speakers, in 16 IFIP and eight industry streams, and over 1,250 delegates from nearly 50 countries.

"They came here because they want to know more about Australia and the National Broadband Network. It was the right timing."

"Both IFIP and the South East Asia Regional Computer Confederation (SEARCC) publicly acknowledged the contribution of the society in hosting the successful event and this helps to strengthen the leadership position of the ACS and ICT practitioners in Australia amongst key stakeholders."



27th International Congress of Applied Psychology (ICAP)

Delegates

3,537 delegates from
67 countries

Destination

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Duration

July 2010

The International Congress of Applied Psychology is held every four years, under the auspices of the International Association of Applied Psychology (IAAP). This organisation is one of two major international psychological bodies, the other being the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPS).

The principal objectives of the Melbourne congress were to foster the development of an international community of applied psychologists, provide a Scientific Program featuring speakers at the cutting edge of their fields, and to provide an extensive range of workshops.

Delegates came from both Australia and internationally. The largest overseas contingent, with 298 delegates, came from Japan. Countries with more than 30 delegates attending included Canada, China, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Indonesia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Singapore, South Africa, South Korea, Taiwan and the USA.

“People were very impressed by the quality of the scientific program, and they stated that they felt the workshops were the most helpful they’d ever been in. They were also warmed by the hospitality of local psychologists and were surprised by how wonderful Melbourne was,” said Dr. Michael Knowles, the president of the IAAP at the time.

“Registrations went beyond our expectations, and the number of overseas registrants was greater than we’d ever expected. Around 1,600 people joined our association as the result of the congress.”

“The networking opportunities were immense and this was a real benefit,” he said.

There were opportunities for international visitors and local hosts to network and develop cooperative and collaborative ventures. “A lot of the international delegates were impressed that psychology in Australia was so strong,” he said.

“Normally at a congress you get your money’s worth if you hear one impressive person speak, but a real impact here was the quality of the keynote speakers. Real highlights as well were the stimulating debates about current contentious issues in psychology, research and professional practice.”

Site visits were organised to seven noted research centres and institutes. Delegates also visited a range of tourist destinations in Victoria, and travelled as far afield as the Red Centre and tropical Queensland.



4th Asian Conference for Plant Pathology (ACPP)

Delegates

395 delegates from
34 countries

Destination

Darwin, Northern Territory,
Australia

Duration

26–29 April 2011

The 4th Asian Conference for Plant Pathology (ACPP) was held concurrently with the 18th Biennial Australasian Plant Pathology Society Conference at the Darwin Convention Centre. The conference brought together the Asian Association of Societies for Plant Pathology (AASPP) and the Australasian Plant Pathology Society (APPS).

“We were delighted by the number of people who attended,” said Dr Elaine Davison, President of the Australasian Plant Pathology Society.

Delegates came from all over the world, including a large contingent from China and New Zealand. Other delegates came from across South East Asia, including Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, and others came from as far away as the USA, Germany, the UK and Sweden.

“One of the main objectives was to talk about what is happening in the region, and also the problems facing the region,” Dr Davison said. “There are a number of reasons why this benefits Australia. By meeting up we get to know if and how our neighbours are dealing with a particular problem, and we also get to know what kind of diseases there are in those countries and what might come to Australia.

“People aren’t aware of what funding is available either. It’s also important for people from developing countries to enhance their diagnostic skills, for example taking something back to the lab and finding what kind of disease it has. The conference gives them the opportunity to use Australian laboratory facilities.”

Networking was also a principal objective, Dr Davison said.

“There was a huge amount of networking. It was going on all the time. The feedback in terms of networking was fantastic.

“We included a complimentary membership to the Australasian Plant Pathology Society with the registration fee, so we picked up around 70 new members this year.”

“Professional development was also an important aspect, not only through one-on-one contact but also through the workshops.”

There were a number of workshops, including workshops on banana diseases, nematodes, and potato diseases. Some of these were hands-on laboratory workshops, such as a two-day plant pathogen workshop using both cultures and herbarium material. The workshops were held at Charles Darwin University.

Discover a place of professional development.
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12th IUPAC International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry

Delegates

1,100 delegates from
50 countries

Destination

Melbourne, Victoria, Australia

Duration

July 2010

The 12th IUPAC International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry was held under the auspices of the Royal Australian Chemical Institute (RACI), and in conjunction with the RACI's National Convention 2010.

The congress is held every four years. This was the first time it had been held in Australia and almost half of the delegates came from overseas, principally the United States of America and Japan, with a broader sweep of delegates from across Asia and Europe.

"We were very happy with the numbers, especially considering the economic climate when some overseas bodies cut their expenditure," said Mr Greg Simpson, a CSIRO scientist and the Congress Chairman.

"The congress had never been to Australia and people were very interested in coming here... political stability was important, and Melbourne had a range of accommodation from budget hotels, suitable for students, to five-star hotels for executives."

The principal objective was to bring together scientists from all over the world to discuss issues in the agricultural industry, so that society could be informed of the best way to proceed.

"It's more than just an exchange of information, it's about putting scientists, industry, universities and regulators together and looking practically at a range of things including spray designs for crops, water, public and environmental health and food security," Mr Simpson said.

The event itself was impressive, with a great range of speakers, lectures and poster presentations. There was an extensive scientific program with world-leading plenary speakers and symposia.

"There were lots of innovations announced, people were brought together to work on various aspects of sustainability, and there was disclosure of new science and new ways of dealing with things, such as crop pests," Mr Simpson said.

"There was a big emphasis on professional development, including early career seminars in which senior figures in the industry sat at the same table as young scientists from around the world.

"We were able to bring some of the best, cutting-edge scientists here from all over the world and expose them to Australian scientists – which from the feedback we got afterwards was one of the great successes of the event."



4th International Conference of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture

Delegates

173, 35% from countries outside Australia

Destination

Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Duration

16–19 December 2010

The open air and towering eucalypts of beautiful Kings Park in Perth, Australia, provided the ideal backdrop for the opening session of the fourth Conference of the International Society for the Study of Religion, Nature and Culture (ISSRNC), in December 2010.

Conference coordinator, Dr Yamini Narayanan from the School of Social Sciences at La Trobe University, said it made sense to bring the 173 conference delegates close to nature to commence discussions about the relationships between human beings and their diverse cultures, environments, socio-religious beliefs and practices.

The conference – the fourth in a series which commenced in 2006 – has generated broad support to establish a permanent chapter of the ISSRNC in Australasia.

“This is a really exciting development for scholars of religion and nature,” she said.

“The study of religion has not received as much attention or funding as other disciplines, but interest has been growing noticeably. This seems to be stemming from major current international issues – like the interrelationship between religion and global security issues, and between cultures and ecological sustainability.

“The conference came at the right time, and is serving to support interest in the study. It also reflects the fact that Australia is seen more and more as a link between the West and Asia – Australia understands Asia better than most Western countries, and understands the West better than most Asian countries.”

Each day of the conference opened and closed with thought-provoking keynote addresses, and Dr Narayanan was delighted that the vast majority of these were from distinguished Australian scholars.

“The Perth conference gave leading Australian voices in the field of religion, nature and culture the opportunity to be heard on an international stage. The delegates were offered a stimulating range of thought and theory, which were well debated,” she said.



22nd International Conference on Atomic Physics

Delegates

630 delegates from
37 countries

Destination

Cairns, Queensland, Australia

Duration

July 2010

With a line-up of presenters including three Nobel Laureates and renowned atomic physicists from every corner of the world, coupled with the attraction of tropical Cairns as the host destination, success was guaranteed for the 22nd International Conference on Atomic Physics (ICAP 2010).

Organisers were delighted that 630 participants from 37 countries attended, significantly more than the 400 expected, making it one of the best attended conferences in the highly prestigious ongoing ICAP series held biennially since 1968.

Co-chair of the local organising committee was Peter Hannaford, a University Distinguished Professor and Director of the Centre for Atom Optics and Ultrafast Spectroscopy at Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne.

Professor Hannaford said the large number of participants confirmed that the field of atomic physics is flourishing.

“ICAP 2010 was the conference of the year in the field of atomic physics, giving people in the field the opportunity to interact and collaborate. It provided a global forum for leading physicists from around the world to learn about the latest advances in the field at first hand,” Professor Hannaford said.

“We benefited from an outstanding group of scientists and graduate students, who shared their experiences and research results about all aspects of atomic physics,” he said.

“Following the conference we continued to be flooded by international visitors to our laboratories around Australia which gave Australian research wonderful exposure around the world.”

It was not only attendees who benefited from the conference. Around 140 local high school students also enjoyed a rare opportunity to hear from Nobel Laureate Professor Wolfgang Ketterle, who visited a local school while in Cairns to speak with students about his leading-edge research, various fields of physics, and the discovery of a 5th state of matter.

“Working within the traditional timeframe of July – the northern hemisphere’s summer – Cairns was the logical choice to ensure temperate weather for participants. We had very good reports about the professionalism and running of the event by the Cairns Convention Centre,” Professor Hannaford said.

**Discover new ways to
build your sector's future.**





International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT) 16th World Congress

Delegates

1,165 delegates from 54 countries

Destination

Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

Duration

September 2010

The ISRRT represents Diagnostic Radiographers, Radiation Therapists, Sonographers and Nuclear Medicine Technologists from some 80 member-societies worldwide. The event is held every four years, to coincide with the International Congress of Radiology, in rotation between three designated regions: Asia/Australia, The Americas and Europe/Africa.

The ISRRT World Congress is a highly effective platform for exposure to international markets, perspectives and technologies in this specialised field, and drives discussion among radiographers and academics around the world.

The Australian Institute of Radiography (AIR), the peak professional body representing radiographers and radiation therapists in Australia, hosted the congress.

The congress, held at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, followed the theme ‘Tomorrow and Beyond: Connecting and Communicating’, with presentations and papers from keynote international speakers on a variety of topics related to medical imaging and radiation therapy, including nuclear medicine and ultrasound.

There were 37 exhibitors, 230 scientific papers presented, and 63 poster presentations. The associated Technical Exhibition featured a range of equipment including ultrasound machines, computer systems used for radiation treatment planning, mobile x-ray and ultrasound machines, and associated accessories, such as models used for quality assurance.

As a result of the World Congress, several of the Australian presenters have been invited to take their presentations overseas. The Congress also raised the profile of Australian research and helped communicate the growing connection between medical imaging and radiotherapy.

“Though we aren’t privy to commercial deals done at the Congress, certainly the feedback from the trade was that they were happy with the exhibition and the people going through it, which presumably led to leads and appointments,” Associate Professor Rowntree said.

Congress highlights included the Hutchison Lecture, in recognition of a pioneer in the ISRRT, given by ABC TV journalist Robyn Williams AM. There were also a number of high profile speakers and workshops, including a workshop on radiation protection by an expert from the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna.

Other highlights were the tours of private practices at the Gold Coast, and the medical imaging and radiation therapy departments at Princes Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane.



XXVI Mint Directors Conference

Delegates

394 delegates from
45 countries

Destination

Canberra, Australian Capital
Territory, Australia

Duration

September– October 2010

Described as one of the most prestigious events in the world of coins and minting, the XXVI Mint Directors Conference (MDC) was held in Canberra in September 2010, attracting more than 350 minting industry representatives from around the world.

This international conference series, which began in 1962 in Lausanne, Switzerland, provides a biennial forum to discuss and exchange information on global monetary matters, including related legal, economic, technical and numismatic issues.

Mr Ross MacDiarmid, CEO of the Royal Australian Mint, said the conference helped reinforce Australia's reputation in the minting industry.

“This conference allowed us to reaffirm the Mint’s position as a world class producer of coins for general circulation and for commemorative occasions,” Mr MacDiarmid said. “It has also helped us to support the goals of promoting worldwide interest in collecting coins and enhancing business relations with the international coin-dealer community.”

Minting experts from more than 45 nations around the world discussed a vast variety of topics during the four day conference program. A clear interest from the delegates was in new technologies – a pressing issue for the industry, given that a larger number of coins, with more security and aesthetic features, are being minted today than ever before.

In addition to the 35 high quality papers published, on the final day of the conference the international minting community agreed to guidelines for coin authentication and handling of unfit coins.

The conference provided an ideal opportunity for the Royal Australian Mint to showcase the newly refurbished Mint, which had just benefited from a three year upgrade to both the building and production processes.

“We were honoured to have our international minting colleagues visit the Mint and see our new facility. We now have some of the highest quality minting systems in the world, which use leading edge, innovative technology, and the capacity to produce up to two million coins per day. These are two valuable features to have in our national Mint,” Mr MacDiarmid said.

In addition to discussing numismatic issues, through a series of tours and networking events, delegates also had the opportunity to visit some of Australia's famous national icons in Canberra and Sydney, as well as attend a three-day post-conference tour in Cairns.



39th International Conference on Coordination Chemistry

Delegates

405 delegates from 40 countries

Destination

Adelaide, South Australia, Australia

Duration

July 2010

Since 1950, the biennial International Conference on Coordination Chemistry (ICCC) has been the central meeting of coordination chemists from all over the world.

This year, the 39th conference in the series was brought to Australia for the third time – after the Gold Coast (1989) and Sydney (1969). More than 400 chemists from 40 countries travelled to Adelaide for the conference to report on the latest progress in coordination chemistry.

Kevin Wainwright, Professor of Chemistry at Flinders University, Adelaide, and Deputy Chair of the conference said the key to the success of the conference was the high calibre of presenters and discussion generated among delegates.

“The conference had an outstanding program, including presentations from the world’s leading coordination chemists. It provided a forum to showcase the latest research and developments in the field, an opportunity for knowledge sharing, collaboration and healthy debate, all of which are instrumental in the way science moves forward,” Professor Wainwright said.

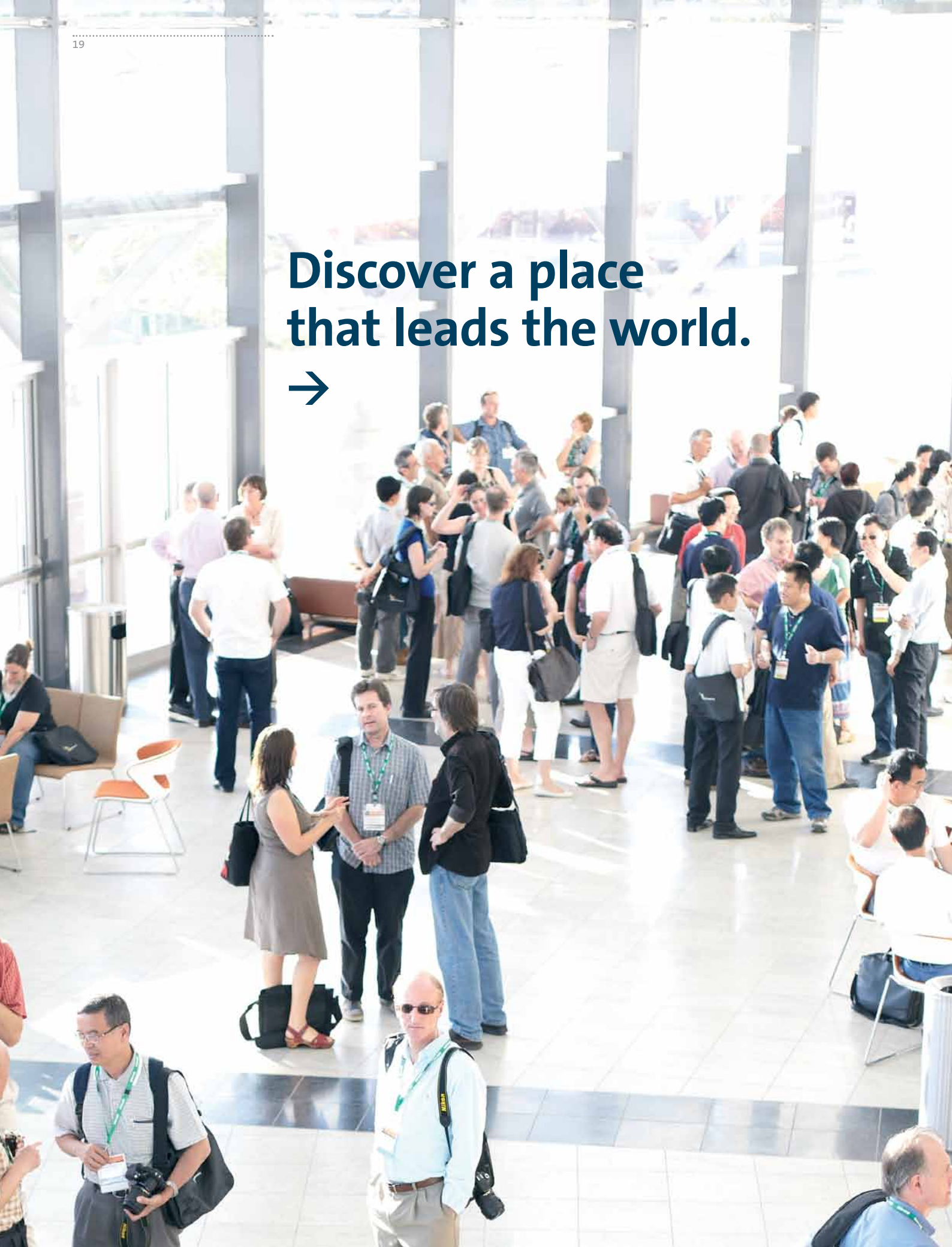
Presentations demonstrated the diversity of modern coordination chemistry today and how it can be applied to address some of the pressing concerns of the 21st century.

“It’s these types of applications that are vital to improving the quality of life and the development of sustainable industry. We are pleased that we were able to attract such an impressive line-up of globally leading chemists to share their research,” Professor Wainwright said.

Each conference in the ICC series moves to a different host city, selected due to the active involvement of local scientists and their national associations, and the city’s suitability to host the event. After a rigorous selection process, Adelaide was named as the successful bidder to host the 39th conference, eight years in advance of the event.

Adelaide’s selection was a tribute to the high distinction and prominence of the local coordinating team, led by conference Chair Stephen Lincoln, Professor of the School of Chemistry and Physics and the Research Institute for Climate Change and Sustainability at the University of Adelaide, and others including Professor Wainwright.

**Discover a place
that leads the world.**





34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment

Delegates

557 delegates from more than 60 countries

Destination

Sydney, New South Wales, Australia

Duration

10–15 April 2011

The importance of satellite and airborne images of Earth in influencing many aspects of life – from urban planning to tsunami warning systems – was on display at the 34th International Symposium on Remote Sensing of Environment in April 2011.

Almost 600 representatives from 60 countries, including leading spatial information academics, scientists and those from the world's space agencies such as NASA, gathered for this important biennial event in Sydney – the first time it has been held in Australia since the series began in 1962.

Co-chair of the Symposium, Emeritus Professor John Trinder, said delegates benefited from a quality program with more than 400 technical presentations and 24 exhibition booths showcasing the latest technology.

“We had a high standard, extensive program, which covered a wide range of topics – everything from mapping land-use and cover, vegetation analysis, agriculture and forestry, through to meteorology, city planning and geomorphological surveying” Professor Trinder said.

“The event provided an important forum for specialists to share research findings, and look at new applications for the technology. It's through this type of information exchange that we can improve our collective ability to observe and model the environment in which we live which, in turn, will help us better plan for the future.”

Professor Trinder said it was also a great opportunity for local academics to have exposure to global industry leaders and, importantly, to showcase local advances.

“One revelation to me was the strong role Australia is playing in forest carbon tracking together with a number of countries around the world. The program provides comprehensive information on forest carbon stocks, which is crucial for monitoring the reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation.”

“There are also some interesting advances in the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, or UAVs, which can map areas that are inaccessible by humans. In fact, we heard that one UAV taking images over Antarctica for atmospheric and sea ice research flew more than 10,000 kilometres – this would have been far more difficult and costly with human crews on board. Sharing this type of information is critical for us to keep advancing the science,” he said.

In addition to Australia's strong expertise in the field of remote sensing, the facilities and attractions offered by Sydney and its easy access to the Asia Pacific, all played a role in the success of the event.

“More than two-thirds of the people attending were international visitors, which is a terrific outcome,” Professor Trinder said.



31st International Plenary Meeting of the Geographic Information/Geomantics Technical Committee of the International Organization for Standardization

Delegates

150 delegates from 17 countries

Destination

Canberra, Australian Capital Territory, Australia

Duration

December 2010

As geographic information rapidly transitions from being the domain of traditional mapping, to being a common global commodity for consumers in electronic, internet and wireless communities, the need for global standardization is vital.

For that reason, more than 150 geospatial technical experts from 17 nations convened in Canberra in December 2010 for the 31st Plenary Meeting of the Geographic Information/Geomantics Technical Committee of the International Organization for Standardization ("ISO/TC 211").

Mr Chris Body, Chair of Standards Australia's Geographic Information Committee IT-004, said the biennial meeting was important in advancing the rapidly evolving field.

"Geospatial information is fundamental to the lives of most Australians and people around the world, and almost every sector of the global economy now uses and benefits from it in some way," Mr Body said.

"The aim of ISO/TC211 was to progress and update a range of international standards which enable the seamless and integrated interaction of geospatial information with relevant services, ensuring access to quality, consistent data no matter where you are, what you are using it for or how the broader needs of society evolve," he said.

Australia was chosen as the host nation in recognition of its contribution to International Standards development in this field, and the leadership shown in promoting the adoption of these Standards. The meeting has been hosted here on two previous occasions since the series commenced in 1994 – in Sydney (1997) and Adelaide (2001).

"As the host nation, we took the opportunity to hold an Open Day alongside ISO/TC 211, providing a forum for a range of leading Australian and New Zealand technical experts to share information with our global colleagues about key developments in the industry," Mr Body said.

"A highlight was the discussion of our world-first development in the management of water, a system called 'Geofabric' that identifies the spatial relationships of hydrological features such as rivers, lakes and dams. Models can be developed to help communities monitor and manage water by showing how it is stored, transported and used through the landscape.

"There was immense interest from our international colleagues in this leading edge system and how it could be applied in other countries. This is just one of the great examples of the benefits of collaboration among the community which resulted from ISO/TC 211," he said.



51st Annual International Conference of the Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts (SPWLA2010)

Delegates

623 delegates from 40 countries

Destination

Perth, Western Australia, Australia

Duration

19–23 June 2010

The advent of well logging in the 1920s and its subsequent development into a sophisticated technology has revolutionised the oil and gas exploration and production industry. The ability to look at and measure formations under the Earth's surface has transformed the drilling of oil and gas wells from an ill-defined art into a refined science.

As new technology continues this transformation, sharing petrophysical knowledge among log analysts is critical. That is why the annual international conference of the Society of Petrophysicists and Well Log Analysts (SPWLA) is so important for the industry.

In 2010, the Australian chapter of SPWLA – the Formation Evaluation Society of Australia (FESAus) – was proud to bring the conference, SPWLA2010, to the Southern Hemisphere for the first time in its 51-year history.

Symposium Chairman, Mr Jeff Roche, who is a senior petrophysicist with Chevron and past President of FESAus, said the choice of Perth to host SPWLA2010 recognised Australia's growing importance to the international petroleum and minerals industries.

"Australia's petroleum and minerals industries have created a strong global market position, with world-class technology in exploration, development, production, processing and environmental management," Mr Roche said.

"Australia is expected to become the second largest LNG-producing nation by 2015. The industries are known on the global stage for being entrepreneurial, innovative and highly successful."

"Perth is a rapidly growing hub for the oil and gas industry in the Asia-Pacific region, and Western Australia produces more than 60 per cent of Australia's oil, gas and condensate output. Almost every aspect of formation evaluation is represented in the region, from deepwater wildcat exploration, unconventional reservoirs and resources, to mature production in onshore areas," he said.

An extensive and carefully constructed program provided delegates the opportunity to expand their knowledge through a number of high quality technical presentations from geoscientists and formation evaluation specialists.

"We were delighted that of the distinguished lectures carefully selected by the international committee for presentation during the conference, 25 per cent were delivered by Australian based representatives. This gave us a great opportunity to demonstrate our technical expertise in various aspects of geoscience to a global audience" Mr Roche said.

Discover a place
delegates love to visit.





9th World Indigenous Women and Wellness Conference

Delegates

650 delegates

Destination

Darwin, Northern Territory, Australia

Duration

22–25 August 2010

In 2010, the biennial World Indigenous Women and Wellness Conference came to Australia for the first time, attracting more delegates than previous events in Canada and New Zealand.

Around 500 delegates attended the 2008 conference in Calgary. Despite fears that Australia might not match this figure, Darwin turned out to be an even more popular destination according to Ilana Eldridge, the Chief Executive Officer of the Larrakia Nation Aboriginal Corporation, which hosted the event.

“We were very happy with the numbers who attended and almost everyone travelled a substantial distance, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island women from all over Australia,” Ms Eldridge said.

The Darwin conference concentrated on five interconnecting themes, which each had many components. The themes focused on similar issues facing Indigenous people around the world, such as health, family, traditional healing, law and justice, and education and training.

The main outcome was the production of a 10-point call to action. Among its many points, it called for governments around the world to recognise Indigenous peoples as the original sovereign peoples of the land. It also called for proper access to housing, water, food, employment, education, essential services and resources.

“We did some surveys at the end and the most dominant comment was that the conference was the best people had ever attended. All the themes were covered by excellent speakers,” Ms Eldridge said.

The conference was important for networking and raising the profile of the Northern Territory,” she said. “A lot of women were first-time conference-goers and the world opened up for them, especially women from remote areas in Arnhem Land.”

As for the overseas delegates: “There was a lot of exposure to local Aboriginal culture that people found fascinating,” she said.



7th Pacific Rim International Conference on Advanced Materials & Processing (PRICM-7)

Delegates

1,150 delegates from 29 countries

Destination

Cairns, Queensland, Australia

Duration

August 2010

In August 2010, around 1,150 scientists and engineers converged on Cairns, Australia, for the seventh Pacific Rim International Conference on Advanced Materials and Processing (PRICM-7).

In Australia for the first time in its 30-year history, the triennial international forum for the exchange of scientific and technological information, contemporary ideas and discoveries in the rapidly evolving field of materials and processing.

Jian-Feng Nie, Chairman of the PRICM-7 International Organising Committee and Professor in the Department of Materials Engineering, Monash University, said he was thrilled with the higher than expected level of attendance.

“PRICM-7 brought to Australia the leaders in the materials field from 29 countries around the world, who have the ideas that will transform materials for manufacturing of the future,” Professor Nie said.

Over four days, participants had access to a carefully constructed program of 150 plenary and keynote presentations from internationally distinguished scientists, engineers and technologists. The program encompassed 13 symposia covering 1,250 presentations and 720 papers.

Professor Nie said he was delighted the conference attracted such a strong contingent of high profile speakers from prestigious organisations, both local and international.

“Such a broad range of speakers gave delegates access to information on a variety of subjects, from how materials research can increase the safety and survival of defence personnel while reducing costs; recent developments in coated steel products which are providing new opportunities for the building and construction industry both in Australia and overseas; through to breakthrough nanotechnology applications.”

Not only did PRICM-7 provide a great opportunity to demonstrate Australia as an attractive and strong base for education, research, innovation and industry development, the drawcard for many delegates – and a reason Australia was selected as the host nation – was the unique attraction of Cairns.

“The city is ideally located to ensure excellent attendance from Asia and has the infrastructure we need to host a large meeting like PRICM-7, as well as being a compact city with most of the major hotels within easy walking distance of the Cairns Convention Centre,” Professor Nie said.



22nd Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues

Delegates

200 delegates from 20 countries

Destination

Gold Coast, Queensland, Australia

Duration

November 2010

The Asian-Pacific Conference on International Accounting Issues is an annual event organised by an advisory committee made up of academics from around the world. It was founded, and is still overseen, by California State University, based in Fresno, USA.

The conference is one of the most respected accounting conferences in the world.

“We are not a formal association in the usual sense. We are a bit unusual in that we don’t have a professional association per se, but we do run an international conference every year,” said Professor Keitha Dunstan, an academic at the Gold Coast’s Bond University and member of the conference’s Advisory Committee.

“The idea of the conference is for it to move around the region and it had not been in Australia since 1999.

“Australia is a preferred spot. Our Asian neighbours want to come here,” Professor Dunstan said. “The Gold Coast is a coastal region with a fabulous climate and overseas people were attracted by that.”

Delegates came from all over the world. Australia was the most represented country with approximately 40 delegates, and a significant number of delegates came from Malaysia, New Zealand, China and Singapore.

The conference, held at Jupiters on the Gold Coast, was a success despite the constraints imposed by the Global Financial Crisis and resulting cutbacks.

“The number of people coming from the US dropped,” Professor Dunstan said. “However we did have very strong support from the Asian region, which was a very positive outcome. There was a general rise in international delegates, so I think the event will go on to even bigger things next year because of that.”

The primary objective of the conference was to provide an important forum for academics and practitioners to enhance the understanding of international accounting issues and their implications for the Asian Pacific region.

“The conference was very good for relationship building, and from Bond University’s point of view they made good contacts, which would be helpful in attracting international students,” Professor Dunstan said. “Networking was definitely a highlight.”



Discover Australia's
convention cities.



Plenary Hall Doors 5

Lifts



i ATM C

Australia is a diverse country. From vibrant modern cities to stunning beaches, pristine World-Heritage listed rainforests and the vast open space of the desert, Australia offers more for your convention.

Australia is more than one place. Our convention cities are spread from the tropical north to the wine-growing regions of the south; from the financial and scientific precincts of our cities to the heart of our cultural and leisure centres.

All are international gateways. More international flights are arriving each week in Australia than ever before, making Australia one of the best value long-haul markets in the world.

And when delegates arrive, they will discover that Australia's meeting venues are among the best in the world for technology, capacity and service standards. Our state-of-the-art conference infrastructure means that whatever you need, you can find it in Australia.



Adelaide

Nestled between world-famous wine regions and beautiful white beaches, Adelaide is a vibrant city with a thriving restaurant scene and a year-round program of exciting festivals and events. Convention organisers benefit from a well backed ambassador program connecting their events with Adelaide's primary areas of specialty and industry, whilst delegates can enjoy a hassle free and compact city layout, moving from venue to venue free of transport costs.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 7, 127

Adelaide Convention Centre capacities:

Exhibition space: 10,500sqm
 Meeting rooms: up to 25
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 2,350

Key industry sectors:

Medical/health, science & technology, defence, environment, mining and energy, agriculture & aquaculture, and sustainable energy.



Brisbane

Positive and forward-thinking, generous and optimistic, Brisbane is Australia's new world city, offering all the business essentials and firmly connected to global markets through world-class domestic and international airports. A boutique expansion of the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre will be completed in 2011 providing 18 additional meeting rooms and new event spaces including two tiered auditoria.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 13,000

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre capacities:

Exhibition space: 20,000sqm
 Meeting rooms: 24
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 8,000

Key industry sectors:

Aviation, clean technologies, digital industries, life sciences, innovative manufacturing, logistics and distribution, infrastructure, food and beverage, mining technologies and services.



Cairns

Cairns offers balmy tropical weather and World Heritage listed natural attractions including the Great Barrier Reef and the oldest tropical rainforests on earth, with easy access from Asia and Europe. It is a city which combines an effervescent and relaxed vibe with extensive meeting facilities, good infrastructure and a confident can-do attitude.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 7,000

.....
Cairns Convention Centre capacities:

Exhibition space: 4,055sqm
 Meeting rooms: 22
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 5,000

.....
Key industry sectors:

Agriculture, mining, aviation, education and training, manufacturing, tropical research, medicine and marine science.



Canberra

Canberra is Australia’s national capital, centrally located between the main population centres of Sydney and Melbourne, and home to Australia’s federal government and national research institutions. Architecturally planned, it is a vibrant city with numerous cultural attractions set in an attractive natural environment. Canberra is well serviced by airlines and has extensive high-end accommodation.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 5,067

.....
Canberra Convention Centre capacities:

Exhibition space: 2,400sqm
 Meeting rooms: 15
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 2,500

.....
Key industry sectors:

Government, health and medical research, education, environmental sustainability, defence and education.



Darwin

A beautiful tropical harbour city, Darwin offers the closest Australian gateway to Asia. Both Darwin and the town of Alice Springs in Central Australia are in the Northern Territory, a region with a strong Indigenous culture and a natural “outback” environment reflecting the ancient soul of Australia.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 7,386

.....
Darwin Convention Centre capacities:

Exhibition space: 4,020sqm
 Meeting rooms: 12
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 1,500

.....
Key industry sectors:

Renewable energy, resources (oil, gas and minerals), indigenous and tropical health, defence, agriculture, rural and remote services and desert environments.



Gold Coast

A resort-style destination with year-round warm weather and a range of coastal attractions and activities, Gold Coast allows delegates to recharge their batteries while attending their association meeting. The Gold Coast offers a wide variety of accommodation, entertainment, and food and beverage venues, all accessed via two international airports located on the Gold Coast and in Brisbane.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 35,000

.....
Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre capacities:

Exhibition space: 10,000sqm
 Meeting rooms: 18
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 6,000

.....
Key industry sectors:

Education, environmental sustainability, health and medical research, creative industries, computer and information technology, sport and marine.



Melbourne

Modern and multicultural, Melbourne is an undisputed sports, culture and culinary capital; a city with a European approach to style and a lifestyle that puts it in the fast lane. Melbourne has the first 'Six Star Green Star' environmentally rated convention centre in the world, extensive accommodation facilities and a comprehensive public transportation system, all located around Port Phillip Bay and the Yarra River.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 25,500

.....
Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre capacities:
 Exhibition space: 30,000sqm
 Meeting rooms: 52
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 5,541

.....
Key industry sectors:
 Business, biotechnology, medical and science research, technology and design, science, innovation and engineering.



Perth

Perth and Western Australia offer business event delegates and organisers the chance to gain a fresh perspective with space to think, breathe and connect with miles of pristine beaches, forests and wildlife. A key gateway to Asia and the centre of Australia's resources driven growth for the past 10 years, Western Australia has a reputation for innovation and development associated with its dynamic, fast-growing location.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 8,247

.....
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre capacities:
 Exhibition space: 16,554sqm
 Meeting rooms: 22
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 2,500

.....
Key industry sectors:
 Mining and resources, science, professional services, manufacturing, agribusiness, health and medical research, viticulture and wine making and marine construction.



Sydney

As Australia's largest city, cosmopolitan Sydney provides the headquarters for 60 per cent of Australia's top companies, as well as many Asia-Pacific regional offices. With the stunning harbour and fabulous Sydney Opera House as a backdrop to its professional stage, Sydney is an unbeatable combination of performance and quality of life all in one location.

.....
Delegate accommodation rooms:
 32,703

.....
Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre capacities:
 Exhibition space: 27,500sqm
 Meeting rooms: 31
 Largest tiered theatre capacity: 3,500

.....
Key industry sectors:
 Medical and scientific research, financial services, information technology, biotechnology, advanced manufacturing, mining/minerals and creative industries.

Travel information.



Language

Australia's national language is English, but as a multicultural nation Australians come from more than 230 countries and speak over 200 languages.

Getting here

Australia has eight major international gateways and is easily accessible from all parts of the world. There are over 40 international airlines flying to Australia and with hundreds of international flights arriving and departing every day, it is easy to transfer delegates to and from your event.

Getting around

Australia is one of the world's most urbanised countries, with 70 per cent of the population living in our 10 largest cities, so you can get around easily by air, rail and road. Australia's domestic airlines provide extensive coverage allowing you to hop quickly between cities and sights.

Climate

Whatever time of year you come to Australia, you are likely to find an area of the country where the climate is just right to suit your event. For detailed information about the climate consult the Australian Bureau of Meteorology website: www.bom.gov.au

Australian currency

Australian currency (\$A) is decimal with the dollar as the basic unit (100 cents equals one dollar). The most commonly accepted credit cards are American Express, Bankcard, Diners Club, MasterCard, Visa and JCB.

Visas

All visitors to Australia, except New Zealand citizens, require a visa or an Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) to enter Australia. The type of passport the traveller holds determines the type of visa, and whether applications can be made online or a paper-based application is required.

The International Event Co-ordinator Network (IECN), part of the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, provides free visa advice to those wishing to organise or attend an event in Australia. The IECN can assist with updates on the progress of visa applications, confirm the lodgement of visa applications by event participants, liaise with Australian visa offices overseas to resolve issues arising in the visa application process and provide letters to support bids to host events in Australia.

More information can be found at www.immi.gov.au/visitors/iecn.htm

Livability

Four of the World's Top 10 Most Liveable Cities 2011 are in Australia according to a study by The Economist's Business Intelligence Unit, which assesses which places around the world provide the best and the worst living conditions, ranking 140 global cities on 30 criteria covering stability, healthcare, culture, environment, education and infrastructure.

Discover more about meeting in Australia at www.businessevents.australia.com/associations

Contact details.



Australia's convention bureaux work closely with the convention centres in each destination and can assist with all aspects of planning and delivering conventions and congresses of all sizes. They can offer assistance with venues, tours, accommodation, bid preparation and presentations, transport and delegate boosting.

The following organisations are here to help you in planning your next event in Australia.

Business Events Australia

T: +612 9360 1111
E: bea@tourism.australia.com
www.businessevents.australia.com

Adelaide Convention Bureau

T: +61 8 8237 0100
E: sales@adelaideconvention.com.au
www.adelaideconvention.com.au

Adelaide Convention Centre

T: +61 8 8212 4099
E: sales@adelaidecc.com.au
www.adelaidecc.com.au

Brisbane Marketing

T: + 61 7 3006 6200
E: conventionbureau@brisbanemarketing.com.au
www.meetinbrisbane.com.au

Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

T: +61 7 3308 3063
E: sales@bcec.com.au
www.bcec.com.au

Cairns Convention Centre

T: +61 7 4042 4200
E: sales@cairnsconvention.com.au
www.cairnsconvention.com.au

Canberra Convention Bureau

T: + 61 2 6247 7500
E: enquiry@canberraconvention.com.au
www.canberraconvention.com.au

Gold Coast Convention Bureau

T: +61 7 5592 2699
E: conventions@gctourism.com
www.goldcoastconventions.com

Gold Coast Convention & Exhibition Centre

T: +61 7 5504 4000
E: sales@gccec.com.au
www.gccec.com.au

Melbourne Convention & Visitors Bureau

T: +61 3 9693 3333
E: mcvb@mcvb.com.au
www.mcvb.com.au

Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre

T: +61 3 9235 8000
E: enquiries@mcec.com.au
www.mcec.com.au

Northern Territory Convention Bureau

T: +61 2 8281 9629
E: info@ntconventions.com.au
www.ntconventions.com

Darwin Convention Centre

T: +61 8 8923 9000
E: sales@darwinconvention.com.au
www.darwinconvention.com.au

Perth Convention Bureau

T: +61 8 9218 2900
E: info@pcb.com.au
www.pcb.com.au

Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre

T: +61 8 9338 0300
E: sales@pcec.com.au
www.pcec.com.au

Business Events Sydney

T: +61 2 61 9331 4045
E: info@besydney.com.au
www.businesseventssydney.com.au

Sydney Convention & Exhibition Centre

T: +61 2 9282 5000
E: info@scec.com.au
www.scec.com.au

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The Australia Associations Project is a joint initiative between the Australian Government through Tourism Australia and industry through the Association of Australian Convention Bureaux (AACB) and major convention centres to provide associations with the information, access and support they need to bring their events to Australia.

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For further information contact the Australia Associations Project.

T: +61 409 514 643

E: associations@tourism.australia.com

businesssevents.australia.com/associations

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Also available at: businesssevents.australia.com/associations



AUSTRALIA'S
LEADING
CONVENTION
CENTRES AND
BUREAUX

PARTNERS IN PROMOTING AUSTRALIA