

MPI weighs in on standards development

Members empowered to directly shape the future of global sustainability standards

28 April 2011 – Dallas, TX – In its continued commitment to advancing the development of global sustainability standards and responding to the increased demands of eco-conscious industry professionals, Meeting Professionals International ([MPI](#)) openly encourages all members globally to leverage their unique opportunity to directly contribute to the comment period for the international standard in event sustainability management ([ISO 20121](#)) which closes Sept. 2011.

Roger Simons, MPI's Corporate Social Responsibility Manager, serves as the MPI representative to the ISO 20121 Project Committee, a collective of more than 25 countries and various international organizations to create a flexible management system that ingrains sustainability in the entire event planning and delivery process. Members can communicate directly with Simons to provide detailed input on their perspectives around ISO 20121 via email at rsimons@mpiweb.org.

Simons represents a strong voice for MPI members and remains connected closely through live event presentations, online engagement in member forums and chapter visits. Simons' proximity to the standards development ensures that MPI members have access to cutting-edge content, strengthening one of MPI's Thought Leadership Initiatives; Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainable Events.

This initiative was developed in response to MPI members consistently ranking CSR as an increasing area of accountability. The CSR tool development and research by MPI and funded by the MPI Foundations through an investment by Intercontinental Hotels Group ([IHG](#)), has produced the first [Sustainable Events Measurement Tool](#) for the industry, which is free to MPI members, as well as multiple best practice case studies, white papers and event co-creation sessions where professionals are able to share peer-to-peer and gain understanding of the latest knowledge, with upcoming deliverables still to come including a comprehensive study.

MPI is also an official advisor on the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) reporting guideline for event organizers. IHG works with MPI to provide quality input and will be incorporating the framework, and members can also submit ideas to Simons directly on this project. The draft supplement of the reporting framework will make its global debut at [WEC 2011](#) in Orlando, Florida, 23 – 26 July, where MPI will report on the conference's impact and members will be able to gain education around the disclosure framework that will guide the industry into a more responsible future. Feedback from this first implementation will be considered for the final framework to be used at the [Olympic Games in 2012](#).

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Editors' Notes:

- MPI is a signatory to the [UN Global Compact](#) and annually reports on its Corporate Social Responsibility practices and its educational efforts related to all aspects of CSR
- MPI held the first live event compliant with British Standard 8901 in 2007 at its annual European Conference, every MPI event since then has complied with BS8901.
- MPI is actively represented on APEX/ASTM, GRI and ISO standards development committees
- MPI's online corporate social responsibility portal at mpiweb.org provides on demand access to case studies, CSR advocate communities, industry advancement updates, tools, webinars, articles and research findings.



MEETING PROFESSIONALS INTERNATIONAL

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About MPI: Meeting Professionals International (MPI), the meeting and event industry's largest and most vibrant global community, helps our members thrive by providing human connections to knowledge and ideas, relationships, and marketplaces. MPI membership is comprised of more than 23,000 members belonging to 71 chapters and clubs worldwide. For additional information, visit mpiweb.org.

About IHG: InterContinental Hotels Group (IHG) [LON:IHG, NYSE:IHG (ADRs)] is the world's largest hotel group by number of rooms. IHG owns, manages, leases or franchises, through various subsidiaries, over 4,400 hotels and more than 645,000 guest rooms in 100 countries and territories around the world. The Group owns a portfolio of well recognized and respected hotel brands including InterContinental® Hotels & Resorts, Hotel Indigo®, Crowne Plaza® Hotels & Resorts, Holiday Inn® Hotels and Resorts, Holiday Inn Express®, Staybridge Suites® and Candlewood Suites® and also manages the world's largest hotel loyalty program, Priority Club Rewards with 48 million members worldwide.

IHG has 1,400 hotels in its development pipeline, which will create 140,000 jobs worldwide over the next few years.

InterContinental Hotels Group PLC is the Group's holding company and is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales.

IHG offers information and online reservations for all its hotel brands at www.ihg.com and information for the Priority Club Rewards program at www.priorityclub.com. For the latest news from IHG, visit our online Press Office at www.ihg.com/media