



Puerto Rico Convention Center Awarded "Inner Circle 2010 "

Island's Premier Convention Facility Recognized by International Experts

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San Juan, P.R. - - The Puerto Rico Convention Center (PRCC) announced today that it was awarded the "Inner Circle Award 2010 , " one of the most prestigious awards in the global conventions industry. The award is conferred by "Association Meetings " a publication specializing in meetings and conventions worldwide.

"We are very proud of the Puerto Ricans leading the conventions and groups business at the Conventions Center," said Jaime Lopez, Chief Development Officer of the Economic and Commerce Development Consortium and former Tourism Director for Puerto Rico. "We witness the results of their initiatives and hard work not only in the growing number of conventions but in the level of satisfaction of every client, which makes them want to come back with their business to Puerto Rico. This award is yet another accolade for this team of professionals and for the tourism industry of Puerto Rico."

Blarys Segarra, General Manager of the Puerto Rico Conventions Center called the award a "great honor."

"At the verge of our fifth anniversary celebration, this is tremendous news..." Segarra said. "The award is solid proof that our team is focused. We have winning strategies in place to attract and retain business groups and conventions relevant to Puerto Rico. "

The "Inner Circle" is awarded annually by readers of the publication and experts in the management and coordination of groups , meetings and conventions. The Prize is awarded to facilities based on how best each has serviced their meetings and conventions during the past year. Each year 70 winners are chosen in the categories of hotels , resorts , conference centers and convention centers . The winners were announced in August and will be published in the October 2010 Edition of Association Meetings.

"Association Meetings" (AM) is the only independent publication focused exclusively on association meetings and conventions. The publication reaches national, international, regional and large state associations that meet outside their state. AM reaches 12,365 different associations, and 19,324 subscribers who have responsibility for planning meetings and conventions for the association market. The average annual budget AM readers allocate for meeting and trade show activity is \$827,583; while 13 is the average number of meetings they plan annually.

Inaugurated in 2005, the Puerto Rico Convention Center is owned by the Convention Center District Authority, a public corporation part of the Ministry of Economic Development. The PRCC is managed since its inauguration by SMG, the world's leading management, marketing and operation company of convention centers in the U.S. and various countries throughout the world, including Canada, United Kingdom, Mexico , Ireland , Poland , Germany , Norway , Chile and Puerto Rico.

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