

CAIRNS CONVENTION CENTRE

Great Barrier Reef • Australia

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news



\$6.3 Million Upgrade

Whilst the Cairns Convention Centre was celebrating 15 years of successful operation, the Queensland Government announced a AUD 6.3 million capital injection as part of major projects for Tropical North Queensland.

Government Services and Building Industry Minister, Simon Finn and Member for Cairns Desley Boyle, said the AUD 6.3 million makeover would deliver major improvements to the award winning convention centre.

"The Cairns Convention Centre is a world class facility with a proven track

record of attracting major conferences to Far North Queensland" Mr Finn said.

Some key elements of the upgrade include:

- New audio-visual and communication equipment
- Upgrade of Wi-Fi
- Extension of the Outdoor Plaza
- Painting and new carpet ~ Hall 2
- New signage system
- Additional environmental features
- Major kitchen upgrade

Cairns Convention Centre General Manager, Ross Steele said the funding will ensure the Centre maintains its competitive standing amongst the best Convention Centres in the world.

"The Centre has a great international reputation, but we need to keep investing in its future."

Ms Desley Boyle ~ Member for Cairns



Serious Business in Australia's most Stunning Location

Message from the General Manager



Ross Steele

The Queensland Government continues to recognise the importance of maintaining the Cairns Convention Centre's position as a world class conference facility by continuing to invest in its future.

Nuclei in the Cosmos International Symposium on Nuclear Astrophysics which are all being held in 2012.

Recent bid successes such as the International Children's Continnence Society Meeting 2014, International Psychogeriatric Association Conference 2012 and the International Symposium on Plasma Chemistry 2013 prove it's not only the reputation of the Convention Centre but also the excellent infrastructure and cost effectiveness of the destination that is a major draw card for national and international meetings.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ross Steele'.

Ross Steele ~ General Manager

"I believe almost all participants left the conference having had a great time, and the friendly and efficient service provided by your staff certainly contributed to their enjoyment. The food was also excellent. I would have no hesitation in recommending the Cairns Convention Centre to other colleagues planning conferences in Australia and I hope to be back there in future."

Professor Ray Norton ~ Conference Chair
XXIV International Conference on Magnetic
Resonance in Biological Systems

The AUD 6.3 million upgrade to the Centre, announced during our 15th birthday celebrations, will keep us at the forefront of meetings technology and service delivery. It is consistent with our aims to continue to attract major meetings such as the 12th International Coral Reef Symposium, 33rd Conference of the International Society of Animal Genetics and the





University and Convention Centre Working Together

James Cook University and the Cairns Convention Centre have recently been successful in attracting two major student meetings to the region.

The Asia Pacific Dental Students Association 39th Conference (APDSA) will be held in June 2012 and the Global Health Conference organised by the Australian Medical Students Association will host their meeting in September 2012.

Australia's newest dental school, located on the Cairns Campus of James Cook University, will be the proud host of the Asia Pacific Dental Students Association 39th Conference.

Noy Gliksman, APDSA President, said, "The annual Convention is recognised

internationally as the pre-eminent event for student research presentation and international networking."

The Global Health Conference (GHC) is a flagship event of the Australian Medical Students' Association (AMSA), the peak representative body for Australia's 16,000 medical students.

The four day event brings together over 500 students from around Australia and aims to equip delegates with the knowledge and skills required to apply their medical training within a global context.

These recent winning bids are in addition to previous successful collaborations between James Cook University and Cairns Convention

Centre that will see the 12th International Coral Reef Symposium, June 2012 and the Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation Annual Meeting, July 2014, being held in Cairns.

"The Cairns Convention Centre will provide the perfect backdrop to a conference, which we hope will inspire students to embrace our message of 'Our World, Our Health, Our Responsibility!'"

Mr Michael McLaughlin
Conference Organiser
Asia Pacific Dental Students Association
39th Conference (APDSA)

A brief history of the avocado



Avocados are known to have existed from as far back as 291 BC. They originally took root in the highlands of Central America and Mexico and the lowlands of Columbia, where they grew wild.

When the Aztecs discovered the unique greenish coloured fruit they dubbed it 'ahuacatl', which has evolved over the centuries into the word 'avocado'.

Avocados first arrived in Australia in 1840 in seed form, and were planted in the Royal Botanical Gardens in Sydney. Further commercial imports of seeds and plants continued over the next 110 years until the late 1960's when a developing Australian industry began to take shape.

Queensland is the largest producer of avocados in Australia with 29% of production occurring near Mareeba and Atherton in Tropical North Queensland.



World Avocado Congress

The World Avocado Congress held at the Cairns Convention Centre in September saw over 800 growers, wholesalers, food service suppliers, market traders, retailers and government representatives gain expert insights into the latest information on avocado production and management issues, with special emphasis on the future of the industry.

Avocado Carolines (Profiteroles) and Lime Grilled Chicken with Avocado and Paw Paw.

Midway through the Congress delegates took a day off for field trips to local avocado farms and some fun in the World Heritage listed Wet Tropics Rainforest.



Cesar Calleros, Ian Leighton, Alberto Burgos and Gustavo Pulido visiting Leighton's farm at Mareeba.
IMAGE COURTESY OF: KYLIE REGHENZANI



The Congress program included also avocado marketing presentations and panel discussions about promotional and trade topics from around the globe.

They were treated to educational army duck tours, Aboriginal cultural experiences and had access to a koala and native wildlife park.

Avocados featured in many innovative dishes created especially for the Congress by the Cairns Convention Centre's Executive Chef, Perry Stevens. Some of the menu items included Avocado Damper with Spiced Chilli Butter,

The World Avocado Congress is held every four years by an avocado growing nation. Previous hosts include: South Africa (1987), USA (1991), Israel (1995), Mexico (1999), Spain (2003) and Chile (2007).

Cairns Convention Centre Event Team members with Alvin the Avocado



"We had such a huge success with the conference in Cairns because of the way the convention centre and the hotels in Cairns operated and the close proximity of the Tablelands for the field day. The north was the only location we could have staged it - and it came off with a bang."

Mr Antony Allen ~ CEO Avocados Australia



15 Successful Years



Pictured at the celebration are:
Ross Steele ~ General Manager, Cairns Convention Centre;
Geoff Donaghy ~ Group Director - Convention Centres, AEG Ogden;
Keith DeLacy ~ Macarthur Coal Chairman and Former Queensland Treasurer;
Harvey Lister ~ Chairman & CEO, AEG Ogden;
Rod Pilbeam ~ Executive Director, AEG Ogden

The Cairns Convention Centre recently celebrated 15 successful years of operation with a special function attended by over 200 local dignitaries, civic and industry leaders and local clients.

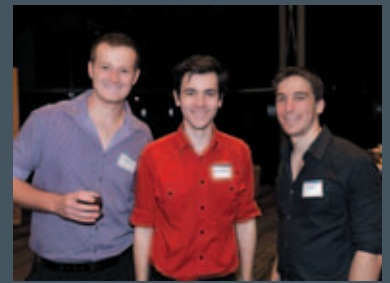
Since opening in 1996, the Centre has delivered over AUD700 million in direct economic expenditure to the Cairns region, generated 1.5 million hotel room nights and hosted almost 2 million delegates and patrons.

It has also been home base for the Cairns Taipans in the National Basketball League since 1999.

When it opened in 1996, Cairns Convention Centre was Australia's first regional convention centre and

Australia's first environmentally designed public building.

AEG Ogden is proud to have been the manager of the Cairns Convention Centre since pre-opening.



Mr Mitchell Rae ~ James Cook University;
Mr Michael McLaughlin ~ Convenor, 2012 Global Health Conference;
Mr Noy Glikzman ~ Asia Pacific Dental Students Association

A total of 22 meeting rooms

Great Hall ~ plenary seating for 2,300 delegates

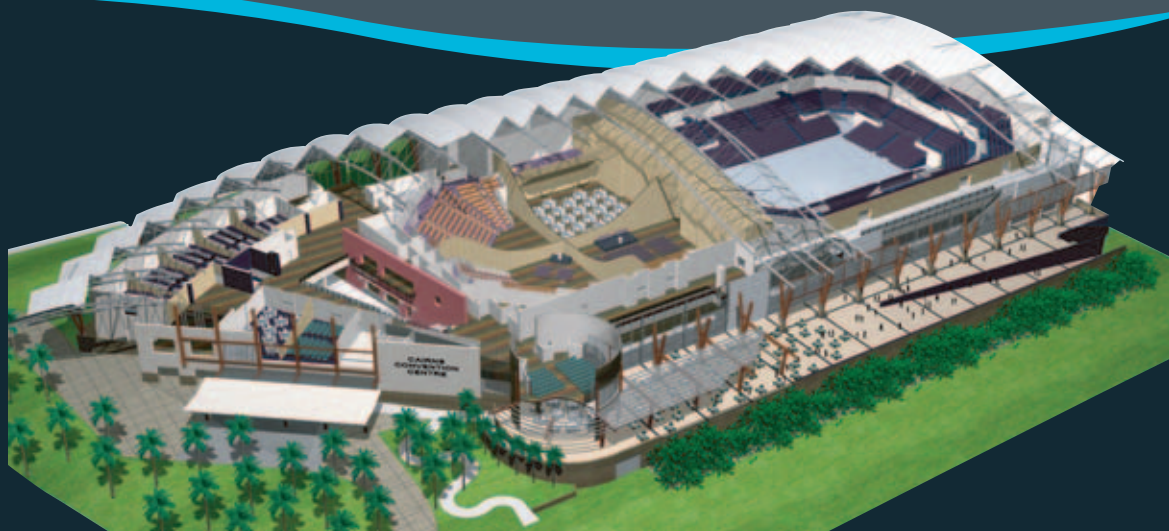
Four individual quadrants for 500 delegates each

1,300 delegates banquet style

Hall 2 ~ ideal for trade exhibition or 5,000 delegates

Nine meeting rooms for 10 - 360 delegates

Six conference rooms for 10 - 55 delegates





Cairns Convention Centre
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A Queensland Government initiative operated by AEG Ogden (Cairns) Pty Ltd



recent events

- Abacus 2011 Conference
- CODEX Committee on Food Import & Export and Certification Systems 2011
- World Congress on Reproductive Biology 2011
- VII World Avocado Congress 2011
- Queensland Disability Conference
- ComBio 2011
- 13th Biennial Palliative Care Australia Conference
- Schoolwide Positive Behaviour Support National Conference 2011
- International Meeting of the Pacific Rim Ceramics Society 2011
- The Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists Indigenous Women's Health Meeting 2011
- 7th International Conference of the Metabolomic Society 2011
- Local Government Managers Australia National Congress & Business Expo 2011
- Australian Association of Massage Therapists 7th National Conference
- Career Development International Career Conference 2011
- 20th Australian Health Promotion Association National Conference 2011
- Greenhouse 2011

coming events

- 39th Asia Pacific Dental Students Association Congress
- Lattice 2012 - The 30th International Symposium on Lattice Field Theory
- Australian Council of TESOL Associations International TESOL Conference
- 33rd Conference of the International Society of Animal Genetics 2012
- World Health Care Network Conference 2012
- 2012 Nuclei in the Cosmos International Symposium on Nuclear Astrophysics
- 12th International Coral Reef Symposium 2012
- The MHS (Mental Health Services) Annual Conference 2012
- Dioxin 2012
- Australasian Conference on Safety and Quality in Healthcare 2012
- Spillcon 2013
- Secretariat National Aboriginal & Islander Child Care (SNAICC) National Conference 2013
- Association of School Business & Administrators Australasian Conference 2013
- World Buiatrics Congress 2014
- Australian Veterinary Association National Conference 2013

A comprehensive list of conventions is available on our website.

www.cairnsconvention.com.au