

## BRISBANE TO HOST MAJOR 'GREEN' EVENTS

Brisbane and the Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) have been chosen to host two major conferences focusing on sustainability issues.

Green Cities '09 and World Green Infrastructure Congress 2012 have joined a number of other *sustainability* themed conferences in choosing to hold major national and international events at BCEC, a recognised leader in environmental issues.

Green Cities '09, to be held in March this year, is Asia Pacific's biggest event focusing on sustainability for the built environment and is jointly hosted by the Property Council of Australia and Green Building Council Australia.

The four-day event is anticipated to attract some 1,500 delegates to Brisbane from across the region to hear presentations from a panel of key national and international speakers, all experts in their field.

The annual World Green Infrastructure Congress in Brisbane in October 2012 is expected to attract 2,000 delegates from the global green roofs industry and food and energy industries. The four-day conference will focus on urban greenery and will include a strong delegation from Europe, North America and Asia.

One objective is to shift the perception of green roofs from quirky to mainstream by demonstrating relevant examples, to be experienced first-hand by delegates with the proximity of the South Bank Car Park, one of Brisbane's most public green roofs.

BCEC General Manager, Robert O'Keeffe said the Green Cities and World Green Infrastructure events are consistent with the Centre's strong environmental credentials, which include recognition by Green Globe Worldwide. "Green awareness is an embedded business process and sustainability is at the very core of the way we conduct our operations," he said.

Mr O'Keeffe said the events would highlight the importance of sustainability to society and to our industry in addition to demonstrating Brisbane's attraction as a leading destination for major meetings and events. "The fact that we are now winning these 'green' events is a significant endorsement of the Centre's initiatives and ongoing commitment to sustainable business practices," he said.

Mr. O'Keeffe said the Centre's planned development, *Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre on Grey Street*, will incorporate a number of green initiatives and operate under a five star environmental rating, yet another plus for Brisbane as a preferred meetings destination.

Brisbane Marketing's Director of Business Events, Annabel Sullivan said Brisbane City Council's aim to make the Queensland capital Australia's most sustainable city has strong appeal for the staging of green events. "Green Cities and the World Green Infrastructure Congress are perfect examples of the way the world is heading and Brisbane Marketing is thrilled to have helped secure these important events for the city," she said.

Enquiries Gail Sawyer, Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre

T: +61 7 3308 3023 E: [gails@bcec.com.au](mailto:gails@bcec.com.au) M: 0439 733 509

Enquiries Lesley Caldwell, Brisbane Marketing

T: +61 7 3006 6222 M: +61 0433 912 231 E: [lcaldwell@brisbanemarketing.com.au](mailto:lcaldwell@brisbanemarketing.com.au)