



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **SYDNEY TO HOST 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR PEDIATRIC NEUROSURGERY**

Business Events Sydney (BESydney) is pleased to announce that Sydney will host the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery (ISPN) in 2012.

An exciting win for the field of Pediatric Neurosurgery in Australia and the wider economy, the five day conference is expected to attract over 500 local and international delegates, bringing an estimated value of \$2.3million to Sydney and New South Wales.

By bringing together specialists from around the world, the Annual Meeting of the ISPN aims to break down barriers to improve the lives of children globally. The meeting encourages the ethical transmission and exchange of neuroscientific information, including new research, developments, and techniques related to Pediatric Neurosurgery.

The bid for Sydney to host the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the ISPN was led by ISPN board member and leading Australian Neurosurgeon, Dr Charles Teo. The bid was won in conjunction with BESydney, the organisation responsible for promoting Sydney as a business events destination, identifying new event opportunities and bringing these events to Sydney.

“We recognise the importance of the Annual Meeting of the International Society for Pediatric Neurosurgery, and we are delighted that Sydney has been selected for its 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in 2012. The event attracts specialists and speakers from across the globe and we look forward to welcoming them to our City,” said Mr Jon Hutchison AM, Chief Executive Officer of BESydney.

The only meeting of the international society, the annual conference often involves non-medical speakers who have worked with children, such as Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu who spoke at the Cape Town conference in 2008.

Based in Sydney, bid leader, Dr Charles Teo is the founding Director of The Centre for Minimally Invasive Neurosurgery at the Prince of Wales Private Hospital.

BESydney commenced working on the bid with Dr Teo in August 2008, prior to it being presented to the ISPN board by Dr Teo in October 2008 at the annual meeting in South Africa.



The attractiveness of Sydney and all it has to offer, coupled with Dr Teo's reputation for organising successful international conferences assisted the bid win.

"The ISPN recognised Sydney as a highly attractive destination for its 40<sup>th</sup> annual meeting, noting it as a beautiful city with a lot to offer in terms of facilities and natural beauty," said Dr Teo.

"Sydney can't be beaten when it comes to local attractions, plus it is gateway to a great range of further sights and experiences less than two hours away in New South Wales," he said.

Local events company Pret-a-Party will be managing the 2012 conference in conjunction with Dr Teo and his local committee. BESydney will continue to support the team by providing marketing support and access to their established relationships.

"Traditionally, the delegate itinerary surrounding the annual meeting includes a themed gala dinner and one free day of activities, such as a golfing competition and excursions. As a first time in Sydney, we're very excited about what we will be able to offer the 2012 ISPN Annual Meeting delegates," said Dr Teo.

This year's Annual Meeting of the ISPN will be taking place in Los Angeles, USA in October.

**- ENDS -**

### **Business Events Sydney**

BESydney, formerly known as the Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau, is a partnership between the NSW Government and the tourism industry. BESydney is a highly proactive organisation that has been successful in globally connecting Sydney through conventions, conferences, congresses, incentives and business meetings for 40 years.

### **For more information or interviews, please contact**

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