

Media Release

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre scoops gold for environmental excellence at coveted international awards

Australia's premier business events venue, the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre, has won a leading global business events industry award for its environmental excellence and innovation.

The Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC) has won the coveted IMEX - 2009 Green Supplier 'Gold' Award at the IMEX annual exhibition in Frankfurt, Germany, announced last night (subs: evening of May 27).

IMEX developed the awards to recognise individuals and companies who make outstanding contributions to the development of the meetings and incentive travel industry.

The accolade reflects the centre's efforts in energy efficiency, air and water quality, water conservation, waste minimisation, how it purchases goods and produce, commitment to change, the community and conservation.

The venue has worked tirelessly to ensure it reflects the 'six star green star' environmental rating of its new Melbourne Convention Centre, which opens its doors in June – adjacent to the Melbourne Exhibition Centre.

MCEC is the only convention centre in the world to hold the six star rating and it is also the only convention and exhibition venue in Australia with both Green Globe and Waste Wise accreditation.

Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre chief executive Leigh Harry says winning the IMEX award is global verification of the venue's success in setting a benchmark for the business events industry.

"We are incredibly proud of the extensive efforts which have gone into ensuring we lead the way with our environmental initiatives."

He says it's something that doesn't end once the accolades come in.

"We take this issue very seriously and will continue to assess every single aspect of our operation to ensure we're meeting best practice both now, and in the future."

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