



## Sneak peek at BEN

WITH BEN's official launch on Wednesday 01 Feb, we couldn't resist bringing you another one pager. Two more sleeps to go! Jill



## Aloha Hawaii MICE Oceania

THE news that the local office of the Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTO) has assumed responsibility for the meetings, incentive and conference market for Australia and New Zealand, has been warmly welcomed by the industry.

Previously managed from Hawaii and headed-up by the highly regarded Adele Tasaka, HTO country manager Helen Williams said, "The Hawaii Tourism Authority (HTA) felt it made more sense for this important segment to be handled at a local level and invited HTO to take on responsibility for the MICE sector effective Jan 2012.

"Visitors generated from the MICE sector provide a major contribution towards HTA's overall business and financial goals and like the leisure market, has been growing significantly

over the last two years" said Williams.

Industry specialist Rebecca Wall, who joined the HTO office in January last year, has moved into the account manager, meetings, conferences and incentives role.

Exhibiting at AIME at booth number 3516, the team will be joined by representatives from the Island Chapters (Kauai, Oahu, Maui and The Big Island), Hawaiian Airlines as well as many well-known Hawaiian operators including Aloha Holidays, MC&A, Moana Surfider-Westin Resort and Spa, Starwood Hotels and Resorts Waikiki, The Modern Honolulu and Waikiki Beach Marriott Resort & Spa.

## Good omens for BCEC

THE occasion was auspicious - the official opening of Australia's newest convention venue - Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre (BCEC) on Australia Day was held on the same day the Centre reopened last year following the January floods.

Officiated by the Honorable Rachel Nolan, Minister for Finance, Natural Resources and The Arts, the five level, \$140m boutique expansion will welcome its first events mid February.

At 25,000 square metres and with a total of 44 meeting rooms, the BCEC is equal in size to Australia's largest convention venue.

Harvey Lister, chairman and CEO of AEG Ogden, operators of the BCEC, said the launch would "consolidate and provide a stimulus for Queensland's business events industry."

## Embracing BEN!

"Well, it seems like BEN is coming into the world just as the year of the Water Dragon begins, Kung Hei Fat Choi! I think this is very auspicious and will bring BEN lots of luck and prosperity!"

- Tara Bishop, media relations manager - Hotels and Food & Beverage Crown Melbourne

"We wish you every success as the new kid on the block with your wealth of experience and industry respect, and look forward to reading the prose of wisdom."

- David Addison, director meetings and events, MCI Sydney.

"Congratulations Jill! Wonderful news."

- Emma Kearns, manager, Corporate Communication, PR & Media, Qantas Airways Limited.

## Grab an AIME bargain

NEED accommodation during AIME?

Clarion Suites Gateway has an accommodation offer just seven minutes walk to the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre.

Big value per night rates are \$194.00 for a studio riverview room, \$214.00 for a one bedroom suite and \$234.00 for a one bedroom riverview suite - email [res@clarionsuitesgateway.com.au](mailto:res@clarionsuitesgateway.com.au)



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## Executive Director

\$120K

Reporting directly to the Board's President and his Executive, the successful candidate will be required to manage and drive the organisation's activities within budget.

### Core Skills required:

- Stakeholder Management;
- Business Management;
- An understanding of the Business Event (BE) industry of Australia;
- An understanding of the international BE market.

Candidates located in Sydney are preferred for the four day role although applicants from other cities will be considered provided the city hosts a Convention Bureau that is a member of the AACB Inc. Australian citizenship or permanent residency is mandatory. Send your full CV and particulars of relevant experience by 03 Feb to [mike.cannon@aacb.org.au](mailto:mike.cannon@aacb.org.au).

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