

THE PLANNER'S DIGITAL GUIDE TO CARIBBEAN DESTINATIONS, VENUES & EVENT SUPPLIERS

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FROM THE DESK OF OUR FDITORS

Connecting event planners around the world with our tropical paradise

The significance of Event Tourism (globally known as the Meetings and Events Industry) is recognized by governments, tourism leaders and hospitality industry stakeholders in the Caribbean Region. Their participation in international industry events such as IMEX, IncentiveWorks, Ignite and the Caribbean Meeting & Incentive Travel Exchange bears testimony to the importance of connecting qualified buyers and planners with Caribbean event venues and service providers.

We are very excited to introduce our first edition of **Meet In The Caribbean Magazine**. This magazine will be an annual publication that, in tandem with our online directory, will be a conduit to further showcase Caribbean based event venue and service providers to businesses, organizations and event planners around the world. In this first issue we feature venues and event service providers from Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada and Turks & Caicos. We also seek to educate and inspire readers with articles covering such topics as event budgeting, wedding photography tips, event mobile apps, event sponsorship and the important role of destination management companies. A special "thank you" to all of the article contributors, advertisers and Kainos Creative Studios who made our dream of this publication a reality.

We hope you find this publication informative and, as with everything we do, will strive to make it even better next time. As always we welcome your comments and feedback. You can contact us via email at info@nexgenconsultingltd.com. So, whether you are organizing conventions, conferences, corporate events, sporting tournaments, incentive trips, business meetings, weddings, social or religious events, we invite you to "Meet in the Caribbean" where it remains summer all year long and you have plenty of beautiful islands to choose from.

Sincerely,

Alicia & Byron Brathwaite

Brafford Media & Technologies Group Inc.

lices & Byron





WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO

Since 2011, through our web portal Caribbean Event Suppliers Network (formerly known as Nexgen Meeting Rooms), we have endeavoured to provide a virtual expo to showcase spectacular event venues, event service providers, event management and destination management companies in the Caribbean region.

Our portal also provides event related news, information, ideas and tips in our Blog, Forum and News Feed sections. We strive to ensure that the information is relevant and conveniently available at all times. As well, we provide solutions for the events and hospitality industries including creation of virtual property tours and mobile event apps.

	4	HOW TO GET MORE SPONSORS FOR YOUR EVENTS
	7	FEATURED TOURISM OFFICES OF THE CARIBBEAN
\overline{Z}	8	ANTIGUA & BARBUDA Carib-World Travel
	10	THE ROLE OF DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COMPANIES
	12	BARBADOS Accra Beach Hotel & Spa
	25	TOP 9 REASONS CONFERENCES ARE OFFERING APPS
	26	GRENADA Celebrity Photography27
	28	CAPTURING THE MOMENTS
ψ · · · · ·	30	TURKS & CAICOS Alexandra Resort, The
* * *	34	FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF PLANNING A CONFERENCE
	_	INDEX OF ADVERTISERS ONLINE DIRECTORY LISTINGS





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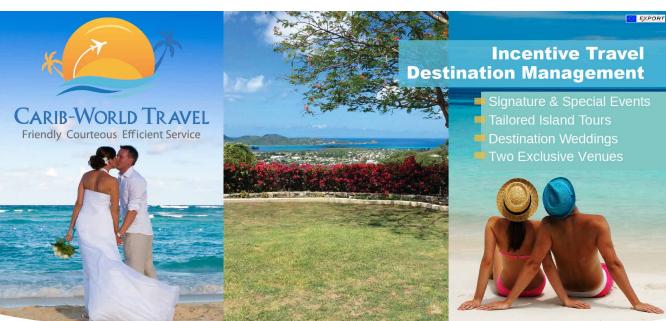
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Caribbean's Leading Destination Management Company

HOW TO GET MORE SPONSORS FOR YOUR EVENTS

AUTHOR | KELVIN NEWMAN

Whether you're hosting a trade conference, wedding show or even charity event, there's a good chance that, in order to be profitable, you will have to get sponsors involved in proceedings. However in many cases, that's significantly easier said than done.

If your background is in event planning and organisation perhaps the skills required to sell sponsorship don't come naturally to you. But that's no reason to resign yourself to failure. Shaping the process slightly differently can deliver great results.

My background is in b2b digital marketing conferences. Typically these events are paid for. In my sector ticket prices north of \$1000 are very common. However, our events are nearly always free-to-attend which means we've been incredibly reliant on sponsor funding. I hope you can learn a little from our successes and avoid some of the mistakes I've made over the years.

Your Sponsors are Your Customers

Typically when organising events, it's easier to think about your end customer being the attendee, delegate or whatever the nomenclature of choice is in your sector. But whether sponsors are your main source of revenue, or secondary to other streams, you need to see them as your customers.

This can manifest itself in many different ways; often before you even decide to host an event. For me the first question

before launching an event is not "have I got a great venue lined up?" or "will I be able to get people to come?", it is "can I sell sponsorship to companies who want to speak to this audience?". There are dozens of ideas for great events that have never positively answered that question that I've had to cast aside for exactly that reason.

Sometimes thinking of your sponsors as customers first will have an impact on how you programme events or force you to make decisions that might impact the attendee experience. This conflict is inevitable, but you mustn't avoid thinking about it, embrace it.

Frame every decision has having to achieve two things. One - it must make for a better experience for our sponsors. Two - it must make for a better experience for our attendees. If it can't do both of those things it's not something we should be doing.

Know Where You Add Value

One mistake I've seen a lot of companies make when starting out with sponsors is bundling everything they possibily can into a sponsor package, just to get the sign off and the invoice out the door. But sometimes you need to take a longer term view. Sometimes you've got to walk away from the deal, and the revenue, if it jeopardises the future of your event.

A great example of this is around data. A standard question from the sponsor would be "can I have the details of all those attending?" This is the value in my business. If I share that with a sponsor, what purpose do I fulfil next time round?

What is of value in your event business will vary based upon your sector. But once you've worked it out, don't sell it no matter what the price. I don't blame sponsors for asking for these types of things to be included in packages. That's their prerogative. But never sell yourself short.

Get Pro-active Looking for Sponsors

You cannot sit back, put a link to a sponsor pack PDF on your site and expect the money to come rolling in. You need to knock on a few doors, make a few calls and send a lot of emails. Often those requests will be cold to people who've never heard of your event, but there's loads you can do to improve your odds.

Make use of LinkedIn, you effectively have the rolodex of every single person you need to





Another top tip for speaking to potential sponsors

The person you'll want to speak to will often be the boss or someone very senior. They tend to start work early or leave the office late. It can work wonders sending your email or making your call outside of conventional office hours for exactly this reason.

speak to right there in front of you. If you know the company you want to approach, search for that company name on LinkedIn and trawl through their employees to find the person with the right job title. If you're calling it'll help you get past the gate-keeper on reception and if you're clever about it you might even be able to work out their email address.

Another top tip for speaking to potential sponsors; the person you'll want to speak to will often be the boss or at least someone very senior. They often tend to start work early or leave the office late. It can work wonders sending your email or making your call outside of conventional office hours for exactly this reason.

LinkedIn can also help you out even if you don't know which companies to approach. Find just one company that fits your sponsor profile perfectly and browse to their company profile page on LinkedIn. Hidden down the bottom of the page in

the right hand column you'll see a section labeled 'People Also Viewed'. This gives you a collection of half a dozen similar companies. That's a nice starting point; but if you then view the profile of the suggested companies, you get even more suggestions. Before you know it you'll have more sponsorship leads than you'll know what to do with.

In Conclusion

A lot of the great event managers don't think they can sell sponsorship. I think they're wrong. Every event manager I know is a great problem-solver. If you think of selling sponsorship as a project with clear steps to go through, you'll deliver great results like you deliver great events.

This article is republished with the permission of Kelvin Newman and first appeared in the Event Manager Blog. Kelvin is the Founder of Rough Agenda, BrightonSEO and the Content Marketing Show.



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FEATURED TOURISM OFFICES OF THE CARIBBEAN

Your business is our pleasure, your pleasure is our business



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ANTIGUA BARBUDA







FOR MEETINGS & INCENTIVE TRAVEL

"Beyond the beauties and tropical treats, what is less known - our wellkept secret - is that the twin-islands of Antiqua and Barbuda have many niche resorts that offer very personal flavors and styles of their own. With two of Antiqua's resorts making Conde Nast's Gold List 2011, others finding their way into Travel + Leisure's list of top hotels, it is no wonder that Antigua has an unassuming reputation as the "home of the Uber all-inclusive." As an intimate destination that can comfortably accommodate up to 150, Antiqua is the ideal location for a highly personalized incentive travel group." -

Carib-World Travel

FOR WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS

Chosen by The Bachelorette for the filming of its July 2013 Season Finale, and boasting 365 beaches, one for every day of the year, Antigua and Barbuda is designed for the bride and groom looking for that true island paradise. Enchanting resorts, inns and villas, and an abundance of natural beauty await you. Dubbed the 'Romance Capital of The Caribbean', as well as the "Yachting Capital of The Caribbean" Antigua and Barbuda will make the perfect start to "The Rest Of Your Lives Together".



CARIB-WORLD TRAVEL

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OVERVIEW

At Carib-World we are dedicated to providing Destination Management Services focused on the Incentive Travel Market, Special Interest Groups and Events such as Destination Weddings and Regattas. We also offer our Signature Tours as well as tours tailored to suit your needs. We take pride in putting you in touch with unique Caribbean experiences. We are a leading provider in Antiqua, our home base, partnering with the best service providers on the island. We distinguish ourselves by providing creative itineraries, reliable solutions and exemplary management, working closely with our clients to build and deliver successful and memorable programmes.

SERVICES OFFERED

Meet & Greet Services, Ground transportation, translator services, photography and multimedia services, floral decorations, special dining experiences, motivational events and training programmes, corporate events, team building, personal chefs, private entertainment, offshore island trips, unique gift items, exclusive venues, sporting activities, tailor made and signature tours, international and regional air travel

ACCOLADES

World Travel Awards for Caribbean's Leading **Destination Management Company 2013** Celebrated 40th Anniversary in 2013

- 1 Carib World Travel offers reliable solutions for Signature & Special Events.
- 2 Carib World Travel works closely with our clients to build and deliver the most memorable Destination Wedding
- 3 We offer Exclusive Venues for your special event.

THE ROLE OF DESTINATION MANAGEMENT COMPANIES—

AUTHOR | MYRTLE V. DWYER, OD, JP, MSc.

Glamour helps define the role of Destination Management Companies

Destination Management History

In the 1960s the Ground Operator business was born as a direct response to the demands of meeting, incentive and convention planners for organized leisure activities during their programmes. It is, indeed, small entities which offered basic services of airport transfers, tours and transportation. In the 1970s these companies added themed parties and events to their services and travel agents and tour operators began utilizing their services.

The term Destination Management was coined in 1972 by Phil Lee founder of the Company, California Leisure Consultants, to describe the expanded roles of logistics experts. They were no longer merely providing transportation but were professionals extending major support services to individuals and groups.

Jamaica's first Destination Management Company was created in 1987 and has seen successful development in the past two decades. Notwithstanding the growth in this industry, the role of DMCs in Jamaica, and even throughout the rest of the Caribbean, is still highly misunderstood and woefully underrated. In order to solve this, stakeholders must represent themselves as destination managers and market both locally and on the international scene.

What is a Destination Management Company?

A Destination Management Company is defined by the Association of Destination Management Executives as "a professional services company possessing extensive local knowledge, expertise and resources, specializing in the design and full implementation of events, activities, tours, transportation and programmes logistics." If required, a DMC can make reservations for villas, resorts, hotels, provide travel management, guides and hostesses.

The keywords when working with a DMC are customized and specialized. They act as local partners for group and event organizers, receptive agents for travel agents, tour operators, cruise lines and tour and airline charter operators.

Today, irrespective of their definition, destination management is a major industry generating millions of dollars worldwide and employing thousands of people. Nonetheless, there are several challenges facing these companies. The problem is compounded by the fact that many have jumped in and out of the business. Such amateurs perform poorly by not delivering on their promise. The professionals in this industry must separate and position themselves as the "diamonds." If they perform an excellent job, they will create



Left to right: Images courtesy The Savannah Hotel, Grenada Tourism Board and Premier Event Services Inc

the buzz and demand needed for their services.

It is, in deed, a buyers market and so the competition has become even more intense among DMCs. Clients are seeking several different bids even if they've worked with the same DMC for years. Professionals are forced to present their services at a lower cost and retain creativity within small budgets, all while keeping their clients' needs top of mind. DMCs need to raise awareness in order to gain the recognition and respect of the various players in the tourism industry. Hotels, resorts and villas will begin to realize that they can bring business to them. These are some advisable tips:

- Respond in a timely manner to requests for quotations
- Eliminate the need for travel agency IATA numbers when a reservation is being made
- Supply requested rates to tour operators, who represent clients overseas
- Some hotels have opted to set up their own DMC operations in house or have preferred handlers. Such decisions should not create a challenge for external operators selected by a client who brings business to our destination.

Members of local associations must unite, whether it is for the purpose of lobbying government, marketing the destination or educating others. They must gain international partnerships for greater prominence. Iceland is a prime example of successful tourism marketing. Even with its drastic climatic conditions, Iceland has achieved positive results through combined marketing efforts and strategic positioning of its tourism product. In this context, the government, DMCs, hoteliers, attractions, entertainment organizers and other interested parties have come together to promote their destination as a united front.

The basic success of a well organized company lies in marketing, sales, good customer relationship management and ensuring that the product is well tuned at all times. Destination Management Companies need to roll out well formatted plans directed at the relevant target audiences with technology playing a pivotal role in the process.

A clearly defined brand will "shout above the crowd" and stand accountable for excellent results. After the National Tourist Board and Convention Bureau, a true Destination Management Company is the next single entity in line to market any destination effectively. The time is now as we face an expanding tourism product.

Hotel industry professional, Myrtle Dwyer, J.P., is the Director with responsibility for the Sales & Marketing at Glamour Destination Management Company.

About Glamour Destination Management

GLAMOUR is a Caribbean destination management company, with over two decades of experience and a proven record of satisfying clients from all over the world.

www.glamourdmc.com

BARBADOS







FOR MEETINGS & INCENTIVE TRAVEL

Barbados has one of the largest conference centres in the Southern Caribbean, the Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre. Several conference hotels and DMCs provide outstanding planning and support to conferences, workshops, meetings and incentives.

FOR WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS

The island's combination of picturesque hotel settings, beautifully architecture churches, wonderfully preserved plantation homes, white sand beaches, turquoise waters and tropical serenity make Barbados a favourite Caribbean destination for dream weddings and honeymoons.



ACCRA BEACH HOTEL & SPA

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OVERVIEW

Accra Beach Hotel & Spa is located on the beautiful south coast on the island of Barbados. Situated just 20-minutes from the airport and 15-minutes from the island's capital Bridgetown, this 4-star resort has lots to offer. Its ultra-modern rooms and suites have views of the island, pool and ocean, and nestled in its gardens are two pools, one complete with swim up bar. The hotel has a full service event and catering team, offers complimentary wireless Internet access throughout the property, and it also has a business center, fitness center, games room and an activities team including a kids club.

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

Events ranging from 10 to 250 persons can be accommodated in the 4 meeting rooms.

FACILITIES

There are five meeting rooms including a Ballroom, boardroom and 3 restaurants.

AMENITIES

Facilities include catering, complimentary wireless, wheelchair accessibility, business center and kids club.

RESTRICTIONS

Guest rooms, meeting rooms and restaurants are nonsmoking. Catering provided internally only.

ACCOLADES

The hotel was twice awarded hotel of the year, is green certified and rated fully accessible by the Barbados Council for the Disabled.

- 1 Christopher Conference Room, meeting rounds
- 2 Khairoon Conference Room, theatre-style
- 3 Leanna Conference Room, dinner rounds

BARBADOS CONCORDE EXPERIENCE

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@bdosconcorde

f Barbados Concorde Experience

OVERVIEW

If 20,000 square feet of ground floor space at the Barbados Concorde Experience is a bit over the top for your event then why not make your cocktail party, baby shower or child's party a unique one by hosting it on our Observation Deck at the Barbados Concorde Experience; such an intimate location is ideal for these types of events. The Observation Deck creates an atmosphere of a perfect opportunity to mix and mingle with a phenomenal view of the aircraft taking off at the airport just next door!

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

Ground floor can accommodate a dinner with a capacity of 600 and parties of up to 1500 persons.

FACILITIES

Open floor space suited for parties and dinners.

AMENITIES

Free WiFi is available in the café of the Barbados Concorde Experience. Ground floor is wheelchair accessible and there are two male and two female wheelchair accessible bathrooms.

RESTRICTIONS

No smoking is allowed in the Premises or outside in the back of the Premises. Smoking is only permitted outside in the front of the Premises. No cooking is allowed inside the Premises. No candles are allowed inside the Premises. No cigarettes, lighters, knives or weapons of any kind are allowed on the Premises.

ACCOLADES

Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence in 2012 and 2013

- 1 Small cocktail reception on the Observation Deck
- 2 Corporate Dinner Event and Awards Ceremony
- 3 Charity Gala Dinner Event





CARIBBEAN Musician

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OVERVIEW

Live music and having live musicians will accent any event, whether it's a cocktail, conference, summer party, lunch, dinner or significant celebration. Caribbean Musician is the service provider you go to when you need to have your event accented with live music. There is the ease of having a soloist deliver for a few moments, to maybe a string quartet, full band or even a combo making the event memorable, you name the event and Caribbean Musician can provide the musician. Caribbean Musician has provided from steel pan player to conch shell blower, violinists, singers and live band, playing in all genres. Caribbean Musician is your Agent for Live Musicians.

SERVICES OFFERED

Live musicians:

Singer(s) - Jazz vocalists, classical, spiritual, Caribbean pop to name a few.

Singers(s) - Soloists, Small group to Choir Instrumentalist(s) - e.g. Steel pan players, violinists, saxophonists, trumpeters, organist, and pianists Band/Small Combo - Soloists three piece combo, to full band (calypso/reggae/pop)

ACCOLADES

Caribbean Musician produces a festival called "The 100 Voice Project" every August since 2010 in Barbados. Musicians in all genres meet in Barbados to collaborate and raise funds for various charities.

- 1 Original violinists
- 2 In preparation for a garden wedding
- 3 Delightful guitarists

ECLECTIC DESIGNS EVENTS

Arnold Christie Complex, Lot 10, Lower Estate, St. Michael, BARBADOS, BB11024

www.innovativeinteriorsdesign.com

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OVERVIEW

Event and wedding decor company whose specialists approach every event with creativity, passion and professionalism. With over 14 years of experience in Barbados and the wider Caribbean our skilled coordinators come to you with the expertise, training and industry contacts saving you valuable time and money.

We cater to all kinds of events, including corporate meetings, weddings, fundraising galas, product launches, conferences, Christmas parties, VIP functions, and cocktail receptions.

Eclectic Designs Events, as the name suggests, strives on diversity. We are dedicated to helping enhance your next event experience and work with clients that are receptive to "design with a difference".

SERVICES OFFERED

Event and wedding decor

Accolades

- Decorated Barbados Tourism Association's tent at 2014 Top Gear event in Barbados
- One of the featured decorators at annual Barbados Food and Wine and Rum Festival. Winner of three of the five awards.

- 1 Caribbean theme for Milestone Birthday for VIP
- 2 Milestone Birthday Party for VIP
- 3 Barbados's First Top Gear Event: BTA's Tent





INFINITY ON THE BEACH

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OVERVIEW

We, at Infinity on the Beach, are excited that you are considering our property for your upcoming event. We pride ourselves on having a unique team of experts who will cater to your every need to ensure that your event goes according to plan; from conceptualization to completion.

An on-site coordinator ensures active communication between our client and the development team. Our facilities have the capability of hosting many events including, but not limited to, Weddings, Conferences, Seminars, Parties, Shows and Birthday Dinners.

Rental Options include: Bresmay Conference Room, Keeko's Bar & Lounge and Pool Side on Landside.

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

Theatre 100 pax, Banquet 60 pax, Classroom 30 pax Enquire for other options

FACILITIES

Conference Room, Restaurant, Bar

AMENITIES

Catering, Free WIFI, PA System, Podium, Flip Chart/ White Board, Multi-media TV, Projector

RESTRICTIONS

No Smoking, Internal Catering only, Conference Room Access Stairs only

- 1 Banquet Styled Conference Room
- Theatre Styled Conference Room
- 3 Sea Fans Restaurant Seaside (Other settings available for all the above)

LLOYD ERSKINE SANDIFORD CENTRE

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■ @LESC_Barbados

/LESCBarbados

OVERVIEW

The Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre (LESC) is the premier event centre in Barbados and is the ideal venue for the discerning client and meeting planner. From intimate meeting rooms to large conference halls suitable for conferences, exhibitions, weddings, banquets and award ceremonies, the centres flexibility lends itself to a variety of events. With years of experience in successfully hosting high profile events, our skilled team will work closely with you to ensure that your experience with us is nothing less than exceptional. Further, LESC's central location with easy access to highways, accommodation and air transfers, makes it the ideal venue to host your next event.

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

Features 11 meeting rooms with 5 break out areas in over 100,000sq.ft. of event space.

FACILITIES

Conference Room, Banquet Hall, Exhibition Hall

AMENITIES

Restaurants, Catering Services, WiFi, Wheelchair Access, Simultaneous Interpretation System, Expansive parking

RESTRICTIONS

No smoking

ACCOLADES

'Caribbean's Leading Conference Centre' by the World Travel Awards (2003-2006 & 2009)

'Achievement of Excellence - Support Services' by the Barbados Tourism Awards 2009

- 1 Signing Ceremony Economic Partnership Agreement CARIFORUM & The EU
- 2 Gala Awards Hibiscus Room
- 3 Translation Booth & Simultaneous Interpretation Equipment





Gala Cocktail Reception (with center stage): Frangipani Room at LESC

MILESTONE EVENTS BARBADOS

'The Orchard' # 4 Blowers, St. James, BARBADOS, BB24016

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OVERVIEW

Milestone Events Barbados is a full service special events, production and event rentals company. We work with clients from conception to execution on creating Milestone Events and we can do as much or as little as our clients' needs.

We offer event planning, to help you create an event that will wow your audience. We also offer expert event management services to ensure all that your plans are executed flawlessly. Our event planning and management services enables our clients to get everything they need for their events, all in one place and because we own our own facility and stock a comprehensive range of party and special event equipment they enjoy in-house pricing.

SERVICES OFFERED

- Event planning and management services
- Event coordination
- All wedding services
- Décor rentals and decoration services
- Event design and decoration services
- Top quality rental equipment
- "The Orchard" An amazing garden facility

ACCOLADES

2014 Forever I Do Experience Best Booth

- 1 Gorgeous table setting featuring our ghost chairs
- 2 Panoramic view of 'The Orchard'





PREMIER EVENT SERVICES INC.

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OVERVIEW

Since 2000 Premier Event Services Inc. has provided complete event planning, management and coordination services for the corporate sector, government ministries and agencies and as well as private individuals. We have been involved in most of the major events in Barbados and our services have also been sought after in the wider Caribbean region.

We offer complete conference planning services. These services include preparing the preconference budget, negotiating hotel accommodation, site selection, menu planning and ground transportation.

Whether measured in increased sales, profits or increased staff productivity Premier Event Services Inc will coordinate your next event or meeting to exceed the expected results of the organizers and a highly motivated and qualified audience.

SERVICES OFFERED

- Complete Conference & Event Planning & **Management Services**
- **Conference Support Services**
- Equipment & Party Rental
- **Executive Beverage Service**

ACCOLADES

Premier Event Services Inc. will be celebrating its 15th Anniversary in March 2015. PES has produced the Barbados Food & Wine and Rum Festival from its inception in 2010 through 2014 and have been contracted to produce the 2015 Festival. PES has been involved in the production of two of Barbados' biggest motor sport events, the Top Gear Festival and Race of Champions which were both held in 2014. A company that represents excellence in every detail PES was also instrumental in the Official Inscription Ceremony for the designation of Bridgetown and its Historic Garrison becoming a World Heritage Site.

- 1 Fruit Carving at the Barbados Food and Wine & Rum Festival 2014
- 2 The Inaugural Prime Ministers Ball 2010
- CARELIC CEO Conference 2011

RENAISSANCE DESIGNS INC.

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9 renaissancedesigns

OVERVIEW

Renaissance Designs is an established event decorating company with an extensive portfolio. We enjoy consistent demand for the provision of decorative services and accessories for individuals, the public and private sectors throughout Barbados. We have gained our reputation by providing bold and imaginative approaches to event decorating. We value processes that ensure the best results for customers and seek to produce a wow factor every time. Recently, Wedding Dreams by Renaissance was launched to offer a more personalised service for couples. As a creative team we can envision and deliver transformed venues. We create new and magical environments for your custom event using unimagined possibilities.

SERVICES OFFERED

We provide a bold and imaginative approach to special event decorating and the rental of décor accessories such as chiavari chairs, chair covers, chair sashes, wedding arches, lounge furniture, red carpets & cocktail tables to name a few.

ACCOLADES

Official Decorator for Ambrosia Event for The Annual Food Wine & Rum Festival for 4 consecutive years.

- 1 Elegant outdoor wedding in purple & blue. Mahogany Ridge (photography by ABI Productions)
- 2 Rainbow/Fairytale themed Wedding décor. The Centre, Barbados (photography by ABI Productions)
- 3 Intimate Dinner On the Beach, Sandy Lane Barbados





TONE VISION

183 Regency Park, Christ Church, BARBADOS, BB15094

Kurt Roachford | Kirk Arthur

+1 (246) 823-9607 | 230-5337

groachford@yahoo.com | kirkart@gmail.com

OVERVIEW

Welcome to Tone Vision Entertainment, the very best in entertainment, providing quality DJs and Emcees for over 10 years. We provide music and entertainment for any type of event including private and corporate functions; however our specialty is Wedding Receptions and ceremonies.

You have envisioned your day and it is Tone Vision that will ensure that Music and entertainment on your big day is covered.

Our professional DJs and Emcee's are dedicated and committed to working with our clients to create extraordinary and unique events.

Interested in our services.....contact us to discuss your Special event.

SERVICES OFFERED

DJ services, emcees, bookings of musicians

PHOTO CAPTIONS

Tone Vision ensures we maintain the beauty of your venue without compromising the sound quality of the event by placing the equipment in inconspicuous but functional areas.

TROPICAL WEDDINGS BARBADOS

Worthing, Main Road, Christ Church, BARBADOS

www.tropicalweddingsbarbados.com

Alicia Farmer

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admin@tropicalweddingsbarbados.com

f /tropicalweddingsbarbados

OVERVIEW

Tropical Weddings arrange an amazing variety of weddings over spectacular and scenic venues across the island. We plan weddings on Barbados's white sandy beaches, lush gardens and in traditional churches! We can even plan a unique wedding for you onboard a catamaran sailing into the sunset, underground at Harrison's Cave, under water on a Submarine or even on an adventurous Island Safari!

Tropical Weddings specializes in planning weddings for couples who are coming off a cruise ship, couples wanting to renew their vows or for those couples staying on island wanting a romantic destination wedding! Overland, at sea, or on shore, Tropical Weddings would make your dream become a reality!

SERVICES OFFERED

We are a wedding planning company that specialize in planning your special day from beginning to end!

ACCOLADES

Tropical Weddings has been planning weddings for over 15 years and we are looking forward to planning yours!

- 1 Church Weddings
- 2 Garden Weddings
- 3 Unique Weddings



HELP ATTENDEES FIND THE RIGHT CONTENT

More than 500 presentations in two or more tracks spread out across several days. Does this sound familiar? It can be overwhelming for attendees to try and find the content that is right for them. Conference apps can help them target in on the most relevant content through searchable indexes.

MAKE NETWORKING EASIER

Attendees don't come to conferences just to see presentations - networking is a big factor in their decision to attend. Conference apps can help facilitate networking by providing detailed information about presenters and exhibitors.

PLAN IN ADVANCE

Conference attendees are busy and are often working on-the-go. Offline conference apps offer a great solution allowing attendees to view a conference program and plan their schedule whenever and wherever they want.

INCREASE SPONSOR REVENUE

Conference apps can act as a revenue generator for organizers by offering a variety of sponsorship opportunities. Sponsors could have custom pages, logo placement on main menu screens, or promote sponsored sessions.

CREATE VISIBILITY FOR EXHIBITORS

Exhibitors spend a lot of money sending materials and staff to conferences with the expectation that customers will want and be able to find them. Conference apps can offer enhanced exhibitor listings showing additional links, product catalogs and direct links to their location on the floor plan.

MANAGE PROGRAM UPDATES

It's the night before the conference and your keynote speaker just called in sick.... If you are limited to printed materials you are in trouble. Conference apps make pushing out program updates easy. As long as

TOP 9 REASONS

AUTHOR | JELMER VAN AST, FOUNDER & MANAGING DIRECTOR OF CONFERENCE COMPASS NETHERLANDS

Do you want to know what features are helping conference organizers make the decision to offer an app for their event? Our app buyer's guide lists the Top 9 reasons.

attendees have access to the internet they can receive program updates as soon as they are available or the next time they connect.

HELP ATTENDEES PROMOTE CONFERENCES **VIA EMAIL AND ON SOCIAL NETWORKS**

Conference apps can make it easy for attendees to share their experience at your conference. They can share interesting sessions, notes and more with colleagues via email and social media all with the touch of a button.

GO GREEN

It's hard for conference organizers to "be green" if they are printing a mountain of bulky program books. Conference apps can reduce or even eliminate the need for printed materials on-site. If the app offers note-taking capabilities, it can help cut down on the paper that attendees use as well. All of that saved paper adds up to saved money!

IT'S 2015 AND APPS ARE EVERYWHERE

The Apple tagline "there's an app for that" resonates with people because it really does seem like there is an app for everything you can imagine. Apps have now been around long enough that smartphone users have expectations for quality. The best conference apps are those that help them to get more out of the event with full feature sets.

GRENADA







FOR MEETINGS & INCENTIVE TRAVEL

Grenada has a range of privately owned, luxury properties to suit the needs of small to medium meetings or incentive groups. With its wealth of water sports and outdoor activities - including a day trip to its sister islands, river tubing, sailing, diving and island tours - your attendees will have an enriching and truly unforgettable island experience both inside and outside the meeting room.

FOR WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS

Affectionately known as the "Spice Isle" of the Caribbean, Grenada offers you a destination rich in history, authentic island architecture, romantic hotels, resorts and venues, unspoiled beaches, exotic spices and a lush rainforest interior. A perfect place in paradise to say "I Do".



CELEBRITY PHOTOGRAPHY

Central Depradine Street, Gouyave, St. John's **GRENADA**

www.celebrityphotography.gd

Cullen Perrotte

+1 (473) 537-8544/ 443-3601/ 406-4464 Fax +1 (473) 437-2038

celebrityphotoscj@hotmail.com

Celebrity Photography

OVERVIEW

Caribbean Photographers for any occasion. We offer a wide range of services including passport and ID photography, interior and exterior photography, weddings, fashion photography, portraits, location shoots, architectural photography, sports photography, food photography, corporate functions, photography and much more. We recently added videography to our portfolio. Celebrity Photography will travel to any island destination to create the perfect pictures for a lifetime of memories.

SERVICES OFFERED

- In studio (passports, ID & visa photos, portraits and groups)
- On location (weddings, graduations, parties, christenings, corporate events, commericial & architectural photography, arts & entertainment events)
- Videography services

ACCOLADES

For us our memorable moments are when clients often tell you how much they appreciate your work and are hence eager to help you advertise your business. Also most important is when clients select you to do their wedding after telling you they saw your work, were very impressed and after shopping around and viewing other photographers and their work, they choose you.

- 1 Tracy and Gavin's "motorbike shot". Highlights the creativity and passion of Celebrity Photography
- 2 Capturing the beauty of the cake at a wedding shoot in
- 3 Tash and Matt uniquely framed within a fallen tree lying on the beach



CAPTURING THE MOMENTS

AUTHOR | CULLEN PERROTTE

PHOTOGRAPHY DO'S AND DON'T FOR YOUR SPECIAL DAY

Top Five Photography Do's

- 1. It is highly recommended that both the Bride and Groom get a manicure a day before the wedding. Their hands should be kept well moisterized on the wedding day to ensure that nails and skin look their best in the close up shots. The hands are included in the photos of the rings and can impact the beauty of the photographs if they are not properly manicured and moisturized. In many cases, especially for the Groom, this is an area that is missed in the planning.
- 2. Careful grooming of facial hair is essential for the Groom to minimize issues such as facial hair bumps, exposure of hair in the nostrils, etc.
- 3. Ahead of the wedding, have the wedding coordinator or a close family friend

prepare a list of the family and wedding guests who are to be photographed, where they are to be photographed and the order in which this should be done. They should also ensure that all persons on the list are made aware and know when and where they are required.

- 4. The Bride should look as natural as possible and the choice of makeup should reflect this. Oil based makeups are not recommended as they may cause an extra shine that may be captured in the photos. It is advised that the Maid/Matron of Honour and Best Man be nearby during the photo shoot to assist the couple with cosmetic touch ups during the entire photo session.
- 5. It is very important that the Bride and Groom arrange to meet with the photographer before the wedding day. This allows the couple and the photographer



O arrange to meet with the photographer before the wedding day DON'T be late for your wedding

to get to know each other and provides an opportunity to clarify expectations on both sides including the photographer's expectations of the entire wedding party. This gives rise to a smoother, more comfortable, enjoyable and fulfilling photo session on their special day.

Top Five Photography Don'ts

- 1. Don't stay up late the night before your wedding day. You need to get as much rest as possible so you both look your very best. Remember the camera will capture everything from bags under the eyes to tired expressions.
- 2. Brides, don't wait until the day of the wedding to try on your dress. Most Brides experience weight changes leading up to the wedding day. If the dress is not

fitting properly then this will be seen in the photographs.

- 3. Caution if you are tanning before your wedding day. Tan lines tend to negatively impact the beauty of wedding pictures.
- 4. The timeline for your wedding day agenda is crucial. For example, if you want to incorporate sunsets into your wedding photos, ensure that you don't schedule the start time of your wedding for too late in the afternoon and potentially miss the sunset.
- 5. Brides, don't be late for your wedding. Remember that some photographers charge by the hour and being late may substantially increase your photography budget.

Cullen Perrotte is the owner and Chief Photographer of Celebrity Photography, Grenada

TURKS CAICS







FOR MEETINGS & INCENTIVE TRAVEL

Turks and Caicos is located 550 miles southeast of Miami, Florida and includes 40 different islands of which 8 are inhabited. With award-winning luxury hotels and all-inclusive resorts, many offering meeting rooms and full service conference facilities, the Turks and Caicos Islands make a great choice for business, meeting and incentive travelers.

The islands have close to 70 restaurants and also provide a number of golf, water sport and island tour facilities.

FOR WEDDINGS & HONEYMOONS

Boasting beautiful beaches with sparkling turquoise waters, snorkeling and diving, authentic island ambience, excellent hotels and the friendliest of people, the Turks and Caicos Islands make up a perfect Caribbean destination choice.





THE ALEXANDRA RESORT

Princess Drive, Grace Bay, Providenciales, TURKS & CAICOS, British West Indies

www.alexandraresort.com

Lizzie Courey

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@alexandraresort

/AlexandraResort

OVERVIEW

Consider the Alexandra Resort as the ideal venue for your Turks and Caicos event. This 90-door, all-suite property will provide your group with an impressive beachfront address, the conveniences you expect at a four-star resort, and the comforts of home that make staying here a pleasure. This value oriented resort offers free amenities and services that include: WIFI property wide, parking, free dining and grocery shopping shuttle to sister resorts (Beach House and Blue Haven), concierge, daily activity program, use of pedal bikes, tennis courts, non motorized water sports equipment and exercise room, in-room coffee and tea service, and beach attendant service.

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

View function space capacities here.

FACILITIES

All-suites beachfront resort with beachfront dining terrace, restaurant, oceanfront penthouse and tropical landscaped grounds for events.

AMENITIES

WIFI. All inclusive wedding package options. On-site event coordinator. Free shuttle to sister resorts' facilities.

RESTRICTIONS

No smoking indoors. No outside caterers.

ACCOLADES

Voted one of top resorts in Atlantic and Caribbean by Conde Nast Traveler in 2013 and 2014.

- All-suites resort on world-famous Grace Bay Beach
- Wedding bliss on world famous Grace Bay Beach
- Banquet facilities at the beachfront Mango Reef Restaurant

BEACH HOUSE

218 Lower Bight Rd., Grace Bay, Providenciales, TURKS & CAICOS, British West Indies

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@beachhouseMVMNT

f /BeachHouseMovement

OVERVIEW

Beach House is the first authentic boutique hotel on Grace Bay. Just 21 suites are located at this "no socks allowed" property, nestled on a stunning stretch of world famous Grace Bay Beach and landscaped with gorgeous tropical gardens. Beach House features the acclaimed Kitchen 218 restaurant and is revered for its exceptional customer service. It offers free amenities and services that include: WIFI property wide, parking, free dining/grocery shopping shuttle to sister resorts (Alexandra and Blue Haven), pampering pods on the beach assigned to each suite, pedal bikes, non motorized water sports equipment and exercise room, and in-room coffee and tea service.

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

View function space capacities here.

FACILITIES

Kitchen 218, beachfront dining terrace, gardens, off-site space at sister resorts.

AMENITIES

WIFI. All inclusive wedding package options. On-site event coordinator. Free shuttle to sister resorts' facilities.

RESTRICTIONS

No smoking indoors. No outside caterers.

ACCOLADES

Fully renovated in 2012/2013.

- 1 All-suites resort on world-famous Grace Bay Beach
- 2 Beautiful wedding venue on world famous Grace Bay Beach
- 3 Re-energize and re-vitalize your body, skin and soul with our authentic spa experience









BLUE HAVEN RESORT AND MARINA

Leeward, Providenciales, TURKS & CAICOS, **British West Indies**

www.bluehaventci.com

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/BlueHavenTCI

OVERVIEW

Blue Haven Resort and Marina is one of the newest resorts in Turks and Caicos. This waterfront resort has its own private beach, a new meeting room, the amazing Elevate Spa, an award winning IGY marina, convenient access to excursions and watersports, a grocery store, and three on-site restaurants. It offers free amenities and services that include: WIFI property wide, parking, free dining shuttle to sister resorts (Alexandra and Beach House), an infinity pool, use of pedal bikes, beach volleyball court, horseshoes, beach tennis, and exercise room, and in-room coffee and tea service.

FUNCTION SPACE CAPACITIES

Three restaurants. Private beach. Meeting rooms. Landscaped grounds and gardens. View function space capacities here.

FACILITIES

Waterfront resort with 3 restaurants, meeting room, marina and gardens.

AMENITIES

WIFI. All inclusive wedding package options. On-site event coordinator. Free shuttle to sister resorts' facilities.

RESTRICTIONS

No smoking indoors. No outside caterers.

ACCOLADES

Fully renovated and re-opened as resort in 2013.

- 1 Waterfront resort in exclusive Turks and Caicos
- Beautiful waterfront venue on private Turks and Caicos beach
- 3 Fire & Ice restaurant at Blue Haven Resort



FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF

PLANNING A CONFERENCE

AUTHOR | JOSEPH O. BENFIELD, CPA

When planning or thinking of producing a conference, one of the very first considerations should be the budget. If done properly, having a well thought out, complete and appropriate budget could mean the difference between financial hari kari and a satisfactory conclusion. It is ultra important that the first major component of planning a conference is developing an appropriate budget and sticking to it. Everyone involved in planning the conference should be fully aware of the budget or, at minimum, the budget for the aspect of the conference they are responsible for.

Start by thinking through the purpose of the conference. Is the conference a commercial venture? If so what is the financial goal? Is the conference a fundraiser? If so what is the fundraising target? Are the funds raised to address a particular issue and if so what amount is needed? Is the conference to be revenue neutral? Some

international service organizations dictate that conferences are to be revenue neutral. Brainstorming these issues and getting the objectives right at the outset will set the tone for the budgeting process.

Next determine how the conference will be funded. Are there resources to fund upfront costs? Several costs will be incurred before any revenue comes in. Is the conference to be funded from registration fees? This is a key consideration as the timeframe for receipt of registration fees will be important. Is the conference to be sponsored fully or partially? Again, timing of receipt of funds will be a critical component of the planning and budgeting process.

A crucial component of the budget process is the breakeven analysis. The breakeven analysis identifies those costs that you will incur whether one or several people attend the conference. These are fixed costs that you will have to pay

regardless of whether the conference is a success or not; for example non-refundable deposits. Some of these fixed costs will be incurred well in advance of the conference so it is crucial to get them right. The breakeven analysis is critical to the go/nogo decision as it will indicate the minimum revenue (i.e. number of paying delegates, quantum of sponsorship, etc.) that must be generated to cover unavoidable costs.

The budget is essential. In order to arrive at the total cost of the conference, think through all elements of the event and arrive at a cost per delegate. This is important, but especially when there is no opportunity to access sponsorship.

The budget should, among other things, consider:

- All sources of funding Promoter resources, sponsorship, registration fees, advertising revenue, exhibition revenue, promotional fees
- Venue costs Be sure to understand exactly what is included in your contract. Is audio visual equipment included in the room rental? What furniture is included? What are the timelines? Is a secretariat included? Would conference supplies and equipment sent ahead incur storage fees? This is the area that could surprise you so ask questions up front.
 - Catering
- Conference paraphernalia Stationery, badges, badge holders, pens, pencils, tokens, bags, publications
- Equipment Computers, printers, audio visual equipment, translation equipment, charging stations
 - Internet access WiFi and/or Wired
- Event staff Ushers, runners, translators, registration personnel
- Accommodation for staff, presenters and special guests

- Travel Site visits, promotional trips
- Transportation Shuttle buses, airport transfers, conference trips,
 - Entertainment / Social events
- Presenters Travel, accommodation, per diems, honorariums, tokens of appreciation
 - Advertising and promotional expenses
 - Operational expenses
- Other miscellaneous expenses -

Spousal program, child care program, etc.

• Local, regional, national and international taxes, licenses and fees - income taxes, withholdings, individual taxes, work permit fees, intellectual property rights fees

The list above is by no means exhaustive, nor is it intended to cover every situation. It is provided to start the brainstorming process involved in budgeting for a conference. Each event will have its own circumstances and considerations; will vary in terms of scale and scope regarding what the event is aiming to achieve or who it is being provided for; and will have different capacities for absorbing costs or passing them on to individual delegates.



Joseph O. Benfield, CPA is a Financial Consultant and Business Advisor resident in Barbados. Mr. Benfield also owns and operates Milestone Events Barbados, a leading event production company in the Caribbean.

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

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ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

Carib-World Travel 3, 9

BARBADOS

Accra Beach Hotel & Spa	13		
Barbados Concorde Experience			
Caribbean Musician			
Eclectic Designs Events			
Infinity on the Beach	17		
Lloyd Erskine Sandiford Centre	18		
Milestone Events Barbados	20		
Premier Event Services Inc.	21		
Renaissance Designs Inc. 3,	22		
Tone Vision DJ Services	23		
Tropical Weddings Barbados			

GRENADA

Celebrity Photography 27

TURKS & CAICOS

Alexandra Resort,The		
Beach House		
Blue Haven Resort & Marina	33	

Photo courtesy Grenada Board of Tourism



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Hilton Curacao

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Rejens Hotel Secret Bay

The Champs Hotel, Restaurant and Bar

GRAND CAYMAN

Cayman Conference Centre

GRENADA

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Mount Cinnamon Beach Resort Petite Anse Hotel & Restaurant Radisson Grenada Beach Resort

Simply Weddings

Spice Island Beach Resort

Sunlinc - Grenada

The Calabash Hotel & Villas The Flamboyant Hotel & Villa The Grenadian by Rex Resorts

True Blue Bay Resort

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Baganara Island Resort Cara Lodge Guyana De Impeccable Banquet Hall Grand Coastal Hotel

Guyana International Conference Centre Ocean View International Hotel & Convention Centre

Pegasus Hotel Guyana Regency Suites/ Hotel

HAITI

Kinam Hotel

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Beaches Ocho Rios Resort & Golf Club Bellefield Great House and Gardens

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Awesome Caribbean Weddings
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Jade Mountain
La Haut Resort
Ladera Resort & Spa
Royal by Rex Resorts
St. Lucian by Rex Resorts
Sugar Beach, A Viceroy Resort
The Platinum Travelers Club

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Beaches Turks & Caicos Resort Villages &
Spa
Blue Haven Resort & Marina
The Sands at Grace Bay

US VIRGIN ISLANDS Reichhold Center for the Arts Sugar Bay Resort & Spa

USA

Big Round Wheel

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Network showcases island
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Whatever the occasion we make
planning easier by providing
the information that event
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DIRECTORY



Caribbean Event Suppliers Directory

The Caribbean's online directory of venues, event planners and event suppliers. If you manage one or more venues or provide services or supplies to events in the Caribbean, we invite you to list in our directory using our free or paid directory listing options.

Blue Haven Resort and Marina

← BACK TO DIRECTORY

FEATURED LISTING

Venue/Service Provider Name: Blue Haven Resort and Marina

Long Business Description:



Blue Haven Resort and Marina is one of the newest resorts in Turks and Caicos. This waterfront resort has its own private beach, a new meeting room, the amazing Elevate Spa, an award winning IGY marina, convenient to the second seco

access to a variety of excursions and watersports, a grocery store, and three on-site restaurants

It offers free amenities and services that include: WIFI property wide, parking, free dining shuttle to sister resorts (Alexandra and Beach House), an infinity pool, use of pedal bikes, beach volleyball court, horseshoes, beach tennis, and exercise room, and in-room coffee and tea service.

Caribbean Event Suppliers Network



WHY GET LISTED:

- Increased Exposure Get discovered when planners are looking for Caribbean venues and resources in this easy to navigate directory.
- Increased Sales Potential Improve your chances of getting more business from the annual multi-billion dollar events industry through full or featured listings.
- Affordability Get a full listing for as little as US\$50 per annum

Submit your listing today at http://nexgenmeetingrooms.com/submit-new-listing/

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

Brafford Media & Technologies Group Inc.

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W: http://nexgenmeetingrooms.com/caribbean-event-supplier-directory





Content Connectivity Convenience







Make the content at your event come alive, Build powerful connections. Experience unmatched convenience. All this with our trusted solution.

We are the specialist in event apps and are committed to giving our clients not only the best possible app, but a truly engaging user experience. At Conference Compass our satisfaction lies in your success and delighting your event attendees. Try it for yourself. You will not be disappointed.

Our satisfied clients







EUROPEAN RESPIRATORY SOCIETY







FOR FURTHER INFORMATION OR A FREE DEMO CONTACT

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