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All Occasions Group catches the big one!

Following an extensive national tender process Adelaide based All Occasions Group (AOG) has been named the event manager for the World Fisheries Congress 2020 (WFC2020).

Assistant Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, Senator Anne Ruston, and South Australian Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Leon Bignell, last year announced that Adelaide will be the host city for this prestigious event.

The Congress will be led by Primary Industries and Regions SA (PIRSA) in partnership with AOG on behalf of the Australian Society for Fish Biology and the broader Australian and New Zealand seafood industry.

Professor Gavin Begg, Chair of WFC2020 and Research Chief Aquatic Sciences at the South Australian Research and Development Institute (SARDI), a division of PIRSA, said: "Anne-Marie demonstrated to us that All Occasions Group has the capabilities and experience in managing an international event and the committee looks forward to combining this experience with her local knowledge and expertise. We look forward to the WFC2020 being an exceptional success."

Anne-Marie Quinn has commented "We will be working alongside the WFC2020 Steering Committee to bring an expected 1500 national and international delegates to Adelaide to learn about and foster cooperation in fisheries science, conservation and management. In a win for the local industry, we anticipate that similar to the 2014 World Aquaculture Conference, delegates will also visit South Australia's regional fisheries and aquaculture sites."



As the conference organiser, AOG alongside its client WFC2020, will manage a massive undertaking including:

Budget Management – preparing and regularly updating a detailed budget for the Congress.

Marketing and Communications – undertake a plan targeting potential delegates globally.

Venue Management – from 'bump-in' to 'bump-out' for both the congress and exhibition at the Adelaide Convention Centre.

Event Management – from registration to dietary requirements of delegates, manage audio-visual requirements, provide secretariat services and a messaging service for delegates and speakers. A schedule of associated events and workshops is also to be created.

Exhibition Management – total management of the exhibition including establishing the floor plan, creating packages for and liaison with exhibitors and managing an onsite internet café.

Travel – reserve and manage blocks of bookings at numerous Adelaide Hotels and negotiate rates. Manage air and ground transport requirements, provide personalised itineraries for delegates and co-ordinate all ground transport requirements and shuttles.

Program Management – establish a suitable event program structure and schedule including opening and closing ceremonies.

Social Program – develop concepts for social functions as part of the event as well as creating a schedule of activities/tours for partners. Create options for pre and post touring and off site tours during the event incorporating regional South Australian options.

Sponsorship Management – work to establish attractive sponsorship opportunities and packages, and manage sponsors.

The WFC2020 will showcase internationally, Australia, New Zealand and the broader Pacific region – home to an array of marine and freshwater habitats extending from the tropics to the Antarctic. Significantly, the region is at the forefront of scientific assessment and management of fisheries and aquatic ecosystems.

Steadfast - A year of change

In April, All Occasions Group was delighted to help make the annual Steadfast Convention – Australia's largest insurance convention – a great success for the 18th consecutive year.

This year we travelled to Sydney and introduced ourselves to the new International Convention Centre (ICC). A new building with new staff who had only been working together for a few months which added a number of challenges for our experienced staff to overcome. Knowing the right questions to ask and applying the right amount of pressure when needed at times for information and outcomes from a new facility was key to the success of the event.



The Welcome Function was held at the Star with the Sunday night Dinner and Tuesday night Gala Dinner both being held on site at the ICC. The Welcome Function had a fun atmosphere with table

tennis table and pin ball machines scattered around the venue. The weather as perfect for this out door event with a backup indoor room having been on standby as the forecast initially was for rain. The Gala Dinner had a sophisticated tone and a record amount was raised for this year's chosen charity. Australian rock icon, Jon Stevens, proved that he still has what it takes to fill the dancefloor.

The client trialed a new electronic scanning system which also bought about change and a number of new systems to adapt to with a short lead time. The staff underwent training on the new system and liaised with the external suppliers to ensure smooth running for the client, sponsors and delegates alike.

The client's Head of Marketing, Amanda Rohl, took the time to pen this thank you note to the convention Chair and Anne-Marie:

"Just a quick note to thank you both for your efforts on the Convention this year. It was wonderful. I received some very positive feedback from the brokers, board and exhibitors. The gala looked incredible last night. And your teams worked well with the new suppliers. You both put so much into the event and we are really grateful for your efforts and support."

AOG has been pleased to be involved in yet another successful Steadfast Convention.

Association Management – the other side to AOG

When it comes to Conferencing and Events, AOG do not limit ourselves to the standard conventions and here at the All Occasions Group we like to go that extra mile to service our clients.

As the majority of our clients are Associations we provide a secretariat for those who may want more out of their Association or just an additional hand.

Take Institute of Public Works Engineering (SA Division) for example. AOG has been providing secretariat services for this association over the past 3 years. The beginning of 2017 has already seen so much activity for the Association, from general membership and financial services through to fortnightly newsletters (E-blasts) and on site events, there is no shortage of benefit for this Association's members.

So far this year there has been crash test demonstrations which made the news on 5 different television networks, and O'Bahn site visit incorporating the quarterly General Meeting, a breakfast briefing and their state Conference and Excellence Awards Dinner.



Still to come for this Association is a regional tour driven by the Young IPWEA members, an Australian first virtual reality experience incorporating the June IPWEA SA General Meeting, annual Golf Day (which doubled in size last year), AGM and Christmas Lunch, the second biggest event the Association runs each year, with attendance hovering around 100pax.

Liaising with the Australasian office, including participating in teleconferences, membership renewal procedures, securing sponsorship for events, corporate partnerships and the Conference and Awards Dinner, attending Board meetings and typing up minutes and the general day to day running of the Association are all part of the services we provide.

If you would like to find out more information of the Association Management side of AOG please contact Jodie Sinel jodie.sinel@aomevents.com or Rebecca Beer Smith rebecca.beersmith@aomevents.com

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