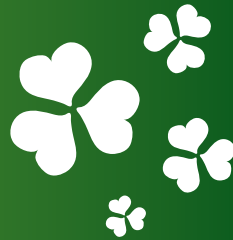


The CCD News



THE
CONVENTION CENTRE
DUBLIN

SPRING 2010

6
MONTHS
TO OPENING!

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St. Patrick's Festival in Dublin

An Taoiseach visits The CCD

Meet our partners – Tourism Ireland



Win a meal for two at
Dublin's award-winning
Town Bar & Grill!

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town BAR & GRILL



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

We are now less than six months away from our opening date of 1 September and, earlier this month, we reached another significant milestone in our journey. On 8 March, we moved from our temporary offices in Barrow Street into The CCD!

It is fantastic to be in-situ in this amazing building which we have worked on for the past number of years. Although The CCD construction is still ongoing, our office space is fully completed and we look forward to welcoming more and more clients on-site in the run up to opening.

The past few months have been very successful in terms of bookings. We have confirmed 41 events to date, including some recent additions such as Fertility 2011 and

The 6th Congress of European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation. Last month, our team hosted a stand at International Confex 2010 in London and held a reception with our strategic partners Tourism Ireland. This gave us a great opportunity to update our UK-based clients and industry media attending the event. This month, we are hosting events in London, San Jose and New York to celebrate St. Patrick's Day.

The next six months promise to be incredibly busy and exciting as we bring this iconic venue to the world. In our next issue we will unveil our new brand identity, launch our new website and announce the full completion of construction of the venue. But for now, we hope you enjoy our newsletter and look forward to your comments and enquiries.

Nick Waight, CEO

First hospitality industry event at The CCD



The Irish Hospitality Institute Founders' Banquet and Hospitality Awards is scheduled to take place in November 2010. This event is among the most prestigious award ceremonies in the hospitality industry's annual calendar. The ceremony will be the first hospitality industry event to be held at The CCD.

An Taoiseach visits the CCD

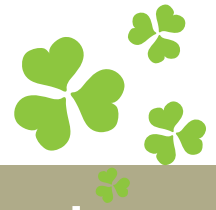


An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen TD, Dermod Dwyer, Chairman of The CCD and John Bruder, Chief Executive of Treasury Holdings, taking a look at the spectacular views over Dublin.

An Taoiseach, Brian Cowen, speaking after a site tour and update on The Convention Centre Dublin in January.

"The Convention Centre Dublin will provide a significant boost to our economy. It will provide our capital city with the leading premium mid-sized convention centre in Europe. In an increasingly competitive global environment, the Convention Centre

will help underpin economic recovery and support Ireland in achieving our business tourism targets. The new Convention Centre will be of a great benefit to national and international clients who want to bring groups here. It will put Ireland on the international map in a new way, to a new audience, who will discover that Dublin is an ideal venue for international conferences and corporate events."



The CCD Building Update

With less than six months to go before our official opening, we are happy to report that construction is on target – with building completion due in early May to enable mobilisation and stress testing to commence.

6th Congress of European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation Scheduled for Dublin in February 2011

The 6th Congress of European Crohn's and Colitis Organisation (ECCO) is confirmed to take place at The CCD in February 2011. Scheduled from February 24 - 26, 2011, the conference will focus on the latest research, therapies and procedures in treating inflammatory bowel diseases (IBD). The event is expected to attract approximately 2,000 international delegates.



Early completion of back office space was achieved in early March, with The CCD's business operation now located in the building. With only eight weeks to building handover significant progress has been made in many areas of the building. The Auditorium is nearing completion with all timber ceilings and walls, seating, orchestra pit lift, and carpet complete. Stage engineering is virtually complete, production lighting is being configured and tested, and work continues on the stage floor and fly tower.

are nearing completion, as are the escalators and lifts, with the marble tiles in the main entrance foyer underway. Externally, works have recently commenced on the canopy and the fire tender access road.

Austin McCormack – Facilities Director



The main halls and meeting rooms are also progressing well and on target. The stone cladding and feature walls in the Foyer spaces



The spectacular Atrium and escalator system at The CCD

Promotion



We are delighted to announce that Senior International Account Manager, Marie Lawlor has been promoted to Account Director. We wish Marie well in her new position.

Top medical conference brings over 400 Fertility and Reproductive experts to Dublin

We were recently selected to host Fertility 2011, the 7th biennial conference of the UK fertility societies, which includes the Association of Clinical Embryologists, the British Fertility Society and the Society for Reproduction and Fertility.

This three-day event will run from January 5-7, 2011, and attract over 400 fertility and reproductive experts. The Association of Irish Clinical Embryologists (ICE) and the Irish Fertility Society (IFS) are also supporting this prestigious event.





For details of our current vacancies, please visit the 'careers' page of our website at www.theccd.ie

New Faces - *Our Growing Team*

By Eimear Herron, HR Manager

We have recently appointed the following personnel.

Lee Forde *Head of Technical*

Lee joins us from Live Events at Grassroots Group with over twenty five years experience in event management, undertaking a wide variety of events from corporate meetings to large scale outdoor events. Lee served as general manager of events for the Liverpool European Culture Company. Before that, he held the position

of production manager at The NEC in Birmingham where he was involved in a number of high profile events including the G8 Summit. Lee also spent fifteen years of his career concert touring across the globe with a wide variety of international artists. Lee will be responsible for managing all the technical services offered by The CCD.



Edwin Whelan *Technical Production Manager*

Edwin joins our team from Avcom Audio Visual where he worked for the last ten years. As Technical Production Manager for The CCD, Edwin is responsible for coordinating all the technical requirements for our clients.

Majella McDonnell *Health & Safety Manager*

Majella joins our team with over 5 years experience as a Health and Safety Consultant across a variety of industries including hospitality, construction and manufacturing.

Richard Yeomans *Event Manager*

Richard joins us from The ICC Birmingham and has over 6 years experience managing small, medium and large corporate, association and UK Government events.



TOURISM IRELAND



David Boyce - Head of Business & Sports Tourism (Great Britain)

Tourism Ireland is responsible for marketing the island of Ireland overseas as a holiday and business tourism destination. With joint funding by the Irish Government and the Northern Ireland Executive, Tourism Ireland operates under the auspices of the North South Ministerial Council through the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment in Northern Ireland and the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism in the South.

With offices in key source markets, such as Great Britain, USA and Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Denmark, Belgium, Italy, Spain, Austria, Switzerland and Australia, Tourism Ireland has recently extended its reach to include emerging tourist markets, such as Japan, South Africa, New Zealand, China, India, Poland, Israel, Asia and the Middle East.

Tourism Ireland also works closely with Fáilte Ireland to offer support towards bidding for a particular international conference or association to choose Ireland as the host destination. This includes assistance with the initial bid document and related costs such as travel and accommodation for site inspections, and a marketing fund towards promoting the conference internationally to increase delegate attendance.

Tourism Ireland is one of our key strategic partners. Over the past few years, Tourism Ireland has helped The CCD in bidding for business and in providing funding towards bringing international clients and media to Dublin and Ireland on familiarisation visits, which always include a presentation and site tour of The CCD.

www.irelandinspires.co.uk



In the Spotlight

Allan Boyle

Catering and Events Director



What kind of events will The CCD host?

As a multi-functional venue with a capacity from 8 to 8,000, we will host a variety of events

including Annual Conferences, Award Ceremonies, Board Meetings, Training Sessions, Gala Dinners, Seminars, Breakfast Meetings, Product Launches, Christmas Parties, Press Launches – you name it, we have the space to suit the event, whether large or small.

What is your largest confirmed event to date?

We have booked 41 events to date, but our largest event confirmed is The International Bar Association with 4,500 delegates, taking place in October 2012. Other bookings include The International Statistics Institute in August 2011 (3,000 delegates), The International Conference of Emergency Medicine, June 2012 (over 2,000 delegates), and The British Orthopaedic Association, September 2011 (over 1,000 delegates).

How many people are involved in staging an event at The CCD?

It will depend on the scope of the event. For example a conference with 2,000 people with a stage production and banqueting event may need up to 250 staff.

What differentiates an event at The CCD from other venues?

The CCD is a purpose-built venue, so it is designed purely and simply for hosting world-class events. We offer clients a turn-key solution to their event. We provide a dedicated Event Team for every client hosting an event with us, no matter how large or small and we offer all the latest technical equipment and expertise on-site to ensure that the event runs smoothly and effortlessly.

What kind of catering service will The CCD offer?

In a nutshell, we will offer a premium catering service that can accommodate high volume dining, using fresh, quality ingredients, while offering customers exceptional value for money and a warm Irish welcome. We have a core team of 15 experts, which can increase to accommodate particular events, as we will cater for up to 2,000 guests for fine dining in our largest hall 'The Forum'.

What kind of menus will you offer your customers?

We will offer a wide choice of Irish and international cuisine, from an Irish stew with homemade brown bread to a creative five course meal. Typical selections include finger and fork buffet reception, grab 'n' go offerings as well as a fine dining experience. As a general rule and where possible and available, we will always source our products locally. For example, all of our

beef and poultry products are Irish bred from fully traceable farms. We will also cater to all tastes and dietary requirements. We will offer a full range of beverages, including Guinness, of course, as well as premium spirits, wine, draft beer and bottled products.



Why will customers return to The CCD?

We will ensure all of our clients leave us on a high note, due to our strong attention to detail and our comprehensive offering, delivered by our highly experienced and friendly team.

For more information on holding an event at The CCD contact our sales team on +353 1 8560000.

CONFEX Winners

In February, our team hosted a stand at Confex in London, which included a competition based on our 'Countdown to Opening' on 1st September. The lucky winner was Gemma Parkin from Zibrant whose entry time was 189 days, 16 hours and 25 minutes. Gemma wins a wonderful weekend for two to Dublin including flights, transfers, two night's accommodation at The Ritz-Carlton, Powerscourt, dinner at the renowned Gordon Ramsay Restaurant, a chauffeur-driven car into Dublin city and lunch

at the award-winning Town Bar & Grill. We also hosted an Irish-themed reception at Confex with our strategic partners Tourism Ireland. Over 150 guests came along to enjoy the Irish music and food and meet some of The CCD team. Invited guests were also entered into another competition for a fabulous golfing trip for two to the luxurious Ritz-Carlton, Powerscourt. We are delighted to announce that Craig Dale of SAP UK & Ireland User Group has won this exciting prize.



David Boyce, Tourism Ireland with Dermod Dwyer and Nick Waight at our Irish Reception at Confex

St. Patrick's Day Festival – Dublin



Celebrating its 15th anniversary in 2010, St. Patrick's Festival brings the Irish nation alive, and promises six lively days and nights of free celebrations from Friday 12th March until the big day on Wednesday, 17th March.



The Festival is the best contemporary celebration of Irish music, heritage, culture and community and encompasses a feeling of what it means to be or just feel Irish. For the more adventurous, dance in the streets at the Festival Céilí – a contemporary outdoor celebration of traditional Irish

dance. If you enjoy something a little less energetic than Céilí, make a plan to attend The Festival Talks; 'Voices' - an opportunity to vent some 'Irish' opinion, and what better way to appreciate and understand our 'gift of the gab'?

Dublin's Cultural Quarter Temple Bar will play host to an inspiring visual art trail new to the Festival programme this year. This exhibition will showcase some of the interesting existing art in the Temple Bar area and also platform innovative new Irish artists and their work. On St. Patrick's Day on 17th March, the green carpet will be rolled out once again for the world's No. 1 St. Patrick's Day Parade – a raucous 3km long street celebration of all things Irish. The Festival finale will be a musical

one with performances by the cream of contemporary traditional music in Ireland today. A Celebration of Irish Voices, a premiere performance by renowned Irish traditional musician, Donal Lunny, will take place in our National Concert Hall. While Kíla will perform in the heart of the city in the Olympia, easily one of Ireland's most innovative and exciting bands, with their roots in traditional Irish, their music features a strong percussive like singing and gorgeous melodies driven by a serious rhythmical undercurrent.

www.stpatricksfestival.ie



Win dinner for two at Dublin's award-winning Town Bar & Grill restaurant!

In our spring competition, we have a lovely prize of Dinner for 2 with a complimentary bottle of wine at Dublin's award-winning Town Bar & Grill. Centrally located in the old cellars of Mitchell's Wine Merchants on Kildare Street, the 100-seater modern trattoria-style restaurant specialises in modern Italian cooking. The Town Bar & Grill manifesto is simple: use only the best, the freshest and most inspiring Italian and local produce available. The extensive wine list

town BAR & GRILL

is very carefully selected, from Italy, California and France. To enter our draw, please visit www.theccd.ie home page. Closing date is April 30, 2010. Terms and conditions apply.

"Town Bar and Grill is refreshingly true to its simple name, with a friendly bar, a busy grill, and a straightforward menu. The food is resolutely Italian, accompanied by a wine list that features selections from Italy and the United States."

(Condé Nast Traveller 2005 - HOT TABLES)

And the winner winner is...

We are delighted to announce the winner of 'The CCD News' Winter 2009 competition.

Congratulations to **Kelly Edworthy of the British Cardiovascular Society** who won a beautiful set of Waterford Crystal glasses and a €100 gift voucher from Kilkenny!

< See across for details of our latest competition.

Upcoming Events for The CCD

St Patrick's Day Lunch Reception

The Lanesborough Hotel, London, 17 March

Familiarisation Visit

UK Corporate Clients – 24/25 March

Familiarisation Visit

UK Association Clients – 21/22 April



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