



FOSS4G 2009 presented by OSGeo
Sydney, Australia

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary

Letters of Support

1. Local Organisation

1.1	OSGeo in Australia and New Zealand	2
1.2	Proposed Organising Committee	4
1.3	Proposed Dates	6
1.4	Proposed Theme	7
1.5	Conference Support	9
1.6	Potential Sponsors	11
1.7	Professional Conference Organiser	12
1.8	Draft Budget	12

2. Conference Facilities and Infrastructure

2.1	The University of New South Wales	14
2.2	Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre	17
2.3	LISAsoft Sydney Office	19
2.4	Sydney Accommodation	20
2.5	Special Event Venues	22

3. International Conference City

3.1	International Significance	24
3.2	Sydney's Experience and Accolades	26
3.3	Sydney Maximises Delegates	27
3.4	Asia Pacific City	29

3.5	Affordability	30
3.6	Sydney Conference Card	31
3.7	Great Climate	32
3.8	Lifestyle	32
3.9	Delegate Safety	33
3.10	Green City	34
4.	Travel and Access	
4.1	International Access	36
4.2	Sydney International Airport	38
4.3	Visas	39
4.4	Sydney Transport	40
4.5	Transport Pass	41
5.	Pre and Post Conference Touring	
5.1	Touring options around Sydney	43
5.2	NSW and Australia	47
5.2.1	Touring options beyond Sydney	48
5.2.2	Touring options around Australia	49
Appendices		
1.	Proposal from the University of New South Wales	
2.	Additional Accommodation Options	
3.	Additional Conference Support	
4.	Travel and Visitor Information	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The OSGeo Aust-NZ Chapter welcomes the opportunity to bid for FOSS4G in 2009. Our bid has the **full support** of the Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau and its partners the New South Wales Government; the City of Sydney; and the city's business tourism industry.
- Our conference theme is “**User Driven FOSS4G**”, aiming to increase the uptake of GeoFOSS by focusing on users and the user experience. The **government sector will be specifically targeted** within the conference program. Our committee has many government representatives who will facilitate promotion.
- Australia and New Zealand have a history of participation in OSGeo at a project level and presentations at past conferences. FOSS4G in Australia will increase the **global reach** and the understanding of the organisation and its mission. With Sydney as the host city for FOSS4G 2009 will assist in the promotion of OSGeo as the **community hub for GeoFOSS practitioners within Australia and the Asia Pacific region**.
- Our bid has triggered the **excitement and support** of the broader Open Source community in Australia. Jeff and Pia Waugh, lead organisers of the highly successful linux.conf.au 2007 conference, also held at the University of New South Wales, are on our bid committee. Linux Australia, Open Source Industry Australia and the Sydney Linux Users Group will endorse and assist the event, providing robust network infrastructure from linux.conf.au, evangelism of the conference to sponsors and potential delegates, and volunteers to help during the event.
- A professional conference organizer is being used to ensure a professional experience.
- Sydney venues are located within or close to the central business district, with accommodation available to suit all tastes and budgets. The proposed venue for FOSS4G 2009 is the University of New South Wales, which can provide access to high speed connections and is capable of accommodating specialised workshops.
- Sydney, one of the world's most highly awarded cities, is the **gateway to Australia and is accessible to all delegates** with over 40 passenger airlines flying into Sydney International Airport and over 500 flights arriving per week. To the Asia Pacific region alone, Sydney has 248 departures weekly.¹ This makes Sydney a highly accessible location for delegates travelling from Asia.
- Sydney can be reached very easily from Indonesia and Malaysia, two South-East Asian countries that have official, governmental Open Source initiatives (<http://www.igos.web.id/>,

¹ Sydney International Airport, 2007

<http://opensource.mampu.gov.my/>) and are using a number of OSGeo projects for their SDI initiatives. FOSS4G 2009 in Sydney could help foster and support these activities.

- **Sydney is an extremely cost-effective city.** A stay in Sydney costs significantly less than an average stay in Washington, London, Seoul or Singapore.
- Sydney and Australia's high desirability as a destination, will assist in **attracting more delegates** to the conference. In many cases Sydney draws larger attendance levels than previously staged conferences.
- The **internationally competitive rates and excellent range of accommodation** in Sydney provide a variety of choices to suit all delegates. The entire Sydney region has over 32,500 hotel, motel rooms and serviced apartments. The average cost of a night's stay in a Sydney hotel is approximately \$AUD142 per room.²
- Sydney has leisure opportunities to satisfy and delight everyone. Many wonderful pre and post touring destinations are less than three hours flight or drive from Sydney.
- **We believe Sydney will exceed all expectations for a memorable Conference and look forward to the opportunity to welcome FOSS4G to Sydney, Australia in 2009.**

² Australian Bureau of Statistics, Tourism Data, June 2007.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Australian Government
Office of Spatial Data Management

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr. McKenna,

I am aware of Sydney's bid to host the FOSS4G conference for 2009. This conference has a very high profile in the spatial community and I believe that if held in Sydney it will provide a significant benefit to the OSGeo community in the Asia Pacific region. Such a prestigious conference will also assist to motivate the OSGeo community and also assist in promoting OSGeo capabilities to a broad audience.

Many government agencies that I deal with are either investigating or implementing some open source spatial capabilities. It is early days for some agencies in this area, while other organisations have focussed on open source as their primary software environment. A conference of FOSS4G's stature will provide a level of comfort for those just commencing in this area and will also demonstrate the leading edge capabilities that this community is creating to those already working in the open source space.

The Australian Government is steadily working towards spatial enablement and I believe that the OSGeo community can and should play a major role in this process. The open source GeoNetwork application used for the management of spatial metadata has now been adopted by the Australian Government and the Australian New Zealand Land Information Council (ANZLIC) as well as some other communities of interest.

FOSS4G can make an important contribution to the process of spatially enabling government. Additionally, I strongly believe that holding this conference in Sydney will add to the outcomes and objectives of the OSGeo community. Sydney has a wonderful reputation for staging major events and its successes in recent years are a true reflection of its international standing.

I hope that you are able to see the benefits in making Sydney the home for FOSS4G in 2009 and look forward to attending.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Searle', written in a cursive style.

Ben Searle
General Manager
Australian Government Office of Spatial Data Management

16 November 2007

January 9th, 2008

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr McKenna,

Linux Australia support for FOSS4G Sydney conference

I am very pleased to present this letter of support on behalf of Linux Australia for Sydney's bid to host the FOSS4G Sydney conference.

As you may already be aware Australia has a very active Free / Open Source Software community, boasting one of the highest rates of FOSS contributors per capita in the world. It is already seen as a mecca of Open Source development in general, and hosting the FOSS4G conference in Sydney would be an ideal opportunity to raise awareness of the use of FOSS in the geospatial community in particular.

Sydney is a beautiful city and has a highly developed conferencing and technological infrastructure will make for a successful meeting of FOSS4G, as well as offering an inspiring and exciting range of unique social events and touring options. Our annual roving Linux conference, linux.conf.au, took place in Sydney last year for the first time since 2001 and we found it to be an excellent location in terms of facilities and easy accessibility for delegates from around the world.

Linux Australia looks forward to welcoming members of the open source spatial community to Sydney, Australia in 2009.

Kind regards,

Jonathan Oxe
President
Linux Australia Inc



Australia's Academic and Research Network

11 January 2008

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr. McKenna,

It is with great pleasure that I present a letter in support of Sydney's bid to host the FOSS4G conference in Sydney for 2009, on behalf of AARNet Pty Ltd.

AARNet, <http://www.aarnet.edu.au>, operates the Australia's Academic and Research Network and provides high-capacity leading-edge Internet services for the tertiary education and research sector communities and their research partners. AARNet serves over one million end users who access the network through local area networks at member institutions.

AARNet regularly provides network access to Open Source conferences and will provide this access to the FOSS4G 2009 conference at no cost, in return for inclusion in sponsorship and marketing material.

AARNet looks forward to welcoming and supporting participants in the FOSS4G conference in Sydney in 2009.

Yours sincerely,

Mr Rob Ewin,
Director of Customer Relations,
AARNet Pty Ltd

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada



Dear Mr. McKenna,

I'm excited to submit a letter in support of the Sydney bid to host the FOSS4G conference in 2009 on behalf of One Track Mind.

While we're located across the Tasman Sea in New Zealand, it would be an exciting opportunity for all New Zealand geospatial companies and open source contributors to be so close to the action.

A number of open source geospatial efforts are active in both countries, including research groups at several universities and a number of contributors to OSGeo projects.

FOSS4G will be a fantastic opportunity to showcase research work, lift the profile of FOSSG in the wider industry and government circles, as well as bring together the Asia Pacific chapters of OSGeo for the first time.

The success of linux.conf.au which has been hosted in Australia and New Zealand for the past 8 years is testament to how well Australasia appeals as a conference venue. Sydney is a beautiful city, the people are hospitable and friendly, and there are plenty of options for socialising and exploring in the down-time.

One Track Mind looks forward to welcoming the FOSS4G conference and the open source geospatial community to Sydney in 2009.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Robert Coup".

Robert Coup
Chief Technology Officer
One Track Mind Ltd.



December 11, 2007

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr McKenna:

It is with great pleasure that I present a letter in support of Sydney's bid to host the FOSS4G conference in Sydney for 2009 on behalf of Geographic Business Solutions Ltd (GBS), our staff and the Directors.

GBS is a GIS consulting company based in Auckland, New Zealand. We have traditionally been focused on ESRI solutions, but are undertaking more and more Open Source project work as it becomes more widely understood and adopted in our region.

The use of GIS Open Source technology is still in its infancy amongst the traditional GIS community in NZ. GBS are actively seeking opportunities to promote and foster the use of FOSS4G within our local user community.

We had a staff member attend FOSS4G 2007 in Canada and we were very impressed with the event. We gained a number of contacts and a lot of valuable knowledge from the conference. It is our intention to have at least one delegate at the 2008 event in South Africa. We would be delighted to be able to have a greater presence at an event in our region in 2009.

Enabling Sydney to host this event will allow a greater number of New Zealand participants and further enhance the profile of FOSS4G solutions in this region. There are some good examples of the use of FOSS4G in New Zealand and having a conference in our region would allow these projects to be more easily show cased to the international FOSS4G community. In addition, Sydney, while not as fantastic as Auckland, is certainly a great place to hold such an event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Harley Prowse', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Harley Prowse
Company Director

DATE: Nov.,13th,2007

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr. McKenna,

I'm delighted to present this letter of support on behalf of the China OSGeo Chapter for the Aust-NZ chapters bid to host the FOSS4G Sydney conference.

The China chapter of OSGeo is dedicated to promoting the use and development of OSGeo projects in China. Holding the FOSS4G conference in the Asia-Pacific region would provide a valuable opportunity to raise the profile of OSGeo in China.

Sydney is a vibrant and dynamic multicultural city. It is readily accessible from China and would provide an excellent venue for a successful FOSS4G conference in the Asia-Pacific region.

The China OSGeo Chapter looks forward to participating at FOSS4G in Sydney, Australia in 2009.

Yours sincerely,
Prof. Rongguo Chen
VP of OSGeo & Representative of China OSGeo Chapter
State Key Laboratory of Resources & Environmental Information System
Institute of Geographical Sciences and Natural Resources Research
Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Email: chenrg@lreis.ac.cn, chenrg@igsnrr.ac.cn
Tel: (86-10)64888963
Fax: (86-10)64889630

November 19th 2007

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr. McKenna,

I'm delighted to present this letter of support on behalf of the Japan OSGeo Chapter for the Aust-NZ chapters bid to host the FOSS4G Sydney conference.

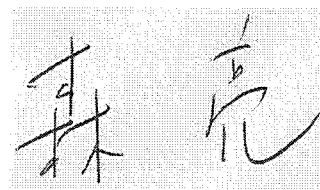
Holding the FOSS4G conference in the Asia-Pacific region would provide a valuable way of building and strengthening ties in the local open source geospatial communities. Both Japan and Australia have active development programs in the wider South East Asian region and this would be an excellent opportunity to leverage existing programs for the promotion of OSGeo and related projects. This would be a continuation of the theme of FOSS4G2008 "Open Source GIS: an option for Developing Nations".

Sydney is a vibrant and dynamic city, and would provide an excellent venue for a successful FOSS4G conference, as well as offering a unique and exciting destination for recreational activities.

The Japan OSGeo Chapter looks forward to participating at FOSS4G in Sydney, Australia in 2009.

Yours sincerely,

Toru Mori
Representative of OSGeo Japan Chapter

A rectangular stamp containing a handwritten signature in black ink. The signature consists of two characters, '森' (Mori) and '亮' (Ryou), written in a cursive style.



THE LORD MAYOR OF SYDNEY
CLOVER MOORE MP

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

FOSS4G (Free and Open Space Geospatial) Conference - 2009

Dear Mr McKenna

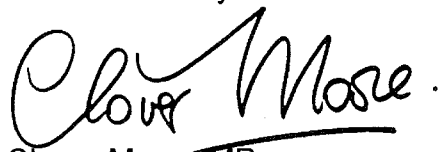
On behalf of the City of Sydney, I am pleased to support the bid to host the *FOSS4G (Free and Open Space Geospatial) Conference* in 2009.

Sydney is recognised as one of the world's most exciting cities, renowned for its natural beauty and the multitude of pursuits available to visitors and residents alike. The city's magnificent harbour setting, its cultural life, plentiful shopping, restaurants, cafes, fresh foods and friendly people make the Sydney experience a memorable one indeed. As Host City for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in the year 2000, we welcomed the citizens of the world to our glorious city.

As well, Sydney is internationally recognised as one of the world's top destinations. Sydney is equipped with all the necessary facilities and services to ensure a most successful visit for the delegates to the Conference.

We feel certain that warm recollections of our city will entice those involved in the Conference to return to Sydney on many occasions.

Yours Sincerely


Clover Moore MP



Department of State and
Regional Development

First for Business

Level 47, MLC Centre
19 Martin Place, Sydney NSW 2000
GPO Box 5477
Sydney NSW 2001 Australia
T: +61 2 9338 6600
F: +61 2 9338 6860
TTY: 1800 777 022

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

30 October 2007

Dear Mr McKenna

It is my pleasure to write on behalf of the New South Wales Department of State and Regional Development to register this Agency's strong support for Sydney's bid to host the FOSS4G (Free and Open Space Geospatial) Conference in 2009.

The Department is the New South Wales Government's principal economic development agency, with a responsibility to work with business to maximise industry, investment and employment growth in the State. We recognise the importance and value of New South Wales hosting prestigious international conferences and events, such as the FOSS4G (Free and Open Space Geospatial) Conference.

New South Wales leads Australia in the open source space. The New South Wales government is supporting, through the Department of State and Regional Development, an open source industry cluster backed by leading industry players such as IBM and Fujitsu. It is expected that the cluster would have approximately 300 companies participating within the first year of its launch which is scheduled for February 2008. New South Wales also has strong research strength in geospatial systems especially built on open source software. The New South Wales government works closely with three world class research centres that have dedicated research programs in geospatial systems: Corporative Research Centre for Spatial Information Systems, National ICT Australia – Australia's leading research centre for ICT, and CSIRO's ICT Centre.

Sydney has long enjoyed a reputation as an international business centre, an exciting tourist destination and a popular location for major conferences, meetings and exhibitions, and offers delegates an unrivalled opportunity to meet with colleagues in a stimulating, cosmopolitan environment. Sydney's reputation was enhanced by the very successful staging of the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games, the Rugby World Cup 2003, as well as the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Forum (APEC) in 2007 and the city can boast a range of hotel accommodation, conference and exhibition facilities, transport infrastructure, and visitor amenities that are comparable with those found in any city in the world. In September 2007, Sydney was awarded the US Conde Nast Traveler Readers' Choice for the number one city in the world for the twelfth time.

I have no doubt that Sydney's tourism appeal, together with the investment that has been injected into key visitor infrastructure, will more than meet the needs and expectations of your international visitors, and help to maximise delegate attendance at the Conference. The Department of State and Regional Development would welcome a decision to stage the FOSS4G (Free and Open Space Geospatial) Conference in Sydney in 2009.

Yours sincerely

Michael O'Sullivan
Executive Director, Industry



➤ www.business.nsw.gov.au

NSW Offices

Albury • Armidale • Broken Hill • Coffs Harbour
Dubbo • Kariang • Goulburn • Grafton
Lismore • Newcastle • Nowra • Orange
Parramatta • Port Macquarie • Sydney • Tamworth
Tweed Heads • Wagga Wagga • Wollongong



Department of Sustainability and Environment

8 Nicholson Street
PO Box 500 East Melbourne
Victoria 3002 Australia
Telephone: (03) 9637 8000
Facsimile: (03) 9637 8100
ABN 90 719 052 204
DX 210098

22 October 2007

Mr Jeff McKenna

OSGeo VP Conference
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Avenue
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
CANADA

Dear Mr McKenna

On behalf of the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment, I would like to support Sydney's bid to host the Free and Open Source Software for Geospatial (FOSS4G) Conference in 2009.

Spatial information and spatial technologies are playing an increasingly important role in our responses to climate change, environmental sustainability and, more broadly, the business of government and industry.

The importance of spatial information drives our focus on better spatial technology, and Open Source software is emerging as a key strategic enabler for spatial technology. Consequently we consider conferences such as FOSS4G to be of real benefits to our business. Australia has a vibrant and rapidly growing spatial information industry which will both leverage and support FOSS4G, ensuring its success while benefiting from it.

Sydney is of course, a beautiful venue with the comprehensive support infrastructure necessary to make such an event successful and effective for all participants.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Thompson

Director Spatial Information Infrastructure
Information & Business Technology

11 October 2007

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr. McKenna,

On behalf of the members and supporters of the Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB), I am delighted to present Sydney's bid to host FOSS4G 2009.

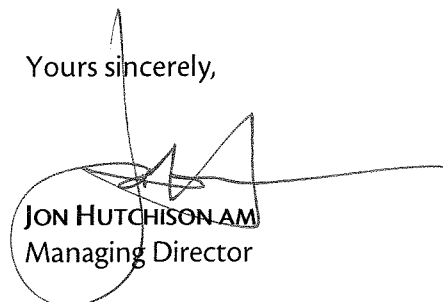
Sydney is a popular and well regarded conference destination. It enjoys an impressive record of successful events held, and has an ever-expanding inventory of confirmed future meetings and events. The attraction of the city, its capacity and capabilities have been highlighted by its successful hosting of the 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

These achievements stem from Sydney's rare blend of attributes that are integral to the success of any event. Sydney boasts enviable infrastructure, with world class facilities and an extensive range of accommodation, all served by a superb transport network.

Settings are important for any conference, so Sydney's spectacular location on one of the world's most beautiful harbours is sure to please. Attractions such as the Sydney Harbour Bridge, the Sydney Opera House and Bondi Beach are just a few of the activities delegates can visit and enjoy in Sydney, while its nearby regional centres offer a wealth of unique activities, sights and natural beauty. Our city is renowned also for its cosmopolitan vibe, its multicultural makeup and its friendly people, all factors that ensure that wherever your delegates come from they feel welcome.

With Sydney's selection as host city for FOSS4G you can be assured that your conference will be successful and memorable. We very much value the opportunity to bid and look forward to welcoming you to Sydney in 2009.

Yours sincerely,



JON HUTCHISON AM
Managing Director



Australian Government



Tourism Australia

18 October 2007

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa, ON K1Y 1P4
Canada

Dear Mr McKenna,

RE: Free & Open Space Geospatial Conference

It gives me great pleasure to support the city of Sydney with their bid to hold the Free & Open Space Geospatial Conference in 2009.

Sydney is a magnificent city in which to hold this important and prestigious international convention. Conference venues, exhibition venues and services are excellent with a wide range of quality accommodation, entertainment, attractions and facilities in the city to suit all interests and tastes.

As well as the support mechanisms that contribute to a successful meeting, Sydney can offer delegates an experience of the wonderful lifestyle we enjoy in Australia. Sydney is a colourful, sophisticated city with a youthful, bright and forward looking attitude, with everything to make your convention an outstanding success.

Sydney is an ideal destination for the Free & Open Space Geospatial Conference. The people of Sydney and Australia look forward to offering a warm welcome to your delegates and their partners in 2009.

Yours faithfully,



Geoff Buckley
MANAGING DIRECTOR

Darling Park Tower 2 Level 18 201 Sussex Street NSW Australia 2000
GPO Box 2721 Sydney NSW 1006
Telephone +61 2 9360 1111 Facsimile +61 2 9331 6469
tourism.australia.com

AUCKLAND BANGKOK CANBERRA FRANKFURT HONG KONG KUALA LUMPUR LONDON LOS ANGELES SEOUL SHANGHAI SINGAPORE SYDNEY TAIPEI TOKYO



19 October 2007

Mr Jeff McKenna
OSGeo VP Conferences
Suite 200
30 Rosemount Ave
Ottawa ON K1Y 1P4
CANADA

Dear Mr McKenna,

I understand that you are currently considering Sydney to host the **FOSS4G (Free and Open Space Geospatial) Conference** in 2009.

Qantas supports Sydney's bid to host this event and to demonstrate this, I have outlined below the level of support we would be pleased to provide, should Sydney be successful.

Domestic Delegate Support

Qantas is pleased to offer you a dedicated webpage for your conference. The webpage offers 24 hour online access for you and your delegates offering competitive airfares (internet fares), flight schedules and information on your event. Conference organisers who have a website can link to the Qantas website, making it possible for individual delegates to book their own travel and receive confirmation simply and easily. Conference organisers also have the opportunity to receive a pre & post travel report by contacting Qantas Group Travel. Qantas will provide one complimentary domestic airfare for every fifty airfares sold to assist with keynote speaker travel (Conditions Apply).

International Delegates

Specially negotiated airfares for international delegates. These airfares will be provided in each country by Qantas' network of travel partners.

To further assist the selection process I have set out below some relevant information regarding Qantas Airlines.

Qantas offers approximately 560 international services every week to 81 destinations in 40 countries across Europe, North America, South America, South Africa and the Asia-Pacific region. Within Australia the airline operates more than 5,000 domestic flights a week, serving 60 city and regional destinations across the country. For more information please visit qantas.com.

Qantas is a member of the airline alliance **oneworld**. **oneworld** comprises eight of the world's leading airlines - Qantas, Aer Lingus, American Airlines, British Airways, Cathay Pacific, Finnair, Iberia and LanChile - and provides services to 576 destinations in 134 countries.

Qantas looks forward to the opportunity of providing travel assistance to your delegates should the conference be held in Sydney.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Pogmore
MANAGER TOURISM DEVELOPMENT

SECTION ONE

LOCAL ORGANISATION

1.1 OSGEO IN AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND

Australian Open Source involvement is high per capita, with notable contributions from local OSGeo members Cameron Shorter, founder of Mapbuilder and vocal participant in OSGeo Incubation and Discussion lists; Rob Atkinson on the Project Steering Committee of Geoserver; Chris Tweedie, GIS Blogger, Tim Bowden, colourful presenter at past OSGeo conferences, Shoaib Burq, presenting at various Open Source, Government and Geospatial conferences.

Our bid is endorsed by Linux Australia, Open Source Industry Australia and the Sydney Linux Users Group. Open Source has a strong following in Australia, with many Australians holding prominent positions in Open Source projects. As per the highly successful <http://linux.conf.au> 2007 conference in Sydney, also held at the University of New South Wales, FOSS4G will use Linux Australia's network infrastructure experience and hardware, and the same network pipe from AARNET. Jeff and Pia Waugh of Waugh Partners are participating on the bid committee, and will use their high profile in the local and global Open Source community to attract delegates to the FOSS4G conference in Sydney.

AARNET, <http://www.aarnet.edu.au>, will provide a free, fat data pipe to the internet in return for inclusion in sponsorship and marketing material. AARNET operates the Australia's Academic and Research Network and provides high-capacity leading-edge Internet services for the tertiary education and research sector communities and their research partners. AARNet serves over one million end users who access the network through local area networks at member institutions.

FOSS4G 2009 is backed by the OSGeo Australian/New Zealand local chapter.

The Australia/New Zealand chapter of OSGeo has grown from a strong base of hobbyists, industry, and government sponsors.

Soon to be formally incorporated, the chapter's goals reflect OSGeo's goals of promoting Open Source Geospatial Software, with an emphasis on Outreach within our region. We have already manned booths and presented at a number of Australian conferences, and plan to continue this activity.

OSGeo Representation at Australian conferences includes:

- Open Source Developer's Conference, Melbourne, 6 December 2006. Workshop.
- linux.conf.au, Sydney, January 2007. Presentation and booth.
- Spatial Sciences Institute International Biennial Conference 2007, Hobart, May 2007. Booth.
- GITA 2007 Geospatial Infrastructure Solutions Conference, Brisbane, Australia, August 2007. Presentation and booth.



- Victorian Department for Primary Industries Spatial Sciences Workshop, September 2007. Presentation.
- WALIS , March 2008. Presentations, workshop and booth.

Sections of the Australian government have started engagement of Open Source Geospatial Software within their Spatial Data infrastructure and there is strong interest to pursue this further. A focus of the Sydney FOSS4G 2009 will be engaging governments, in particular, government data custodians.

As lead agency, Landgate is responsible for deploying the \$50 million Spatial Data Infrastructure known as the Shared Land Information Platform (SLIP) in Western Australia. Landgate is committed to Open Standards using Open Source for much of its infrastructure

Ben Searle, the General Manager of the Australian Government's Office for Spatial Data Management, has stated that they are looking for a standards compliant spatial technology stack that can be given away to Government agencies and partners within the region and that Open Source geospatial tools address this requirement.

Australian government has positive Open Source policy guidelines at a national level which explain to Government purchasers how to assess Open Source and compare with Proprietary alternatives.

Queensland University of Technology, in conjunction with Queensland government and the Australian Corporate Research Centre for Spatial Information (CRC-SI) have been doing great research into open licensing of government data. They are suggesting that 80% of government data can be moved to a Creative Commons license, and are researching extensions to the Creative Commons which address the remaining 20% of data.

Australian Open Source involvement is high per capita, with notable contributions from local OSGeo members Cameron Shorter, founder of Mapbuilder and vocal participant in OSGeo Incubation and Discussion lists; Rob Atkinson on the Project Steering Committee of Geoserver; Chris Tweedie, GIS Blogger, and Tim Bowden, colourful presenter at past OSGeo conferences.

1.2 PROPOSED LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE

The Australian local OSGeo chapter has a depth of membership, from Geospatial Government Agencies using open source, to Industry Software Developers, to Hackers and Hobbyists – with many members having a foot in a few camps.

Cameron Shorter

Geospatial Systems Architect at LISAssoft, contributor to many Geospatial Open Source projects, including founding Mapbuilder, vocal on many OSGeo email lists, and well connected to OGC and Australian Geospatial Industry.

Tim Bowden

Independent spatial systems consultant, specialising in open source solutions. He is a dynamic and staunch open source advocate who is actively involved with OSGeo locally and internationally.

Chris Tweedie

Landgate Geospatial Specialist with project experience amongst local, state and commonwealth government agencies. Strong believer in open standards and the role OSGEO software plays in the industry.

Ben Searle

Ben Searle has almost 30 years experience in the spatial community. He has worked within the marine community at both national and international levels for almost 23 years, contributing to data management components of a range of international and global programs including the Global Ocean Observing Program (GOOS) and was Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission's International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE) program for 5 years, working with some 85 member countries in collaborative programs to share oceanographic data and information. Ben played a lead role in the establishment of the MarineXML program and has subsequently worked in the land information community for the Australian Capital Territory Government and more recently for the Australian government with responsibilities for the National Mapping and Information Group within Geoscience Australia and as General Manager of the Office of Spatial Data Management. Ben also sits on the Victorian Spatial Council and is a member of the Board of Directors of PSMA Australia Ltd.

Bruce Bannerman

Bruce Bannerman is a spatial information specialist with 27 years experience in the spatial industry. He has extensive experience in a wide variety of disciplines, including: management, IT development and administration, GIS, remote sensing, surveying and cartography. This experience has been gained in both Government and in the Private Sector in most states of Australia and also in Papua New Guinea. He is currently working as an IT Solutions Architect with the Department of Primary Industries in Melbourne, Victoria.

Bruce is an advocate of the use of both Open Source software and of Open Standards with the aim of opening up access to spatial information for greater use, particularly in the application of 'enterprise' decision support solutions.

Bruce has many contacts in the government spatial sector and will use these contacts to help promote the conference.

Jeff Waugh

By day, Jeff Waugh is a Principal Consultant with Waugh Partners, an Australian boutique consultancy specialising in Open Source strategy, industry development and research.

By night, he is an active participant in the GNOME project, promotes Software Freedom in beautiful, tiny parcels with the GNOME Mobile initiative, and plots the Open Source blogging explosion with Planet.

Waugh is an active member of the Free Software community, holding positions such as Chairman of the Annodex Foundation (2006), Director of the GNOME Foundation Board (2003-2004, 2006-present), GNOME Release Manager (2001-2005), committee member (2000-2001) and president (2002-2003) of the Sydney Linux Users' Group, and member of the linux.conf.au 2001 and 2007 organising teams.

He was one of the founding employees of Canonical, engaged in Ubuntu business and community development during its extraordinary rise (2004-2006). In 2005, Waugh won the Google/O'Reilly Open Source award for Best Evangelist, which recognised his work on GNOME and Ubuntu.

Pia Waugh

Pia Waugh is a consultant at Waugh Partners in Sydney, Australia. She had worked as a Research Coordinator for the Australian Service for Knowledge on Open Source Software (ASK-OSS), the Open Source strategist for a large systems integrator and still works to develop the Australian FOSS industry and improve Government policies towards FOSS. She has been working with Free



& Open Source Software (FOSS) such as Linux for about 8 years. She has seen FOSS deliver not only economic benefits to countries and business all around the world, but significant social and environmental benefits to communities everywhere.

Pia is a community leader both in Australia and internationally as Vice President of Linux Australia and President of Software Freedom International. She was also on the linux.conf.au 2007 organising team. She has spoken at Software Libre in Brazil, FOSS events in China, the Open Source World Conferences in Spain, the World Summit of Information Society (United Nations) in Switzerland, linux.conf.au in New Zealand and linux.conf.au, education au, Making Links, various TechGirls events and many more in Australia! She is passionate about improving the world by getting great technologies to people who need them, and creating a well-connected global society where anyone can play and succeed.

Shoaib Burq

Shoaib Burq's been working with open source geospatial tools & technologies since 2003. He has worked on a number of geospatial projects ranging from off-shore surveying to web-based GIS software development. He currently works as a Data Manager for Geoscience Australia's Petroleum and Marine Division where he is also on the GeoNetwork technical committee.

He's been actively promoting open source GIS in Australia having given several seminars on the topic of "OGC and web services" at Geoscience Australia. In 2006 he gave a full day tutorial on the topic of "open source Python mapping tools" at the Open Source Developers Conference. He's also contributed patches to the PostGIS development team. He also presented at FOSS4G 2006 on the use of OSGIS within government.

Last year in collaboration with Nomad Labs he produced a 40 page short-cut titled "Rails GIS Hacks" which he presented at the O'Reilly RailsConf Europe. He's also an invited speaker at the O'Reilly Where 2.0 Conference in 2008 on the topic of the GeoStack in the Ruby/Rails world.

He has a BE. Geomatics Engineering and BS. Computer Science from the University of Melbourne. In addition to his contacts within Geoscience Australia he also maintains a strong relationship with faculty at Department of Geomatics at the University of Melbourne.

1.3 PROPOSED DATES

The proposed dates for the Sydney FOSS4G 2009 are **Monday 16 – Friday 20 November 2009**. These days have been booked with the University of New South Wales venue.



1.4 PROPOSED THEME

Our bid will make use of every opportunity to promote Open Source Geospatial education. In this regard, we have the support of the Department of Geomatics, University of Melbourne, and a number of Government departments wishing to promote Open Source into our region.

“User Driven FOSS4G” will be the theme for 2009; government sectors, utilities, consumer markets, non-government organizations, open data consumers.

We will follow the successful marketing strategy from FOSS4G2007, with targeted marketing based upon region.

- International open source and geospatial developers and users.
- Regional geospatial users.
- Local broad market.

In Open Source spirit, we plan to develop all but financial details openly. We are doing this because:

- Openness is a core value of Open Source.
- We believe openness is the most effective way to build a groundswell movement.

We conservatively expect to attract 750 attendees. Data collected by the Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau and Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre has shown that in contrast to the perception of distance from the rest of the World, Sydney often attracts more delegates than previous and following conferences – please refer to the section – ‘Sydney Maximises Delegates’ for further information.

Australia is a unique, economical and easily accessible destination via a number of direct, regular flights landing within 15 minutes drive of the central business district of Sydney. Sydney is a safe, politically stable destination with a professional, hassle free conferencing structure in place. This makes Sydney a highly appealing destination for both conferencing and holidays, and for many the opportunity to attend the international conference will provide the additional motivation to enact Australian travel plans.

We expect a decrease in attendance from North America and slight decrease from Europe compared to 2007 in Vancouver. However, this will be made up by a large increase in attendance from Australia and New Zealand, and slight increase from the rest of the Asia Pacific region. Please see adjacent table for 2007 – 2009 actual and estimated attendance.

The Spatial Sciences Conference 2007 attracted 560 delegates, primarily from the Government sector. These delegates will also be interested in an Open Source conference. Our theme of focusing on the User will specifically target the Government sector, including threads specifically of interest to the Government attendees.

The Linux Australia conference attracted 820 delegates from around Australia and we expect to attract at least 10% of the participants from this group.

We will follow the successful marketing strategy from FOSS4G2007, with targeted marketing based upon region.

ESTIMATED DELEGATE ATTENDANCE		
	FOSS4G2007 Attendance	FOSS4G2009 Estimates
Location	Number	Number
Canada	253	50
USA	265	140
Mexico	3	1
Europe	139	120
Australia	4	350
China	3	5
Fiji	2	3
Indonesia	3	15
Japan	11	20
Korea	11	20
New Zealand	3	30
Taiwan	1	3
Thailand	1	3
Vietnam	1	5
South America	10	7
Africa	7	7
Near East	4	4
Total	721	782

- International open source and geospatial developers and users.
- Regional geospatial users.
- Local broad market.

Reference:

http://wiki.osgeo.org/index.php/FOSS4G2007_Lessons_Learned#Breakdown_by_Country

1.5 CONFERENCE SUPPORT

Key supporters of FOSS4G 2009 will include:

LISASOFT

<http://lisoftware.com>

LISAsoft is a Solutions builder with a strong emphasis on geospatial open standards and open source. The Geospatial division of LISAsoft employs approximately 50 developers. The offices of LISAsoft, shown in the adjacent pictures, will house the FOSS4G 2009 code sprint sessions.

WAUGH PARTNERS

<http://waughpartners.com.au>

Jeff and Pia Waugh in cooperation with Linux Australia successfully staged the 2007 Annual Australian Linux Conference with 900 people in Sydney. Jeff and Pia bring their previous conference experience, and their Linux Australia contacts will provide robust network infrastructure and access.

GEOSCIENCE AUSTRALIA

Given the nature of their business, the Geoscience communities have had a history of contributing and using open source software starting perhaps from the advent of GRASS. Geoscience Australia (GA) is no different in this regard. FOSS4G is being used in a number of areas both in-house and for external stakeholders within GA.

Products

Some of the most common products used are:

- UMN MapServer and associated libraries e.g. GDAL/OGR, GD, etc for use in data access and OGC web services creation
- Geoserver for use in data access and publishing OGC web services
- Python is used in scientific computing and with ArcGIS
- MBSystem from Columbia University is used for multibeam data processing

- GMT is use for production of maps and manipulating spatial data
- SeiSee for Seismic data processing
- GeoNetwork: "Australian Government agencies consider GeoNetwork as a suitable tool to facilitate implementation of the ANZLIC Metadata Profile. A program for future development is currently being prepared and will be made available soon." Source: <http://www.osdm.gov.au/Metadata/GeoNetwork/Committees/default.aspx>

Applications

A number of publicly available data sources from GA have been built using open source software. Examples include:

- Map Connect: <http://www.ga.gov.au/mapconnect/wms.jsp>
- Christmas Island Online GIS: <http://www.ga.gov.au/map/christmas/acknowledge.html>
- Gawler Craton Mineral Promotion: Maps and Online GIS
http://www.ga.gov.au/minerals/research/regional/gawler/gaw_mapgis.jsp
- Australian Geological Provinces Database: <http://www.ga.gov.au/oracle/provinces>
- Map of Australia's Accredited Renewable Energy Sites: <http://www.ga.gov.au/map/orer/>
- Access to complex 3D models using VRML <http://www.ga.gov.au/map/web3d/>

Open Standards

GA has also been actively involved in the development of open standards such as GeoSciML, with contributions towards international GeoSciML testbed:

<http://www.ga.gov.au/news/archive/2006/nov/#see>;

<http://www.ga.gov.au/ausgeonews/ausgeonews200706/inbrief.jsp#inbrief3>

Modeling

GA has also collaboratively been developing open source software for Geoscientific modeling. An example of this is ANUGA: a software implementation of a hydrodynamic model which is specifically designed to model wetting and drying processes. ANUGA is a joint development project between Geoscience Australia (GA) and the Australian National University (ANU).

<http://sourceforge.net/projects/anuga>;

http://www.ga.gov.au/image_cache/GA7981.pdf;



http://www.ga.gov.au/image_cache/GA5060.pdf

LANDGATE AND SHARED LAND INFORMATION PLATFORM (SLIP)

<http://www.landgate.wa.gov.au>

Landgate is the Statutory Authority responsible for Western Australia's land and property information and since 2004, it has been a lead agency in developing a multi-million dollar cross government geospatial data sharing project known as the Shared Land Information Platform (SLIP).

Built around the OGC SDI concept, SLIP utilises OSGEO software extensively on the backend including PostGIS, Geoserver and Mapserver deployed on Red Hat Enterprise Linux servers.

The exhaustive feature list, low start-up cost, vendor interoperability, standards compliance and active development and user communities were all compelling business reasons for choosing OSGEO projects over commercial solutions in particular niche areas.

Currently scheduled for March '08 public release, the current usage statistics speak for themselves with approximately 1000 registered users, and 17 State, Regional & Local Government agencies providing 130 public datasets including 3TB of aerial photography, plus a range of restricted datasets that are available to specific focus areas and as chargeable services.

Many SLIP client demonstrations further utilise OSGEO client solutions such as UDig, OpenLayers, Mapguide, QGIS, GvSIG and is a popular route for SLIP consumers to look into when the consumption of OGC standards is extremely important.

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Half our committee members work in government agencies and we expect this number will increase as the conference gets closer. These members are key to evangelizing OSGeo and attracting delegates from a major OSGeo user base.

1.6 POTENTIAL SPONSORS

- Google Earth
 - Google Earth has a major development center in Sydney and have offered speakers for the event
- Geoscience Australia
- Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)



- Landgate
- General Open Source sponsors attracted by Linux Australia
- ESRI
- Autodesk
- Australian Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information (CRCSI)
- Refrations
- DM Solutions
- Safe

1.7 PROFESSIONAL CONFERENCE ORGANISER

The Conference will be run and managed by a Professional Conference Organiser (PCO). The PCO will answer to a local OSGeo representative, assigned by OSGeo. The OSGeo representative will seek guidance from members of OSGeo Australia/New Zealand.

1.8 DRAFT BUDGET

A draft budget has been prepared by International Conference & Events (ICE) and is attached separately to this document. Based on 700 delegates, the registration fees are proposed to be as follows:

Full Registrations	AUD	USD
Early Bird Participant	\$695	\$613
Standard Participant	\$795	\$700
Conference Dinner (optional)	\$130	\$115

SECTION TWO

CONFERENCE FACILITIES AND ACCOMMODATION

CONFERENCE FACILITIES AND ACCOMMODATION

The Australian Chapter of OSGeo would like to propose two venue options to host the main body of the FOSS4G 2009 conference. The University of New South Wales is the preferred option due to its academic connections, highly successful hosting of Linux Australia recently, value for money, and proximity to the famous Coogee and Bondi beaches.

As a second option, a proposal has also been sought from the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre. This venue is custom built for conferencing with excellent facilities and access, and is situated within the Darling Harbour conference precinct, close to the central business district of Sydney. The Centre is also close to the offices of LISAsoft, the proposed venue for the FOSS4G 2009 Codesprint.

2.1 THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY (UNSW)

Sydney's universities feature excellent conference and special event facilities, some of which can be used all year and with many more available during academic holiday periods. Auditoria and meeting rooms can be booked for conferences with catering and audio-visual hire available on-site. University venues can also provide pre-existing computer laboratories and high speed connections necessary for conference workshops.

The proposed venue for FOSS4G 2009 is the University of New South Wales (UNSW), Sydney. A detailed proposal from UNSW is available on request.



Located in the beautiful eastern suburbs of Sydney, Australia, the University of New South Wales offers the best of both worlds - whilst only minutes from stunning beaches, cosmopolitan cafes and quality accommodation. Access is easy and convenient with close proximity to the airport,

city centre, public transport and ample parking. Reputation undoubtedly plays a role when selecting a venue. Campus Conferencing, UNSW, has recently been acclaimed as one of *"the state's top meeting spots"*, and for good reason.

Spacious, modern architecture, exquisite catering and extensive sound, lighting and audio-visual systems are just some of the outstanding features of UNSW venues. UNSW offers a number of conference rooms suitable to host FOSS4G 2009.

SIR JOHN CLANCY AUDITORIUM

The 945-seat Clancy Auditorium, is the eastern suburbs' largest public auditorium and is ideally suited to large conferences, lectures, musical performances and concerts. Surrounded by a wide range of meeting facilities, the Clancy is perfectly located for a conference of any size. The substantial foyer with caterer's bar, cloakroom and food service area offer flexibility with arrangements for your event. Venue hire of the Clancy Auditorium includes access to an extensive array of technical facilities that include:

- 3 video/data projectors with retractable screens
- 4 radio handheld/lapel microphones
- 26-channel audio mixer, processors, amps and Meyer speakers
- Video system including VCRs, mixer and camera tie-lines to stage
- Headset communications for operators and backstage staff
- 24-channel lighting system with 30 spotlights and 8 colour scrollers
- Fibre-optic infrastructure to support video/audio relay of functions to/from other venues on campus

JOHN NILAND SCIENTIA BUILDING

Right in the heart of Kensington Campus, at the top of the "University Mall", the John Niland Scientia Building is the University's most prestigious venue for special events.

Awarded the 2000 Sir Zelman Cowen Award for Public Buildings, by the Royal Australian Institute of Architects, winner of the Sulman Prize for Architecture (NSW), as well as an



Outstanding Structures Award from the Swiss-based International Concrete Foundation, the Scientia provides state-of-the-art conferencing and entertainment facilities to internal and external clients.

All venues within the John Niland Scientia Building are wheelchair accessible and a hearing loop is installed in Leighton Hall and the Ritchie Theatre.

University of New South Wales: Kensington Campus



2.2 ALTERNATE VENUE - SYDNEY CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, DARLING HARBOUR



The award-winning Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre (The Centre) Darling Harbour is conveniently located in the heart of Sydney amongst a spectacular harbour setting. The Centre's multi-million dollar state-of-the-art technical equipment enables the staging of top level conferences and events, covering all aspects of event production, design and management. It is the ideal option in the event that the conference exceeds 1000 delegates.

"Collectively I think we have certainly shown the rest of the world how to put on a totally outstanding event, and I know we have set new benchmarks that others will have great difficulty in matching let alone exceeding. I trust that you derive enormous satisfaction in the knowledge that the efforts of numerous Centre staff have contributed substantially to achieving this outstanding result which is sincerely appreciated".

Geoffrey Gourlay, Conference Chair, 11th World Congress on Pain, August 2005

The Centre is renowned for its ability to successfully manage complex and high profile events. The Centre has a proven track record in staging events for many of the worlds leading organisations. Reinforcing this, the Centre was recently voted the **fifth best purpose built centre in Asia – and the best in Australia** – by readers of the international business events publication, CEI Asia Pacific.

The Centre is one of only two convention centres in the world to be awarded the **Green Globe** accreditation. Green Globe is the global benchmarking, certification and improvement system for sustainable travel and tourism, established by the World Travel and Tourism Council. Its rigorous benchmarking program ranks businesses across a range of areas including energy and water consumption, use of paper and chemical products, waste sent to landfill, waste recycling and sustainability policies.

CAPACITY

The Centre consists of 3 main areas – Bayside Convention Centre, Parkside Convention Centre and the Exhibition Centre. The Centre was initially opened in 1988 and expanded in October 1999. Approximately 800 events take place at The Centre each year including both national and international conferences.



Known as "Australia's Centre of Events", the venue has the infrastructure to ensure that your event is both memorable and successful. Some of the Centre's key features include:

- Two auditoria (3,500 and 1,000 tiered theatre style seats)
- Banquet Hall for 1,600 people banquet style
- Ballroom for 1,000 people banquet style with water and city views
- 30 meeting rooms including a selection of private dining rooms for 150-350 people banquet style
- Over 30,000 square metres of pillarless event and exhibition space incorporating six interconnecting halls, providing space for gala dinners from 1,600-4,000 people
- Scalable internet connection of up to 200M, with data infrastructure throughout the building with the capability to network areas / rooms together.
- Wireless internet is currently available throughout the exhibition halls and convention foyer areas, with more coverage being rolled out in 2008. The networking team at the Centre recently supplied over 350 cabled internet connections and a purpose- built wireless solution to the media centre for the recent APEC meeting held in Sydney.

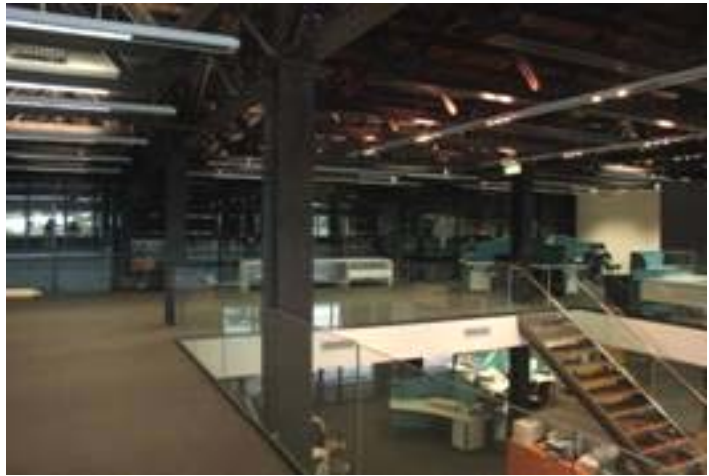


2.3 LISASOFT SYDNEY OFFICE



Based in Pyrmont and overlooking Sydney Harbour, the offices of LISAsoft are well equipped to accommodate the FOSS4G 2009 Code Sprint session. LISAsoft has a large open plan area upstairs which can be configured to seat up to 90 developers. For those with a summer mood, wireless internet will extend out to the wharf (and the luxury boats moored outside). Internet access will be provided jointly by Linux Australia and LISAsoft.

LISAsoft offices are easy to access, being serviced by both bus and light rail. A sailing school is in the offices next door, offering a third, exotic form of transport.



Above: Interior section

Left: Exterior view of the building

2.4 SYDNEY ACCOMMODATION

Sydney offers conveniently located accommodation at highly competitive rates by world standards. Delegates can select from a full range of accommodation, from budget to five star, from apartments to boutique hotels or major international hotel chains.

Sydney has approximately 32,500 hotel and motel rooms, and serviced apartments. The average rate of a hotel room in Sydney is \$142AUD (\$129 USD/€91 Euro) per room.³

Sydney is represented by most of the internationally known hotel groups and its 4-5 star properties rival the best in the world.

Sydney's serviced apartments provide a convenient cost-efficient option for delegates travelling with family members or colleagues. Whilst still providing all the housekeeping and room service conveniences of a serviced hotel, these one, two or three bedroom apartments feature home comforts such as self-contained kitchens and laundries, and additional bathrooms.

There is a wide range of accommodation in close proximity to the University of New South Wales. Delegates can choose from serviced apartments to 5-star luxury hotels. All the hotels in nearby Coogee overlook beautiful Coogee Beach and are a short bus or taxi trip from the University, or a 25 minute walk. Venues and Events, responsible for all Event Management at UNSW have an excellent relationship with local hotels, all offering delegates discounted rates with a selection of establishments. On campus, budget accommodation is available in the student residential Colleges, during out of session periods.

The table below list a number of accommodation options close to the University. Appendix 2 also contains a more comprehensive list of accommodation in Sydney's CBD, only 20 minutes from UNSW.

HOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS NEAR UNSW		
PROPERTY	STAR	RATES FROM
Avonmore on the Park Boutique Hotel	4	\$130
Coogee Sands Hotel and Apartments	4	\$145
Coogee Bay Boutique Hotel	4	\$155
Crowne Plaza Coogee	4.5	\$170
Meriton Serviced Apartments (Bondi Junction)	5	\$158
Meriton Serviced Apartments (Waterloo)	5	\$131
Vibe Hotel	4.5	\$130
Medina Executive Coogee	4.5	\$145
Travelodge Wentworth	3.5	\$120
Novotel Rockford Darling Harbour	4	\$210
Barker Lodge Motor Inn	4	\$125
Addison on Anzac	3	\$90

³ Australian Bureau of Statistics, Tourism Data, March 2007

The below table details accommodation options within 10 minutes walking distance of the **Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre**.

HOTELS AND SERVICED APARTMENTS NEAR THE CENTRE		
PROPERTY	STAR	RATES FROM
Hotel Ibis Darling Harbour	3	\$189
Aarons Hotel Sydney	3.5	\$125
Hotel Ibis World Square	3.5	\$145
Oaks Goldsbrough Apartments - Darling Harbour	4	\$149
Holiday Inn Darling Harbour	4	\$165
Grand Mercure Apartments Darling Harbour	4.5	\$349
Somerset Darling Harbour	4.5	\$230
Citigate Central Sydney	4.5	\$140
Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour	4.5	\$168
Four Points by Sheraton Darling Harbour, Sydney	4.5	\$205
Novotel Rockford Darling Harbour	4.5	\$210
Novotel Sydney on Darling Harbour	4.5	\$235
Radisson Hotel & Suites Sydney	4.5	\$119
Hilton Sydney	5	\$225
Fraser Suites Sydney	5	\$233
Rydges World Square Sydney	5	\$269
Star City	5	\$225
Sydney Central YHA	N/A	\$35

2.5 SPECIAL EVENT VENUES

Sydney offers an increasing number of new, unique and boutique venues with growing meetings infrastructure for conferences and events. The range of venues available in Sydney will satisfy the needs of event planners world-wide. For conference dinners or gala functions, Sydney offers an exciting and unique range of specialty venues:

- The Sydney Opera House – an Australian icon – can host formal and informal functions in a breathtaking location.
- Dine on delicious seafood while cruising on the Harbour.
- Enjoy an evening with breathtaking panoramic views of the harbour and the Sydney skyline from a Sydney Tower revolving restaurant.
- Arrive in style at Sydney’s historic Town Hall.
- Treat delegates to a unique experience by holding a themed gala event at Sydney



Sydney Harbour Cruise



360 Bar and Dining – Sydney Tower



Sydney Town Hall



Luna Park, Sydney

SECTION THREE

SYDNEY: INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CITY

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CITY – DESTINATION SYDNEY

3.1 INTERNATIONAL SIGNIFICANCE

Whilst Australia provides an environment that facilitates exceptional business events, we understand that it is the scientific content and outcomes of the conference that will move your association forward.

We believe Association's are the 'world's thinkers' and so Australia offers you a genuine partnership built on understanding your objectives, who you are and what you are trying to achieve. Not only will Australia provide a logistically successful conference in a spectacular and unique environment, but we will work with you to further the objectives of your association so as to provide a greater contribution to the communities of the world.

Australia has recently been named as the first choice among 25 countries for investment, immigration, tourism and people.⁴ Australia is a politically, socially and economically stable country and is recognised as having the lowest risk of political instability in the Asia Pacific and the fourth lowest risk in the world.⁵ A factor that is important to bear in mind when planning a conference *two or more years in advance!*

Built around the attractions of a working harbour, Sydney is the thriving capital of New South Wales (Australia's most populated state).



Sydney has received many accolades for its expertise and professionalism in conference delivery. Reinforcing the city's growing reputation as a leading meeting and conference destination, Sydney was recently named the **"World's Best City"** for a record 12th time.⁶ Sydney has also been given titles including **"World's Favourite Overseas City"**⁷ and **"World's Friendliest City"**.⁸

⁴ Anholt Brands Index, 2007

⁵ World Competitive Yearbook Survey, 2007

⁶ US Edition of Condé Nast Traveller Magazine, Oct 2007

⁷ UK Edition of Conde Nast Traveller, Sept 2007

⁸ Voted by UK readers of The Sunday Times, 2003

The Sydney Harbour Bridge was voted “Favourite Icon”, being found to be more popular than the Egyptian pyramids and the Grand Canyon.⁹

Sydney’s world famous Opera House was recently listed as a World Heritage site. The decision was made at a meeting of the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation’s World Heritage Committee. The committee described the Opera House as being of unparalleled design and construction.¹¹



Sydney’s international appeal has been strongly reinforced by *APEC 2007, the Rugby World Cup 2003* the *Sydney 2000 Olympic and Paralympic Games*. The global media coverage of these events has generated enormous ‘visibility’ for Sydney.

As a result of this international recognition, Sydney maximises delegate attendance, as many will choose to combine their visit with a holiday.

Sydney will have a direct contribution to a successful **FOSS4G Conference in 2009** through:

- Exceptional international destination appeal
- Ease of international access
- World class venues
- Representation by internationally recognised hotel groups and youth hostels
- Outstanding transport infrastructure
- International cost competitiveness
- Hub city for flights to other Australian destinations for pre & post touring
- Year-round temperate climate
- Excellence and professionalism in convention services and organization

“Delegates came in huge numbers to our meeting and loved what Sydney had to offer ... Sydney is the most exciting city in the world and Australia is THE country to visit. I am sure in your deliberations if you pick Sydney as your next Conference venue your members will be well pleased.”

Prof Richard Widmer
International Association of Paediatric Dentistry 2005 Congress Chair

⁹ Trailfinders, 2005

¹¹ Sydney Morning Herald, June 2007

3.2 EXPERIENCE AND ACCOLADES

Sydney's experience in planning and managing international conferences and its comprehensive meetings infrastructure, has earned it the status of a leading conference destination.

“The President of the International Council of Ophthalmology ... stated publicly that Sydney 2002 was the best ever International Congress of Ophthalmology”

Dr Frank Martin
Secretary General
International Congress of Ophthalmology 2002

Sydney - Best City in the World

(Conde Nast Traveller Magazine, Readers Choice Awards, Oct 2007)

This ranking is based on a survey of 400,000 readers. Cities are evaluated on ambience, friendliness, culture/sights, restaurants, lodging and shopping. Sydney rated highest in the categories of 'Ambience' and 'Friendliness', and has held this title nine times in the past.

Sydney - Favourite Overseas City

(Guardian and Observer Travel Awards, UK, Sept 2007)

This ranking is based on a survey of 22,000 readers

Sydney - ranked 23rd in the world for the number of international conventions held in the city

(International Congress and Convention Association, June 2007)

Sydney - ranked 7th in the Asia Pacific for the number of international conventions held in the city

(International Congress and Convention Association, June 2007)

The Opera House - listed as a World Heritage site

“great artistic monument and an icon”

(As voted by the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's
World Heritage Committee, 2007)

The Sydney Harbour Bridge - voted “Favourite Icon”

(Trailfinders, 2005)

The Harbour Bridge was found to be more popular than the Egyptian pyramids and the Grand Canyon. As reported by the UK's largest travel agency group, Trailfinders.

The Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB) - voted the best Convention Bureau

2004, 2005, 2006

(National awards of Meetings and Events Australia)

3.3 SYDNEY WILL MAXIMISE DELEGATE NUMBERS

Delegate numbers is sometimes used as one of several factors to measure the success of a conference. The ability of a conference to attract delegates not only lies in the breadth of the topics and profile of the speakers but also on the destination appeal. Maximising delegate numbers will in turn, impact on the success of the conference, both financially and socially.

Research shows that Australia is the number one preferred destination of potential travellers from China, Japan, Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, the United States and England.¹⁰ This destination appeal, along with Sydney's world renowned meetings infrastructure and professional industry expertise means that OSGeo can be confident that FOSS4G when held in Sydney will attract a greater number of participants.

Some examples where Sydney has attracted more delegates than the previous and/or subsequent world meetings include.¹¹

Congress Name	Number of Delegates
World Congress of Sport Psychology 2005 - Sydney, Australia 2001 – Skiatos, Greece 1997 – Netanya, Israel	733 550 450
International Myeloma Workshop 2005 - Sydney, Australia 2003 – Salamanca, Spain 2001 – Banff, Canada 1999 – Stockholm, Sweden	1 142 1 000 700 600
Conference of the World Jurist Association 2003 - Sydney, Australia 2001 – Dublin, Ireland 1999 – Vienna, Austria	1 500 600 700
Congress & International Assembly of the International Council of Societies of Industrial Design 2001 – Seoul, Korea 1999 – Sydney, Australia 1997 – Toronto, Canada	1 000 4 000 1 000

¹⁰ Tourism Australia, Market Insights Tourism Facts, 2004

¹¹ International Congress and Convention Association

“The President of the International Council of Ophthalmology... stated publicly that Sydney 2002 was the best ever International Congress of Ophthalmology”

Dr Frank Martin
Secretary General
International Congress of Ophthalmology 2002

“By holding the event in Sydney, we boosted our delegate numbers over the previous congress by about 10-15 percent.”

Dr Bill Carroll
Committee President
World Congress of Neurology 2005

“While a large proportion of occupational therapists are based in the northern hemisphere, it is a testament to Sydney as an international drawcard that so many were prepared to travel around the globe to attend the World Federation of Occupational Therapists Congress. There is no doubt that Sydney numbers were significantly higher than expected.”

Dr David Duncan
Event’s Convenor
CEO of Occupational Therapy Australia.

“...I am delighted to report that those who said we could not have a successful conference here (Sydney, Australia) were quite simply wrong... Over 3,100 abstracts were submitted, a more than 50% increase over the last IAS conference in Rio de Janeiro. “

Pedro Cahn
President
International AIDS Society and 4th IAS Conference Co-Chair 2007

The table below includes examples where Sydney has **exceeded** delegate number expectations.

Congress Name	Estimated Delegates	Actual Delegates
International AIDS Society Conference on HIV Pathogenesis, Treatment and Prevention, 2007	3 000	6 700
Congress of the International Rhinologic Society, 2005	500	1 300
IEEE Lasors and Electro-Optics Society Annual Meeting, 2005	550	950
7 th World Biomaterials Congress 2004	1 250	1 724
International Conference of the Institute of Internal Auditors 2004	1 000	1 600
XXIXth International Congress of Ophthalmology 2002	3 500	4 445

3.4 ASIA PACIFIC CITY

Sydney is the second largest financial centre in the Asia Pacific and is host to over 470 regional headquarters of global companies.¹²

Sydney and NSW are strategically positioned with excellent access to Asia Pacific countries. Sydney is the first major financial centre to open for trading each day, spanning the close of the US business day and the opening of the European market.¹³

Sydney and Australia are proven to attract visitors and delegates from the Asia Pacific Region. More than half the international visitors to Sydney originate from Asia. With such a high proportion of visitors from Asia, it is not surprising that four of the top five languages spoken in Sydney are Asian with almost one-in-six (16.4%) of the residential population proficient in them.¹⁴

Recent visitor arrivals note that in the year ended June 2007, more than 2.6 million people visited Sydney out of which 40% were from Asian countries.¹⁵ Compared to the previous year, these figures represent an increase of visitors from Asian countries such as Singapore, India, Korea, China, Malaysia, as well as from other countries including Canada, United Kingdom, France and Italy.

In 1999 Approved Destination Status (ADS) was extended to Australia by the Government of China. Australia was the first Western destination to be granted ADS, which in turn allowed Australia to be promoted in China as a leisure holiday destination.

¹² NSW Department of State and Regional Development, 2007

¹³ NSW Department of State and Regional Development, 2004

¹⁴ City of Sydney Media Centre, 2006

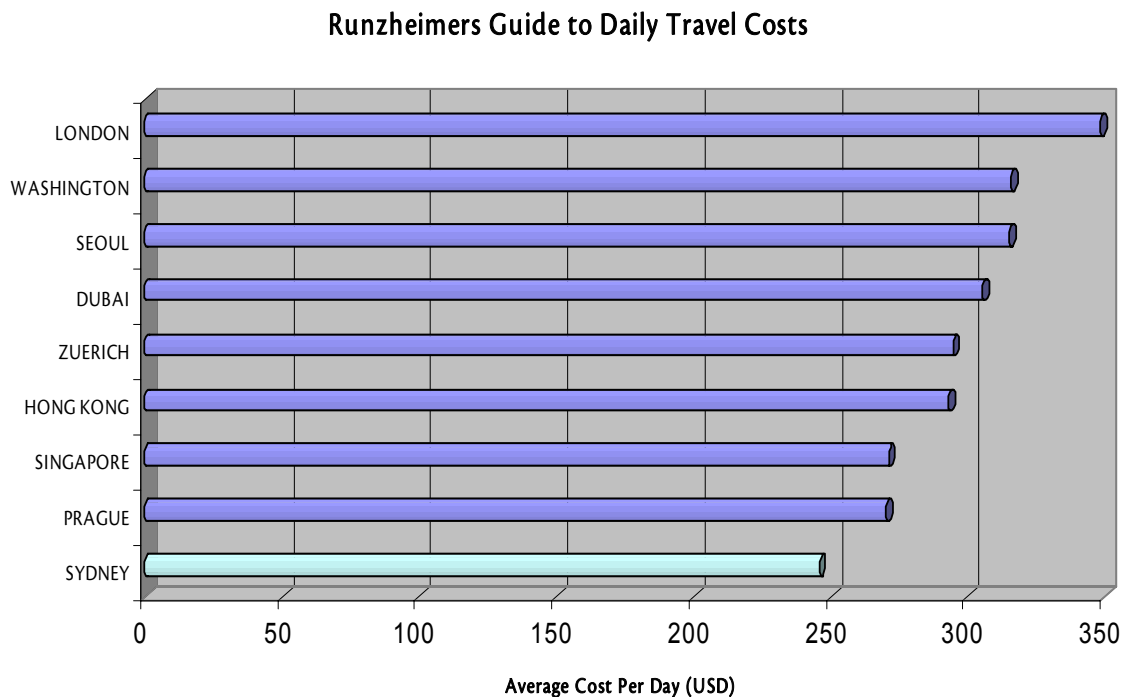
¹⁵ International Visitor Survey, YE June 2007, Tourism Research Australia.

3.5 AFFORDABILITY

Sydney is an affordable city, and ranks favourably in daily travel cost comparisons with other international conference destinations.

According to a study conducted by *Runzheimer International (2007)* of the costs of lodging and meals in the world's cities, visitors to Sydney pay significantly less than they would for an average stay in London, Washington or Singapore.

The "Average Value (USD)" is the total cost of three business class meals plus single rack lodging per day in each city.



3.6 SYDNEY CONFERENCE CARD

A first for Australia, the Sydney Conference Card is a city-wide rewards program tailored directly to conference delegates.

The Sydney Conference Card will add extra value to the **FOSS4G** delegate experience in Sydney, providing a 10 per cent saving on their spend and rewarding them for their purchases in the city. The Sydney Conference Card allows meeting managers, with minimal effort, the opportunity to



provide delegates with a product that will maximise their leisure time and therefore enhance the overall experience of the conference in Sydney.

The SCVB has created the Sydney Conference Card to provide **FOSS4G** delegates and their travel partners, with an exclusive product that they can use outside conference hours to orientate themselves with the city and to access attractive

discounts and rewards at a diverse range of businesses.

The Sydney Conference Card will entitle **FOSS4G 2009** delegates to a minimum 10 percent discount at participating restaurants, attractions, retailers and tour operators. Delegates will also earn instant reward points, which can then be redeemed on future purchases.

Utilising the latest technology, the Sydney Conference Card is a credit-card sized 'smart card'. Delegates simply swipe their card at participating merchants to access the discount and earn their reward points.

The SCVB is proud to offer **OSGeo** the Sydney Conference Card as a **stand-alone product**, or as a combined high-quality **conference name-badge**.

Both options will be provided to **OSGeo** at a discounted per-card rate. In particular, the combined Sydney Conference Card and name-badge will allow you to save on the production cost of this conference item and offer your delegates a high-quality name-badge that includes discounts and rewards at over 60 restaurants, shops, attractions and more.

Each card/name-badge is accompanied by a booklet (including map) and website, outlining the available offers. Collateral is also provided to support pre-event and on-site marketing activities.

We are very pleased to provide you with a low-cost, high-impact product that will ensure delegates make the most of the diverse leisure options that Sydney has to offer.

3.7 CLIMATE

Sydney experiences year round temperate climate. November in Sydney is Spring, with temperatures ranging between 15.5°C (59.9°F) to 23.6 °C (74.5°F). This milder summer weather allows delegates to comfortably commute between venue and accommodation, and also to enjoy Sydney's outdoor lifestyle, with 6 out of 10 days being rain free.

3.8 LIFESTYLE

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Sydney is a highly multicultural society, with more than 160 ethnic communities living harmoniously in the city.¹⁶ Approximately one third of Sydney's residents were born overseas – the seventh highest percentage of any city in the world.¹⁷ This multicultural quality influences the city's restaurants, entertainment and lifestyle.

One in five Australians speaks a language in addition to the country's official language, English.¹⁸ Australian society is very accepting of other cultures. This attitude is reinforced by the Australian Government's extensive programs that promote public acceptance of diversity and multiculturalism. The 82 ethnic newspapers and Australia's Special Broadcasting Service (SBS) radio and television network write and broadcast in many different languages. Sydney also offers places of worship for a diverse range of religions.

DINING IN SYDNEY

With a multitude of cultural influences, eating out is one of Sydney's great delights. Sydney's good food reputation is spreading internationally with the city being named the "best place on earth to eat".¹⁹



Sydney's restaurant scene reflects its enormously rich and diverse range of cultures and cuisines, from Indian and Asian to Middle Eastern and Mediterranean and not forgetting Australia's own unique seafood dishes. Some of Sydney's fabulous dining areas include The Rocks, for fine dining restaurants in historic buildings and Darling Harbour for seafood with Harbour views. Just beyond the Central Business District, Double Bay and Kings Cross offer a multitude of cafes, with fashionable nearby Paddington showcasing young chefs in some of the best pub restaurants. The famous Bondi Beach and Manly Beach excel in relaxed seaside dining, while the city-fringe areas of Glebe, Newtown, Leichhardt and Balmain present an extensive range of inexpensive restaurants, providing cuisines from many countries.

¹⁶ Department of Immigration, 2005

¹⁷ State Chamber of Commerce, 2005

¹⁸ Australian Bureau of Statistics, 2003 Census

¹⁹ Los Angeles Times, 2005

FRIENDLINESS

Sydneysiders are known for a lifestyle that reflects the perfect balance of work and leisure. The local residents value the natural attractions and weather and, as a result, much of their leisure time is spent outdoors. 'Sydneysiders' even have access to more than 70 beaches spread along the city's coastline. Visitors, too, can enjoy this relaxed, healthy and inexpensive lifestyle.

3.9 DELEGATE SAFETY

Australia is a politically, socially and economically stable country and is ranked as one of the countries with the lowest risk of political instability in the world.²⁰ Delegates can rest assured that when they come to Sydney, they are visiting both a safe tourist destination²¹ and a city considered very safe by its residents.²²



This high level of safety that Sydney enjoys means that delegates can explore the city in comfort and with minimal concern. Sydney understands that the safety and security of participants is a vital component to the success of an international conference.

Sydney is a safe and vibrant place to live, work, visit and do business. In a recent international "Quality of Life Survey", **Sydney was ranked as the safest Australian city**, and equal eighth with Auckland in New Zealand.²³

The City of Sydney is committed to ensuring that the city is a safe environment for all individuals. This commitment is demonstrated by the Safe City Strategy, a partnership between Sydney police and other city stakeholders which aims to address crime, anti-social behaviour and personal safety issues in Sydney.²⁴ By all accounts, the level of crime against tourists in Sydney is very low in comparison to many other major cities.²⁵

Safety initiatives that have been developed include:

- More visible and frequent police patrols
- A network of street safety cameras to monitor crime 24 hours a day
- Planning controls to achieve safe urban design in the city
- Improved street lighting in excess of the Australian standard to deter crime and increase natural surveillance

Australia's expertise in providing security at major international events was proven again recently by the high-level coordination and planning provided to ensure a safe secure APEC year. APEC

²⁰ World Competitive Yearbook Survey 2004

²¹ NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research survey 1999

²² NSW Bureau of Crime Statistics, 2001 - from a sample of 1800 Sydney workers

²³ Mercer Human Resource Consulting, 2007

²⁴ City Of Sydney, 2005

²⁵ Safe City Strategy, 2001

Australia 2007, which culminated in Sydney with the APEC Economic Leaders Meeting, featured the largest and most important series of meetings ever held in Australia.²⁶

3.10 SYDNEY – GREEN CITY

With nearly 1 billion tourists crisscrossing the globe every year, it's more important than ever for delegates to minimize their individual impact on the earth's natural and cultural treasures. The potential negative effects of tourism are both local and global; rising numbers of visitors threaten the fragile ecosystems and carbon dioxide emissions from planes are a growing contributor to global warming.

AUSTRALIA became the first country in which all major airlines offer carbon offsets, with Qantas and Jetstar recently announcing a voluntary emission reduction scheme . "There's no denying that the air transport industry is the fastest growing of all the transport industries and it's very important to make a real attempt to minimise our footprint," the chief executive of Qantas, Geoff Dixon, said at the launch.²⁷

Venues such as the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre, the Entertainment Centre²⁸, Sydney Olympic Park²⁹ along with Sydney hotels are joining the effort to reduce pollution and green house gas emissions by installing water and power saving devices and implementing less wasteful cleaning methods.

Sydney itself is a 'green city', housing many large parks and gardens within the CBD providing an oasis in the city and the perfect place to relax on a sunny day.



In 2007, the City of Sydney joined the C40 Large Cities Climate Leadership Group³⁰, with an aim to encourage sustainable environmental developments and initiatives to decrease the impact of large cities on the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

The City of Sydney is currently providing funding to programs to increase energy, transportation and water efficiency and green power initiatives. The City is also encouraging private businesses to become active partners in these initiatives by introducing a "Green Star" system and for

awarding environmentally friendly commercial buildings, and introducing recognition of businesses participating in energy efficient programs with the 3CBDs program.³¹

²⁶ www.apec2007.org

²⁷ Sydney Morning Herald, Sept 2007

²⁸ Sydney Entertainment Centre is recognized by the Green Globe organization: <http://www.greenglobe.org>

²⁹ Sydney Olympic Park is a member of Eco Tourism Australia: <http://www.ecotourism.org.au>

³⁰ City of Sydney, 2007

³¹ City of Sydney 2007 – <http://www.3CBDs.com.au>

SECTION FOUR

TRAVEL AND ACCESS

TRAVEL AND ACCESS

4.1 INTERNATIONAL ACCESS

Sydney is easily accessible to all delegates with 39 passenger airlines operating scheduled services to Sydney International Airport, totalling over 500 flights arriving per week. Delegates from Asia, Europe, Africa, North America and South America can fly direct or one-stop flights into Sydney. Flying from Los Angeles takes half as much time to reach Sydney as Capetown and approximately the same time as it takes to fly to Hong Kong or Rome.

Major international airlines operate direct or one stop services from major hub cities including Bangkok, Singapore, London, Los Angeles, New York, Johannesburg and Santiago. Please refer to the following pages for a list of all cities served by non-stop and direct (includes re-fuelling stop with no change of flight) flights into Sydney International Airport.



INTERNATIONAL NON-STOP FLIGHTS	
CITY	TOTAL WKLY ARRIVALS
ABU DHABI	3
APIA	3
AUCKLAND	67
BALI	6
BANGKOK	14
BEIJING	3
BRUNEI	3
CHRISTCHURCH	31
DUBAI	7
DUNEDIN	2
FRANKFURT	0
GUANGZHOU	4
HAMILTON	3
HO CHI MINH CITY	3
HONG KONG	35
HONOLULU	9
INCHON	14
JAKARTA	4
JOHANNESBURG	5
KUALA LUMPUR	14
LOS ANGELES	11
MAURITIUS	1
MUMBAI	3
NADI	14
NORFOLK ISLAND	4
NOUMEA	7
PALMERSTON NORTH	2
PHUKET	3
PORT VILA	6
QUEENSTOWN	1
SHANGHAI	7
SINGAPORE	21
SUVA	2
TAIPEI	3
TOKYO	18
TONGATAPU	2
WELLINGTON	24
Total	359

INTERNATIONAL DIRECT FLIGHTS		
CITY	VIA	TOTAL WKLY ARRIVALS
BAHRAIN	SINGAPORE	7
BANGKOK	MELBOURNE	1
BEIJING	MELBOURNE	3
BEIJING	SHANGHAI	4
BUENOS AIRES	AUCKLAND	3
CHICAGO	SAN FRANCISCO	7
COOK ISLANDS	CHRISTCHURCH	1
DUBAI	BANGKOK	7
FRANKFURT	SINGAPORE	7
GUANGZHOU	MELBOURNE	3
HANOI	HO CHI MINH CITY	4
LONDON	BANGKOK	14
LONDON	HONG KONG	7
LONDON	SINGAPORE	14
LOS ANGELES	BRISBANE	1
MANILA	BRISBANE	4
MANILA	MELBOURNE	3
NEW YORK	LOS ANGELES	14
NEW YORK	YORK PAPEETE	2
OSAKA	BRISBANE	7
PORT MORESBY	BRISBANE	2
SANTIAGO	AUCKLAND	6
SHANGHAI	MELBOURNE	4
SINGAPORE	ADLAIDE	3
TOKYO	CAIRNS	7
VANCOUVER	HONOLULU	7
VANCOUVER	SAN FRANCISCO	5
Total		147

**Source: Sydney International Airport 2007*

4.2 SYDNEY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT



The Airport typically processes around 77,000 domestic and international passengers per day, and is well equipped to manage fluctuations with large numbers of delegate arrivals.³⁴

The airport's high operational quality reinforces the City's capacity to host large international events, as previously referred to in the document, and with many more international events due to take place in the City, such as ***World Youth Day*** in 2008.

Sydney's city centre is only 8 kilometres/5 miles from the airport, making it one of the closest airports to the city compared to other international and Australian cities (see below table). This means that travel time for delegates is kept to a minimum, as is the cost of transferring delegates from the airport to hotels.

The cost of a taxi fare is approximately 25 AUD (\$22 USD/€16 Euro). Delegates can also take a direct rail link from the airport to the city centre in 13 minutes. Trains depart every ten minutes, or 15 minutes off-peak and cost approximately 13 AUD (10 USD/€8 EURO)

Sydney Airport has been named the best airport in the Australia/Pacific region by Skytrax Passenger Survey³² and maintained its status as one of the world's best airports by being ranked 7th in the latest survey of international airports.³³

Airport	Distance to CBD
Sydney	8km
London	10km
Vancouver	15km
Durban	16km
Singapore	20km
New York	20km
Bangkok	24km
Beijing	25km
Rome	26km
Toronto	27km
Los Angeles	27km
Chicago	27km
Hong Kong	34km
Seoul	40km
Washington	42km
Buenos Aires	51km
Kuala Lumpur	55km
Tokyo	66km
<i>Source: Official Airline Guide, 2007</i>	

¹² Sydney Airport Corporate Information, 2007

³³ Conde Nast Traveller Magazine, Sept 2007 [World's largest independent airport passenger survey]

³⁴ Sydney Airport Corporation Ltd – Corporate Information, 2007

4.3 TRAVEL AUTHORITIES AND VISAS

Australia's Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) system is the world's most advanced and streamlined travel authorisation system. The ETA is an electronically-stored authority for travel to Australia for a short-term tourist or business entry. It replaces the visa label or stamp in a passport and removes the need for application forms. ETAs are issued within seconds of being requested either via the Internet or through computer links between the Australian Immigration Department, travel agents, airlines and specialist service providers around the world. Over 30 countries around the world have access to the free ETA system.

ETA Countries

Europe		Asia
Andorra	Luxembourg	Brunei
Austria	Malta	Hong Kong SAR
Belgium	Monaco	Japan
Denmark	The Netherlands	Malaysia
Finland	Norway	Singapore
France	Portugal	South Korea
Germany	San Marino	Taiwan*
Greece	Spain	
Iceland	Sweden	
Ireland	Switzerland	
Italy	UK **	
Liechtenstein	Vatican City	
		North America
		Canada
		USA

* Holders of Taiwan passports can only be processed for an ETA if resident in and applying in Taiwan.

** Holders of UK passports which indicate their nationality to be British National (Overseas) can only be processed for an ETA if resident in and applying in Hong Kong.

For conference delegates from non-ETA countries, the appropriate visa is a Business (Short Stay) visa, even if some tourism activities are planned for part of the stay in Australia. It is called a 456 visa if it is issued as a label into a passport.

Business/Conference Visitors	Cost
Electronic Travel Authority (ETA) 977 <i>Single entry up to 3 months</i>	\$AUD 20/\$US 18
Business (Short Stay) 456 Visa <i>Up to 3 months</i> <i>Non-ETA countries</i>	\$AU 75/\$US 67

Australia's Department of Immigration has a service available to assist people organising meetings with obtaining visa information and assisting with visa problems. This service is free and is called the International Event Coordinator Network.³⁵ Please refer to the Conference Support section of this document for further information.

³⁵ Australian Department of Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs: www.immi.gov.au

4.4 SYDNEY TRANSPORT

Sydney has an extensive, easy to use, public transport system, which includes harbour ferries, jet-powered catamarans, a monorail and city and suburban rail and bus systems. It is for this reason that over 70% of people accessing the city use public transport.³⁶ Private services are also available and include chauffeured limousines and rental cars, taxis and water taxis. There is a wide range of easy-to-use ticket options which make travelling around the city cost effective and efficient.

Metro Monorail: The monorail operates above the city's streets, providing delegates with a scenic loop and convenient transfer to/from Darling Harbour and the Central Business District. Eight stations are located along the 15-minute circuit, frequenting each station every 3-5 minutes. A **Convention Pass**, at a discounted rate, is available for conference delegates.



Metro Light Rail: The light rail system provides a 15 minute circuit around the city from Central Railway Station to Chinatown, Darling Harbour and Pyrmont. Regular services operate from ten stations every 8-11 minutes.

Trains: Sydney's railway network covers the entire metropolitan district. The New South Wales rail network is one of the world's most complex. The 10 kilometre (6.25 mile) underground *Southern Railway* links the airport to the city in 13 minutes.

Buses: Sydney has an extensive bus network covering areas not serviced by trains. It is efficient, cost effective and easy to follow.

Ferries: Sydney's ferries can transfer delegates from Circular Quay or harbour-side locations to Darling Harbour in under 15 minutes.



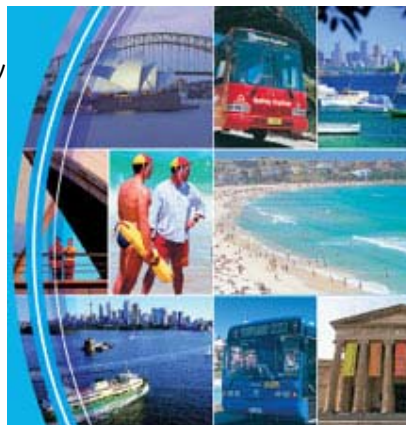
³⁶ State Chamber of Commerce, 2005

4.5 SYDNEY TRANSPORT PASS

Delegates can make the most of their visit to Sydney with a value-packed, all inclusive sightseeing package that combines the best of Sydney's harbour, city, bay and beach highlights. Sydney Pass 3, 5 and 7 day tickets include unlimited travel on the Sydney and Bondi Explorer buses, AirportLink train transfers, Harboursights cruises and much more.

The Sydney Pass includes:

- Unlimited hop-on, hop-off travel on the Sydney Explorer and the Bondi Explorer
- Three Harboursights Cruises
- Return transfers on AirportLink trains
- All regular Sydney Buses services
- All regular Sydney Ferries services
- All regular CityRail trains within the Red travel zone
- Discounts on Sydney Attractions



The cost of a Sydney Pass ranges between a 3 day adult pass at \$100 AUD/\$87 USD to a 7 day adult pass at \$150 AUD/\$ 130 USD. Children under 4 travel free. A child is anyone from the age of 4 to 15 years old. A family is 2 adults and all children from the same immediate family

A typical itinerary using a 3 day SydneyPass can save delegates up to 50% of the cost of the separate ticket purchases.

TOUR	ADULT	CHILD	FAMILY
SydneyPass			
3 day pass - any three days over an eight calendar day period	AUD 100 USD 87	AUD 50 USD 44	AUD 250 USD 218
5 day pass - any five days over an eight calendar day period	AUD 130 USD 113	AUD 65 USD 48	AUD 325 USD 283
7 day pass - any seven days over an eight calendar day period	AUD 150 USD 130	AUD 75 USD 65	AUD 375 USD 326

SECTION FIVE
TOURING SYDNEY AND AUSTRALIA

5.1 TOURING OPTIONS AROUND SYDNEY

FOSS4G 2009, when held in Sydney, will have access to the city's world class and award winning tourist attractions and local experiences to create an exciting and memorable leisure program. The success of an event's social and partners programs will contribute greatly to the overall success of the conferences. Please refer to Appendix 4 for travel and visitor information.

Sydney is home to many of the top tourist attractions and activities in Australia, including the Sydney Opera House; Darling Harbour; the Historic Rocks area; The Sydney Harbour Bridge; and our famous beaches.

Sydney Activities at a Glance

These activities can be included in partners programs or as conference tour options:

1. Sail Sydney Harbour
2. Visit the famous Sydney Opera House
3. Climb Sydney Harbour Bridge
4. Visit Sydney's Taronga Zoo
5. Visit the Sydney Olympic site
6. Hit the big time at Star City – Sydney's Casino
7. Shop in the historic Rocks precinct
8. Visit Sydney Tower and experience Skywalk
9. Experience Sydney's Shopping
10. Enjoy Sydney's dining culture
11. Splash out at Sydney's famous Bondi Beach
12. Relax in the beautiful Royal Botanic Gardens
13. Take a day trip to the Blue Mountains or The Hunter Valley
14. Go for a bicycle ride or rollerblade in Centennial Park
15. Tee off at one of Sydney's championship golf courses



Following are a selection of day touring options for Conference delegates and their partners.

VISIT SYDNEY OPERA HOUSE

Perform on stage with musicians from the symphony orchestra in the main concert hall or take a backstage tour of the Sydney Opera House for a special behind-the-scenes look at intricate sets and lavish costumes for some of the season's greatest shows. Delegates even get the opportunity to stand, baton in hand, to conduct the orchestra in a once-in-a-lifetime experience.



CLIMB SYDNEY HARBOUR BRIDGE



Sydney Harbour Bridge is one of Australia's most well known and photographed landmarks. It is the world's largest steel arch bridge with the top of the bridge standing 134 metres above the harbour. Delegates can climb this world famous icon. A professional team will take participants on an exhilarating climb all the way to the top! Climbs leave every 15 minutes, and for an extra thrill, take the Sunset climb for a truly spectacular way to end the day.

SYDNEY CITY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

Explore the vibrancy and style of cosmopolitan Sydney, one of the world's most beautiful harbour cities. Discover colonial buildings and cobbled lanes in The Rocks. Enjoy views of the Harbour Bridge and Opera House from Mrs Macquarie's Chair, a waterfront seat carved into the rock for the wife of visionary colonial Governor, Lachlan Macquarie. Travel through Sydney's fashionable eastern suburbs, renowned for their elegant homes and harbour vistas, on the way to world-famous Bondi Beach – a haven for surfers and sun lovers.



SYDNEY HARBOUR COFFEE CRUISE

Sail by Sydney's most famous landmarks including the Sydney Opera House, Harbour Bridge and Fort Denison. The cruise also includes the upper reaches of Middle Harbour with natural bushland, harbour beaches and marinas.



AUSTRALIAN WILDLIFE DISCOVERY



Walk through a spacious, open koala enclosure and discover why the cuddly koala is one of the most unique and loved native Australian animals. Be photographed with a koala and hand feed the free-roaming kangaroos. Meet other native animals including emus, wallabies, wombats and echidnas, at one of Sydney's premier wildlife parks.

EXPLORE SYDNEY'S BEACHES – BRONTE TO BONDI WALK

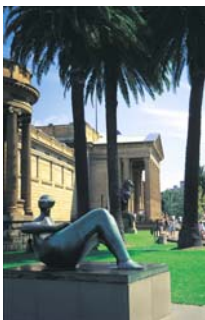
No trip to Sydney is complete without a visit to the famous Bondi beach. Accompanied by a local guide, enjoy an easy coastal walk along the Bondi to Bronte path, taking in the spectacular views of beaches, parks and aboriginal carvings. Visit a surf lifesaving museum and hear tales of heroic rescues by Bondi's own Lifesavers. Enjoy lunch in a local café and discover why Bondi was once considered the "Playground of the Pacific".

EXPLORE MANLY BEACH

Experience the Australian beach lifestyle at Manly – Australia's first seaside resort. Surrounded by National Park, the ocean and Sydney Harbour, Manly is the perfect place to relax and unwind. Take a walk down the famous pedestrian walkway known as 'The Corso' and marvel at the huge Norfolk Pines lining the beach. Enjoy a casual lunch before catching the scenic ferry trip back to Circular Quay and the city.



ABORIGINAL INSIGHTS - BOTANIC GARDENS & ART GALLERY



Experience the world's oldest living culture on a guided walking tour of the Royal Botanic Gardens, where the original inhabitants of Sydney gathered plants, seeds and roots for food and medicine. Discover how Aborigines produced a honey drink from the Banksia, roasted seeds from the Moreton Bay Chestnut and made fishing line from the bark of the Bolwarra tree. Learn about the Dreamtime in this excellent permanent collection celebrating the diversity of indigenous arts in Australia.

SYDNEY SEAFOOD SCHOOL



Sydney Seafood School is undoubtedly the finest seafood cooking facility in Australia. This fun, hands-on class features all aspects of seafood cookery and handling, plus the chance to make a delicious seafood dish. The School is located at Sydney Fish Market, an authentic fisherman's market on Blackwattle Bay, providing a vibrant harbour side experience. Enjoy canapés and drinks on arrival, followed by an expert seafood cookery

demonstration from one of Sydney's top chefs.

SAILING REGATTA ON SYDNEY HARBOUR

Experience the thrill of yacht racing on world famous Sydney Harbour. After a safety briefing and instruction with your experienced skipper, it's time to practice manoeuvres before the race begins! This exciting afternoon of sailing is perfect for complete beginners, while still challenging for experienced sailors.



THE ROCKS PUB TOUR

A unique way of discovering Sydney's history, take a tour through the historic cobblestone lanes to some of Sydney's favourite watering holes.



5.2 NSW AND AUSTRALIA

With the strong appeal that Sydney offers as a host city and Australia as the host country, the destination contributes greatly to maximising delegate numbers and partners at international congresses.

The following pages provide some examples of *must-see locations just beyond Sydney and throughout the rest of Australia.*

Delegates may also choose to visit nearby New Zealand, just a short two hour flight east of Sydney.



5.2.1 TOURING OPTIONS BEYOND SYDNEY – EXPLORE NSW

The following are a selection of pre and post touring options for Conference delegates and their partners who are looking to venture a little further, just beyond Sydney

THE BLUE MOUNTAINS – VILLAGES & VALLEYS

Escape the city and travel west to the Blue Mountains - where the spectacular scenery of this majestic World Heritage listed area includes sandstone cliffs, gorges and valleys of eucalyptus trees. Discover the Aboriginal legend of the Three Sisters - giant sandstone rock formations in the Jamison Valley.



Descend the world's steepest railway on a thrilling ride via rock tunnels to the fern-filled forest on the valley floor. After a delicious two-course lunch explore the quaint village of Leura, home to charming antique shops, tearooms and the famous Candy Shop.



HUNTER VALLEY WINE COUNTRY

Travel inland to the picturesque Hunter Valley – Australia's premier wine region. Tour a large established winery and a smaller boutique vineyard with experts who explain the winemaking process from vine to bottle. Savour award-winning Hunter classics including Chardonnay, Semillon and Shiraz. Enjoy a delicious lunch, stroll through sun-kissed vineyards and learn why Hunter Valley wines are receiving worldwide acclaim.



AUSTRALIAN BUSH & BEACHES

Discover where Sydneysiders escape to when they need to relax and unwind. North of the harbour delegates will find kilometres of golden beaches, untamed bushland and the beauty of the Hawkesbury River. After cruising the river aboard a local ferry, disembark for lunch at a waterfront restaurant. Travel through Ku-ring-gai Chase National Park and along the coastal road

with sweeping vistas of Sydney's best surf beaches. Stop at the vibrant beach resort of Manly and enjoy dramatic views from North Head of the harbour entrance and city skyline.

5.2.2 TOURING OPTIONS AROUND AUSTRALIA

THE DRAMATIC RED CENTRE



Called the Heart of the Nation, the 'Red Centre' is arid, dramatic, vast, a land of extremes and home of Uluru (Ayers Rock) Australia's spectacular monolith. Visitors to this area, will also discover other geological wonders such as Kata Tjuta (the Olgas), Kings Canyon and more.

REEF AND RAINFOREST

North of Cairns, discover one of the most beautiful regions of Australia, the meeting point of an ancient rainforest and the Earth's largest living coral structure. Based in the exclusive village of Palm Cove, highlights include swimming and snorkelling on the Great Barrier Reef and discovering the beauty of the World Heritage listed Daintree rainforest.



HAMILTON ISLAND EXPLORER

Located at the edge of the Great Barrier Reef, Hamilton Island is a perfect destination for those seeking an island escape. This tropical paradise boasts fabulous resort accommodation, fine cuisine, and spectacular scenery. Snorkel the Great Barrier Reef, witness a spectacular Whitsunday sunset on a cruise through the islands, walk to remote scenic lookouts or take a sea-kayaking tour in search of turtles, dolphins and maybe even whales.



CRUISE THE GREAT BARRIER REEF

Australia's Great Barrier Reef stretches over 3,000 kilometres and features exotic island hideaways, soft sandy beaches, balmy bays and remote outer reefs. Discover the tropical wonders of Fitzroy and Dunk Islands and Hedley Reef and cruise the Hinchinbrook Channel – a refuge for native birds, dolphins, gentle dugongs and migrating whales.



DISCOVER THE TOP END

Australia's Northern Territory is part of the world's most ancient landmass. It began forming over 2,000 million years ago. This dramatic land is an exciting destination boasting spectacular wilderness, rare wildlife, rich Aboriginal heritage and hospitable local people.



THE GREAT OCEAN ROAD



Stretching along the coast of Victoria to the south of New South Wales is the Great Ocean Road, an ideal way to experience the beauty of Australia's rugged coastline, spectacular beaches and relaxed coastal townships. Take the opportunity to watch the sun set over the Twelve Apostles from one of the many viewing points within the Port Campbell National Park. These aptly named giant limestone monoliths follow the cliff face boundary of Victoria, towering 45 meters from the Southern Ocean.

NEW ZEALAND'S SPECTACULAR SOUTH ISLAND

New Zealand's South Island boasts magnificent Alpine scenery, rich history, thrilling adventures, superb cuisine and charming towns and villages. Come and breathe the fresh South Island air and explore this magical region of New Zealand.

APPENDICES

QUOTATION

Tuesday, 20 November 2007

Cara Heathcote
Sydney Convention & Visitors Bureau
Tel: 02 9332 5220
Email: cheathcote@scvb.com.au

Dear Cara,

Thank you for considering Venues and Events at UNSW for your event. It is with pleasure that I submit the following quotation for your consideration.

May I take this opportunity to invite you on a site tour of the University of New South Wales and its unique facilities.

If you wish to make an enquiry booking to secure this exclusive venue please don't hesitate to contact me and I will gladly do so for you until such time as you can confirm the event.

I will be happy to assist you with any further information or queries you have, please contact me using my direct line stated below.

Kind Regards

Hannah Lloyd
Business Development Officer
Venues and Events
The University of New South Wales
T: +61 2 9385 1515
F: +61 2 9385 1415
www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au

Hiring Costs and Inclusions

Event: FOSS4G Conference 2009

Usage	Suggested Venue	Capacity	Time	Total Hrs	Rate		Total
Monday							
Plenary	Clancy Auditorium	945	0830-1230	4	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$2,900.00	\$2,900.00
					Per hour rate	\$530.00	
Presentation rooms 1-2	Mathews Theatre C & D	109/109	1230-1730	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$1,420.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Presentation rooms 3-6	CLB Theatre 1, 2, 3, 4	115/115 107/107	1230-1730	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$2,840.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Lab 1	The Galleries	90 classroom	1230-1730	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,000.00	\$1,250.00
					Per hour rate	\$250.00	
Lab 2	Tyree Room	70 classroom	1230-1730	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,280.00	\$1,600.00
					Per hour rate	\$320.00	
Catering and exhibition space	Pavilions	-	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,050.00	\$2,175.00
					Per hour rate	\$225.00	
Cocktail reception	Leighton Hall	800	1600-2100	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$2,400.00	\$3,000.00
					Per hour rate	\$600.00	
Daily Total							\$15,185.00
Tuesday							
Presentation rooms 1-2	Mathews Theatre C & D	109/109	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$2,180.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Presentation rooms 3-6	CLB Theatre 1, 2, 3, 4	115/115 107/107	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$4,360.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Lab 1	The Galleries	90 classroom	0830-1730	9	Day rate (9hrs)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
					Per hour rate	\$250.00	
Lab 2	Tyree Room	70 classroom	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
					Per hour rate	\$320.00	
Catering and exhibition space	Pavilions	-	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,050.00	\$2,175.00
					Per hour rate	\$225.00	
Daily Total							\$13,515.00
Wednesday							
Presentation rooms 1-3	CLB Theatre 1, 2, 3	115/115/107	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$3,270.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Lab 1	The Galleries	90 classroom	0830-1730	9	Day rate (9hrs)	\$2,000.00	\$2,000.00
					Per hour rate	\$250.00	
Lab 2	Tyree Room	70 classroom	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$2,800.00	\$2,800.00
					Per hour rate	\$320.00	
Catering and exhibition space	Pavilions	-	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,050.00	\$2,175.00
					Per hour rate	\$225.00	
Daily Total							\$10,245.00
Thursday							
Plenary	Clancy Auditorium	945	1230-1730	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$2,900.00	\$3,430.00
					Per hour rate	\$530.00	
Presentation rooms 1-2	Mathews Theatre C & D	109/109	0830-1230	4	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$1,230.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Presentation rooms 3-6	CLB Theatre 1, 2, 3, 4	115/115 107/107	0830-1230	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$615.00	\$2,460.00
					Per hour rate	\$95.00	
Lab 1	The Galleries	90 classroom	0830-1230	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00
					Per hour rate	\$250.00	
Lab 2	Tyree Room	70 classroom	0830-1230	5	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,280.00	\$1,280.00
					Per hour rate	\$320.00	
Catering and exhibition space	Pavilions	-	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,050.00	\$2,175.00
					Per hour rate	\$225.00	
Daily Total							\$11,575.00
Friday							
Workshop 1 & 2	Mathews Theatre A CLB 7	456	0830-1230	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$750.00	\$2,870.00
					Per hour rate	\$137.00	
Catering and exhibition space	Pavilions	-	0830-1730	9	First 4 hours (minimum)	\$1,050.00	\$2,175.00
					Per hour rate	\$225.00	
Daily Total							\$5,045.00
Venue Hire Total							\$55,565.00

- Rate includes GST.
- Minimum 4 hour hire charge applies.
- Venue Hire Includes:
Audio visual equipment,
Technician or technical assistance,
Venue Supervisor,
Staging (in selected venues),
Various furniture and furniture setup,
Air-conditioning.
- Please visit <http://www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au/venues/venuesindex.html> to view photo galleries, floor plans, and technical information.

Suggested Venue

- **The Mathews Theatres** Building offers four theatres with tired seating and excellent audio visual facilities. Mathews Theatre A seats 456 and its supporting theatres hold 245, 109 and 109. The versatile Pavilions are located only meters from the theatre complex and are perfect for exhibition and catering space. Additional seminar rooms can be hired in nearby buildings, seating from 20 to 70, most with audio visual equipment.



Mathews Theatre A



Pavilions



CLB Theatre 7

- **Leighton Hall** is situated in The John Niland Scientia Building, a multiple award-winning architectural masterpiece. This spectacular hall will certainly bring a unique feel to your event. Leighton Hall offers a versatile space with its fifteen by thirty meter clear floor span, and eight

meter high roof accompanied by leading edge technological facilities, a moonlit mezzanine level terrace, and a grand entrance from the stunning Scientia Foyer.



Leighton Hall



John Niland Scientia Building

Catering

- Within The John Niland Scientia Building you may use a caterer from the Scientia Panel of Caterers <http://www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au/cater/caterindex.html>
- Gastronomy is our preferred caterer and the sole caterer when the UNSW staff dining facility is in operation (between 9am and 5pm Monday to Friday). Catering within the Tyree Room is restricted to Gastronomy at all times. Visit our website to venues <http://www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au/cater/gast.html>
- In all other venues you may use a caterer of your choice, we recommend Packed Lunch <http://www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au/cater/pack.html>

Function & Access Time

- Venues must be hired with the inclusion of time for client and caterer bump in, the actual event and bump out.

Location

- The University of New South Wales is ideally situated 7kms from the CBD and Sydney Airport, in the cosmopolitan eastern beach suburbs. We are well serviced by public transport and offer on-site parking.

Parking

- Ample free parking is available after 7.30pm and at weekends.
- All other times all day parking vouchers may be purchased prior to your event at a cost of \$6.60 (Inc GST); this price will be added to your final invoice. Alternatively short term parking is available for \$2 per hour (for a maximum of 2 hours), casual all day parking \$4 for 5 hours, 80c per hour after.

Accommodation

- Venues and Events has an excellent relationship with local hotels, all offering our clients discounted rates, please view our website for details <http://www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au/accom/hotels.html>
- On-campus college dormitory accommodation is available during out of session periods. Please visit the our website for more details <http://www.venuesandevents.unsw.edu.au/accom/college.html>

The Complete Package....Venues with the UNSW.

Quote valid for 3 months

Sydney Accommodation by Precinct				
Hotel	AAA Star Rating	Accommodation Rooms	Meeting Rooms	Disabled Access Rooms
Airport				
Hotel Ibis Sydney Airport	3.5	200	0	0
Mercure Hotel Sydney Airport	4	268	11	11
Stamford Plaza Sydney Airport	4.5	313	11	11
Central Business District				
Amora Hotel Jamison Sydney	5	415	5	5
BLUE Sydney, A Taj Hotel	5	100	2	3
Chifley Potts Point	3	226	0	0
Fraser Suites Sydney	0	201	2	201
Hilton Sydney	5	576	23	1
Holiday Inn Potts Point	4	288	5	3
Holiday Inn Potts Point	4	288	5	3
Hotel Ibis World Square	3.5	166	0	166
Hyde Park Forum	4	92	3	2
InterContinental Sydney	5	509	14	13
Mercure Sydney	4	517	9	9
Radisson Plaza Hotel Sydney	5	362	8	19
Rydges World Square, Sydney	5	445	7	6
Sheraton On The Park	5	557	16	557
Sofitel Wentworth Sydney	5	436	11	11
swissotel Sydney	5	361	10	7
Sydney Harbour Marriott	5	550	18	16
The Grace Hotel	4.5	382	15	15
The Menzies Sydney, Accor Hotels	4	446	9	1
The Westin Sydney	5	416	13	13
The Women's College - University of Sydney	3	280	10	10
Y Hotel and Conference Centre - Sydney	3.5	121	6	1
Darling Harbour				
Aarons Hotel Sydney	3.5	94	1	1
Citigate Central Sydney	4.5	251	11	3
Crowne Plaza Darling Harbour	4.5	345	8	3
Four Points by Sheraton Darling Harbour, Sydney	4.5	630	13	1
Grand Mercure Apartments Darling Harbour	4.5	111	0	0
Holiday Inn Darling Harbour	4	304	2	1
Hotel Ibis Darling Harbour	3	256	1	1
Novotel Rockford Darling Harbour	4.5	230	5	6
Novotel Sydney on Darling Harbour	4.5	525	7	7
Oaks Goldsbrough Apartments - Darling Harbour	4	105	0	0
Radisson Hotel & Suites Sydney	4.5	102	5	3
Star City	5	480	10	10

Hotel	AAA Star Rating	Accommodati on Rooms	Meeting Rooms	Disabled Access Rooms
Sydney Beaches				
Crowne Plaza Coogee Beach	4.5	209	10	209
Manly Pacific Sydney - Managed by Novotel	4	214	10	3
Novotel Brighton Beach	4.5	296	11	10
Swiss-Grand Resort & Spa Bondi Beach	4.5	202	11	2
The Coogee Bay Hotel	4	51	3	3
Sydney Olympic Park				
Novotel Sydney Olympic Park	4.5	321	8	1
The Rocks				
Four Seasons Hotel Sydney	5	531	7	7
Park Hyatt Sydney	5	158	6	4
Shangri-La Hotel, Sydney	5	563	18	1

Additional Conference Support



The Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB) is a joint venture between government and the tourism industry and has been extremely successful in promoting and encouraging business events in Sydney and NSW for 35 years. With over 300 members representing a range of business tourism suppliers, from 5-star hotels and unique venues to professional conference organisers, we have the expertise, creativity and most of all, the experience to help deliver an outstanding event.

For further information, please visit our website: www.scvb.com.au



The Business Events team at Tourism Australia aims to promote Australia as a premium business events destination. A key factor in reaching this objective is the provision of collateral material promoting Australia as a unique and achievable destination which professionally accommodates business events. Collateral includes delegate boosting broadsheets, Aussie dictionaries and posters. Tourism Australia's business events dedicated site, events.australia.com also contains a range of downloadable videos, images and PowerPoint presentations and eCards.

For further information please visit: www.events.australia.com



INTERNATIONAL EVENT COORDINATOR NETWORK

A key issue for event or conference organisers is the need to be aware, and to make delegates aware, of Australia's requirement that every non-Australian travelling to Australia must obtain a visa before starting the journey. That information is now quickly and easily available through the International Event Coordinator Network (IECN), part of Australia's Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC). The IECN is a designated group of experienced immigration employees who provide visa information to event organisers and their delegates. DIAC encourages event organisers to contact the nearest IEC as early as possible to ensure problem-free visa arrangements for delegates and participants.

For further information please visit: www.immi.gov.au/visitors/iecn.htm





New South Wales
Department of State and Regional Development

Financial assistance may be sought for a conference where it will bring a

demonstrable benefit to employment, research or development in New South Wales. To measure the benefit, DSRD may conduct an Economic Impact Assessment. Areas which need to be addressed in an application for assistance include demonstrating the case for Government support; the comparative advantages and disadvantages of attracting this project to NSW and the direct impacts of the project (financial, social, and environmental).

For further information please visit: <http://www.business.nsw.gov.au/>



The Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau will, on behalf of your association, approach their key partner airline Qantas to seek support for your conference. Qantas is Australia's leading domestic airline, and is part of the **oneworld** alliance, which has established itself as the most global of the world's airline alliances over the past few years. Now comprising ten of the world's leading airlines - Qantas, American Airlines, British Airways, Cathay Pacific, Finnair, Iberia and Lan Airlines, Japan Airlines, Malev Hungarian Airlines, Royal Jordanian - **oneworld** provides services to 571 destinations in 135 countries. For further information please visit: <http://www.qantas.com.au/>



**SYDNEY CONVENTION
AND VISITORS BUREAU**

MAJOR SUPPORTERS AND GOLD MEMBERS

Major Investors and Gold Members



Accommodation with Venue Facilities



CROWN PLAZA DARLING HARBOUR

150 Day Street
Sydney 2000
Phone: 61 2 9261 1188
Fax: 61 2 9261 8766
www.darlingharbour.crowneplaza.com

Located within easy walking distance from Sydney's Convention Centre and entertainment quarter of Cockle Bay. With over 600 square meters of conference space, this hotel is the place to meet.



FOUR POINTS BY SHERATON, DARLING HARBOUR SYDNEY

161 Sussex Street Between King & Market Streets
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9290 4000
Fax: 61 2 92994040
www.fourpoints.com/sydney

Overlooking Sydney's favourite playground with an exciting array of restaurants, nightlife, shopping and the Convention Centre. Australia's largest hotel with 630 rooms including 45 suites and 14 flexible meeting spaces.



FOUR SEASONS HOTEL SYDNEY

199 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9238 0000
Fax: 61 2 9251 2851
www.fourseasons.com/sydney

Enjoying harbour views and a central location, the perfect base to explore this vibrant city. With 531 guest rooms we can offer the perfect accommodation for groups of every size.



HILTON SYDNEY

488 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9266 2000
Fax: 61 2 9265 6065
www.hilton.com

Imaginative. Iconic. Illuminated. **INSPIRED.** The new Hilton Sydney has been re-designed from the ground up to once again tower as a fond Sydney landmark.



INTERCONTINENTAL SYDNEY

Regional Sales Office
Level 9 504 Pacific Highway
St. Leonards NSW 2065
Phone: 61 2 9935 8300
Fax: 61 2 9926 9762
www.ichotelsgroup.com

Short stroll from Circular Quay, the Opera House, fine restaurants and boutique shopping centres, this luxury hotel offers stunning harbour views from its stylish and contemporary guest rooms and suites.



NOVOTEL ROCKFORD DARLING HARBOUR

17 Little Pier Street
Darling Harbour NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 8217 4000
Fax: 61 2 8217 4400
www.rockfordhotels.com.au

Located in the heart of vibrant Darling Harbour within a few minutes walk of the CBD and adjacent to Hall 1 of the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.



NOVOTEL SYDNEY ON DARLING HARBOUR

100 Murray Street
Darling Harbour NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9934 0000
Fax: 61 2 9934 0099
www.novoteldarlingharbour.com.au

Located in the heart of Darling Harbour, this hotel's superb location offers an exciting selection of restaurants, shopping and entertainment, all within walking distance to Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre.



NOVOTEL SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK

Olympic Boulevard
Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
Phone: 61 2 8762 1111
Fax: 61 2 8762 1144
www.novotelsydneyolympicpark.com.au

Ideally located in the heart of Sydney Olympic Park. The Novotel and Hotel Ibis complex is within walking distance to many world class venues, including Acer Arena and Telstra Stadium.

Accommodation with Venue Facilities



SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, SYDNEY

176 Cumberland Street
The Rocks NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9250 6000
Fax: 61 2 9250 6250
www.shangri-la.com

A landmark in its own right, the deluxe Shangri-La Hotel, Sydney is perfectly positioned between the iconic Opera House and Harbour Bridge, in the heart of the historic Rocks district.



SHERATON ON THE PARK

161 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9286 6000
Fax: 61 2 9286 6668
www.sheraton.com/sydney

Sydney's classic five star hotel in the heart of Sydney's retail and business district with stunning Hyde Park views. Grand meeting facilities, Executive Club and 557 luxurious rooms and suites.

SOFITEL WENTWORTH SYDNEY

SOFITEL WENTWORTH SYDNEY

61-101 Phillip Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9230 0700
Fax: 61 2 9228 9145
www.sofitelsydney.com.au

Sofitel Wentworth Sydney recently completed a \$65 million renovation, to ensure the latest facilities for conference and event business. This versatile venue offers solutions for conferences up to 600 delegates.



STAR CITY

80 Pyrmont Street
Pyrmont NSW 2009
Phone: 61 2 9777 9000
Fax: 61 2 9657 7691
www.starcity.com.au

On the shores of Sydney Harbour, Star City offers a hotel and apartment complex, 21 restaurants and bars, two world-class theatres and conference facilities catering up to 1,000 people.



SYDNEY HARBOUR MARRIOTT

30 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9259 7000
Fax: 61 2 9251 1122
www.marriott.com/sydmc

Situated at the heart of Circular Quay, 550 luxurious rooms, magnificent city and harbour views. Specialises in meetings for 2-200, or up to 650 through 'Quay Events by Marriott'.



THE WESTIN SYDNEY

No.1 Martin Place
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 8223 1111
Fax: 61 2 8223 1222
www.westin.com/sydney

Winner of Australasia's Leading Conference Hotel and Australia's Leading Business Hotel at the 2006 World Travel Awards, features comprehensive meeting and event facilities and 416 luxurious accommodation rooms and suites.

Major Investors and Gold Members



Airlines



QANTAS AIRWAYS LIMITED

203 Coward Street
Mascot NSW 2020
Phone: 61 2 9578 4774
Fax: 61 2 9578 4895
www.qantas.com.au

With almost 700 international flights weekly and services to around 80 destinations in nearly 40 countries, the Qantas Group offers more than 5,000 flights weekly within Australia, serving 63 city and regional destinations.

Airport Services



SYDNEY AIRPORT CORPORATION LIMITED

The Ulm Building 1 Link Road
International Airport NSW 2020
Phone: 61 2 9667 9111
Fax: 61 2 8338 4919
www.sydneyairport.com.au

Sydney Airport is the gateway to Australia offering passengers a world-class travel experience. More than a place to catch a plane the airport offers shopping, function and VIP facilities.

Attractions



BRIDGECLIMB

5 Cumberland Street
The Rocks NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 8274 7777
Fax: 61 2 9240 1122
www.bridgeclimb.com

Conquer Sydney and its world famous icon with BridgeClimb. Choose from two unique journeys to the summit of the Sydney Harbour Bridge at dawn, during the day, twilight or night.

Audio Visual and Production



STAGING CONNECTIONS

68-72 Lilyfield Road
Rozelle NSW 2039
Phone: 61 2 9556 8888
Fax: 61 2 9818 3703
www.stagingconnections.com

A leading Sydney based production & staging company. Over 1,000 staff operate from 85 locations, including many premier hotels, convention centres and resorts in eighteen cities and on three continents.

Major Investors and Gold Members



Convention and Exhibition Venues



SYDNEY CONVENTION AND EXHIBITION CENTRE, DARLING HARBOUR

Darling Drive Darling Harbour NSW 2009
Phone: 61 2 9282 5000
Fax: 61 2 9282 5041
www.scec.com.au

Whatever the event - from major international convention, to gala opening ceremony or impressive awards dinner, the Centre delivers an unforgettable occasion every time.



SYDNEY OLYMPIC PARK

Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
Phone: 61 2 9714 7133
Fax: 61 2 9714 7135
www.sydneyolympicpark.com.au

Surrounded by Australia's largest parkland, the Park's 9 world-class venues offer 90 event spaces plus hotel accommodation. Centrally located with award winning catering for meetings, gala extravaganzas, conventions or exhibitions.



SYDNEY SHOWGROUND

1 Showground Road
Sydney Olympic Park NSW 2127
Phone: 61 2 9704 1111
Fax: 61 2 9704 1173
www.sydneyshowground.com.au

Australia's largest multi-purpose venue, comprising function areas, 20 pavilions and outdoor areas of varying sizes. Host to national and international exhibitions, conventions, functions, and special events. Full in-house catering services.

Destination Management Companies



TOUR HOSTS PTY LIMITED

51 Druitt Street
Sydney NSW 2001
Phone: 61 2 9265 0700
Fax: 61 2 9267 5443
www.tourhosts.com.au

Tour Hosts Destination Management, a leader in incentives, special interest groups and pre/post conference tours to Australia and New Zealand. Providing fresh ideas, meticulous pre-event planning and unparalleled client service.

Exhibition Services



MORETON HIRE

7 Stokes Avenue
Alexandria NSW 2015
Phone: 61 2 8394 8200
Fax: 61 2 9698 6965
www.moreton.net.au

With over 30 years experience, Moretonhire combines an extensive range of products with design to deliver unique event and exhibition solutions. Located in Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane they can meet all your exhibition and event requirements.

Major Investors and Gold Members



Government



Tourism New South Wales

TOURISM NEW SOUTH WALES

Level 2 55 Harrington Street
The Rocks NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9931 1111
Fax: 61 2 9931 1543
www.tourism.nsw.gov.au

Tourism New South Wales aims to boost the long-term economic and social benefits of tourism by developing and marketing the State as Australia's premier tourist destination.

Harbour Tours and Charters



CAPTAIN COOK CRUISES (NSW) PTY LTD

No. 6 Jetty
Circular Quay NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9206 1122
Fax: 61 2 9251 4725
www.captaincook.com.au

Australia's award winning cruise line, since 1970. Their Sydney Harbour fleet of nine vessels offers daily scheduled cruises with private charters for 10-2000 guests carefully tailored to your requirements.



HAWKESFORD'S LUXURY COACHES

1/84-108 Madeline Street
Enfield NSW 2136
Phone: 61 2 9642 3100
Fax: 61 2 9642 8677
www.hawkesfordscoaches.com.au

Hawkesford's Luxury Coaches offers total transportation solutions with Sydney's widest range of 5 Star coaches, mini coaches, buses and limousines. For excellence in service at an affordable rate contact Hawkesford's.

Hotel Groups



ACCOR ASIA PACIFIC

Level 30 Angel Place 123 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9280 9888
Fax: 61 2 9280 9755
www.accorhotels.com.au

The most dynamic hotel company in Asia Pacific, the Accor Group operates over 100 hotels and resorts in Australia / New Zealand under the Sofitel, Novotel, Mercure and Ibis brands.



INTERCONTINENTAL HOTELS GROUP

Regional Sales Office
203 Victoria St
Kings Cross NSW 1340
Phone: 61 2 9380 0200
Fax: 61 2 9380 0201
www.ichotelsgroup.com

InterContinental Hotels Group, the world's most global hotel company, is a leading operator of quality hotels in NSW, including InterContinental Sydney, 7 Crowne Plaza Hotels and 5 Holiday Inn Hotels.



STARWOOD HOTELS AND RESORTS

161 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9373 3100
Fax: 61 2 9373 3131
www.starwoodhotels.com

Starwood Hotels & Resorts operates 850 properties in 95 countries worldwide, with the brands St. Regis®, The Luxury Collection®, Sheraton®, Westin®, Four Points® by Sheraton, W®, Le Méridien® and AloftSM.

Major Investors and Gold Members



Professional Conference Organisers



CONEXION EVENT MANAGEMENT PTY LTD

Suite 2 623 Harris Street
Ultimo NSW 2007
Phone: 61 2 9518 7722
Fax: 61 2 9518 7222
www.conexion.com.au

We have 15 years experience organising international and national conferences. Our objective is to deliver our clients successful events through efficient and effective planning with a personalised management approach.



EVENT PLANNERS AUSTRALIA

547 Harris Street
Ultimo NSW 2007
Phone: 61 2 9290 4000
Fax: 61 2 9213 4099
www.eventplanners.com.au

Not your average PCO. 40 years experience managing congress, conferences, meetings, exhibitions, gala events and product launches. In-house services include: meeting management, special events, sponsorship, accommodation, design and website development.



ICMS AUSTRALASIA

Level 9 234 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9254 5000
Fax: 61 2 9251 3552
www.icmsaust.com.au

Established in 1966, we have an unparalleled reputation for dedicated service and leading edge creativity for conferences, exhibitions and special events. We offer continuity and expertise ensuring a landmark event.



ICMS PTY LTD

Level 3 379 Kent Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9290 3366
Fax: 61 2 9290 2444
www.icms.com.au

Our expertise in conference, conventions and meeting management provides peace of mind. Venue, financial, sponsorship and exhibition management, strategic marketing, online program, registration, travel and accommodation are our core client services.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES & EVENTS (ICE) AUST. PTY LTD

183 Albion Street
Surry Hills Sydney NSW 2010
Phone: 61 2 9368 1200
Fax: 61 2 9368 1500
www.iceaustralia.com

Accredited conference manager with 15 years experience offering full event management services. ICE has a marketing, budget, sponsorship and administration focus aimed at producing innovative national and international conferences.



THE MEETING PLANNERS PTY LTD

Level 14 Suite 19 Lumely House
309 Kent Street Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 8221 8814
Fax: 61 2 9929 5573
www.meetingplanners.com.au

Australia's conference and exhibition management specialist. Since 1986 The Meeting Planners has successfully managed major international and national conferences for professional associations, institutions, not for profit organisations and Government.



TOUR HOSTS PTY LIMITED

Level 10 51 Druitt Street
Sydney NSW 2001
Phone: 61 2 9265 0700
Fax: 61 2 9267 5443
www.tourhosts.com.au

Professional Conference organisers delivering throughout Australia with over 30 years experience. We specialise in conferences and exhibitions, sponsorship, special events, language services, tours, accommodation, website and registration management.



WALDRONSMITH MANAGEMENT

3 Spring Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 8249 4777
Fax: 61 2 8249 4001
www.waldronsmith.com.au

Established in 1994, we have a long standing history as an accredited Professional Conference Organiser in the management of national and international conferences, meetings and events from 100-4,000 delegates.

Restaurants



SYDNEY TOWER RESTAURANTS

Level 2 Imperial Arcade 85 Castlereagh Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 8223 3800
Fax: 61 2 8223 3843
www.sydney-tower-restaurant.com

Centrally located in Sydney's tallest building and within walking distance of major hotels and conference facilities, impress your guests with stunning views and a professionally tailored, memorable event.

Retail



SYDNEY HARBOUR FORESHORE AUTHORITY - DARLING HARBOUR

Level 6 66 Harrington Street
The Rocks NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9240 8500
Fax: 61 2 9240 8855
www.darlingharbour.com

A short stroll from central Sydney, Darling Harbour is one of the world's great waterfront destinations and one of the city's most exciting dining, entertainment and shopping precincts.



SYDNEY HARBOUR FORESHORE AUTHORITY - THE ROCKS

Level 6 66 Harrington Street
The Rocks NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9240 8500
Fax: 61 2 9240 8855
www.therocks.com

Located on the doorstep of Sydney Harbour, The Rocks is one of Sydney's most beautiful and historic precincts offering unique boutique stores, sophisticated experiences and a relaxed shopping atmosphere.

Special Event Organisers



dgse

DGSE (DAVID GRANT SPECIAL EVENTS)

36 Dickson Avenue
Artarmon NSW 2064
Phone: 61 2 8436 4444
Fax: 61 2 8436 4400
www.dgse.com.au

"Australian Event Organiser of the Year". Creating genuinely unique, innovative event and destination solutions with acclaimed flair to ensure a custom created one off experience on any scale, any budget.

Venues with a Difference



CITY OF SYDNEY VENUES

GPO Box 1591
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9265 9189
Fax: 61 2 9265 9180
www.cityofsydneyvenues.com.au

The City of Sydney venue portfolio incorporates some of the most prestigious and loved buildings in Sydney. The landmark venues include Sydney Town Hall, Paddington Town Hall, Customs House and City Recital Hall.



DOCKSIDE

The Balcony Level Cockle Bay Wharf at Darling Park
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone: 61 2 9261 3777
Fax: 61 2 9261 4777
www.docksidegroup.com.au

Superbly positioned in the heart of Cockle Bay overlooking Darling Harbour, Dockside caters for 50 guests to 720 dinner dance and 1200 cocktail, Dockside is a purpose built conference venue.

TRAVEL AND VISITOR INFORMATION

LOCATION

Sydney is a major Asia Pacific city. It is the capital city of New South Wales and the most densely populated state of Australia. On the south-east coast, it is bounded by the Pacific Ocean to the east, national parklands and coastline to the north and south, and the spectacular Blue Mountains to the west.

TIME ZONES

Sydney operates on Eastern Standard Time (EST), which is calculated by adding 10 hours to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

At 12 noon Monday in Sydney it is:

02:00 pm	Monday	Auckland
11:00 pm	Sunday	Buenos Aires
10:00 am	Monday	Hong Kong
04:00 am	Monday	Johannesburg
01:00 am	Monday	London
05:00 pm	Sunday	Los Angeles
08:00 pm	Sunday	New York
02:00 am	Monday	Paris
10:00 am	Monday	Tokyo

During Daylight Saving (from the last Sunday in October to the first Sunday in March) add 11 hours to GMT.

CUSTOMS

Generous passenger baggage concessions exist for arriving passengers, with travellers allowed to bring into Australia non commercial goods, duty and tax free. Members of the same family who are travelling together may combine their individual duty-free allowances.

- \$AUD400 worth of goods not including alcohol or tobacco (\$AUD200 for travellers under 18 years of age). For example, cameras, electronic equipment, perfume concentrate, leather goods, jewellery, watches, sporting goods, etc.;
- 1125 ml alcoholic liquor (including wine, beer or spirits) for travellers aged 18 years and over;
- tobacco: 250 cigarettes, or 250 grams of cigars or tobacco products other than cigarettes, for travellers aged 18 years and over;
- most personal items such as new clothing, footwear, articles for personal hygiene/

- grooming;
- personal goods owned and used for at least 12 months can also be brought into Australia without payment of [duty and sales tax](#)* (proof of date of purchase may be required); and

Commercial goods brought into Australia with the intention of being sold will be subject to the normal rates of Customs duty and Goods and Services Tax (GST) where applicable. Goods, commercial or personal, that are brought into Australia to remain temporarily, may be admitted duty and tax free, subject to certain conditions.

Carnets may be obtained for temporary duty-free entry of goods such as commercial samples, jewellery, goods for international exhibitions, equipment for sporting events, professional television and film equipment etc. Contact your International Chamber of Commerce for application details.

Goods imported temporarily must meet Australian quarantine requirements.

For more information on importing goods, contact a Customs officer or an Australian Embassy, High Commission or Consulate overseas, or refer to the Customs brochure *Customs Information for Importers* available at Customs offices in Australia or at Australian diplomatic posts overseas.

VACCINATIONS

Vaccinations are not necessary unless delegates come from a yellow fever infected country zone within six days prior to arrival. No other health certificate is needed to enter Australia.

Twenty-four hour medical clinics operate in Sydney.

MONEY MATTERS

Australia uses a decimal currency system of dollars and cents.

Exchange rates may vary slightly each day, but overall they have been stable in recent years. The current exchange rates for the Australian dollar as at 10 January 2008 are:

AUD\$1	European Union	0.60 euro
	Japan	97 yen
	Singapore	1.26 dollars
	UK	45 pence
	USA	88 cents
	Canada	89 cents

Credit cards are accepted virtually everywhere. The most commonly accepted are VISA, American Express, Bankcard, MasterCard and Diners Club. Traveller's cheques are also widely accepted.

International airports provide money-changing facilities for arriving and departing passengers. Major hotels and banks will also exchange money quickly and efficiently. There is no limit to the amount of currency that delegates may bring into the country.

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX

Australia has a Goods and Services Tax (GST). The GST applies at the rate of ten percent to most goods delivered and services performed by businesses and other trading entities. There are situations where the GST applicable could be exempt depending on a number of contributing factors. As there are continuing changes to the GST legislation, organisations planning events in Australia should speak with their meeting manager or the Australian Tax Office for further information regarding the GST.

The Tourist Refund System

The Tourist Refund System (TRS) allows international travellers to claim a refund of the GST paid on goods you buy in Australia. The refund only applies to goods you take with you as hand luggage when you leave the country. It does not apply to services or goods consumed or partly consumed in Australia. However, unlike other tourist shopping schemes, you can use the goods before leaving Australia.

The refund will be paid on goods costing \$AUD300 or more, bought from the same store, no earlier than 30 days before you leave. You may purchase several lower-priced items from the one store, either at the one time or over several occasions within the 30-day period, provided the total purchase amounts to \$AUD300 or more and the goods are covered by the one tax invoice. You may buy goods from several stores, provided each store's tax invoice totals at least \$AUD300.

If you are leaving Australia through an international airport, you may collect your refund in cash on departure (if the refund is \$AUD200 or less) or choose a non-cash option. Non-cash options include: cheque, credit to an Australian bank account or payment to a credit card. If you choose a non-cash method, Customs will aim to pay your refund in 30 days.

The Rocks, Sydney, tax free shopping scheme (using the traditional closed bag system) allows travellers with a valid departure ticket from Australia to pay the tax-free price (equating to over 9% discount) on purchases in over 40 specialty retail stores in The Rocks.

Banking hours

Bank hours are: Monday to Thursday from 9:30am to 4:00pm; and on Fridays from 9:00am to 5:00pm. Some banks are open Saturdays. Automatic teller machines (ATMs) are situated throughout the city for the convenience of 24-hour banking.

IMPORTANT LEGAL CONDITIONS

This document is a compilation of materials created or written by the Sydney Convention and Visitors Bureau Limited (SCVB) and materials obtained from its members and other contributors.

While SCVB has made reasonable efforts to ensure that the contents of this publication are accurate, SCVB provides this publication on the condition that and subject to your agreement that:-

1. The information contained in this publication is general and summary in nature and should not be relied upon without making further specific enquiries.
2. SCVB will not be liable for any inaccuracy, error or misdescription contained in this publication. SCVB may plead these terms as a bar or defence to any action against it and whether founded in contract, negligence or other tort or for breach of statute or founded upon any other basis.
3. SCVB is not the partner of and does not act as the agent of any of the companies, firms, individuals, statutory or government bodies or other entities or organisations ("Other Entities") which/who are referred to in this publication and Other Entities are not the agent of SCVB.
4. You will not represent yourself, your company or other organisation as the agent, partner or otherwise as having a relationship with SCVB which may give rise to joint and several liability or vicarious liability of any kind.
5. SCVB will not be vicariously liable for the acts or omissions of any Other Entities referred to in this publication whether such acts or omissions constitute a breach of any agreement, negligence or other tort, breach of any statutory duty or give rise to any other legal liability whatsoever.
6. If you determine to engage the services or acquire the products of any Other Entities, you will make and rely upon your own enquiries and satisfy yourself as to the fitness of those products and services and will not do so in reliance upon this publication.
7. As a compilation, this publication is copyright of SCVB. Individual contributions, including text, graphics and photographs, may be the copyright of SCVB, SCVB members or other contributors. You agree that you will not copy this publication or any part of it, adapt, broadcast, transmit or part with possession or otherwise deal with it in any manner without the prior written consent of SCVB.
8. You will use this publication solely for the purpose of assessing Sydney's bid for your event.
9. The SCVB may use the information supplied by the Association/Organisation to assist it to collect service fees payable to it by members to which business has been referred, in respect of or in connection with the Event.