



## 26/02/2014 Registration Opens for AIPCO Business Tourism Conference

Registration has opened for the 2<sup>nd</sup> AIPCO (Association of Irish Professional Conference Organisers) Business Tourism Conference. Taking place on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in the Strand Hotel, Limerick the one-day conference, based on the theme '**MICE – The future, the vision, the challenges**' will feature plenary sessions with international speakers, followed by interactive discussions and ending with a networking dinner.

AIPCO is the largest association of its kind on the Island of Ireland with all the major PCOs now members, and the conference will see the leading figures of the industry in attendance. The main body of delegates will be professionals working in the regional convention bureaux, hotels, venues, restaurant and service areas.

'The industry has now ridden the storm of the financial crash and come through the other side more robust. It has, to put it simply, changed.' said Susan Nolan, Chair of AIPCO 'As an industry we need to ensure we align with the changing demands of our clients and give a clear vision of what the future of the MICE (Meetings, Incentives, Conferences and Events) sector is, both in Ireland and internationally.'

A leading group of international speakers will address the AIPCO delegates including Michel Neijmann, Vice President, IAPCO and Managing Partner, K2 PCO, Turkey, Keith McCormack, Director - Visit Dublin and Head of Events – Fáilte Ireland, Ireland, Ben Goedegebuure Global General Manager, EMEA – Maritz Travel Company and John Barton, Managing Partner & Co-Founder - Testify, amongst others. The day's moderator will be Pádraic Gilligan, Managing Partner, SoolNua, Ireland.

'The tourism industry is one that relies on collaboration' commented Pádraic 'and coming together is vital for both connecting with your colleagues and driving change. I'm delighted that Limerick is hosting the conference, with its designation as the City of Culture for 2014 well deserved.'

The conference will comprise of keynote lectures, solution clinics and a networking dinner. Registration for the conference is €150. Registration can be confirmed by contacting the registration secretariat at [aipco2014@conferencepartners.ie](mailto:aipco2014@conferencepartners.ie) or logging onto the [registration page](#).

All other queries can be directed to: [aipco2014@conferencepartners.ie](mailto:aipco2014@conferencepartners.ie). Follow us on Twitter at: [@aipco ireland](#) and join the conversation using the hashtag: #aipco14

## **ENDS**

Attachment 1. AIPCO Logo (AIPCO\_high\_res.jpeg)

Attachment 2. AIPCO Quality Mark (AIPCO\_Quality\_High\_Res)

Attachment 3. Failte Ireland (Failte\_Ireland\_Official)

Attachment 4. Meet in Ireland (Meet in Ireland Stack 1line-RGB)

## **Hyperlinks**

Registration Page - <http://www.aipco.ie/conf2014/registration.html>

AIPCO Twitter - [https://twitter.com/AIPCO\\_Ireland](https://twitter.com/AIPCO_Ireland)

## **For More Information**

Susan Nolan, Chair, AIPCO [sn@odysseyintl.ie](mailto:sn@odysseyintl.ie)

## AIPCO

The Association of Irish Professional Conference Organisers was founded in February 1999, and officially launched by the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Recreation in May 1999. Membership of AIPCO is open to Professional Congress Organising companies operating in Ireland, who have demonstrated the comprehensive experience and ability to organise all aspects of major international conferences. Prospective members are carefully assessed under strict criteria and existing members must also maintain these high standards of quality.

Members of AIPCO include:

Abbey Conference & Corporate	<a href="http://www.abbeyconference.com">www.abbeyconference.com</a>
Advantage ICO	<a href="http://www.advantageico.com">www.advantageico.com</a>
Conference Organisers	<a href="http://www.conferenceorganisers.ie">www.conferenceorganisers.ie</a>
Conference Partners	<a href="http://www.conferencepartners.ie">www.conferencepartners.ie</a>
Event Plus	<a href="http://www.eventplus.ie">www.eventplus.ie</a>
Green Light Events	<a href="http://www.greenlightevents.ie">www.greenlightevents.ie</a>
Keynote	<a href="http://www.keynotepco.ie">www.keynotepco.ie</a>
MCI Dublin	<a href="http://www.mci-group.com">www.mci-group.com</a>
Odyssey Convention Ireland	<a href="http://www.odysseyintl.ie">www.odysseyintl.ie</a>

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