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Los Angeles Convention Center

LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER, A PLACE OF POSSIBILITIES!

April 15, 2010 (LOS ANGELES, CA) - People of all ages and abilities experienced their possibilities at the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) for the 31st Abilities Expo. The event, which took place in LACC's West Hall, saw over 9,000 in attendance and 320 exhibitors throughout Friday, April 9th to Sunday, April 11th. The LACC utilized this opportunity to enhance its capabilities to ensure access for all, and to demonstrate a client service environment that brings clients back to the Center on a regular basis.

The LACC not only converted its parking from "disabled" to "accessible," but also created nearly 1,000 automobile and van-accessible spaces in support of the event. Food and beverage services included modified cash register heights, larger-diameter straws, larger and easier to hold spoons, and staff attendance to provide additional assistance.

As the quality of LACC services is directly related to its staff, the LACC trained its staff on how to best support persons with all levels of abilities, deployed additional staff to enable utilization of all on-site elevator assets, and even developed a "relief area," complete with a fire hydrant, for service dogs.

"I can't say enough about the wonderful LACC Team. They were so sensitive and acted like they were specially trained to interact with people with disability. They were professional, warm, serviceable, and a delight. They provided me with all that I needed and wanted. They did a great work," said Helen Martin, an Abilities Expo attendee.

As the nation's leading event for accessibility manufacturers, distributors and service providers, Abilities Expo featured workshops and events that catered to its children, adults, and senior attendees. Some of these activities included adaptive wall climbing, a meet and greet with actor Richard "Jaws" Kiel from the James Bond films, and the Ms. Wheelchair California 2010 Final Competition.

"Our goal for this event was to expand our capabilities and to deliver an unmatched level of services and support for our clients. The LACC is a client services learning environment, one in which we continually learn and improve our ability to provide best in world class services. The staff really enjoyed hosting Abilities Expo, and we look forward to a continuing partnership," said Phillip C. Hill, Assistant General Manager and Chief Operations Officer of the LACC.

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About the Abilities Expo

Over more than three decades, Abilities Expo has succeeded in improving the lives of Americans with disabilities, their families, caregivers and healthcare professionals. This unique forum features three days of cutting-edge products and services, compelling workshops, fun-for-the-whole-family activities and has become the leading event for the community of people with disabilities (PWDs).

Abilities Expo reaches out to all ages and all sectors of the Community including wounded veterans, persons recovering from immobilizing accidents, seniors with age-related health concerns, children with disabilities, individuals with mobility and spinal issues, people who have vision and hearing impairments, people with developmental disabilities and many more. Whether your challenges are mild or severe, this is your event.

About the Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC)

The Los Angeles Convention Center (LACC) is one of the most technologically advanced convention and exhibition centers in the world. LACC attracts over 2.5 million annual visitors and is renowned internationally as a prime site for conventions, trade shows and exhibitions. An integral economic component to the Southern California area, total sales from client secondary spending tops \$1.1 billion annually, generating and sustaining over 12,000 local jobs. For more information, visit www.lacclink.com.

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