



PRESS RELEASE

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Green Meeting Industry Council Announces Carbon Offset Partner for 2008 Conference

Portland, Oregon - The Green Meeting Industry Council's "Greening the Hospitality Industry Conference" is scheduled for February 19-21, 2008, at The Four Seasons Vancouver, in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. With the aim of offsetting 100% of the conference carbon emissions, the Green Meeting Industry Council has partnered with Offsetters Carbon Neutral Society, a not-for-profit organization based in the conference host city of Vancouver, Canada. The carbon offset program will fund three projects, one based locally in Vancouver and two international projects in Honduras and Madagascar. The program will be funded on a volunteer basis by delegates, exhibitors, speakers and sponsors.

This year's program will offer education tracks for meeting planners and industry venues and vendors, and will include sessions on partnering for sustainability, community and global citizenship, and the future of green meetings. New this year is a pre-conference workshop entitled Green Meetings 101, sponsored by IMEX. For more information, visit the Green Meeting Industry Council website at <http://www.greenmeetings.info/conference.htm>.

The Green Meeting Industry Council is dedicated to improving meeting management practices by promoting environmentally responsible strategies through the collaborative efforts of meeting industry stakeholders. As sustainability becomes a growing business focus, the Green Meeting Industry Council has experienced record growth, increasing its membership by more than 100% since July 2007. The Hospitality Industry is responsible for over 1 million meetings & events annually and over 12,000 tradeshows annually in North America alone. The Hospitality Industry is a \$100 billion corporate industry.

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