

NEWS RELEASE

THEBE EXHIBITIONS AND PROJECTS BECOMES MEMBER OF UFI

The Thebe Exhibitions and Projects Group (TEPG) has been admitted as a full member of UFI, the global association of the exhibition industry.

In addition, the group's flagship exhibition, Decorex Joburg, has been granted the status of a "UFI approved event."

UFI represents 529 member organisations in 203 cities worldwide and its members include exhibition organisers, venue managers, associations and partners of the exhibition industry. Members represent more than 4 000 trade fairs and exhibitions in which more than one million exhibitors participate each year, with attendance of some 150 million visitors.

TEPG Managing Director Carol Weaving says UFI membership is strong recognition of the professionalism and track record of an exhibition organiser and has huge value across the world. "Over the years Thebe has become one of our region's top exhibition companies and our UFI membership now gives us access to the latest industry intelligence and trends, as well as top networking opportunities."

Thebe's portfolio includes well-known titles such as Decorex, Gardenex and the World Holiday and Travel Fair. It also manages Meetings Africa on behalf of South African Tourism.

The group's venue management division is responsible for the management of the Coca-Cola dome, one of South Africa's top exhibition and events venues.

According to Weaving the group is also involved in a number of new initiatives. "One of these is a new, annual sports tourism exhibition for South Africa, which we will stage with South African Tourism from 2011" she says.

TEPG was founded in 1997 and is part of the Thebe Tourism Group, in which the Thebe Investment Corporation has a 70 percent stake. It has four divisions, namely Exhibitions, Special Projects, Venues and Incentives.

(Ends)

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