

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONNECT ADDS INDEPENDENT PLANNERS EVENT TO THE MEETINGS LINEUP

ATLANTA, May 23, 2018— Connect announces a new event to its meetings trade show roster— Connect Independent Planners. The event, catering to independent planners, will take place Dec. 4-6 in Washington, D.C., at the Washington Convention Center. In addition to planner and supplier appointments, the event will address the challenges and opportunities facing this market segment today as well as its unique and specific needs.

“Connect is committed to providing events that serve a need in the industry. We know the importance of independent planners in the industry and look forward to our new partnership with David Bruce as we open up a space for independent meeting planners to grow and build relationships,” says Chris Collinson, president of Connect. Bruce is a 44-year industry veteran and founder of Meeting Planners Unite.

Meeting Planners Unite is a corporate association providing a voice for the independent meeting planner, with a mission of improving the industry as a whole. “Meeting Planners Unite is excited to work with Connect to bring the very best of the independent meeting planners to Washington D.C. The event will offer informative sessions and a trade show format for relationship building,” says David Bruce.

Connect Independent Planners is a hosted-planner, appointment-only and reverse-style trade show that brings together the most active independent planners in the meetings industry. This event includes prescheduled one-on-one meetings, industry-specific continuing education sessions, keynote general sessions and quality networking with industry colleagues.

During the Marketplace session, planners and sellers meet in prescheduled appointments specific to their meetings' needs, exchange RFPs, arrange future site visits and book events. The popular Marketplace format is synonymous with Connect events.

To participate, contact Vice President of Sales Matt Johnson at mjohnson@connectmeetings.com, or for more information, visit connectmeetings.com/events.

ABOUT CONNECT

Connect is a leader in the meetings, events, travel and tourism industry. Specializing in destination marketing, the company produces digital programs, online and mobile solutions, meetings business and travel magazines, trade shows and consumer events, travel guides for newspapers and leisure magazines, and

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destination information, which is distributed through broadcast and custom programs. Connect, formerly known as Collinson Media & Events, introduced the popular Marketplace format to the meetings industry and now produces national shows for meeting planners in the Corporate, Expo, Sports, Diversity, Association and Faith sectors as well as other state- and region-specific meetings- and hospitality-focused events. More information about the company's brands and services is available at connectmeetings.com.