

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STEVEN HACKER JOINS THE CONNECT FAMILY



Atlanta, May 30, 2018—Connect announces the addition of Steven Hacker, formerly president of the International Association of Exhibitions and Events (IAEE), as executive director of Connect Expo. Hacker joins the Connect team after a successful career as the CEO of several nonprofit associations. His most recent position was as the principal of the Bravo Management Group, providing expertise to associations and event planners around the world. In his new role, Hacker will guide Connect Expo's growth as it continues to expand to serve the needs of the industry.

"As a seasoned events professional with a reputation that precedes him, Hacker's experience and knowledge to Connect Expo comes with a warm welcome," said Chris Collinson, president of Connect.

"The opportunity to join the Connect Meetings team as executive director of Connect Expo is very exciting," said Hacker. "I have known the Collinsons for more than two decades and have always viewed their organization as innovative, professional and committed to the highest standards of the events industry."

Inducted into the Convention Industry Council's Hall of Leaders in 2007, Hacker has been named "One of the 25 Most Influential People in the Events Industry" nine times. He writes, teaches and speaks regularly to many event industry organizations. He has frequently been invited to speak at various Connect events over the years and is widely received as an expert in the industry. Hacker also serves as a member of several convention and visitor bureau advisory boards.

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 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.