

## Berlin voted Germany's leading convention metropolis

For the third consecutive year Berlin has won the Conga Award of the national event industry

**Berlin, 17 June 2009** On 16 June Berlin was once again presented with the Conga Award as the leading meeting and convention destination. This is the third time the German capital has secured this prize in the category "Cities and Regions national". The Vereinigung Deutscher Veranstaltungsorganisatoren e.V. (Association of German Event Organisers) presents this award once a year in ten categories to the most successful service providers in the German meeting and convention industry.

25,000 event experts acted as the jury members. In a survey they identified a Top 10 list of the very best in the hospitality industry in the individual categories which included numerous Berlin companies. The Berlin percussionists "Rhythm, Drum and Dance" came first in the section "Entertainment". The capital improvisation theatre company "Paternoster" was delighted with its third place. Furthermore, the teams from Veranstaltungstechnik GmbH (1<sup>st</sup> place) and Brähler ICS Konferenztechnik (3<sup>rd</sup> place) from Berlin were successful in the category "Event Technology". With E-Werk Berlin, Wasserwerk Berlin and Adagio Gastronomie there were as many as three providers from the German capital amongst the Top 10 in the category "Event Locations". What's more, the Estrel Hotel & Convention Center (3<sup>rd</sup> place) and the Hotel Concorde featured in the category "Meeting Hotels".

Heike Mahmoud, Director of the Berlin Convention Office, which has promoted the German capital as a convention destination since 2001, commented, "We are delighted to receive this award for the third time. It underpins the leading position of Berlin in Germany as an outstanding host for meetings, conventions and incentives. This is also confirmed by the results of the latest convention statistics: Last year alone 104,600 events were staged in Berlin attracting around 8.15 million participants."

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