

## STRING OF WINS FOR QATAR

14 August 2008

The State of Qatar is well known as one of the world's largest producers of gas and oil, but now the country's vision to become a world leader in research, science, education and knowledge is in the making.

In 2011, one of the Middle East's largest and newest venues, the Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) has already secured high profile events including; the World Petroleum Congress; the 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Environment Mutagens and Human Population and the Middle East Turbomachinery Symposium.

Known as the 'Olympics of the oil and gas industry', the World Petroleum Congress is expected to attract more than 5,000 delegates and is where governments and oil companies, global industry and stakeholders join together to discuss the future of the petroleum sector.

Together with Government representatives and Qatar Petroleum, the Qatar National Convention Centre attended the recent congress held in Madrid, Spain to promote Doha and gain a better understanding of the council's needs in preparation for hosting the 2011 event.

Making connection with the key decision makers for international meetings is all part of building the awareness of the region's newest convention and exhibition centre due to open in late 2010.

One of those prospective clients, based in United States of America, Mr David Williams, Executive Director of the International Association for Energy Economics (IAEE) said they were expanding their membership in the Middle East.

"Qatar is considered one of the most important destinations in the world for production of energy products and services. For this reason, we are considering Doha and the Qatar National Convention Centre for one of our future international conference destinations," stated Mr Williams.

The Centre's General Manager, Mr Paul D'Arcy said his team are working on more than 55 prospective leads for regional and international events from a wide range of medical, scientific and technology based fields from its opening through to 2021.

"This is a long term business and the initial response from some of the world's most prominent conventions and exhibitions has been very encouraging indeed.

"The region is in an exciting growth phase and we are looking forward to working closely with the Qatar Foundation and its members such as Qatar MICE Development Institute (QMDI) and Doha's key stakeholders to increase awareness of Qatar's commitment to become a world leader in education, research and development," added Mr D'Arcy.

The Qatar National Convention Centre (QNCC) will feature a total of 57 meetings rooms and 40,000 sqm of exhibition space. Destined to be one of the Middle East's largest convention and exhibition centres, it will feature a multi-purpose hall for 4,000 theatre style a 2,500-seat tiered auditorium, 500 seat theatre, flexible meeting rooms to accommodate a wide range of events plus banquet seating for 4,000.

The QNCC is a member of the Qatar Foundation [www.qf.org.qa](http://www.qf.org.qa) and resides with other prestigious tenants such as the Qatar Science and Technology Park, Sidra Medical & Research Centre, Weill Cornell Medical College, Texas A&M University, Virginia Commonwealth University, Carnegie Mellon and Georgetown University School of Foreign Service to name a few.

QNCC is proudly managed by AEG Ogden, one the of world's leading venue management specialists [www.aegogden.com](http://www.aegogden.com).

*To download hi resolution images to support this media release, visit <http://www.qatarconvention.com/centerimages.htm>*

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