

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**McCormick Place® Honored as “Best Convention Center”
By Influential Tradeshow Organization**

CHICAGO – The McCormick Place Convention Center has received the 2009 Exhibitors’ Choice Award for “Best Convention Center” by a leading tradeshow and event exhibiter organization. Approximately 5,000 industry professionals voted in the newly-formed annual award program created by the Trade Show Exhibitors Association (TSEA).

“Our facilities, our world-class services and amenities, and our get-it-done attitude make McCormick Place a favorite in our industry,” said Juan A. Ochoa, Chief Executive Officer of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority, which owns and operates the convention facility. “Of course, credit must be given to our staff for its hard work and dedication to serve the needs of every customer.”

“We were proud to host TS2 and honored to be among the first recipients of these new awards,” said David Causton, McCormick Place General Manager. “We designed the state-of-the-art McCormick Place West Building to serve groups, such as TSEA, with a functional, flexible facility that can handle conferences, expositions and meetings of any size and any technological requirement. We look forward to welcoming back TSEA and many other groups to the West Building.”

Winners were announced during the TSEA Foundation Gala held in conjunction with the TS² Show. The show, held in McCormick Place West from July 20 - 23, offered total marketing solutions for the exhibit and event professional.

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About TSEA:

Since 1966, TSEA has been providing knowledge to marketing and management professionals who use exhibits, events and face-to-face marketing to promote and sell their products, as well as to those who supply them with products and services. Members benefit from access to education, networking, resources, advocacy and member-only discounts on products and services that all exhibit and event professionals use. TSEA is headquartered in Chicago, Illinois, and regional chapters exist throughout the United States and Canada. For more information, please visit www.tsea.org.

About McCormick Place:

Chicago’s McCormick Place Convention Center, the largest exhibition and meeting facility in North America, offers 2.6 million square feet of exhibit space, 173 meeting rooms and one of the largest ballrooms in the world. McCormick Place is owned and operated by the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (MPEA) and is comprised of four state-of-the-art buildings: the North, South and West Buildings and Lakeside Center, as well as the Hyatt Regency McCormick Place hotel. Together, they form what many consider to be the economic engine that powers the entire convention and tradeshow industry. McCormick Place is committed to creating a great experience for every person, every time! For more information, please go to our web site: www.McCormickPlace.com.