

## **Press Release**

## Hamburg Messe und Congress joins EMECA

Hamburg, 7 November 2024 – Hamburg Messe und Congress (HMC) has become a member of the European Major Exhibition Centres Association (EMECA). At its meeting in Bilbao, Spain a few days ago, the EMECA General Assembly unanimously agreed to accept HMC as a new member.

Established in 1992, EMECA today comprises more than 25 leading exhibition centres in Europe which jointly host and organise about 1,400 events drawing roughly 500,000 exhibitors and 28.5 million visitors annually. The mission of the not-for-profit, independent organisation is to maintain and further drive excellence in the European exhibition sector by promoting the highest business standards and the best customer services.

"EMECA is more than a special interest group representing its members at the European and global levels," says Uwe Fischer, CEO of Hamburg Messe und Congress. "We can all grow further by benefiting from well-designed meeting formats and trustworthy networks, and by sharing expertise and inspiration."

Heiko M. Stutzinger, his co-CEO at Hamburg Messe und Congress, adds: "The aim of our membership is to further strengthen Hamburg as a destination for trade fairs and congresses. After all, some of Europe's best exhibition companies are organised in EMECA, which gives us access to excellent, practical models in many areas that we can learn from. I also believe that new cooperation partnerships or new joint projects with other member organisations will be possible."

"On the membership side, EMECA General Assembly had the pleasure to approve Hamburg Messe, Germany, as a new member 2025. We are excited to welcome Hamburg Messe to EMECA. In recent years Hamburg Messe has updated its show portfolio and invested significantly in modernising the venue, thereby securing and enhancing its position as a leading trade show destination in Northern Germany and beyond," states Roland Bleinroth, President of EMECA.

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