EXPERTS IN DYNAMIC GLOBAL EDUCATION – THE EDGE PROGRAMME IN TAIPEI

An important mission for IAPCO (the International Association for Professional Congress Organisers) has always been the raising of the quality of service delivered by conference organisers around the world. “It’s our aim to promote quality standards amongst PCOs worldwide,” commented Jan Tonkin, President of IAPCO and EDGE Taipei speaker, “and hand-in-hand with that goes education.”

Two years ago, IAPCO introduced EDGE seminars, providing accessible education worldwide. In Taipei last month it was the EDGE 3-day EDGE Seminar which dominated local headlines. “What makes an EDGE Seminar unique is the people that educate you are people who organise conferences and run their own businesses. So it’s not professional speaking, it’s real people who are on site speaking as well,” said Melanie Pesch, Vice-President of IAPCO and EDGE Taipei speaker, sharing how the EDGE seminar stands out from other educational programmes offered by the industry.

IAPCO member in Taiwan, GIS Group, is in complete agreement with IAPCO’s direction, says Mr. E. C. H. Lee of GIS Group, explaining why he initiated bringing an EDGE Seminar to Taipei. “Whilst it is definitely our responsibility to promote our industry, it is also important to bring people from the industry to learn about quality service delivery and its values.”

While this is certainly important, it can be limited in smaller countries to the knowledge that exists within the limited number of local people who participate in training programmes. This puts a greater emphasis on the EDGE Programme, particularly locating more of these seminars and discussing the pros and cons of systems and technology. It has been learning to see the initiatives taken by our members, convention centres and other industry bodies to promote debate about best practice, provide training programmes (both live and online) and run mentoring programmes for their young professionals. EDGE Taipei was one such seminar.

The EDGE Programme promotes collaboration and learning, bringing together edge-speakers and EDGE Seminar attendees from across the globe.

This article was provided by the International Association of Professional Congress Organisers, as per GIS Group, Taiwan.

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