

Industry Associations and Professional Groups

Event industry professionals are encouraged to reach out to industry associations for networking, volunteer, and career development opportunities. Here are a few resources to get you started:

American Society of Association Executives – ASAE

<https://www.asaecenter.org>

Over 42,000 individual members—association professionals and industry partners—lead, manage, and work in or partner with organizations in more than a dozen association management disciplines, from executive management to finance to technology.

Association of Destination Management Executives – ADME

<http://www.adme.org>

“The global voice of the destination management industry”, ADMEI members strive to advance the destination management industry. ADMEI is a partner in the certification of destination management professionals and the accreditation of destination management companies.

Association of Fundraising Professionals – AFP

<https://afpglobal.org>

For 50 years, AFP has been the standard-bearer for professionalism in fundraising. The global organization provides links to professional development, learning, and networking opportunities as well as chapters for Canada, the US, and other countries.

Council of Protocol Executives – COPE

<http://councilofprotocolexecutives.org>

Dedicated to raising the level of professionalism in the application of protocol standards for executive-level business meetings and entertainment, COPE members are comprised of over 375 executives, representing companies from the leading Fortune 500, financial and major non-profit institutions. COPE organizes showcases of high end vendors and other similar supplier events.

Events Industry Council - EIC (formerly Convention Industry Council, CIC)

<https://www.eventscouncil.org>

The Events Industry Council’s 30+ member organisations represent over 103,500 individuals and 19,500 firms and properties involved in the events industry. They are responsible for the CMP (certified meeting professional) designation.

Destinations International – DI (formerly Destination Management International Association – DMAI)

<https://destinationsinternational.org>

Destinations International is the global organization representing destination management professionals: CVBs (convention and visitor bureaus) and DMOs (destination marketing organizations).

Hospitality Sales and Marketing Association International – HSMAI

<https://www.hsmai.org>

HSMAI is a global organization of sales, marketing, and revenue management professionals representing many segments of the hospitality industry. Founded in the United States in 1927, HSMAI is an individual membership organization comprised of nearly 7,000 members from 35 countries and chapters worldwide.

International Live Event Association – ILEA (formerly International Special Events Society – ISES)

<https://www.ileahub.com>

ILEA members include event planners/producers, caterers, meeting planners, decorators, audio-visual technicians, convention coordinators, entertainers, educators, journalists, photographers, hotel sales managers and more.

Meetings Professionals International – MPI

<https://www.mpiweb.org>

MPI has over 90 chapters and clubs worldwide dedicated to meeting professionals' career development, education, and industry advocacy.

Professional Convention Management Association – PCMA

<https://www.pcma.org>

Headquartered in Chicago, PCMA has partners and collaborators around the globe and a footprint within North America, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, with activities across 37 countries. They have over 7000 members dedicated to the world of Business Events.

Society for Incentive Travel Excellence – SITE

<https://www.siteglobal.com>

Founded in 1973, the Society for Incentive Travel Excellence (SITE) is comprised of more than 2,000 incentive travel professionals.

* might work best as a webpage on the ELI main site that can be edited in order to maintain course currency