

RESUME

JOHN CHRISTISON

President and Chief Operating Officer of the Washington State Convention & Trade Center, Seattle, Washington. Mr. Christison is also the Managing Member and Principal of the consulting firm of Buckley-Christison International.

Mr. Christison is a graduate of the University of Arizona with a Bachelors Degree in Public Administration. Mr. Christison began his career in the Public Assembly Industry in 1971. Mr. Christison served as the Assistant Director of the Tucson, Arizona Convention Center from 1971 – 1979. The Tucson Convention Center includes an Arena, 2500 seat Performing Arts Theatre a 500 seat Black Box theatre as well as convention facilities.

In 1980, Mr. Christison was hired by the Portland Oregon Exposition Recreation Commission, where he served as the Chief Executive of the Commissions facilities, which included the Portland Convention Complex, Portland Coliseum, Civic Stadium, and Portland Performing Arts Center and the Portland International Raceway.

In 1986, Mr. Christison was hired as the Director of the Orlando, Florida Centroplex. The Centroplex is an operating agency responsible for the operation of the Orlando Expo Center, Orlando Arena, Citrus Bowl Stadium, Tinker Field Baseball Stadium, Ben White Raceway, Bob Carr Performing Arts Center, and several commercial properties, including two restaurants and the administration of a hotel lease for the City of Orlando.

In 1990, Mr. Christison took the position of President and Chief Operating Officer for the Washington State Convention & Trade Center. During his tenure, the Convention Center has been expanded twice to respond to market demand.

Mr. Christison is acknowledged in the hospitality industry as a premier operator with a focus on quality service delivery, and a strong emphasis on maximizing revenue.

Mr. Christison has been a pioneer in development of “Management Contracts” in the Convention Industry, and has established a reputation as a presenter of outstanding food service operations.

Mr. Christison has considerable experience in the planning, programming, design and construction of numerous facilities. During his career, Mr. Christison has overseen the

construction of seven separate projects with a construction value of over one billion dollars.

Mr. Christison is recognized as a leader and an expert in his field. He has served as President of the International Association of Assembly Managers (IAAM), he is Past Chairman of the Asia Pacific Exhibition and Convention Council (APPEC), and is the Past Chairman of the World Council for Venue Management (WVCM), an umbrella organization representing nine, worldwide, professional associations in the Public Assembly Facility Management Industry, including the Association International Palis de Congres. (AIPC)

Mr. Christison has served as an Adjunct Professor for the Washington State University's Hotel and Restaurant Program and has also served as an Adjunct Professor for the University of Central Florida's prestigious Rosen School of Hospitality Management. Mr. Christison is a frequent lecturer and trainer throughout the world in the field of Facility Management. Mr. Christison is a Certified Facility Executive(CFE) and has chaired the IAAM's Certification Board, and the IAAM's Consulting Board. Mr. Christison is also a Certified Meeting Professional (CMP)

Mr. Christison has, as an independent consultant, provided consulting services to numerous clients in the Convention, Facility and Hospitality Industries.