

Sign Me Up!

SignUp4—an event management and data collection company in Atlanta—recently partnered with Des Moines, Iowa-based Air Fulfillment Services to offer meeting planners a streamlined Web-registration process that manages land and air requests simultaneously.

Attendees can now complete their event registration forms online, and their air reservation requests are automatically transmitted to Air Fulfillment Services for processing,

eliminating the need for event planners to coordinate the manual delivery of attendees' registration forms to air-travel providers.

The partnership also allows planners to view real-time arrival and departure lists online. The Web-based reporting system enables suppliers, such as DMCs and ground operators, to adjust arrival and departure information for attendees without consulting meeting planners. In addition, the system automatically alerts planners and ground operators to last-minute cancellations or changes.



SignUp4's comprehensive services are designed to equip planners with the tools to successfully host and manage events, as well as implement new technology and create custom reports—critical to providing meeting ROI.

For more information, visit www.signup4.com or call (404) 237-8945.



WEC Goes Wireless

Attendees at MPI's 2003 World Education Congress in San Francisco will benefit from access to a Digital Meeting Guide thanks to MPI's digital partnership with Petaluma, Calif.-based NearSpace. The guide delivers conference information, such as daily schedules, detailed descriptions and locations of sessions, trade show floor plans, exhibitor information and venue maps through attendees' personal digital assistants (PDAs). NearSpace is also offering a "try-and-buy" option on site for attendees who do not have a PDA but want to use the software.

Visit www.2003wec.mpiweb.org or www.nearspace.com for more information.



On the Spot

Switzerland-based Shockfish is changing the look of face-to-face event networking. SpotMe, a wireless networking device, features a real-time, searchable participant database (complete with photo); two-way messaging; people radar; a business card exchange; interactive voting; and a real-time conference agenda—all in a compact, PDA-sized device.

Meeting planners can use the technology to send attendees schedule updates, current agendas and important news in real time without interrupting sessions. The devices can also be used to send questionnaires directly to



SHOCKFISH (2)



attendees, making the process easier and more cost-effective than traditional survey tools.

Attendees can take advantage of networking opportunities using the system's people database. Users can view the delegate list, know where people are on site and even know what they look like. Messaging—similar to text messaging on a mobile phone—connects delegates and allows them to communicate with one another, while business card exchange capabilities allow users to develop personalized contact logs.

For more information, visit www.spotme.ch.

The Bottom Line

Denver airport's new runway is North America's longest ... Melvin Tennant to lead San Antonio CVB ...