

## **PRESS RELEASE // FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Events of an award winning standard**

The New Zealand Organising Committee of the International Dairy Federation (IDF) was presented with the International Association of Professional Congress Organisers (IAPCO) 2008 International Client Award at IMEX, the worldwide exhibition for meetings and incentive travel held in Frankfurt on 26 May 2009.

The award recognises the Committee's role as hosts of not only one, but two, IDF World Dairy Summits as well as the IDF's 5th Mastitis Conference. Special mention was made of the outstanding leadership provided by the Convenor, Mr Andy Williams, Fonterra Co-operative Group.

New Zealand's nominating IAPCO member, The Conference Company's managing director, Jan Tonkin, found that "when it came to the award, IAPCO took into consideration the efforts of past and present, and with one conference already completed and two to come, the New Zealand Organising Committee of IDF under Andy's stewardship was a strong nominee."

Headquartered in Brussels, the International Dairy Federation is an organisation created by the dairy sector worldwide where dairy specialists of all kinds meet to resolve common issues and exchange ideas and experience. Each year the IDF brings the dairy world together at the World Dairy Summits held in various member countries from the largest dairy industries in the world including the US, Canada, Germany, France, New Zealand and Australia to the smallest industries such as Iceland. Its mission is to represent the dairy sector worldwide by providing the best global source of scientific expertise and knowledge in support of the development and promotion of quality milk and dairy products to deliver consumers with nutrition, health and well-being.

New Zealand maintains a strong presence in IDF and the New Zealand Food Safety Association (NZFSA) and the dairy industry have members on key Standing Committees.

Andy Williams, Convenor of both the 2010 IDF World Dairy Summit and the 2010 IDF Mastitis Conference, was recognised as a leading force behind the organisation and hence the winning of the IAPCO International Award for the IDF. He was also the Convenor of the World Dairy Summit when it was last held in New Zealand in 2001. That Summit was highly acclaimed as one of IDF's outstanding events and a key reason was Andy's involvement.

Jeremy Hill, President of the New Zealand National Committee of IDF proudly received the Award on behalf of his colleagues. “This is an incredible honour and we are very proud to be the recipients of such an acclaimed award”.

**ABOUT IAPCO: Meeting Quality**

IAPCO, founded in 1968 is the worldwide association representing professional congress organisers. With over 100 members, IAPCO organises every year its annual meeting and general assembly in a different city and plays a leading role in the promotion of the professionalism of congress organisation throughout the world (Annual Wolfsberg Academy, Regional Seminars, political actions). IAPCO also publishes a number of documents including a code of ethics, a dictionary of technical terms (in 14 languages) and working brochures. IAPCO is a member of the Joint Meetings Industry Council [JMIC] and the Convention Industry Council [CIC].

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