

Acting Premier John Rau

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Adelaide wins space jam

South Australia has beat Bremen, Orlando, Istanbul and Dublin to earn the right to host the 68th International Astronautical Congress at the Adelaide Convention Centre in September 2017.

The Congress will bring 3000 delegates from around the world to Adelaide, and it is only the second time the IAC has been hosted in Australia.

The Adelaide Convention Bureau, in partnership with the Space Industry Association of Australia and the State Government, worked together to win the rights to host the Congress.

Acting Premier John Rau said he was over the moon that Adelaide had earned the right to host the IAC, which would bring top executives from multi-national companies like Lockheed Martin and BAE Systems to the state.

“This is the most significant conference that Adelaide has ever secured,” Mr Rau said.

“The International Astronautical Congress is a new frontier for the convention business in Adelaide.

“Adelaide has a strong history in space industries and research and is perfectly placed to host one of the world’s most prestigious conventions that is estimated to generate more than \$18m in economic activity and create more than 150 jobs.”

Mr Rau thanked the Adelaide Convention Bureau as well as Michael Davis, Chair of the SIAA, for their tireless work on the bid.

“Securing this convention is testament to the State Government’s investment in the Riverbank Precinct and the \$350m redevelopment of the Convention Centre,” he said.

“Without a redeveloped Convention Centre the state would not be in a position to bid for these strategically important industry events.

“This Congress will not only bring the best and brightest from the world’s space industries to Adelaide but it will also allow us to showcase our advanced manufacturing industries and universities on the international stage.”

The announcement was made over night in Toronto where the 65th International Astronautical Congress has just finished.

Brett Biddington AM, Coordinator for bid to host 2017 IAC in Adelaide Australia thanked all those involved in the campaign which has been running since 2010.

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“Thank you all for your material and moral support without which we would not have brought a campaign that started in 2010 to this successful conclusion. The competition was tough but I now look forward to beginning detailed planning for IAC 2017.”