

Chance Thompson Named Sr. Manager of Sustainability at Salt Palace Convention Center

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SALT LAKE CITY, UT - The Salt Palace Convention Center continues its commitment to furthering sustainable event practices with the creation of a new position. **Chance Thompson** was recently named **Senior Manager, Sustainability and Public Relations**. This comes on the heels of Thompson leading a 35+-member Green Team to achieve concurrent APEX/ASTM Level 1 certifications for sustainable practices from the Events Industry Council. This collaborative effort is the first of its kind in the events industry, with Salt Lake holding more certifications than any other place in the world. Certifications were awarded to the Salt Palace Convention Center and sister property, the Mountain America Expo Center in Sandy; Visit Salt Lake; Utah Food Services; and PSAV, the preferred, in-house audio/visual provider at both facilities.

Thompson is a rising star in the events' industry sustainability arena having recently been recruited to participate in two global committee efforts. Chance is currently serving a two-year term as a member of the Events Industry Council Sustainability Committee, which strives to be the authoritative resource on green-friendly event planning. In addition, he is a Committee Chair for the APEX/ASTM Sustainable Event Standards Relaunch effort, which is striving to bring the standards to more planners and suppliers in the industry. He was in Frankfurt, Germany, last month to receive the international IMEX-EIC [Innovation in Sustainability Award](#) recognizing the Salt Palace Convention Center and the Mountain America Expo Center -- both Salt Lake County-owned facilities managed by SMG -- for their significant contributions in improving event business operations and their creative approaches to repurposing leftover event materials to support a variety of community organizations. In addition to accepting the award, Chance (with sponsorship from the aforementioned Green Team organizations) attended the [Sustainable Event Industry Standards Forum](#) on May 14th, 2018, at the Frankfurt Messe. This group of sustainable event pioneers are joining forces for the first time and have come up with a proposed definition and four guiding principles that the participants believe should underpin any sustainable event standards and efforts.

On the local level, Thompson is a member of the Utah Recycling Alliance board of directors. He has developed dozens of relationships with school districts, non-profits, religious organizations and businesses to provide them useful materials that can either be repurposed or sold. This effort has kept over 300,000 pounds of materials out of the landfill.

Thompson has been with the Salt Palace Convention Center since October 2016, hired as the Guest Relations Manager in charge of the host program, social media and event donations. He was also awarded, and taught part of, the EIC Sustainable Event Professional Certificate in November 2017.

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