



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 11, 2006

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BCEC NOMINATED AS FINALIST FOR CONVENTION CENTER OF THE YEAR HONOR
Trade Magazine to Announce Spotlight Award Recipient on Heels of MCCA's Most Successful Year

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority (MCCA) today announced that the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center (BCEC) has been named one of the three finalists for the prestigious 2007 Event Solutions Spotlight Award as "Convention Center of the Year." The recipient of the Spotlight Award will be announced at the Event Solutions Spotlight Awards Event in Miami Beach on August 23. To view the entry profiles and vote until July 23, visit www.event-solutions.com and click on the "vote" button.

Event Solutions magazine has presented the Spotlight Awards to top event industry professionals for the past 10 years. The 22 award categories honor people and companies in a wide variety of disciplines necessary to produce excellent events. Others vying for the "Convention Center of the Year" include: City of Virginia Beach, represented by Al Hutchinson, and the Indiana Convention Center and RCA Dome, represented by Chris Gahl.

"We have worked hard to make Boston a leader in the convention center industry and I believe this nomination demonstrates that Boston is a city that does it right," said James E. Rooney, Executive Director of the MCCA. "I take seriously my responsibility to propel Boston to the forefront of the convention center marketplace, through innovative programs and services that distinguish our city."

The MCCA recently released its 2006 Economic Impact Report, which outlines the effects of direct spending by event attendees on hotel rooms, local transportation, shopping and dining within calendar year 2006 in association with events at the BCEC and the Hynes Convention Center. With two facilities and 275 events in the past year and generating \$528 million in direct spending, Boston continues as a major player in the meetings, conventions and exhibitions industry. For the first time in MCCA history, the report is Web-based and can be viewed by visiting: <http://www.massconvention.com/economicimpact>.

The 2007 Event Solutions Spotlight Awards Event, produced by the HAND Company of California, will be held on August 23, 2007 in Miami, Florida at the Olympia Theater in the Gusman Center for the Performing Arts. This same evening, the Event Solutions Event Industry Hall of Fame presentations will be made to industry luminaries whose work has impacted the history of event production. Following the state-of-the-art awards presentations, guests will walk the red carpet to a dinner and after-party celebration at the Alfred I. Dupont building with décor by Designs by Sean, catering by Touch Catering both of Florida. The Spotlight Awards Event is a black tie affair with expected attendance of 400 to 500 of the industry's top professionals.

The Spotlight Awards Event is the finale to the 2007 Event Solutions Idea Factory - Education, Events and Expo, which will be held at the Miami Beach Convention Center, August 20 – 23. Event Solutions magazine boasts a circulation of over 26,000 and is one of the products of Event Publishing, LLC, which also produces the Idea Factory.

The Massachusetts Convention Center Authority owns and oversees the operations of the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center, the John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center, the MassMutual Center in Springfield, MA and the Boston Common Parking Garage. In FY 2006, the BCEC and the Hynes successfully hosted 275 events, bringing 579,370 attendees from across the country and around the world to Boston.

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