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HAWAII CONVENTION CENTER NAMES NEW EXECUTIVE CHEF

-Former executive sous chef of The Royal Hawaiian will lead HCC's in-house culinary team-

HONOLULU – AEG Facilities, the management company of the Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC), has named Kevin Nakata as executive chef to lead the center's in-house culinary team.

As executive chef, Nakata is responsible for the training and management of the Hawai'i Convention Center's esteemed culinary team. He oversees all food and beverage operations at the center, ensuring a world-class meeting and convention experience for all of HCC's local, U.S. mainland and international guests through cuisine.

"We are pleased to welcome Kevin to the Hawai'i Convention Center team as his experience will be a valuable asset in enhancing our culinary operations and the overall meeting experience," said Teri Orton, HCC general manager. "His relationships with local farmers combined with his knowledge and understanding of worldwide cuisines and culinary techniques will play an integral role in meeting the expectations of incoming groups from around the globe."

Nakata brings more than 21 years of culinary experience to the Hawai'i Convention Center, having previously served in executive chef positions at some of the finest restaurants and establishments on Kaua'i, Maui and O'ahu. Most recently, he worked as the executive sous chef at The Royal Hawaiian hotel on O'ahu, overseeing the food and beverage operations on property including the Surf Lanai, Mai Tai Bar, as well as banquet events. While working at The Royal Hawaiian, Nakata successfully organized and managed the production and service of food and beverage for the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Leaders' Meeting events in November 2011.

Born and raised in Hawai'i, Nakata earned an associates degree in culinary arts from Kapi'olani Community College.

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About Meet Hawai'i

Meet Hawai'i is a collaboration of the Hawai'i Visitors and Convention Bureau (HVCB) and Hawai'i Convention Center (HCC) to reinforce the brand of the Hawaiian Islands as a world-class destination for business meetings, conventions, and incentive programs. The marketing efforts of the Meet Hawai'i team are overseen by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), the state of Hawai'i's tourism agency. HTA was established in 1998 to ensure a successful visitor industry well into the future. Its mission is to strategically manage Hawai'i tourism in a sustainable manner consistent with the state of Hawai'i's economic goals, cultural values, preservation of natural resources, community desires, and visitor industry needs. For information about Meet Hawai'i and the hosting of meetings, conventions and incentives, please visit MeetHawaii.com.

About AEG Facilities

AEG, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Anschutz Company, is the leading sports, entertainment and venue operator in the world. AEG Facilities, a stand-alone affiliate of AEG, owns, operates or consults with more than 100 of the industry's preeminent venues worldwide, across five continents, providing complete venue management, as well as specialized programs in operations, guest services, ticketing, booking, sales and marketing. AEG Facilities also provides resources and access to other AEG-affiliated entities, including live event producer, AEG Live, AEG Global Partnerships, AEG Development, AEG 1Earth, AEG Encore and AEG Creative to support the success of AEG venues across the globe. The Los Angeles-based organization owns, operates or provides services to the world's most elite venues, including STAPLES Center (Los Angeles, Calif.), StubHub Center (Carson, Calif.), Nokia Theatre L.A. LIVE (Los Angeles, Calif.), Sprint Center (Kansas City, Mo.), KFC Yum! Center (Louisville, Ky.), AmericanAirlines Arena (Miami, Fla.), Prudential Center (Newark, N.J.), Target Center (Minneapolis, Minn.) and BBVA Compass Stadium (Houston, Texas). Among the roster of world class convention centers and other facilities managed by the division are the Los Angeles Convention Center, Hawaii Convention Center (Honolulu, HI), Qatar National Convention Center, Oman Convention and Exhibition Center (Muscat, Oman), Sydney International Conception, Exhibition, and Entertainment District, Cairns Convention Center and Darwin Conventions Centre. Other venues include Oracle Arena and O.co Coliseum (Oakland, Calif.), CONSOL Energy Center (Pittsburgh, Penn.), Rabobank Arena (Bakersfield, Calif.), Mercedes-Benz Arena (Shanghai, China), MasterCard Center (Beijing, China), The O2 Arena (London, England), O2 World (Berlin, Germany), O2 World Hamburg (Hamburg, Germany), Ahoy Arena (Rotterdam, Netherlands), Itaipava Arena Pernambuco (Recife, Brazil), Allianz Parque (Sao Paulo, Brazil), Allphones Arena (Sydney, Australia), Ulker Sports Arena (Istanbul, Turkey), Ericsson Globe Arena (Stockholm, Sweden) and the. For more information, please visit aegworldwide.com.

Special note to media: HTA recognizes the use of the 'okina ['] or glottal stop, one of the eight consonants of the (modern) Hawaiian language; and the kahakō [ā] or macron (e.g., in place names of Hawai'i such as Lāna'i). However, HTA respects the individual use of these markings for names of organizations and businesses.

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