

AIRCRAFT ELECTRONICS

ASSOCIATION

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AEA Heads to the Nation's Capital for its 51st Annual International Convention & Trade Show *Register Now for AEA Convention from April 23-26 in Washington, D.C.*

INDEPENDENCE, MO — As the Aircraft Electronics Association heads to the nation's capital in April, this is *the* year the avionics industry will conduct some serious business while introducing the latest new products and technologies. Unlike any other spot in the country, Washington, D.C., is *the* place to be for exceptional business opportunities.

Not only does Washington, D.C., exude energy and excitement during an election year, the AEA also is bringing its own brand of enthusiastic enterprise when aviation professionals from around the world converge on the nation's capital for the 51st annual AEA International Convention & Trade Show. From April 23-26, 2008, the AEA will host the avionics industry's most respected and attended general aviation trade show at the Gaylord National Resort on the Potomac River. The AEA will be the first aviation group to host an event at this brand-new resort and convention center.

It may be politics as usual in the nation's capital, but there will be nothing ordinary about the 2008 AEA International Convention & Trade Show. While the AEA has a year-round presence in Washington, D.C., with its government and industry affairs office, the Association will be bringing even more training, more regulatory forums, more exhibits, and more of the industry's movers and shakers to D.C. during its 2008 convention. And with a membership of more than 1,300 companies from around the world, this year's convention will offer an international flair.

"As we gather in our nation's capital this year for the annual convention and trade show, it is fitting that, in recognizing AEA's membership reaches around the globe, our recipients of the AEA Lifetime Achievement Award are three international members being recognized for their work in growing the organization beyond American soil," said Paula Derks, president of AEA.

This year, three individuals each will be honored with the AEA Lifetime Achievement Award during the convention's Official Opening Ceremonies. Tom Sternig from the Canada region, Paul Brenner from the Europe region, and Bruce Baxter from the Australia/South Pacific region all were instrumental in the tremendous international growth of the AEA.

In addition, the 2008 AEA Associate Member of the Year and the 2008 AEA Member of the Year will be announced during the AEA Annual Awards Luncheon, featuring Newt Gingrich, former speaker of the United States House of Representatives (*see accompanying news release*).

AEA Associate Member of the Year nominees are: Aerospace Optics, Comant Industries, Chelton Flight Systems—Boise, EMTEQ, Flight Display Systems, and Laversab. AEA Member of the Year nominees are: Bill Arsenault, Mid-Canada Mod Center, Mississauga, Ontario; Gary Harpster, Duncan Aviation, Lincoln, Neb.; Dennis Lamer, Denver Avionics, Englewood, Colo.; Rick Ochs, Spirit Avionics, Columbus, Ohio; and Steve Vold, Aerotronics, Billings, Mont. (*High-resolution photographs and/or logos of all nominees are available upon request.*)

As it does each year, the AEA convention features four days of FAA-recognized technical training, important regulatory and industry affairs sessions, announcements of new products, manufacturers' workshops, business management classes, and panel discussions from industry experts, as well as recognition of the Avionics Training Excellence Award winners and the AEA Educational Foundation scholarship recipients. This year, more than 40 scholarships — a record number — are being distributed. The AEA Silent Auction, which takes place in the AEA Exhibit Hall, will feature a wide array of merchandise on which to bid, with proceeds benefiting the AEA Educational Foundation's scholarships and training programs.

The 51st annual AEA Trade Show floor is sold out, with more than 135 avionics manufacturers and distributors showcasing the latest technology and products throughout more than 72,000 square feet of space.



*High-resolution logo can be
downloaded at www.aea.net/pressroom.*

For a complete schedule of events, to register or for more information about the 51st annual AEA International Convention & Trade Show, visit www.aea.net/convention or call 816-373-6565.