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**Meetings Quest**<sup>TM</sup>

**Meetings Quest Relaunches in Mesa, Arizona**

***Nation's Longest-Running Series of Trade Shows for Association and Corporate Meeting Planners  
Has New Look and Lineup***

Mesa, AZ—May 6, 2014— Meetings Quest, the nation's longest-running series of educational and networking events for association and corporate meeting planners, is relaunching today in Mesa, Arizona. Meetings Quest was acquired last year by Los Angeles-based Schneider Publishing, publishers of *SportsTravel* and *Association News* magazines and organizers of the TEAMS Conference & Expo.

Hosted by Visit Mesa, Meetings Quest has been scheduled to coincide with the U.S. Travel Association's National Travel and Tourism Week as a way of highlighting the importance of meetings and events as generators of travel and economic impact. Meetings Quest will kick off this evening with an opening celebration at the Mesa Arts Center, which includes a "Taste of Mesa" culinary and cultural experience, tours of the arts center and a welcome from Mesa Mayor Alex Finter. Following Mayor Finter's welcome, Timothy Schneider, president and CEO of Schneider Publishing, will moderate a panel discussion on the state of the travel industry with Marc Garcia, president and CEO of Visit Mesa; Sherry Henry, director of the Arizona Office of Tourism; Debbie Johnson, president and CEO of the Arizona Lodging & Tourism Association; and Martha Sheridan, chairperson of Destination Marketing Association International. The opening celebration will also serve as Arizona's Travel Rally Day.

On the morning of Wednesday, May 7, Meetings Quest will offer two Learning Lab sessions centered on meeting-planning technology and social media strategies for event organizers. The innovative meetings-industry training will be facilitated by Steven Hacker, former president of the International Association of Exhibitions and Events, who now serves as "The Association Doctor" columnist for *Association News*. Expert presenters include LinkedIn co-founder Eric Ly, founder and CEO of Presdo.com; Michelle Wyatt, partner at Cadmium CD; Michael Barnett, CEO of InGO; and Jake Zatzkin, marketing manager in charge of digital strategies for the National Association of Broadcasters. Following the Learning Lab sessions, Chris Waddell, the most decorated male skier in Paralympic history and host of NBC's coverage of the 2014 Paralympic Games, will provide a keynote address. An afternoon trade show at the Mesa Convention Center featuring exhibitors interested in working with corporate and association meeting planners will round out the Meetings Quest agenda.

"We are starting off strong and relaunching Meetings Quest in a dynamic way," said Timothy Schneider, president and CEO of Schneider Publishing, which publishes *Association News* magazine and organizes Meetings Quest. "Meetings Quest is a brand with a long and proud history and we're confident the enhancements we've made to this unique educational and networking opportunity will provide the greatest value to both attendees and exhibitors in the meetings industry."

Organizations that are exhibiting at Meetings Quest include the Aspen Chamber Resort Association, Bentonville CVB, Bloomington, MN, CVB, Cabarrus County CVB, Chicago Southland CVB, Destination Missoula, Greater St. Charles CVB, Las Vegas CVA, Long Island CVB & SC, Providence Warwick CVB, San Mateo County/Silicon Valley CVB, Valley Forge CVB, Vermont Convention Bureau, Visit Anchorage, Visit Oakland, Visit Phoenix and many more.

For further information, visit [MeetingsQuest.com](http://MeetingsQuest.com) or call toll-free (877) 577-3700.

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Schneider Publishing ([SchneiderPublishing.com](http://SchneiderPublishing.com)) is the parent company of *Association News* ([AssociationNews.com](http://AssociationNews.com)), America's most-read magazine for association executives, and *SportsTravel* ([SportsTravelMagazine.com](http://SportsTravelMagazine.com)), the sports world's event magazine. In addition to Meetings Quest ([MeetingsQuest.com](http://MeetingsQuest.com)), Schneider Publishing organizes the TEAMS Conference & Expo ([TEAMSconference.com](http://TEAMSconference.com)), the world's largest gathering of sports-event organizers, which will be held November 10–13 in Las Vegas. The group travel markets served by Schneider Publishing generate 106 million hotel room nights annually.

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