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## **B2B Networking Sessions and Japan Summit Offer New Business Leads at 2017 Global Tourism Summit**

### **Hawai'i Suppliers Connect with Domestic and International Tour Operators; Registration Deadline is July 31**

**HONOLULU** – Creating new business leads for Hawai'i companies by networking with global tour operators will be accomplished with the B2B Networking Sessions and Japan Summit offered at the 2017 Global Tourism Summit, September 19-21.

Presented by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority (HTA), the Global Tourism Summit takes place at the Hawai'i Convention Center. The summit is expected to bring 2,500 tourism decision-makers, stakeholders and innovators together from Hawai'i, the mainland U.S., and international destinations to address the future of tourism. Sustainable tourism is the summit theme.

To date, approximately 100 domestic and international tour operators and wholesalers from the mainland U.S., Canada, Japan, Korea, China, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, and Europe have agreed to participate in the B2B Networking Sessions and Japan Summit. More companies are expected to sign up in the coming weeks.

Hawai'i suppliers representing properties, activities, attractions and transportation providers can register and meet with tour operators of their choosing to showcase products, increase awareness about service offerings, and collaborate on new business opportunities.

George D. Szigeti, HTA president and CEO, said, "Helping travel industry partners develop new business is a key focus of HTA and the Global Tourism Summit. The B2B Networking Sessions and Japan Summit are excellent opportunities to connect local suppliers with tour operators. The registration deadline is July 31, so I encourage all interested attendees to sign up before then and secure a reservation to help grow their business."

**B2B Networking Sessions:** Hawai'i suppliers for properties, activities, attractions and transportation providers can register to hold pre-scheduled, one-on-one meetings with domestic and international tour operators, wholesalers and marketers. The B2B Networking Sessions take place September 19, from 3:40 to 4:55 p.m., and September 20, from 2:00 to 3:35 p.m., at the Hawai'i Convention Center. Registrants will be notified of the room and meeting schedule. To register and see the companies taking part in the B2B Networking Sessions, go to <http://www.globaltourismsummithawaii.com/events/global-tourism-summit/custom-39-90252ee3dc0247afa85eb7aed785f805.aspx>.

**Japan Summit:** The Japan Summit is a targeted networking session connecting Hawai'i suppliers for properties, activities, attractions and transportation providers with top tour operators and travel agents from Japan. The Japan Summit takes place September 20, from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., at the Hawai'i Convention Center. Registrants will be notified of the room and meeting schedule. To register and see the companies taking part in the Japan Summit, go to <http://www.globaltourismsummithawaii.com/events/global-tourism-summit/custom-113-90252ee3dc0247afa85eb7aed785f805.aspx>.

**Registration Deadline is July 31:** Hawai'i suppliers wanting to participate in the B2B Networking Sessions and/or Japan Summit must register by July 31. In August, Hawai'i registrants will be able to select the companies they want to meet with and discuss potential business opportunities.

Early-bird registration to the Global Tourism Summit for all attendees is currently being offered through July 31 for the following discounted rates for individuals and groups.

- Individuals: Full Conference, September 19-21: \$325, a savings of \$70
- Groups of Eight or More: Full Conference, September 19-21: \$300 per person, a savings of \$65 per person (*Groups can mix and match different attendees during the conference*)
- Student and Faculty Members: Full Conference, September 19-21: \$150
- Individuals, Partial Conference, September 19-20: \$275
- Individuals, Partial Conference, September 20-21: \$265

Attendees can register via the dedicated summit website, [www.globaltourismsummithawaii.com](http://www.globaltourismsummithawaii.com).

Information on sponsorships and exhibits to promote services and products are available by contacting Chris Sadayasu, HTA brand manager, at [chris@gohta.net](mailto:chris@gohta.net).

### **About the Hawai'i Tourism Authority**

The [Hawai'i Tourism Authority](http://www.hawaiiauthority.org) is responsible for strategically managing the State of Hawai'i's marketing initiatives to support tourism. HTA's goal is to optimize tourism's benefits for Hawai'i, while being attentive to the interests of travelers, the community and visitor industry. Established in 1998 to support Hawai'i's leading industry and largest employer, HTA continually strives to help ensure the sustainability of tourism's success.

For more information about HTA, please visit [www.hawaiiauthority.org](http://www.hawaiiauthority.org). Follow updates about HTA on Facebook, Twitter (@HawaiiHTA) and its YouTube Channel.

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