

Walking the Talk: Expo! Expo! IAEE's Annual Meeting and Exposition at the Anaheim Convention Center

IAEE's 2016 Expo! Expo! takes place at the Anaheim Convention Center (ACC) from December 6-8, 2016. Just in time to celebrate its golden anniversary in 2017, the Anaheim Convention Center has been awarded the prestigious 2016 LEED Gold® certification for its high achievement in sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection, indoor environmental quality and environmentally friendly practices. [LEED](#) (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the preeminent program for the design, construction, maintenance and operations of high-performance green buildings. Highlights of the [ACC's sustainability program](#) include:

- Donation by diversion program: This program offers a turn-key way for organizers to donate show materials to community groups in Anaheim.
- Solar energy: A 300,000-square-foot solar array of 7,900 panels spans the roofs of Exhibit Halls A, B and C to generate an estimated 3.6 million kilowatt hours of electricity annually.
- Green roof: The 2,000-square-foot space atop the Arena box office is a garden for adaptive plants and herbs.
- Green menu practices: Aramark, the ACC's on-site catering company operates a roof-top garden, sources local, sustainable menu items, and, through the "Waste not OC" program, donates excess prepared food that would normally go to waste after ACC events. They were the first convention center foodservice operation to become a partner with a Seafood Watch program. They chose Monterey Bay Aquarium's program due to its extensive sourcing criteria and tireless efforts on outreach and education. They also manage their own source of whole animal beef that is grass-fed, grass-finished, hormone free, antibiotic free, humanely raised cows in partnership with Hearst Ranch.
- The "Green Zone": The ACC's on-site recycling center turns kitchen food scraps into nutrient-rich compost later used for the landscaping in the Anaheim Resort™ district. Recyclable plastic bottles (PET, PETE, rPET and HDPE), aluminum cans, office paper, kitchen oils, cardboard and glass are also processed here. Watch the video below to see the "Green Zone" in action.

YouTube video: <https://youtu.be/qmg8BRGcpSI>