



## Monterey Conference Center Names New Caterer

The Monterey Conference Center today announced that the Monterey Marriott will provide interim, exclusive catering and banquet services at the facility through the end of 2010. During the interim contract, the Monterey Conference Center will solicit proposals for a multi-year food and beverage contract. The Monterey Marriott succeeds Oventions Food Services in providing food and beverage services at the 58,000 square foot facility. "We are pleased to be returning as food and beverage supplier to the Monterey Conference Center," said Rene Boskoff, General Manager of the Monterey Marriott, which has a 14-year history of catering at the Conference Center.

The City of Monterey, owner and operator of the Monterey Conference Center, and Oventions Food Services mutually agreed to an early end of their contract due to economic conditions that affected the company's profitability. "The current economic climate has forced many companies, including our own, to limit our exposure in some areas," said Charles T. Neary, Vice President of Oventions Food Services.

The Monterey Conference Center, like most conference and convention facilities in California, has experienced a decline in demand for meeting space due to the recession as business, government and non-profits slowed spending on meetings and events. More recently, demand for conference space and hotel rooms has increased as Monterey plays host to the U.S. Open Golf Tournament in June, the Moto-GP international motorcycle races in July and the Blue Ocean Film Festival in August.

“We have been planning the transition from one provider to another for several weeks, working closely with Ovations and the Monterey Marriott to make the change in catering and banquet services seamless for our guests who have events scheduled at our facility,” said Public Facilities Director Jo Lyons. The Ovations contract concludes on April 20, 2010 and interim contract with Marriott begins on May 1, 2010.

The Monterey Conference Center is the only waterfront conference or convention center in northern California, within easy drive distance of San Francisco, San Jose and Silicon Valley.

For more information on the Monterey Conference Center, visit [montereyconferencecenter.com](http://montereyconferencecenter.com). If you have questions regarding this news release, please contact Dan Concepcion at 831-646-3770.

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