

News

The international information industry meets in London for the 26th year of Online Information

Information industry professionals from over 45 countries gathered at the 26th annual Online Information exhibition and conference which was held on 3–5 December 2002 at the Grand Hall, Olympia, London. 11,091 attendees passed through the doors of the Olympia Grand Hall in London to see the new information products and services on offer from 240 exhibitors, attend the conference, and take advantage of 80 free educational seminars on the exhibition floor.

Robin Murray, Managing Director of Fretwell-Downing Informatics said, “Online Information 2002 was a great success for us. Visitor numbers at our stand were high again this year and we have generated a significant number of sales leads as a result of the show.”

Sarah Kellman, Marketing Communications at Swets Blackwell commented, “Online Information 2002 proved once again to be a valuable opportunity for Swets Blackwell to meet large numbers of our customers from the UK and many other countries in a mere 3 days – a testament to the show’s increasingly international appeal.”

Katherine Allen, Event Director, comments, “I am delighted that once again, the international information industry gathered at Online Information. Exhibitors have praised the high quality of visitors they met on their stands and we were particularly pleased to note that the free educational seminars were all full to bursting, indicating that there is a strong demand for an event package that gives visitors the chance to review the latest products and services on offer and to combine this with professional development that will stand them in good stead when they return to the office.”

Over 700 delegates from Europe as well the USA, Canada, Far East, Africa, Asia, Australia and New Zealand attended the conference which runs in parallel to the exhibition to hear expert comment, practical advice, industry insight and predictions for the information industry in the future. Conference themes for 2002 focused on the future of search, the value of information as an asset, and new roles and new challenges for information professionals with keynote speakers including Jeffrey Dean from Google, Don Marchand, Professor of Strategy and Information Management from IMD, and CILIP’s Bob McKee.

Other popular topics included digital rights management; content management strategies; intranets, extranets and elearning; information literacy and digital preservation and hybrid libraries. A new feature introduced at the 2002 conference was the Online Information Academy – training sessions from information training experts TFPL designed to help information professionals support their existing information skills with key business skills.

The 2002 event saw the launch of the Online Information industry achievement awards which were presented at a gala ceremony at the Royal Garden Hotel in Kensington. The awards were introduced to recognise and reward excellence and innovation from around the world and were presented to individuals and organisations who have made an outstanding contribution to the information community in six categories including: The Roger K. Summit Scholarship award (presented by Dialog), The Factiva award for Innovation, Information World Review Information Professional of the Year award, Online Information Lifetime Achievement award, Free Pint Online Information award for Vendor Customer Service and the CILIP Online Information Personal Development award.

Online Information 2003 takes place from 2–4 December 2003 in the Grand Hall, and Conference Centre, Olympia. For further information, contact Learned Information on +44 (0)1865 388000, or visit the Online Information Web site at www.online-information.co.uk.