

Contacts: Julie Reed, Public Relations, 503.731.7838 • 503.312.8459 (c)
Karen Totaro, Assistant Executive Director • 503.731.7901

Oregon Convention Center hires facility operations director

Ryan Thorpe joins the Oregon Convention Center to manage facility operations, maintenance and technical services for the Pacific Northwest's largest convention center.

Portland, OR (November 7, 2007) – The [Oregon Convention Center](#) has chosen Ryan Thorpe to serve as its director of operations. Thorpe will direct building operations and maintenance services for the one million sq. ft. Oregon Convention Center, the largest convention center in the Pacific Northwest. Thorpe will have oversight of engineering, utility, and building maintenance; custodial and exhibit services; landscape services; and capital improvement projects. Thorpe will manage a \$7.8 million operations budget and a workforce of 70 full-time employees. Thorpe began his new post November 5, 2007.

Thorpe has 15 years experience in facilities operations management and technical systems design and maintenance. He joins the Oregon Convention Center after serving since 2006 as director of facilities for the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio where he has worked since 2000. "Thorpe's facilities management experience and technical expertise will be valuable to the Oregon Convention Center," said Executive Director Jeff Blosser. "Ryan brings a vast knowledge of technical systems and tremendous project management experience," said Assistant Executive Director Karen Totaro. Thorpe also served as a maintenance technician in the U.S. Navy and was deployed in the Persian Gulf during his enlistment. Thorpe graduated from Ohio Dominican University in Columbus, Ohio with a B.S. in Business Administration.

The Oregon Convention Center is the state's premier destination for conventions, industry tradeshows and meetings. The Oregon Convention Center is managed by the [Metropolitan Exposition Recreation Commission](#). MERC, a subsidiary of [Metro](#), contributes to the region's cultural and economic vitality through management and stewardship of regional public assembly venues.

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Oregon Convention Center

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777 NE Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd • PO Box 12210, Portland OR 97212
(503) 235-7575 • www.oregoncc.org