

13 October 2006

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Pat Johnston and Dunedin Conference Management Services

The Department of Anaesthesia, Dunedin Hospital has now utilised the services of Dunedin Conference Management Services Ltd (DCMS) to host two national and international Anaesthesia Conferences in the last decade. In 1998 the Combined New Zealand Society of Anaesthetists and Australian Society of Anaesthetists Scientific Meeting was held in Dunedin, and more recently the New Zealand Anaesthesia 2006 Scientific Meeting was held in August. DCMS have provided organising services for both meetings, and Pat Johnston was the Professional Conference Organiser (PCO) for the latter meeting.

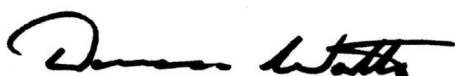
The Organising Committees for both meetings regarded the events as resounding successes and were very impressed with level of service provided by DCMS. The Committees have been particularly impressed by:

1. Extensive knowledge and experience of local venues and facilities;
2. Knowledge of the Dunedin Centre and how to exploit the best features of the venue for the benefit of the meeting;
3. Wide knowledge of opportunities and facilities and venues in Dunedin for hosting social events as part of the meeting;
4. An extensive network of personal contacts throughout Dunedin and Otago used to ensure that the best facilities and services are made available to the meeting organisers;
5. In-depth knowledge of accommodation resources available within the wider Dunedin area;
6. Ability to co-ordinate and host a very successful Industry Exhibition and secure sponsorship;
7. A personal approach and attention to detail hosting delegates and visiting speakers, and in negotiating the array of services required when hosting a major meeting.

Our own conferences have involved extensive scientific programmes held in the Dunedin Centre, off-site workshops held at the Medical School, social functions held at the Art Gallery and in the Dunedin Centre, Conference Dinners held in the Savoy Function Centre and in the Town Hall Auditorium, Industry Exhibitions held in the Town Hall Auditorium, catering for functions through Kingsgate Hotel and using other caterers and suppliers as needed to meet the requirements of delegates, arranging accommodation for delegates and speakers, financial management, website development, and co-ordination of printed materials amongst others.

The success of our meetings has been due in large measure to the level of service provided by Pat and her staff at DCMS. I do not believe that there is any alternative Conference Organising group with the level of knowledge and experience of hosting events in Dunedin even remotely approaching that provided by DCMS and I have no hesitation in recommending Pat and her team.

Yours sincerely



Dr Duncan Watts FANZCA
Convenor, New Zealand Anaesthesia Scientific Meeting Dunedin 2006