

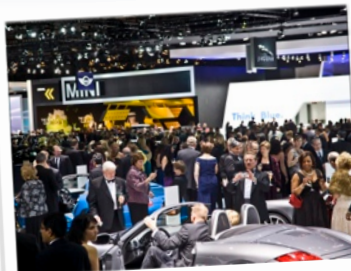


## Operations

### **Cobo Center becomes the largest Green Venue Michigan certified facility**

On November 30, 2011, Cobo Center was certified as a Green Venue Michigan facility by the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor & Economic Growth and The Bureau of Energy Systems.

Some of the environmental initiatives recognized in the Cobo Center certification were: property wide recycling effort; purchasing minimum 30% recycled content products; buy fresh, buy local initiative; HVAC controlled by computerized energy management system; induction lighting in exhibit halls; air curtains on doors of exhibit floor vestibule; recent energy audits; lighting controlled by computer system.



## Events

### **NAIAS signs historic five-year contract with Cobo Center**

As a result of the facility and operational improvements made since the Detroit Regional Convention Facility Authority (DRCFA) assumed responsibility for Cobo Center in September of 2009, the North American International Auto Show (NAIAS) has agreed to a unprecedented five-year contract with Cobo Center.

Executed at the January 5 DRCFA board meeting with a press conference afterward, the first-ever multi-year contract between the facility and event reflects the new found spirit of cooperation and success in Cobo Center operations. New rules, new rates and new attitudes have most definitely paid off.



## Construction

### **Phase II is completed and Phase III begun**

Phase II of the Cobo Center Capital Improvement Program was completed on time and under budget for the NAIAS, including the Oakland Annex (25,000 square feet of exhibition space), Cobo Center Congress Street Garage (400 additional parking spaces) under Detroit Hall, enclosure of the loading docks and induction lighting in all exhibit halls and parking areas..

Significant progress has also been made in Phase III projects with the adaptive reuse of the Cobo Arena. A 40,000 square-foot ballroom, 100,000 square-feet of additional meeting space, and spacious pre-function areas overlooking the Detroit river are scheduled for completion in time for the 2013 NAIAS.

## Community

### **Cobo Center awards local college scholarship for mascot design**

What Crain's Detroit Business is calling a "happy robot activist, sporting a hard hat, tool belt and tires for shoulders," the new Cobo Center construction mascot, COBOTRON, will be seen throughout the facility to inform the public of the ongoing construction. Bethany Radloff, a junior at the Detroit area College for Creative Studies was awarded a \$1,200 scholarship for her imaginative design.

"It feels good to be a part of something that will help to revitalize the city of Detroit," said Radloff. "Thanks to Joe Ruffolo and Thom Connors for giving me this opportunity."