

Cork & Grind Opens For ASAE to Rave Reviews



The August 9 opening during ASAE of the newest food and beverage outlet on the Cobo Center concourse, Cork & Grind, met with great success. According to Pamela Troop, director of meeting operations & special events for ASAE, ". . . of course we loved the Cork & Grind - other centers should take note of this."

Morning patrons were treated to Great Lakes Coffee options, pastry and small breakfast plates. Great Lakes Coffee Roasting Company, who is known downtown for their Campus Martius coffee bar, is wildly popular. As the afternoon progressed, Cork & Grind became an ASAE meeting place for small groups to enjoy a delicious bite and glass of wine or cup of coffee while discussing the events of the day.

"Having a place for a great cup of coffee in the morning and a glass of wine and small plates through the evening gives our event attendees a place to meet friends, get organized, relax and unwind," said Thom Connors, Cobo Center general manager. "We expect it to become the hub of the event community in Cobo."

Along with a selection of wine and small dinner plates, local Michigan craft beer and hard cider will be available during afternoon and evening hours at the Cork & Grind during events.

Community pod furniture converts flex space to meeting space



In the final phase of the Cobo Center renovation, furniture groupings creating "community pods" were placed throughout the flex spaces, such as the concourse, pre-function, and lounges. These groups will be moved to meet the needs of the events in the facility.

"Show managers love the idea of their attendees having places to regroup, continue the conversation, and recharge," said Claude Molinari, Cobo

Center assistant general manager.

Community pods promote a sense of event culture between attendees and provide a place to recharge devices via electric outlets built into the furniture. They are also the perfect place for a small pop-up meeting, group discussion or to just relax, kick back, and conduct digital business like checking e-mail, social media interaction or preparation for the next meeting.

January
15-23

North American International Auto Show

COBO CENTER

2015 NORTH AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL AUTO SHOW
BEST OF THE YEAR

NEW PICK-UP DROP-OFF ZONES OPEN



With the completion of the Cobo Center renovation, new pick-up - drop/off lanes have been created off Washington Boulevard near Cobo Center's new City View Lounge entrance. The area includes a turn-around just outside the entrance, where visitors can be dropped off and drivers can access Washington Boulevard going north and Jefferson Avenue going east.

Included in this front-of-the-facility traffic configuration, is a standing taxi lane used by cabs waiting for a fare, and a standing vehicle lane, used by visitors waiting to pick up passengers.

What's In Sight Must Be Right

Kudos to the entire Cobo Center team that worked tirelessly to make ASAE 2015 "a wonderful 'five star' experience" according to show management. WISMBR at its finest!

To Deidra Harris-Thomas, the newest member of the Cobo Center finance team, welcome aboard!

Kudos to the IT team for its flawless WiFi execution during ASAE. Ally Jenkins, Manager Conferences, ASAE: "I did not get one single complaint on the WiFi. This is unprecedented."

The WISMBR award of the month goes to the building trades team that spruced up the facility before ASAE by painting, fixing, planting, cleaning and making sure everything was in peak order. Nicely done.

Congratulations to the production services team that moved more than 20,000 pieces of furniture to break down the National Medical Association and set up ASAE. Whew!

"Vehicles will not be allowed to stand in the turn-around," said Thom Connors, Cobo Center general manager. "But vehicles can wait in the designated lane near the taxi lane as long as the driver remains with the car. Once they have picked-up their passengers, vehicles must clear the area."

There are also four parking spots for large buses along west Jefferson, just outside of the new turn-around. Buses can use these areas for loading and unloading event attendees.

Along Atwater Street, just outside the atrium's riverfront entrance, on the south end of Cobo Center, a pick-up - drop/off area for large buses allows traffic for city-wide events a more organized traffic pattern. The area includes color coded zones that events can customize for use to coordinate attendee transportation.

"ASAE 2015 was the first event to implement the color code system to organize their attendee transportation from hotels to Cobo and from Cobo to other event destinations for the city-wide convention," said Connors. "Thousands of attendees were seamlessly transported all over the city. The system gave attendees a highly recognizable way to catch the right bus to their next meeting or back to their hotel."

The Riverfront Salon just inside Cobo's atrium entrance provides the perfect waiting area, complete with community pods for attendees to comfortably wait for their rides.

