

May/June 2009 Issue



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New Trends In Teambuilding

Emphasize Employee Engagement To Stay Upbeat, Connected And Improve The Bottom Line

The following is an excerpt from the May/June 2009 issue of *Insurance & Financial Meetings Management* feature article written by Baylee Simon.

Activities That Focus On Employee Engagement

The America's Cup Trio & Sailing Regatta

Who: Offered by Access Destination Services, San Diego, CA-based office.

What: Attendees have a choice of boarding a replica of the America, a world-famous America's Cup racing yacht, or taking part in a match race between the Stars & Stripes and Abracadabra — also two America's Cup racing yachts. A third option, the sailing regatta, allows more experienced attendees to race against each other in a group of 10 boats. In all activities, participants work together to man each yacht, sharing responsibilities.

Where: San Diego Bay

The Objective: "Really the ultimate goal was to have an activity that would provide the greatest amount of interactivity across a large group of people. ...They were all sailing together and creating a memory together in an interactive way, which is something they won't forget," said Tracy Marshall, independent meeting planner on behalf of Brandes Investment Partners, based in San Diego.



Photo courtesy of Access Destination Services San Diego

New Orleans Computer Lab Build

Who: Offered by Access Destination Services

What: A company's IT professionals gather in New Orleans to transform a vacant house into a new computer lab for the neighborhood's underprivileged kids and teens. While assembling computers with local children, attendees act as their mentors and inspire them to mentor others.

Where: New Orleans

Something Special: The Association of Destination Management Executives (ADME) nominated Access Destination Services as a finalist in this year's annual ADME Awards for "Best Teambuilding Activity."



Photos courtesy of Access Destination Services San Diego

Since 1970, **ACCESS** Destination Services has provided the highest caliber of full-service, professional destination management and event production services in the West, including the Anaheim/Orange County, Las Vegas, Los Angeles, Palm Springs and San Diego areas.