



## Giving Back

ACCESS Destination Services recently united San Diego industry members for a day of charitable giving at the city's new Ronald McDonald House, preparing the facility for move-in and demonstrating the value of CSR events as conference and meeting inclusions. About 100 volunteers participated in kitchen and storage set-up, sleeping room sanitation and preparation, welcome packet production and art projects.



## Children First

The Religious Conference Management Association recently donated an additional US\$100,000 to feed starving children around the world. Over the past four years, the association has provided a total of \$500,000 to the World Food Programme. These funds have fed more than 10,000 children during this time.



## Color-Blind Pilots?

Color-blindness—which affects 1 in 20 men and 1 in 200 women—has excluded thousands of would-be pilots from the cockpit. That's going to change, thanks to new research sponsored by the British Civil Aviation Authority and the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, which resulted in a more sophisticated test for the condition. By distinguishing between mild and severe cases of color-blindness, the new test will allow an estimated 35 percent of those who would have failed past color tests to fly.

## No Holiday

Concerns about the economy and personal finance have workers rethinking holiday plans, according to a recent survey by **CareerBuilder.com**. Thirty-six percent of employed workers in Europe reported they are not planning to take a holiday in 2009. Of those not planning to vacation, 41 percent of workers said they simply can't afford it while another 10 percent are worried about taking days away from the office in an economy where jobs have been lost.



## Cancellation Costs

Research has found that cancellation charges are costing British companies at least £119 million annually. Commissioned by workspace solutions provider Regus, the report shows that the average charge for cancellations up to 15 days in advance was 82 percent of the hire fee, followed by 59 percent for cancellations up to 30 days in advance and 43 percent for 60 days. The average cost per delegate is £26.40.

**CANCELLED**



## No Good News

The U.N. World Tourism Organization has revised its forecast for the full year 2009, due to poor results from its June *World Tourism Barometer*. According to the report, international tourism declined by 8 percent between January and April. Destinations worldwide recorded a total of 247 million international tourist arrivals in those four months, down from 269 million in 2008. Taking account of the results for the first four months of the year and the current market conditions, international tourism is now forecast to decrease by between 4 percent and 6 percent in 2009.