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8 FEBRUARY 2017 ISSUE 71

Tourism shift driving expanding theme park market

A report looking at the future of the global themepark market has predicted annual growth of more than 10 per cent through to 2021, driven by a shift in consumer taste from relaxation to adventure.

Covering the market landscape and its growth prospects over the coming years, the *Global Amusement Park Market 2017-2021* report forecast compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.16 per cent during the period 2017-2021.

According to the report by Research and Markets, with tourism revenues increasing, governments of many countries are coming to the realisation that theme parks play an important role in attracting tourists, with Dubai's current park boom evidence of this emerging trend.



Theme parks are playing an important role in modern day tourism

Additionally, the report states that there is a shift in preference occurring, with individuals wanting relaxing holidays now turning instead to adventure sports and tourism.

"The target population in the age group of 0-14 is declining," said an analyst commenting on the report. "Many theme parks are shifting their focus toward audience of other age groups to generate more revenue. Theme parks are creating more attractions and rides to target a larger audience. For instance, children under 15 are not allowed in certain rides in various theme parks.

"Theme parks are attracting adult audience by providing amusement rides such as roller coasters, river rapids rides, and sky coasters.

This shift in the target audience will likely support the growth of the market during the forecast period."

More: http://lei.sr?a=7c6C4_A

SeaWorld's Doug Stagner named new IAAPA COO and EVP

IAAPA has named attractions veteran Doug Stagner as its new COO and executive vice president – a newly created position designed to help the organisation achieve its goals and handle growth and global infrastructure.

Stagner, who has been a part of the attractions industry for more than 32 years, started his career in 1984 as a ride operator at SeaWorld San Diego. From there, Stagner worked his way up the SeaWorld ladder, holding a variety of positions including roles in operations, business development, and strategic planning and execution. Most recently as SeaWorld's vice president of international operations, Stagner was overseeing the company's expansion into Asia.

For IAAPA, Stagner sits on the organisation's board and is former chair of its education



Stagner has won IAAPA awards in the past

committee. In 2013 he was the recipient of the IAAPA Meritorious Service Award.

In his new role, Stagner will report to president and CEO Paul Noland, while directly overseeing management of global membership, communications, education, talent and IAAPA's four regional offices. Additionally, he will play a significant role in IAAPA's relocation to Orlando later this year.

"As IAAPA begins its next chapter, Doug is the right person at the right time," said Noland. "Doug's understanding of IAAPA coupled with his previous work overseeing international business development opportunities and day-to-day operation of 12 US domestic parks, uniquely positions him as the person who can help direct it toward its bright future."

More: http://lei.sr?a=f2y2P_A

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The tropically-themed Volcano Bay will complement Universal's existing Cabana Bay Resort

Volcano Bay set for grand opening 25 May

Universal's highly-anticipated Volcano Bay waterpark will open its doors to the public on 25 May, the operator has confirmed.

The waterpark, which replaces Wet N' Wild Orlando following its closure on 31 December, has been touted as the "next generation", with Universal promising to redefine the waterpark experience with everything from virtual queueing to immersive

theming, also complementing Universal's existing Cabana Bay Beach Resort.

Featuring 18 attractions across four themed areas, the 28-acre (113,000sq m) park will be anchored by a 200ft (61m) -high volcano structure. The park's signature ride will be within the volcano, which encases the Krakatau Aqua Coaster.

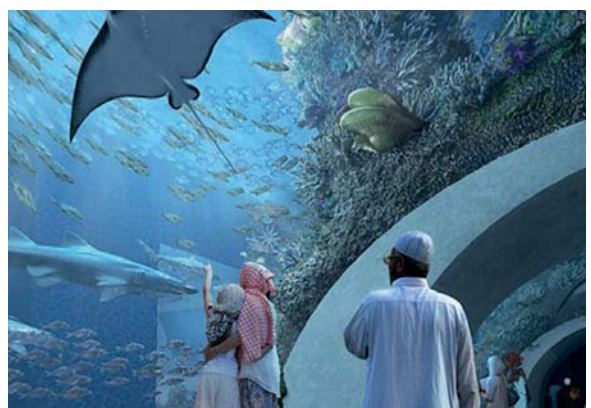
More: http://lei.sr?a=p6R9Z_A

Oman tourism investment continues with aquarium plans at Seeb's Palm Mall

As Oman continues to diversify its tourism offering, plans have been unveiled for a new aquarium, set to open in the city of Seeb's Palm Mall in the first quarter of 2018.

The aquarium, which will be 8,000sq m (86,000sq ft) in size, will feature a collection of 30,000 marine creatures across 55 exhibit tanks.

The main ocean tank will be 1.7 million litres and will house fish and sharks found on the coast of Oman. The tank will have a walkthrough tunnel, as well as a large viewing panel in the aquarium's main gallery. The majority of the aquarium's exhibits will showcase Oman's local marine life, while there will also be a number of freshwater exhibits from Asia and Africa.



The main tank will house fish found on the coast of Oman

Aquarium and animal-based attraction consulting firm Tolliday Group International have been appointed to provide consultancy, supervision and specialised management and operational services by Al Jarwani Group – one of Oman's largest property developers and developer of the wider Palm Mall.

More: http://lei.sr?a=3e7q3_A

Endowments for arts face axe as Trump prepares first budget

The American Alliance of Museums (AAM) has raised extreme concerns over reports that President Donald Trump's formal budget plan for fiscal year 2018 will eliminate both the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), a move which could devastate the sector.

With the Trump administration working to reduce federal spending by US\$10tn (€9.3tn, £7.9tn) the NEH and NEA programmes look to be among the first on the chopping block.

The NEA, which celebrated its 50th anniversary in 2015 after its founding in 1965, is the US's largest national funder of not-for-profit arts, annually awarding 2,200 grants worth US\$140m (€130.5m, £110.8m).

The NEH, founded the same year as the NEA is dedicated to supporting research, education, preservation, and public programs in the humanities. The government currently finances the agency at a cost of US\$148m (€138m, £117.1m) annually – 0.003 per cent of the overall 2016 federal budget for the US.

"We are extremely concerned by these reports, and the museum field will stand



The Trump administration is working to reduce federal spending by US\$10tn (€9.3tn, £7.9tn)

strongly against any effort to gut the important work of NEA and NEH," said AAM President and CEO Laura Lott. "These agencies play a uniquely valuable role in helping make the arts and humanities accessible to every American.

"We will need every museum professional, every trustee, and every volunteer to speak with one voice to help preserve these vital agencies. We have the power and together we must fight for the ideals we believe in."

More: http://lei.sr?a=E6v2a_A

Forbidden Forest coming to Harry Potter studio tour in March

The Warner Brothers Studio Tour London – The Making of Harry Potter, has announced plans to expand its tour on the fifth anniversary of the popular attraction's launch – with the permanent addition of the wizarding world's Forbidden Forest.

Debating on 31 March, the Forbidden Forest – which in the series is home to a number of magical creatures – is being opened up to the public with a number of never-before-seen movie props to go on display in the new area.

Among the new objects on show, one of the original costumes of Hagrid will be shown, as will a full-sized model of Buckbeak the Hippogriff and Aragog – a giant spider with a leg span of 18ft (5.5m).

The immersive area will start at the Hogwarts gates, which visitors go through to enter the forest. 19 trees each with a diameter of more than 12ft (3.6m) will fill the area, with visitors able to 'control the weather' using the same techniques used by filmmakers when making the Harry Potter series.



Among the new objects on show, one of the original costumes of Hagrid will be displayed

"It's great to be working with so many of the original filmmakers who know so much about the wizarding world," said Sarah Roots, senior vice president, Worldwide Tours, who is working with Oscar and BAFTA winning production designer Stuart Craig, and BAFTA winning creature and makeup effects designer Nick Dudman, among others on the expansion.

"There will be an opportunity to take control of the weather and discover the techniques used to create a realistic forest within a film. We can't wait to let visitors step into this mysterious set and discover all this amazing detail for themselves," she added.

More: http://lei.sr?a=2Z2z3_A

Sochi Olympic Village being transformed into science and art hub

Dutch design agency NorthernLight is working on the redevelopment of Sochi's Olympic Village, which is turning its former media centre from the 2014 Winter Olympics into a science and art park.

The redevelopment of Sirius Park, which has been at the heart of Russia's talent development programme, will take place in two phases, ultimately becoming the country's largest educational attraction at 50,000sq m (538,000sq ft).

Phase one of development will be finished in February 2018, in time for that year's Fifa World Cup, and will consist of a 6,000sq m (64,500sq ft) indoor science attraction.

Connecting science and art, the unique addition is the "crossover of an art biennale and science gallery", according to NorthernLight. Included within the centre will be demonstrations of kinetic art, immersive light experiences and bio art, while the attraction will also include design, chemistry and bio labs

The second phase of development will



The unique addition is the crossover of an art biennale and science gallery

include the design and development of a number of science zones, each covering 8,000sq m (86,000sq ft). The first zone will look at space and the wonders of the universe, while zone two, based on 'simple truths', will explore

basic science and phenomenology. The third zone, dubbed 'Matrix', will cover innovations and future science, while the final zone will be a children's exhibition dedicated to discovering Russia.

More: http://lei.sr?a=d7s4M_A



Stebich will start at SAAM on 3 April

Stebich named new Smithsonian director

Washington DC's Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) has named Tacoma Art Museum's (TAM) Stephanie Stebich as its new director.

Stebich will take up leadership of SAAM – which has a collection covering more than 7,000 American artists, covering everything from African American Art to video games – on 3 April.

In her role as executive director at TAM, Stebich has helped to increase the museum's permanent collection during her 12-year tenure, also raising funds for a major renovation, doubling museum space.

More: http://lei.sr?a=y7r4b_A

Silay mayor confirms plans for PHP600m theme park in Philippines

Silay City in the Philippines could be about to get a new PHP600m (US\$12m, €11.1m, £9.5m) theme park after its mayor confirmed development plans following months of speculation.

Rumoured to be operated by Enchanted Kingdom – the Philippines' largest theme park – details of the 430,000sq ft (40,000sq m) park were first revealed in November, when third district representative Albie Benitez said plans were in the works.

Silay City mayor Mark Golez confirmed that the proposed park is expected to open during 2018, with investors of Enchanted Kingdom, along with other backers, covering development costs.

The park itself will feature numerous rides following a carnival theme. The development is expected to boost tourism



Mark Golez confirmed that the park is expected to open in 2018

in the Negros Island Region and District 3 where the park will be located.

"It will be a big boost to tourism, it will generate income for the city as well as jobs," said Golez speaking during a briefing at city hall in Silay.

More: http://lei.sr?a=e5J9S_A

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Museum of Islamic Art reopens three years after Cairo bombing

Cairo's Museum of Islamic art has reopened its doors for the first time since a car bombing targeting the nearby police headquarters.

The car bomb, which detonated outside the adjacent Cairo Security Directorate in January 2014, ripped into the museum, destroying hundreds of priceless objects. Of the 179 damaged artefacts, the museum was able to repair all but ten of them.

Restoration and repair work has been financed by the UAE, with a AED30m (US\$8.2m, €7.6m, £6.5m) gift from the emirate and technical support provided by Italy, Germany, the US and Unesco.

Egypt, which is still experiencing violence and extremist attacks, sees the reopening as a sign of stability, with the country's government hailing the occasion.

"The inauguration of the Museum of Islamic Art embodies Egypt's victory against terrorism, its capability and willingness to repair what terrorism has damaged, and to stand against terrorist attempts to destroy its



Egypt, which is still suffering from violent attacks, sees the reopening as a sign of stability

heritage," said Khaled El-Enany, Egypt's minister of antiquities.

The museum first opened its doors in 1903 and houses one of the most important collections of Islamic art anywhere in the

world. Its collection, which charts more than 1,300 years of history, comprises more than 100,000 objects, with only 5,000 able to go on display at any one time.

More: http://lei.sr?a=e8C6K_A



Romania has eight planetariums

Romania developing its largest planetarium

The Brasov mountain resort will soon be home to Romania's largest planetarium after councillors approved plans for its development.

Brasov councillors approved the plans, thought to be worth around RON6.7m (US\$1.8m, €1.6m, £1.5m), with the building to be located at the entrance to Zoo Brasov making it the only planetarium housed inside a zoo in all of Europe.

The planetarium's dome will be 15m (50ft) in diameter, double the size of any existing facilities in the country, with also the largest capacity at 90 seats.

More: http://lei.sr?a=7f5h2_A

Jamaica looks to attractions sector in bid to boost its tourism industry

Jamaica's tourism minister Edmund Bartlett has said the island nation must focus on increasing the number of world-class attractions available to visitors as the country targets five million tourists a year, making US\$5bn (€4.6bn, £4bn) in annual earnings by 2021.

Bartlett announced plans to invest US\$250m (€232.4m, £200.5m) into Jamaica's tourism sector, with the funds to cover three major projects under its 'Spruce Up Jamaica' programme.

With the projects creating four major hotels, continued investment in Jamaica's tourism infrastructure means its government is anticipating a rise in tourism, which will need to be accommodated for.

"I have been preaching religiously that we have to get ourselves ready to meet the



Bartlett believes attractions are key to increasing tourism

inevitable demands, as it relates to our tourism offerings over the next five years," said Bartlett, who added that developing a more diverse portfolio of attractions in Jamaica would be a winning proposition "by any stretch of the imagination".

More: http://lei.sr?a=C7G7N_A

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Email: sian@sounddiplomacy.com

www.musictourismconvention.com

22-24 FEBRUARY 2017

IAAPI Amusement Expo

Bombay Exhibition

Centre, Mumbai, India

The three-day exhibition provides a platform to share and learn new ideas, with big players from within the industry showcasing new schemes and experiences.

Email: info@iaapi.org

Tel: +91 22 6523 1643

www.iaapi.org

2-4 MARCH 2017

RAAPA 2017

Moscow, Russia

Organised by the Russian Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (RAAPA), the event is the premier trade show in the Russian amusement industry.

Email: raapa@raapa.ru

Tel: +7 (495) 234 50 15

www.raapa.ru

9-11 MARCH 2017

AAA 2017

China Import and Export Fair Pazhou Complex, Guangzhou, China

The Asia Amusement & Attractions Expo covers 80,000sq m (860,000sq ft) and will have a number of top suppliers exhibiting, with companies coming from more than 30 countries worldwide to showcase their products.

Email: gzhw@grandeurhk.com

Tel: +86 20 2331 8547

www.chinaexhibition.com



Knott's Berry Farm will be among the tour locations during the IAAPA event

8 MARCH 2017

IAAPA Leadership Conference **Anaheim/Hollywood, California**

For owners and operators, the IAAPA Leadership Conference 2017 provides fresh perspectives and unique ideas to enhance the guest experience and drive

business. 2017 tour locations include Disney's California Adventure, Knott's Berry Farm and Universal Studios Hollywood.

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www.IAAPA.org

13-16 MARCH 2017

EAZA EZE Conference 2017

Paris Zoo, Paris, France

The biennial EAZA European Zoo Educators conference brings together educators from across Europe for three days of presentations, workshops and activities focused on sharing good practice and highlighting future trends.

Email: info@eaza.net

Tel: +31 20 520 07 50

www.eaza.net

27-29 MARCH 2017

DEAL 2017

Dubai World Trade Centre, United Arab Emirates

Held annually, DEAL is the region's most anticipated and biggest attraction for global and local stakeholders in the amusement and entertainment industries that are looking for a strong entry into these markets.

Email: lilia@iecdubai.com

Tel: +971 4 3435777

www.dealmiddleeastshow.com

17-18 MAY 2017

Museums + Heritage Show

Kensington Olympia, London, UK

The free-to-attend Museums + Heritage Show offers two days of seminars, cultural

attraction experts and sector suppliers.

Those in attendance are given advice, ideas and tools that they can walk away with and put into practice in their own organisations. An awards ceremony will also take place, recognising best practice within the world of museums, galleries, and cultural and heritage visitor attractions.

Email: anna@museumsandheritage.com

Tel: +44 1905 724 734

www.museumsandheritage.com/show

7-10 MAY 2017

AAM MuseumExpo 2017

St Louis, Missouri, US

The American Alliance of Museums (AAM) will host more than 5,000 museums professionals in May when they convene for the organisation's Annual Meeting and MuseumExpo. This year's meeting will explore "Gateways to Understanding: Diversity, Equity, Accessibility, and Inclusion in Museums". More than 100 sessions are scheduled to take place, with topics ranging from collections management and curatorial practice, to education and audience research.

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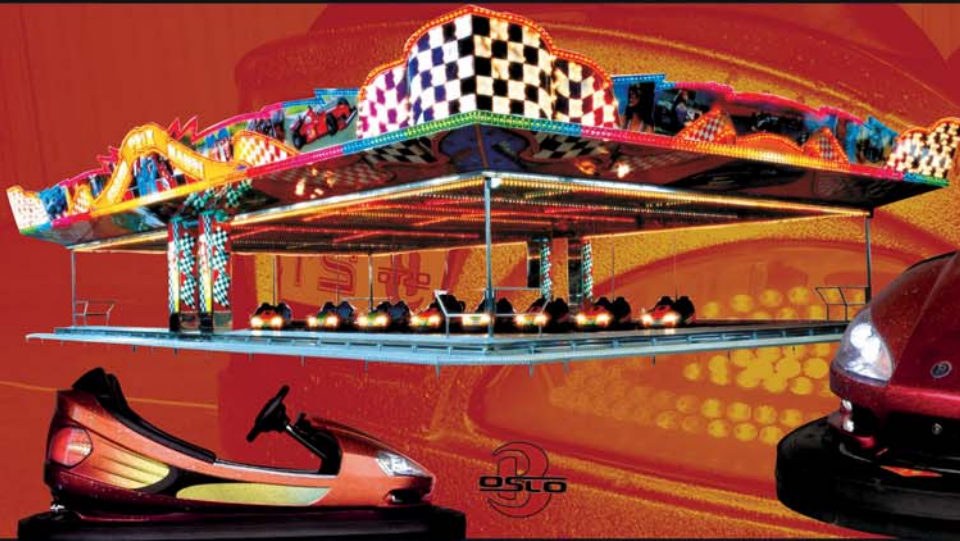
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Japan drives revenue as Universal figures jump 48 per cent

Comcast's acquisition of Universal Studios Japan has paid dividends, as the company confirmed a 48 per cent rise in revenue over 2015.

Continuing to reflect the inclusion of Universal Studios Japan following its US\$1.5bn (€1.4bn, £1.2bn) majority acquisition near the end of 2015 and the continued success of the new Wizarding World of Harry Potter attraction at Universal Hollywood, Universal's theme parks have reported huge numbers for Q4 and 2016 overall.

Comcast – the parent company of Universal – reported a rise in Q4 theme park revenue of 32.1 per cent to US\$1.3bn (€1.2bn, £1bn) for Q4 2016, with operating cash flow also increasing by 41.9 per cent to US\$640m (€598.2m, £509.5m) for the quarter.

For 2016, year-on-year theme park revenue increased 48.2 per cent to US\$4.9bn (€4.6bn, £3.9bn), with operating cash flow increasing 49.6 per cent to US\$2.2bn (€2bn, £1.7bn).

Taking into account Universal Japan's figures before Comcast acquired its majority



The majority acquisition of Universal Japan has boosted figures for Comcast and Universal

share in the park, pro forma revenue increased by 12.7 per cent, reflecting higher attendance and per capita spending, as well as the positive impact of a stronger yen, while pro forma operating cash flow increased 12.2 per cent.

While Universal has been enjoying great success with its new attractions and acquisitions, the company is not sitting back, with investments across the board at its parks.

More: http://lei.sr?a=A7X9x_A

State-sponsored visits to museums in the UK drop significantly for 2015/16

New data from the UK's Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), has shown a year-on-year decline in state-sponsored museum visits, with a significant drop in child attendance.

According to the DCMS figures, over the last year there were 47.6 million visits to 15 sponsored museums which provide free entry to their permanent collections – a 6.2 per cent decline from 50.7 million in 2014/15.

Within that figure there were 7.9 million child visits to DCMS-sponsored museums, which marked a larger decline of 14.4 per cent on the previous year's total

The figures are somewhat lessened when including the Tyne and Wear Museums, which are no longer sponsored as of 2015/16. Excluding Tyne and Wear, there was still an



The British Museum welcomed 6.9 million visitors last year

overall decline of 2.8 per cent and a 1.8 per cent decline in terms of children's visitor numbers.

The most visited state-sponsored museum was the British Museum, which welcomed 6.9 million visitors, followed by the Tate Gallery Group's four branches, with 6.7 million visitors.

More: http://lei.sr?a=u9R6h_A



The pilot offers free access to students

Pilot scheme gives free entry to Malta's heritage

Heritage Malta – Malta's national agency for museums, conservation practice and cultural heritage – has launched a programme for primary school students offering free entry to the island nation's historic sites.

Working in collaboration with the Ministry for Justice, Culture and Local Government and the Ministry for Education and Employment, Heritage Malta launched the pilot Student Membership Scheme last September, with more than 5,000 applications made since then.

More: http://lei.sr?a=y4M7t_A



Gbvi created custom optical solutions for the planetarium

Sciss and Gbvi team up creates view of the universe

The Maloka Centro Interactivo in Bogotá, Colombia has reopened its doors as a Sciss Colourspace theatre, following a state-of-the-art refurbishment.

The museum partnered with Sciss, a provider of planetarium and fulldome solutions, and Gbvi Technology (Gbvi), a specialist in optical blending solutions for multi-channel projection environments,

to create the first 8K 3D planetarium in South America.

The theatre was transformed into a 5-channel digital fulldome experience with Gbvi Chronos glass plate blending technology.

The existing film projectors were replaced with five Christie Mirage 304K projectors, with Gbvi-created custom optical blends for each channel.



The Monster ride at Adventureland features 200 KCL LED lights

KCL Engineering collaborates with Ride Entertainment

KCL Engineering (KCL), a provider of custom lighting, has announced a sales partnership with Ride Entertainment.

Adam Sandy, chief business development officer at Ride Entertainment, said: "We were interested in working with KCL because it creates a custom light package for rides based upon illumination request, budget and ride type.

"KCL are able to offer a very different end product than most vendors because it is not tied to a specific lighting product - it can work with anything and anyone."

Kris Kunze, engineer and lead lighting designer at KCL, said: "The partnership with Ride Entertainment provides immediate immersion into the attractions industry."



The app provides users with information about works

New Tate app offers personalised visitor experience

Tate Galleries and Bloomberg Philanthropies have teamed up with Fabrique and Northern Lights to create an app that will allow visitors to lead their own journeys around Tate galleries using their smartphones.

Providing each user with a personalised experience, the app provides information about what can be seen, experienced and enjoyed in the museum that day.

Users can access in-depth information about the collections on display through the app, including wider art movements, history, artists and works.

The app uses iBeacon to identify when the visitor is in the gallery and their real time location. It can then direct users towards specific works and exhibitions or the nearest place to get food or drink.



Alcorn McBride will showcase its new Rideplaye system at ISE

Alcorn McBride's Rideplayer to make European debut

Rideplayer made its European debut as part of Alcorn McBride's ISE exhibition.

The new on-board audio and control solution will be exhibited in booth 1-H125 at Integrated Systems Europe (ISE) 2017.

ISE, the largest audio-visual systems show in the world, is expecting more than 65,000 visitors and took place between 7-10 February.

Billed as a complete vehicle-based audio and show control solution, Rideplayer is suited to dark rides, parade floats, vehicles and modern coaster applications.

The system synchronises on-board audio with wayside audio, video, lighting and animatronics. It can also interface with animation controllers, sensors, lighting systems, and video servers.



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Director of Business Development Sales/Marketing

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Job location: Los Angeles, United States



Launched in 1997, Super 78 is an award winning dynamic themed attraction designer, entertainment company in Silver Lake that has successfully designed, produced and installed dozens of attractions at theme parks around the globe.

Job Description

Super 78 is looking to expand its core team with a self-motivated, experienced Business Development | Sales and Marketing genius. The ideal candidate will have a minimum of three years of experience and expertise in media and technology, covering a range of platforms that include multiple media formats and attractions. Candidates will also help to develop and bring to market a range of intellectual property for experiential entertainment products, which includes both media and technology.

Expertise and experience in negotiating licensing agreements, and creating and managing new business initiatives, plus identifying and maximizing business opportunities in the film and theme park industry. Assessing and developing strategies to capitalize on new proprietary technologies will be critical for this motivating team-builder with a proven track record of revenue enhancement and increasing market share.

Responsibilities

- Create and execute comprehensive Sales and Marketing Plans
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- Product sales and licensing plus
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- Travel - Trade show and Conferences, Client meetings

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- 3-5 years minimum understanding of media based attractions
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- Project management background
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The successful applicant will have a proven track record of business management in a relevant field such as

a heritage organisation, museum or visitor attraction, involving daytime visiting, retail, corporate hospitality and catering. Knowledge of local government finance will be an advantage.

If you are interested in this post and require more information after reading the job description, please contact Stephen Bird, Head of Heritage Services, on (01225) 477750.

Please note we do not accept CV's.

Closing date: Monday 13 February 2017

Interview date: Wednesday 8 March 2017

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We reserve the right to amend the closing date of this vacancy
 We are an Equal Opportunities employer

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EXECUTIVE IS SEEKING A NEW**

MANAGEMENT / DEVELOPMENT PARTNER

A popular tourist attraction in South Derbyshire is looking for a new partner(s) to take the centre onto its next stage of development. The site forms part of The National Forest and is co-owned by the Forestry Commission and South Derbyshire District Council as part of a successful 20-year strategic partnership.

A Soft Market Testing event is being held
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 Rosliston Forestry Centre.

**To request further information and to
attend the event please register at**

<http://lei.sr?a=P8F3g>



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● **Assistant Master Model Builder**

Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

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Salary: Competitive

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Legoland Discovery Centre

Salary: Competitive

Job location: Dallas, United States

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Salary: £40,000 to £45,000

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Salary: £41,500 – £45,500 per annum

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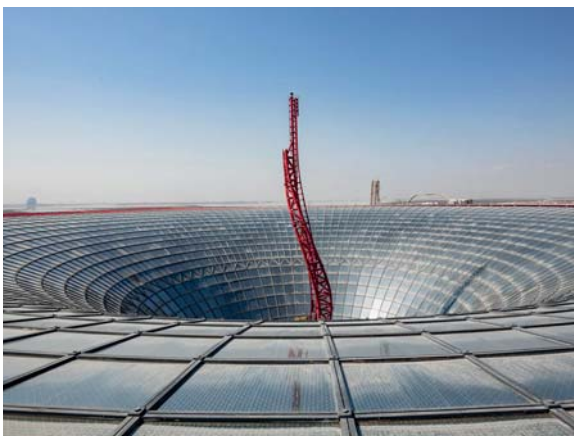
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AED700m investment in Ferrari World to bring visitors to Abu Dhabi

Yas Island's Ferrari World is receiving investment of AED700m (US\$190.6m, €178m, £153m) for developments of new rides and experiences, including its landmark "Turbo Track", which will snake out from the heart of the iconic structure through its roof.

Yas Island owner Miral is making the investment as it targets more visitors for Abu Dhabi in the midst of a wider push for overseas tourism.

Turbo Track – which will reach speeds of 102kmph (63.3mph) and climb 62m (203.4ft) will open in March – with the ride climbing up out from the middle of the Ferrari World building, entering the Yas Island skyline.



Turbo Track extends out through the centre of Ferrari World

In addition to Turbo Track, a Ferrari simulator will be added to the park, with a total of four new rides to be added by the end of this year and a further four in 2018, bringing the total up to 43.

In October, Yas Island announced a new business strategy and brand identity to establish the development as "the world's ultimate leisure destination."

More: http://lei.sr?a=S2E3a_A

Facebook ordered to pay US\$500m after losing out in Oculus theft lawsuit

Facebook has been ordered to pay compensation costs of US\$500m (€462.7m, £394m) after a US court ruled that the company's Oculus Rift virtual reality headset was created unlawfully.

Zenimax Media, owner of games studio id Software was seeking damages worth US\$2bn (€1.87bn, £1.62bn) after alleging that its early innovations were copied when Palmer Luckey created the Oculus Rift headset.

The jury awarded the sum to Zenimax, judging that Oculus had violated a non-disclosure agreement in the early days of the technology's development, but that it was not guilty of misappropriating trade secrets.



Mark Zuckerberg called the charges 'false' in court last month

The total figure is split into several fines – US\$200m (€185m, £157.6m) for violating the NDA, US\$50m (€46.3m, £39.4m) for copyright infringement and US\$150m (€138.8m, £118.2m)

against former CEO Brendan Iribe for false designation.

In a statement, Oculus said it was "disappointed" and that it would be appealing against the ruling.

More: http://lei.sr?a=U6k9D_A

American Association of Museums (AAM)

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Association of American Zoos & Aquariums

T: +1 301 562 0777 W: www.aza.org

Association of Art Museum Directors

T: +1 212 754 8084 W: www.aamd.org

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Australian Amusement Leisure & Recreation Association (AALARA)

T: +61 7 3807 35 08 W: www.aalara.com.au

European Association of Amusement Suppliers Industry (EAASI)

T: +39 0522 554 176 W: www.eaasi.org

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International Planetarium Society

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Irish Science Centres Awareness Network (ISCAN)

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Outdoor Amusement Business Association (OABA)

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The Aquarium & Zoo Facilities Association (AZFA)

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The Canadian Museums Association

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The Canadian Association of Science Centres (CASC)

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