

Firestorm engulfs hundreds in waterpark incident

Hundreds of people have been seriously injured and two people have died after an explosion on a music stage at a waterpark in Taiwan.

A crowd of spectators were caught up in a freak inferno when a coloured theatrical powder ignited, creating a ferocious firestorm.

516 people were injured, 200 seriously, at the Formosa water park in New Taipei City after the powder ignited on-stage and sprayed onto the crowd of around 1000, engulfing a large portion of the dance area in flames almost instantaneously. The powder, intended for festive lighting at the Color Play Asia



Two people have died and 182 are in intensive care after the accident

event, resulted in many of those injured suffering burns to their lower bodies. According to local media, seven people

have life-threatening injuries, while 184 are still in intensive care. 20-year-old Lee Pei-yun died on 29 June after suffering

90 per cent burns to her body and then 19-year-old Liu Chih-wei died on 2 July after suffering burns to 95 per cent of his body.

Since the incident, the waterpark has been closed and the park and its organisers have had their assets seized. Charges of neglect could be brought against four people including the organiser. A ban in Taiwan has also been placed on the use of coloured theatrical powder at private events.

Fire officials are still investigating the explosion, which is suspected to have been caused by a mixture of air and concentrated combustible particles.

More: http://lei.sr?a=N2J6x_A

Disney bans selfie sticks from all of its parks

Disney is the latest visitor attraction to put a ban on the selfie stick, citing safety concerns for guests and staff.

Joining a growing list of attractions that have outlawed the accessory, the selfie stick is now banned from Walt Disney World in Orlando and Florida, Disneyland California, and at Disney's parks in Hong Kong and Paris.

Disney had previously allowed the devices in its parks but not on the rides. According to the theme park, visitors were violating the rules, forcing staff to stop rides for extended periods of time.

More: http://lei.sr?a=c8U6r_A

Spaceport America launches visitor experience

New Mexico's Spaceport America – the first purpose-built commercial spaceport in the world – has launched a new experience tour and exhibition for its visitors as it looks to offset operational costs for the US\$219m (€195m, £139m) facility.

A new US\$7m (€6.2m, £4.4m) visitor centre in the city of Truth or Consequences offers educational and interactive space experiences, with the option of purchasing a ticket for the official tour Spaceport.

For the trip visitors can see the brand new Gateway Gallery by design firm IDEAS, where they can see life-size replicas of offerings from Virgin Galactic, get a view of the 45,000sq ft (4,180sq m) terminal hangar and the chance



The tour is a way to offset Spaceport costs

to try out a G-Shock simulator. Visitors also get to meet the Spaceport's staff, explore the fire station and finally get driven down the 12,000ft-long (3,657m) main runway.

More: http://lei.sr?a=m2q2t_A

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Disney will invest US\$1bn in California resort if Anaheim waives gate taxes

Disney is considering a US\$1bn (€892m, £635m) investment into its Disneyland Resort in California on the basis that the city of Anaheim waives a tax on park admission tickets for a 30-year period.

Disneyland California currently holds the same tax exemption ruling after an agreement made with the city in 1996, but that deal expires on 30 June 2016.

In exchange for the tax cut, a large-scale investment would include new attractions, parking structure with more than 5,000 spots and other infrastructure improvements to the theme park and resort complex.



A recent study said the resort generates US\$5.7bn annually

According to local reports, two members of Anaheim's City Council are supporting the plans, while two others are undecided. Mayor Tom Tait, who approved the initial deal in 1996, has opposed the plans.

The tentative ticket-tax ban could also be extended another 15 years if Disney later embarks on a separate US\$500m (€446m, £317m) expansion *More: http://lei.sr?a=D2U9q_A*

£150m needed to maintain Buckingham Palace over next decade, says report

Buckingham Palace is in line for renovations costing up to £150m (US\$236.2m, €211m) after a preliminary report on the state of the popular London attraction, which is home to Queen Elizabeth II, said the figure would be needed over the course of the next decade to maintain the Grade I listed building.

Included as part of the latest annual report looking at the Royal Family's finances, comments from Alan Reid, keeper of the Privy Purse, said the necessary renovation work on the UK landmark would "present a significant financial challenge" in the years ahead.



£150m has been estimated for work required on the palace

According to a palace spokesperson, the £150m figure has been identified by heritage experts as a realistic estimate for work required as part of a 10-year restoration scheme.

Architects are yet to be appointed for the restoration and it is not yet known if outside funding will be sought. The attraction draws around 500,000 annually. *More: http://lei.sr?a=s2x7v_A*

Rolling Stones touring exhibition coming in 2016

The Rolling Stones have announced plans for a touring exhibition displaying rare and unique treasures from the band's 50-year history.

Presented by Australian company International Entertainment Consulting, *Exhibitionism* will make its debut in April 2016 at London's Saatchi Gallery. On show will be more than 500 artefacts from the band's personal archives, which a statement said would embrace "all aspects of art and design, film, video, fashion, performance, rare sound archives and the Stones' musical heritage."

The immersive exhibit will fill nine rooms, spanning 1,750sq m (18,800sq ft) in total, with each room looking at a different period of Rolling Stones history. The tour will be the largest of its kind to ever be staged by a band or musician and has had its collection curated over a period of three years.

"We've been thinking about it for quite a long time but wanted it to be just right and on a large scale just like planning our touring concert productions," said Mick Jagger. "I think right now it's an interesting time to do it."



The *Exhibitionism* tour is scheduled to stop in 11 cities worldwide, starting in London

"It's not necessarily just about the members of the band," added Keith Richards. "It's also about all the paraphernalia and technology associated with a band,

such as the instruments that have passed through our hands over the years, that will make the exhibition really interesting."

More: http://lei.sr?a=s6W6Y_A

Cirque du Soleil meets fine dining in multi-sensory gastronomic concept

A new multi-sensory restaurant, theatre and dance venue, created by Cirque du Soleil founder Guy Laliberté and culinary masters Ferran and Albert Adrià, has opened in Ibiza, Spain.

Heart Ibiza, located inside the Ibiza Gran Hotel, is divided into three spaces – the Terrace, Supper and Club. The restaurant and entertainment complex offers what its owners call a "musical, artistic and gastronomic theme park for adults."

The Heart Terrace is an all-you-can-eat buffet concept, laid out as a street market, complete with live performance artists



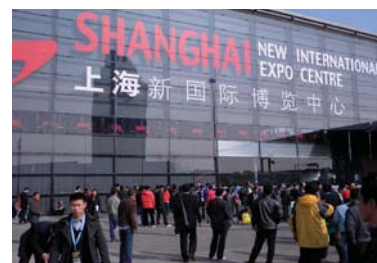
The concept is designed to merge food, music and art

and food stalls, while Supper Heart offers an operatic dining experience, with each dish presented to its own soundtrack.

The Cirque du Soleil element comes in at Club

Heart, which will feature international DJs spinning tracks to a choreography of lights, video projections and live Cirque du Soleil performances.

More: http://lei.sr?a=m9A5y_A



The event returns to mainland China

Asian Attractions Expo 2016 coming to Shanghai

Following a successful 2015 edition in Hong Kong, IAAPA has announced that the 2016 Asian Attractions Expo (AAE) will be hosted at Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC), marking the event's return to mainland China after the 2014 event was held in Beijing.

An estimated 7,000 industry professionals from 65 countries are expected to take part in the event, with a trade show floor showcasing products and services from more than 300 companies across all sectors in the attractions realm.

More: http://lei.sr?a=J8j3E_A

Moreau Kusunoki win Guggenheim competition

French architecture firm Moreau Kusunoki have been named winners of the Guggenheim Helsinki competition, with the €126m (£100m, US\$160.5m) project to be formed of Japanese-style pavilions and a striking lighthouse-style tower on the city waterfront.

The successful design by Moreau Kusunoki – a husband and wife team who only established their architecture firm in 2011 – titled Lighthouse, was chosen from a shortlist of 1,715 anonymous architects, the largest architectural competition in history and the first to be organised by the Solomon R Guggenheim Foundation.

Moreau's winning design features a series of charred timber and glass angular pavilions with flared roofs, punctuated by a lighthouse-style tower overlooking Helsinki's South Harbor. The pavilions are connected by an interior street and served by a harbour promenade, while the tower is connected to the nearby Observatory Park via a pedestrian footbridge.

Developers must now gain planning approval for the project, after a 2012



The winning design was chosen from an anonymous shortlist of 1,715 architects

vote narrowly rejected the development due to financial concerns. The €30m (US\$33.6m, £21.4m) necessary to buy the rights to the Guggenheim name has been

waived by the institution, though money must still be raised to create a foundation to oversee the running of the museum.

More: http://lei.sr?a=N9T6W_A



The precinct will be a Nickelodeon hub

Nickelodeon agrees deal for Sea World kids' land

Sea World Gold Coast in Queensland, Australia, is teaming up with Nickelodeon to bring the brand's IPs to a new multi-million dollar kids and family area at the theme park.

Set to open in late 2015, Nickelodeon Land will include four child-friendly rides and will act as a hub for Nickelodeon character appearances and shows, including *SpongeBob SquarePants*, *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*, *Dora the Explorer* and *Boots*.

More: http://lei.sr?a=A2K3T_A

Ennead Architects completes six-year renovation of New York Hall of Science

Following a six-year US\$25m (€22.5m, £16m) renovation by Ennead Architects, the New York Hall of Science in Queens is celebrating the reopening of its Great Hall.

Originally designed by Harrison and Abramovitz Architects for the 1964/1965 World's Fair, the Great Hall's cobalt blue dalle-de-verre glass and concrete walls are designed to give the illusion of being in deep space.

As part of the restoration, the 5,400 dalle-de-verre panels were all cleaned by hand, with 50 new panels colour-matched and installed by Willet Hauser Studios, under



The hall is designed to give the illusion of being in deep space

whose commission the original 5,400 panels were constructed in 1964.

In addition, the project included stabilisation and repair of the exterior building, renovation and

modernisation of the interior of the Great Hall and Great Hall Lobby, plus repaving and improvements to the terrace outside the Great Hall.

More: http://lei.sr?a=J4R7z_A

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Seattle Aquarium reveals US\$200m masterplan

Officials at Seattle Aquarium are looking into the possibility of a grand expansion, adding at least 40 per cent more exhibit space to the visitor attraction at a cost of up to US\$200m (€178.5m, £127.1m)

The expanded aquarium would be able to handle double the number of visitors, increasing annual capacity to around 1.6 million people, with the proposed expansion stretching out across the Seattle waterfront.

The highlight of the plans is the Tropical Pacific pavilion building, which will connect the waterfront with the nearby Pike Place Market, as well as facilitate the addition of a large shark tank. Other features include two new exhibits both based on the waters surrounding Washington.

The city has committed US\$45m (€40.1m, £28.6m) towards the development as part of its Central Waterfront Project. Officials at the aquarium are looking to raise at least the equivalent amount, if not more, and have brought in Chicago-based Campbell & Co to help devise a fundraising campaign.



The expanded aquarium would increase annual capacity to around 1.6 million people

City Council members have already been briefed on the aquarium's expansion plans, with a final plan to be presented at a public meeting in July before being submitted

to the City Council for final approval. If plans go ahead, construction will begin in 2019 and be completed in 2021.

More: http://lei.sr?a=n6Y8z_A



The park is being developed in phases

UK theme park reopens 11 years after closure

Following an 11-year campaign to save a heritage theme park in Margate, UK, Dreamland has finally reopened its doors to the public, reimagined and ready to welcome a new generation of visitors to the vintage attraction.

"Dreamland was built all those years ago on memories of Coney Island," said CEO Eddie Kemsley speaking to AM2. "There's so much nostalgia, history and fondness for Dreamland. Everybody I meet has their memories and we need to capture that."

More: http://lei.sr?a=u2F8q_A

Museum opens in one of Europe's most important archaeological sites

After more than a decade of development, the Vucedol Culture Museum by Radionica Arhitektura has opened its doors to the public, setting up shop at one of Europe's most important archaeological sites.

Sitting next to the Vucedol on the bank of the river Danube in eastern Croatia, the HRK179m (US\$26.2m, €23.6m, £16.7m) museum is made up of a series of terraces that climb slowly to adapt to the topography.

The idea behind the 1,200sq m (13,000sq ft) museum's design was integration into the terrain, which Radionica has achieved by having the facility mostly



The museum is designed to blend in with its surroundings

buried in the ground with only the façade open to the landscape. The museum blends in to its surroundings, using brick for the outer coating as it most resembles the ground at the site. Passing

through the museum, visitors are educated about Vucedol culture, before using the serpentine green roof to access the archaeological plateau at the top of the site.

More: http://lei.sr?a=g5w5f_A



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DIARY DATES

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GCSA International Conference and Trade Show QEII Conference Centre, Westminster, London, UK

The three day event attracts hundreds of visitors to learn more about giant screen audiences from the results of the *GSCA Audience Research Survey*. Attendees can view the latest new films on flat and dome screens, and see what's on flat and dome screens, as well as see what's in production and development, while gaining insight from industry leaders. Sessions cover marketing, production and post-production, alternative content, digital for domes and more. The trade show will also allow visitors to meet with distributors. Email: kelly@giantsscreencinema.com Tel: +1 919 346 1123

www.giantsscreencinema.com

26 SEPTEMBER 2015

MuseumNext Indianapolis Indianapolis Museum of Art, US

In September 2015, the incredibly popular MuseumNext conference will come to the US for the first time, bringing with it exploratory talks on engaging visitors with new technology and industry trends.

Email: europe@iaapa.org

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8 OCTOBER 2015

The Annual National Conference of Visitor Attractions 2015

QEII Conference Centre,
Westminster, London, UK

The Annual National Conference of Visitor Attractions (VAC) is the pre-eminent event for all types of visitor attractions in the UK. VAC is run by the industry, for the industry and is firmly established as the key place to meet and network with contemporaries and to participate in an innovative and stimulating programme.

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9-13 AUGUST 2015

Siggraph 2015 Los Angeles Convention Centre, Los Angeles, California, US

The annual Siggraph conference is a five-day interdisciplinary educational experience in the latest computer

graphics and interactive techniques including a three-day commercial exhibition that attracts hundreds of exhibitors from around the world. Email: registration2015@siggraph.org Tel: +1 805 677 4286 www.s2015.siggraph.org

6-8 OCTOBER 2015

Euro Attractions Show 2015 Svenska Massan Exhibition Center, Gothenburg, Sweden

With innovative ideas and products from more than 425 exhibiting companies from around the world, join colleagues and industry leaders for the premier conference and exhibition designed specifically for international attractions professionals.

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20-23 OCTOBER 2015

World Waterpark Association Symposium & Trade Show Palm Springs Convention Center, California, US

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5-6 NOVEMBER 2015

Museums Association Conference & Exhibition 2015 ICC Birmingham, UK

The event is the largest event of its kind for museum and heritage professionals in Europe with more than 1,500 attendees from all over the world coming together to discuss the key issues affecting the sector.

There will be more than 90 stands bringing the latest practice, technology and hardware from suppliers and consultants.

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16-20 NOVEMBER 2015

IAAPA Attractions Expo 2015 Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, Florida, US

With more than 27,000 people in attendance, IAAPA 2015 is the premier conference and trade show for the global attractions industry. The event features new products from 1,000 exhibiting companies and includes a variety of educational sessions.

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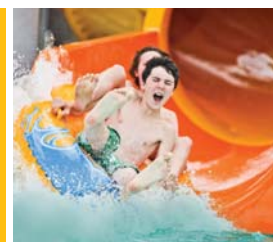
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The new zone at Lotte Water Park has now been completed

WhiteWater rides bring new area at Lotte park to life

The final phase of construction at South Korea's Lotte Water Park has been completed, with more WhiteWater waterslides unveiled in a new area.

The new zone in the outdoor park, in the port city of Busan, was opened on 12 June.

Lotte Water Park opened for its first season in 2014. WhiteWater has created 12 additional waterslides,

including duelling 'Master Blasters', a 'Boomerango', and four interlocking 'AquaLoops'. The manufacturer has also supplied a 'FlowRider Double', where guests can test their surfing skills.

Built in two stages, the multi-phased construction process was required to accommodate the scope of the waterpark.



The design of the second generation Enterprise ride

Huss Park boldly goes with Enterprise redesign

German manufacturer Huss Park Attractions has re-launched its 'Enterprise' ride with an improved design.

It will now be available as 'Enterprise 2G', a second generation of the ride. Options include 'Enterprise 2GH', a hybrid design combining suspended seats and classic style gondolas, and 'Enterprise 2GH-Plus',

the same ride but with a new tilt action. The ride features a lifting arm which pivots up to 90°. Its wheel disc is driven by a motor and rotates fast enough to allow the gondolas to swing out as it rotates. In the vertical position guests experience a permanent looping ride, at which point the gondolas reach a height of approximately 18m.



Martin Professional's VDO Sceptron LED video fixture

Martin's VDO Sceptron range offers a different look

Harman's Martin Professional has announced the shipping of its VDO Sceptron LED Video fixture with 10mm pixel pitch.

The VDO Sceptron range is designed for the touring and rental market. "It can be used as a lighting fixture or an LED video element, and can be combined into many different looks," said Wouter Verlinden, product manager for LED

Video, Martin Professional. He said optical accessories such as diffusers in various shapes and lenses for narrow beams could be exchanged in the field without tools.

The fixture is also fully pixel-level, colour and brightness calibrated, ensuring consistency between fixtures and pixels for optimal image quality.



A new UK entity, Embed Europe Limited, has been created

Eurocoin acquires Playsafe from Helix Leisure

Helix Leisure has sold its Playsafe Monitoring business to Eurocoin Limited, while creating a new Embed entity.

Playsafe provides real-time reporting & analytics services for venues across the UK and Europe. Helix Leisure, which consists of payment and operations management systems company Embed, LAI Games and the Locker Network, said

it wanted to focus on its core business in the amusement sector, rather than the AGC and bingo gaming sectors which Playsafe primarily serves.

All Embed System customers will now be serviced by a new UK entity, Embed Europe Limited, which is a wholly owned subsidiary company of the Helix Leisure Group.

Dubai theme park sector 'worth US\$5bn a year'

Dubai's theme parks will generate US\$5bn (€4.5bn, £3.1bn) annually by 2020, according to the organisers of the Dubai Entertainment, Amusement and Leisure (DEAL) show.

With Dubai's overarching aim to welcome 20 million tourists annually by 2020 when it will host the Dubai Expo, theme park developments are on the up in the country, with the AED10bn (US\$2.7bn, €2.1bn, £1.7bn) Dubai Parks & Resorts complex the most notable of the upcoming additions.

"The theme park industry is scaling the growth trajectory in the UAE," said Abdul Rahman Falaknaz, International Expo Consults (IEC) chair and organiser of DEAL, the largest platform for theme parks and the amusement industry in the Middle East.

"Entertainment and leisure projects within the UAE and across the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) have boosted the confidence of the amusement and leisure industry manifold," he continued, adding that the country is set to attract multi-billion dollar revenues by 2017 through this sector.



Once open, IMG Worlds of Adventure will be the largest indoor theme park in the world

"The UAE is experiencing this exponential growth because of its quality infrastructure and growing tourism and retail industry sectors. Another key factor is that Dubai

is also becoming the MICE capital of the world, bringing in footfall as families merge business with leisure activities."

More: http://lei.sr?a=j8n2p_A



The breakfast takes place on 7 October

ABBA's Björn Ulvaeus to deliver keynote at EAS

Björn Ulvaeus – songwriter, producer, and former member of the Swedish musical group ABBA – is set to speak at the 2015 edition of the Euro Attractions Show, delivering the Leadership Breakfast keynote at the event in October.

Ulvaeus – who also co-composed the musical *Mamma Mia!* and co-produced the 2008 film version – will discuss narrative and its relationship to entertainment and will reflect on the role of storytelling and how that is related to the attractions industry.

More: http://lei.sr?a=D9g2y_A

Bloomberg Philanthropies facilitates public art with US\$1m grants to US cities

Bloomberg Philanthropies – the charitable arm of Michael Bloomberg's business empire – has named four US cities which will receive up to US\$1m (€899,000, £636,000) each to fund a series of public art projects across the US.

Among the winners were the city of Gary in Indiana, where 'Art House: A Social Kitchen' will offer local people culinary training and cultural programming. Los Angeles is also included in the list, marking its first ever Biennial with 'Current: LA River', an experience which will include 15 multimedia works emphasising water conservation during one of California's worst droughts in history.



The grant was for cities with populations of more than 30,000

In South Carolina, Spartanburg will collaborate with artist Erwin Redl to create a temporary LED installation designed to create safer spaces and address crime in the city and finally,

a project between New York state's Albany, Schenectady and Troy will use light installations in vacant homes to highlight the need for community revitalisation.

More: http://lei.sr?a=D6W9a_A

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You will hold regular meetings with the directors, assistant manager and all staff to ensure good communication across the business and maintain good working relationships with staff and suppliers.

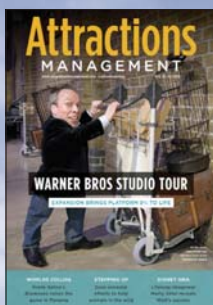
Existing events will be managed and new ones will be developed including shows for our theatre, theme days and Halloween & Christmas. There will also be the opportunity to improve our current party packages and school visits programme.

The website and social media is to be kept up to date and queries responded to.

The successful candidate will also oversee the retail, catering, administration and marketing departments concentrating on the visitor experience and looking at ways to improve spend per head. For further details please email janine@adventurevalley.co.uk



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Location: Ontario, Canada

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■ **Resort Marketing Manager**

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Location: California, United States

■ **Assistant Operations Manager**

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Location: Longleat, Warminster, United Kingdom

■ **Commercial Supervisor**

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■ **Head of Sales - Florida**

Company: Merlin Entertainments Group Ltd

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■ **Visitor Services Manager**

Company: The National Trust for Scotland

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■ **Head of Sales**

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Company: Merlin - Orlando Cluster

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■ **Water Park Operations Supervisor**

Company: Legoland Florida

Location: Florida-Winter Haven, United States

■ **Duty Manager**

Company: Legoland Discovery Centre Toronto

Location: Ontario-Vaughan Mills, Canada

■ **Commercial Manager**

Company: Legoland Discovery Center

Location: New York, United States

■ **E-Commerce Executive**

Company: Legoland Malaysia

Location: Johor, Malaysia

KidZania makes London debut with its £30m 'global flagship' location

Edutainment provider KidZania has launched what its president has called the flagship location for the world inside London's Westfield Shopping Centre.

Targeted at children aged 4-14, the £30m (US\$47.2m, €42.1m) KidZania London is offering a one-of-a-kind experience to the UK, with a pint-sized city for children in the ultimate role-play activity. Designed to educate and empower, KidZania offers sessions across more than 60 different professions, crafted to ensure teaching of essential life skills including financial literacy and teamwork.

"I'm very happy that Kidzania has been



The Renault pit stop at KidZania London

embraced by different cultures all over the world," said KidZania founder and global president Xavier López Ancona, speaking to AM2. "We started in Mexico 16 years ago. Seven years later we opened our second

facility in Monterrey and the same year we started the franchise scheme in Japan. Today it's all over the world. We want London to be our global flagship." *More: http://lei.sr?a=y4v6j_A*

Hunger Games travelling exhibition makes debut in New York before tour

Lionsgate's travelling *Hunger Games* exhibition has hit the road, making its long-awaited debut at its first stop in New York City for a six-month run before going on tour across the US.

Having kicked off on 1 July at Discovery Times Square, the 12,000sq ft (1,114sq m) exhibition includes the movie franchise's costumes, props, photography, interactive experiences, set recreations and a *Hunger Games* retail store.

The Thinkwell Group are behind the exhibition, and have produced the experience in partnership with Imagine Exhibitions, while immersive environ-



Josh Hutcherson, Jennifer Lawrence and Francis Lawrence

ments featured have been created using AV services from Electrosonic and fabrication from MC2.

The second stop for *The Hunger Games: The Exhibition* has been set

for February 2016 in San Francisco, California, where the exhibition will be held inside the Innovation Hangar at the Palace of Fine Arts Exhibition Hall. *More: http://lei.sr?a=A6d7F_A*

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