

Coronavirus' Impact on Events

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The Singapore Airshow 2020 at the Changi Exhibition Centre will go on as planned despite the coronavirus, but the outbreak has forced changes for other events in Asia. (Courtesy Singapore Airshow)

As the coronavirus continues to roil global travel and trade, event strategists are delaying, canceling, or soldiering on with their plans. Here's a look at the status of some events.

- The [Singapore Airshow 2020](#), scheduled for Feb. 11-16 at the Changi Exhibition Centre (CEC), will go on as planned. [Experia Events](#), organizer of the biennial air show — Asia's largest aerospace and defense event — said in a statement that "enhanced precautionary measures" would be in place to safeguard attendees' well-being and safety. [The Straits Times](#) reported that those measures included temperature screening at access points at CEC and Singapore Expo. Experia and various media also reported that some exhibitors and acts have pulled out of the event and that a related aviation conference, which draws 300 government officials, civil aviation authorities, airport operators, and airline executives, has been canceled.
- [IT&CM China and CTW China](#), two MICE industry trade shows, have moved from March 24-26 to August 3-5. The co-located events will still be held at the Shanghai Convention & Exhibition Center of International Sourcing, event organizers TTG and CITS MICE said in a [statement](#), which noted that the new dates hinge on the virus being under control.
- The [International Exhibition Logistics Association](#) (IELA) postponed its Operations Summit 2020, planned for Feb. 13-15 at Bangkok's Mövenpick Hotel Sukhumvit, to later this year, according to an email sent to speakers and delegates by IELA Chairman Vicki Bedi. The biennial event was last held in 2018, drawing 61 delegates from 27 countries. IELA, which is based in Switzerland, provides a forum for people and companies involved in the international transportation of exhibition material.
- The [National Association of Travel Agents Singapore](#) (NATAS) has rescheduled its conference, originally planned for Feb. 21-23, Singapore's [The New Paper](#) reports. The consumer travel fair will now be held May 1-3 at Singapore EXPO. NATAS hosts two events a year, the travel fair in February/March and a holidays fair in August/September. Each event draws about 100,000 people, according to NATAS' website.
- Credit Suisse Group AG's annual Asia investment conference — scheduled for March 25-27 in Hong Kong — has been canceled, [Bloomberg](#) reports.
- [TCT Asia](#), an additive manufacturing event planned for Feb. 19-21 in Shanghai, has been postponed, with a new date expected to be announced soon, organizers announced on the TCT website.
- The NYU School of Professional Studies (NYUPS) has postponed its inaugural [NYU Hospitality and RealEstate Investment Conference](#) at NYU Shanghai, moving the event from April 2020 to April 2021, the school said in a statement on its website. It added that the 2021 date was dependent upon the coronavirus outbreak being under control. The event, which builds upon the success NYUPS has had at its conferences in New York, is aimed at developing industry leaders in China.
- [ISPO Beijing](#), a sports exhibition scheduled for Feb. 12-15 at NCIEC Beijing, has been canceled, according to a statement on the ISPO website. The event, organized by Messe München, moves to Jan. 14-16, 2021.
- Health-care industry event [CAREhab 2020](#), planned for 14-15 at MAX Atria at Singapore Expo will move to July 10-11.
- The [R+T Asia 2020](#) event planned for Feb. 24-26 in Shanghai, will move to June, according to the [m+a UFI Exhibition Newsletter](#). The event, held at Shanghai New International Expo Center for the sun-shading and door-gate sectors, annually draws about 40,000 attendees and about 650 exhibitors.
- The [SPS Industrial Automation Fair Guangzhou](#) (SIAF) and the concurrent Asiamold fairs, both of which are organized by Messe Frankfurt, are canceled, according to a statement on the SIAF website. Both were to take place Feb. 26-28 at the China Import and Export Fair Complex in Guangzhou and are expected to be rescheduled.
- Citibank's annual Asia Pacific Investor Conference scheduled for Feb. 19-20 in Singapore has been canceled, [CAN](#) reported. The event, which has not yet been rescheduled, is one of Citibank's largest annual conferences, according to CAN, with more than 1,000 institutional investors, issuers and C-suite financial professionals attending.

What Events Professionals Need to Know About Coronavirus

PCMA has created a [Coronavirus web page](#) to help event professionals find reliable information about the outbreak and to share events industry-related resources to ensure they are prepared.