

Breaking News: Summit of the Americas announces virtual show for 2021

After carefully assessing the ongoing affects of the pandemic, it was announced today that International Association of Airport Duty Free Stores (IAADFS) and Asociación Sudamericana de Tiendas Libres (ASUTIL) will be hosting a virtual expo on April 5-8, 2021 in lieu of the previously scheduled show in Palm Beach, Florida.



The 2021 Virtual Summit of the Americas is being organized in partnership with The Moodie Davitt Report’s virtual expo company as an innovative, user-friendly, and cost-efficient virtual event. The Moodie Davitt Report has already developed the pioneering Virtual Travel Retail Expo, taking place this October.

“We are disappointed that the continued economic and social problems resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic make it apparent that the industry in the Americas and in some other locations is highly unlikely to be in a position to support an in-person event in early 2021. The boards of IAADFS and ASUTIL have reacted decisively by switching to a virtual event, embracing an exciting new platform that will continue our support of the recovery and future prosperity of our regions,” said Rene Riedi, IAADFS Chairman.

“We have sought guidance and explored options with our supplier partners and retailers and the consensus is that, at least in the Americas, an early 2021 second quarter in-person event would be difficult for most companies to support in a traditional way. Through digitalization, the virtual summit will provide the industry with an opportunity to connect, conduct business and learn from outstanding speakers within the duty free and travel retail industry. We call upon our members and the industry at large to get behind this event,” added Gustavo Fagundes, ASUTIL President.

The Moodie Davitt Report Chairman Martin Moodie said, “The launch of the 2021 Virtual Summit of the Americas underscores the critical work of IAADFS and ASUTIL in defending and advancing our industry’s efforts. Never has the need been greater. We are proud to partner with both associations to put on a dynamic virtual event that will galvanize the regions, facilitate communication, thought-leadership and innovation, and help raise funds to allow the work of the associations to be stepped up.”

Event features

The Virtual Summit of the Americas will feature a Knowledge Hub, providing valuable up-to-date learning sessions about the landscape, challenges and opportunities in the Americas; an Exhibition Hub, with engaging, creative and affordable virtual exhibition stand solutions; as well as multiple opportunities for scheduled networking appointments and meetings. There will also be open access for all media partners to a Press Center.