

IAADFS and ASUTIL to host 2021 Summit of the Americas virtually

The International Association of Airport Duty Free Stores (IAADFS) and Asociación Sudamericana de Tiendas Libres (ASUTIL) are to host the 2021 Summit of the Americas as a virtual expo on 5 April to 8 April 2021.

Originally scheduled to take place in Palm Beach, Florida next April, the event is now being organised in partnership with the Moodie Davitt Report's virtual expo company.



Rene Riedi, Chairman, IAADFS.

Rene Riedi, Chairman, IAADFS said: "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 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."

OPPORTUNITY TO CONNECT

Gustavo Fagundes, President, ASUTIL added: "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 digitalisation, 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."

Martin Moodie, Chairman, The Moodie Davitt Report said the launch of the 2021 Virtual Summit of the Americas underscores the critical work of IAADFS and ASUTIL in defending and advancing the industry's efforts.

The virtual summit will feature a Knowledge Hub, providing up-to-date learning sessions about the landscape, challenges and opportunities in the Americas.

Participants will have access to an Exhibition Hub featuring virtual exhibition stand solutions and opportunities for scheduled networking appointments and meetings.

A press centre will be available for all media partners.