

*easyFairs founder leaves UFI with record membership and in financial surplus*  
**Eric Everard completes his term as President of UFI**

**Valencia and Brussels, 24 November 2011: Making his closing speech at the 78th Annual Congress of UFI, the Global Association of the Exhibitions Industry, Eric Everard, Founder and President of easyFairs and its parent company, the Artexis Group, reviewed UFI's progress during his term of office.**

**“A year is a very short time in the events industry. You can only do so much. That's why I thought long and hard about my priorities,” Everard said.**

The number one priority was to boost membership and over the past year UFI has achieved a net gain of 30 members. Its total membership now stands at 574, the highest in UFI's history. “More importantly the quality of UFI's membership has increased and so has its geographical reach. This means more opportunities to network and learn.”

Everard also noted UFI's progress in three other priority areas: technological innovation, sustainability and special interest groups.

He leaves the Presidency with the Association's finances in surplus, for which he thanked Paul Woodward, Managing Director of UFI, and his team of professionals in Paris.

Everard's successor in 2011-12 is Arie Brienen of Utrecht Jaarbeurs.



## Press information

Ref. Number: 12/2011 [Brussels, 24 November 2011]

Page 2 of 2

### Information about easyFairs<sup>®</sup>

easyFairs is Europe's leading organiser of time & cost-effective trade shows. We make it time & cost-effective for professional communities to meet and do business both face-to-face and online. With headquarters in Brussels and an international network of offices, easyFairs runs shows in Austria, Belgium, Colombia, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Ireland, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

easyFairs brings sales-focused trade shows to the heart of buyer markets. For further information, please visit [www.easyFairs.com](http://www.easyFairs.com)

### Contact

#### Julian Kulkarni

Julian.kulkarni@easyFairs.com

Direct: +32 (0)2 740 10 80

Switchboard: +32 (0)2 740 10 70

Fax: +32 (0)2 740 10 75