

## RIA Drawing Crowds to Sunny California for 2017 Convention

**T**he Restoration Industry Association is planning another big conference, this time in sunny Palm Springs, Calif. The 2017 Restoration Industry Convention and Industry Expo is happening April 5 – 7 at the Renaissance Palm Springs Hotel. Conference organizers have been working for months to put together a robust array of sessions focused on current issues and topics relevant to the restoration industry.

### Education

For those choosing to arrive early, there are several pre-conference workshops available on project and risk management, contents and science theory, and the ever-popular mold remediation refresher course.

There will also be breakout sessions on everything from the new RIA Forensic Guidelines and infection control to legal issues, the future of the claims industry, restoring high-end furniture, a look at the future of disaster restoration and more. Some of the classes will include in-class demonstrations and hands-on activities.

The association also drew in a heavy-hitting keynote speaker: Randy Hetrick, the creator of the TRX workout system.

### Networking

If you're looking for more than just some educational opportunities, RIA always offers many opportunities to network with fellow restoration contractors and leading minds within the industry.

This year, the banquet celebration is included in the registration, and it is open to everyone. The awards banquet is an annual celebration of the restoration industry as a whole – a chance to talk about where the industry has gone in the last year, and what is ahead. It is also a time to recognize some of the leaders in restoration and rebuild work through the RIA's Phoenix Awards, and other accolades.


INTERNATIONAL RESTORATION CONVENTION & INDUSTRY EXPO April 5-7, 2017   Palm Springs, California		
Tuesday, April 4, 2017		
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		Pre-Conference Workshop: Project and Risk Management
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		Pre-Conference Workshop: Contents Science and Theory
Wednesday, April 5, 2017		
8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.		RIA Board of Directors Meeting
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		Pre-Conference Workshop: Project and Risk Management
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		Pre-Conference Workshop: Contents Science and Theory
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.		Pre-Conference Workshop: Mold Remediation Refresher
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.		New Member and First-Time Attendee Reception
5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.		Opening Reception
Thursday, April 6, 2017		
7:00 a.m. - 7:45 a.m.		Breakfast
8:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.		Welcome, Keynote Address and Certification Recognition
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.		Breakout Sessions
11:30 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.		Coffee Break
11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.		Breakout Sessions
12:45 p.m. - 3:45 p.m.		Exhibit Hall Open
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.		Breakout Sessions
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.		International Member Networking Event
5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.		Young Professional Restorers' Committee Networking Event
6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.		RIA Awards Banquet and Celebration
Friday April 7, 2017		
8:00 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.		Breakfast
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.		General Session
10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.		Exhibit Hall Open
1:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.		RIA Annual Business Meeting
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.		Breakout Sessions
3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.		Town Hall
4:30 p.m.		Conference Concludes

With RIA's membership now going global, the organization anticipating a big contingent coming from Australia for this year's conference. He said 18 percent of RIA's membership is from outside the U.S. It is the hope of the RIA to continue expanding globally to create a worldwide network of restorers who can work together toward innovations and strides in restoration and remediation work.

For the younger members of RIA, there will be a Young Professional Restor-

ers' Committee networking event Thursday evening before the awards banquet.

### Industry Expo

And of course, the show includes a large expo of restoration industry-related vendors and service providers, many of whom have worked within the industry for many years. The expo hours will offer more time for restorers to learn about products and innovations in today's marketplace, and network with each other and companies. 

# Restorer's Perspective

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