



FLORENCE CITY-COUNTY CIVIC CENTER

ONE CIVIC CENTER PLAZA • 3300 WEST RADIO DRIVE • FLORENCE, SC 29501-7820 • PHONE: 843-679-9417 • FAX: 843-679-9429

For Immediate Release

Contact: Karen Johnson
Director of Sales
Florence Civic Center
843-679-9417
kjohanson@florenceciviccenter.com

Florence Civic Center Wins Top Industry Award

Florence, SC. April 14 – The Florence Civic Center has been awarded the prestigious Prime Site Award for 2002 by Facilities & Event Management magazine. Only 49 venues in the U. S. and Canada received the award as the top entertainment facilities in 2002. The Civic Center was featured in a full page layout in the current issue of the publication.

The Prime Site Awards are voted on by leaders in the industry directly involved with site selection – promoters, booking agents and event planners. Voting was based on convenience of location, attractiveness of facility, quality of staff, maintenance, food & beverage functions, technological capabilities and ease of setup and breakdown.

Kendall Wall, General Manager of the Civic Center, commented, “The Prime Site Award means that our facility has been acknowledged at the national level. It’s a great recognition for the dedicated public officials serving on the Civic Center Commission, the City-County Councils and our entire staff, as well as the promoters, meeting planners and our patrons who have supported the Civic Center.”

The Florence Civic Center opened in 1993 and is set to celebrate its 10th Anniversary this year. The facility is home to the ECHL hockey team, the Pee Dee Pride and the Florence Symphony Orchestra. The multipurpose venue offers 50,000 square feet of entertainment and exhibition/meeting space which includes a 10,000 seat arena, 15,000 square foot exhibition hall and three well appointed banquet rooms, providing an additional 5,300 square feet.

The facility had a busy year in 2002, hosting a sold out Gaither’s Homecoming Concert, WWE Wrestling, Canton Spirituals, US Cowboy Rodeo Tour, Happy Goodmans - Final Tour, Big Men of Country Tour, Jars of Clay, Lee Greenwood and Sandi Patty, Monster Truck Show, Royal Hanneford Circus, FFH Christian Concert plus the Pee Dee Deer Classic, Land of the Sky gun shows, Merry Marketplace, Kids Jamboree, AKC Dog Show, Senior Life Expo and the Home & Garden Expo.

Physical improvements progressed throughout the year as well with the upgrading of the HVAC and Chiller system, the purchase of a new half-house curtain system and a general cleaning and painting of the facility.

The Florence Civic Center is managed by SMG, the Philadelphia based, leading private facility management company. SMG currently handles 156 entertainment and exhibition venues.

####

