

Dear Exhibitor

With the “Breathe Clean Air” message of Healthy Lungs for life at the forefront of our minds and our commitment to climate change and air quality in the health community being stronger than ever, the European Respiratory Society has decided to take steps towards delivering a greener Congress. We will endeavour to meet the standards set out by the Austrian Ecolabel a certificate that is awarded by the Austrian Federal Ministry of the Environment. We would like to encourage you to support us by following certain guidelines to help the ERS exhibition comply with the EcoLabel.

The guidelines are not obligatory but we would be very interested in hearing from all companies that choose to comply with the guidelines and will be recognising those exhibition booths that have been designed to minimize their impact on the environment by endeavouring to meet the guidelines set out in this communication.

Exhibition Guidelines for a Greener Congress

To be considered as a green stand the following guidelines should be met. We have appointed Kristof.Kemp@ersnet.org as the green officer for the exhibition and he will be happy to answer any queries you have.

Booth Construction

Carpets and floor coverings:

Carpets used on the stands should be made of recycled fibre or clearly be re-usable.

Materials:

Exhibitors should build their booths using re-cycled materials (no PVC) or be constructed in a way that the elements of the stand are re-useable.

Furniture and decoration:

Exhibitors are encouraged to rent screens, AV, computers, fittings or ensure that they will be re-used.

Cut flowers and plastic flowers should not be used on the stand.

Lighting

You are encouraged to use LED lighting solutions or other energy-saving lighting options.

Catering

Food and drinks should be served in/on non-disposable materials such as china or glass – no single-use plastic cups or utensils are permitted. Other sustainable options such for serving drinks are acceptable. All drinks should be stored in glass bottles or other re-usable materials.

Food and drinks should be sourced locally.

Waste Disposal

Action should be taken to avoid waste and then to separating and disposing of unavoidable waste according to the venue's specifications, details of which will be available from the Congress webshop.

Paper

Exhibitors are encouraged to have paper free stands. Failing this, use 100% recycled paper or at least paper bleached completely without the use of chlorine (TFC) for the required printed materials. Binders are not permitted on the stand or for distribution to delegates.

Free Gifts

You are encouraged to offer simple low value free gifts. Free gifts that create waste or include batteries should not be offered. This rule does not apply to medical devices samples.

Please let us know if you intend to follow these guidelines so that we can include you in our list of green stands.

We understand that this communication is very late in the planning process and apologise if you wish to join this initiative but will not be able to comply due to time and budget constraints.