IFMA 18 - REMINDER THAT THERE IS ONLY <u>3 WEEKS</u> TO THE END OF THE EARLY BIRD BOOKING PERIOD

I do hope you are planning to attend the IFMA18 Congress in New Zealand next March – Sunday 19th – Friday 25th in Christchurch.

The organisers have put together a superb programme with the usual mix of top class plenary speakers and contributed papers as well as two days of field trips. The full programme is available on the Congress website – virtually all now confirmed, and around 100 papers have been contributed to the congress.

There are still places on the **Pre and Post Congress Tours** – so do look at what these have to offer. You only need a deposit of NZ\$400 per person to secure your place, with the remainder due in the New Year. They have an enticing mix of agricultural and tourist visits included.

Altogether these excellent programmes form a **once in a working lifetime opportunity** that should not be missed if you can possibly participate.

As the heading of this email says – there are just 3 more weeks to the end of the Early Bird reduced rate registration period – do book by **Monday December 20**th **to save NZ\$150 (12%)** on the full registration cost – and similarly for Accompanying persons to save **NZ\$90 (10%)**. Do not forget that you need to be a current paid-up IFMA Full Member to attend the congress – join when registering online, or via the IFMA website.

But please don't wait until the last minute – book as soon as you can to be sure of your registration. It can all be done online - including payment using a credit card (bank or wire transfer available if preferred). **Contributed paper authors** are reminded that they should register for the congress by the 20th December to confirm that there presentation slot in the programme and that their paper / poster is published in the congress proceedings

All the details for the congress are available on the website including the accommodation options. Reserving accommodation requires a simple email to request a reservation and obtain the special IFMA18 accommodation rates – follow the instructions on the website.

Everyone should check the visa and entry requirements for New Zealand and you will find the necessary links for information on the Travel Information Page. If you are required to have a visa do not delay in making your application – this can be quite a prolonged process and requires several items of documentation, and may require you to send these to a NZ Immigration Office outside of your country. (Incidentally - if you can not afford to be without your passport for any length of time you can send a "certified copy" in the first place until the NZ IO is ready to give your passport a visa).

And finally if you have informed friends and colleagues about the congress – please let them know that the Early Bird Booking period ends on the 20th December.

Best Regards, Tony.

PS – The major sponsors of the Congress are the world renowned Lincoln and Massey Universities and the ANZ Bank – so you know it has to be good!

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IFMA Website - www.ifmaonline.org

18th IFMA Congress, New Zealand 2011, website www.ifma18.org