



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Events Industry Council Recognizes Saint Paul RiverCentre and Xcel Energy Center for Achievement of Sustainability Event Standards Certification

Venues reach Gold Level of global standards for environmental and social responsibility

Washington D.C. April 10, 2023 – The Events Industry Council is pleased to announce that [Saint Paul RiverCentre](#) and Xcel Energy Center, the capital city’s stunning convention, special event and entertainment venues, have achieved Gold Level certification to the EIC Sustainable Event Standards for Venues.

The EIC Sustainable Event Standards are specific standards for environmental and social responsibility within the events industry. Created by the EIC Sustainability Committee in partnership with industry professionals and leading sustainability practitioners, the requirements provide event planners and suppliers with prescriptive actions for producing and delivering sustainable events. The standard specifies performance criteria in the areas of organizational management, marketing, communications and engagement, climate action, water management, materials and circularity, supply chain management, diversity, equity and inclusion, accessibility and social impact. The Venue standard is one of seven comprehensive standards for environmentally sustainable meetings.

“This is great news for Saint Paul RiverCentre and Xcel Energy Center and all of us working to make Saint Paul the sustainable destination choice for convention planners,” said Jim Ibister, Senior Vice President, Facilities Administration. “Saint Paul RiverCentre and Xcel Energy Center have long been considered as leaders in implementing successful sustainability programs, and GOLD recertification is a significant recognition to those efforts.”

Amy Calvert, EIC CEO, added, "The Events Industry Council congratulates Saint Paul River Centre and Xcel Energy Center on their Gold Level Certification. This demonstrates a strong commitment to the environmentally and socially responsible practices that are needed to support long-term sustainability in our industry."

[BPA iCompli Sustainability](#), a division of BPA Worldwide, a nonprofit international auditing organization headquartered in Shelton, CT USA, developed the certification protocols for EIC Sustainable Event Standards and performed the independent third-party certification of Saint Paul RiverCentre and Xcel Energy Center compliance with the Venue standard. "Our certification to the event sustainability

standards created by EIC, and now adopted by the Saint Paul RiverCentre and Xcel Energy Center continues our long-standing commitment to promote transparency in the events industry,” noted Richard Murphy, President and CEO of BPA Worldwide.

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ABOUT EVENTS INDUSTRY COUNCIL. The Events Industry Council’s more than 30 member organisations represent over 103,500 individuals and 19,500 firms and properties involved in the events industry. The Events Industry Council’s vision is to be the global champion for event professionals and event industry excellence. It promotes high standards and professionalism in the events industry with the Certified Meeting Professional (CMP) programme and signature programme activities. The CMP credential is recognised globally as the badge of excellence in the events industry. The qualifications for certification are based on professional experience, education and a rigorous exam. The four signature programmes – Sustainability and Social Impact, Accepted Practices Exchange (APEX), Knowledge and Leadership – represent the key initiatives, assets, services and products for the Events Industry Council. Learn more at www.eventscouncil.org.

ABOUT BPA ICOMPLI SUSTAINABILITY. BPA iCompli Sustainability, a division of BPA Worldwide, is a not-for-profit auditing organization established in 1931 to audit audience metrics for publishers, advertisers and their agencies. Today, BPA’s audit services have expanded to include external assurance of government and industry standards and independent verification of technology and service claims. BPA iCompli Sustainability provides third-party certification to Events Industry Council’s (EIC) Sustainable Events Standards (SES), sustainability framework services, and verification of sustainability data including GHG emissions, waste diversion, water withdrawal, safety performance and more. Learn more at www.bpaww.com.

ABOUT SAINT PAUL RIVER CENTRE AND XCEL ENERGY CENTER. With more than 230,000 square feet of versatile event space, Saint Paul RiverCentre offers the perfect blend of easily configurable space, luminous, airy design and outstanding customer service, and has been highly recognized for its award-winning sustainability programs. Additionally, Morrissey Hospitality provides award-winning cuisine, elevated service and genuine hospitality on-site, regardless of size or occasion. Learn more at www.rivercentre.org.

Xcel Energy Center is regarded as one of the finest arenas in the world. The one-of-a-kind, multi-purpose facility is home to more than 150 sporting and entertainment events and approximately 1.7 million visitors each year. Learn more at <https://www.xcelenergycenter.com/guest-services/about>.