

POLAND BANS GAMING OUTSIDE CASINOS

The Polish Congress has approved recently a green paper to bar gambling in locations other than Casinos.
If passed, all slots currently installed in bars, cafes, service stations and shopping centres will have to be removed. The measure could affect some 50,000 slots.
Even though it has been ratified by Lech Kaczynski, the Polish President still has doubts regarding the law, which will be put before the Polish Constitutional Court for a report to be issued.



Donald Tusk, Prime Minister of Polonia

RUSSIAN INDUSTRY SEEKS NEW HORIZONS

Since the new gaming law came into force in Russia on 1 July last, forcing all Casinos outside of four special zones to close, the gaming industry there has looked towards other activities. Authorities in Moscow recently expressed their dismay at the proliferation of new gaming technologies, such as lottery machines, and online gaming.

Sergei Baidakov, Government Vice Chief in Moscow explained, " *We are seriously concerned at the increase in technologies springing up to replace Casinos. Almost one third of the 525 Casinos and slot halls in Moscow have opened lottery centres to sell instant lottery tickets, and the number of cyber-cafes giving access to online gaming has tripled since July*".
Since the dread 1 July, the Russian police have closed over 1000 underground gambling dens, including 40 Casinos, and confiscated 93 tables and over 13,500 slots.



The neon lights of Arbat street have not been turned on for some time now

NEW CASINOS FOR ITALY?

If the project proposed by Tourism Minister Michela Vittoria Brambilla gets the green light, Italy will soon have at least 10 new Casinos, to be located in 5-star hotels.
The measure is one of a series developed by the government to promote tourism, particularly in the less developed southern regions.
In the first three quarters of 2009, visitors to Italian Casinos had left some €347 million in bets.



CIRSA INCREASES OPERATING PROFIT

At the end of the third quarter of 2009 CIRSA had recorded earnings of €1220 million, with an operating profit of €157 million, 5% over the same period last year, when they recorded earnings of €405 million and an operating profit of €55, in turn 3% over the previous year.
The most important events in the period were the optimisation of the slot fleet in Italy, bringing it up to over 7400 units and increasing billing for the quarter by 24%; the introduction of over 5000 slots into the Madrid Region by the B2B division; and positive market trends in the Group' s Latin-American markets, principally in Argentina, Panama, Venezuela and Ecuador, due mainly to extensions, structural improvements and a greater gaming offer.



Joaquim Agut, CIRSA General Manager

SPANISH GAMING ESTABLISHMENTS CHOOSE UNIDESA

A large number of Spanish gaming establishments have been opting for products from CIRSA-owned Spanish company Unidesa.
Casino Puerto de la Cruz, Casino Santa Cruz and Casino Playa de las Americas have installed 30 Unidesa Keno Party units, forming a WAP network.
Casino Monte Picayo has also increased its slot park, incorporating the multiprogressive " Time Gate Series".
Finally, the Unidesa Forward Systems has been used to pioneer the creation of a new network of interconnected slots: the Global Jackpot Aragon B3 network.



MORE METRONIA SLOTS FOR THE SPANISH MARKET

In the last quarter, Metronia has installed over 100 B3 slots in several gaming establishments in Madrid. Games such as " Bingo 3", " Turbomania" and " Doublemania", among others, are proving very popular among gamers and operators.



A TWO MILLION EURO JACKPOT

A hundred French Casinos are taking part in the Magic Casinos Jackpot which will pay one lucky winner a millionaire prize: by end of November the jackpot stood at €2 million.
And the amount is growing. The jackpot is open during 24 hours by day.
The participants in this Jackpot are the 35 Lucien Barriere Group Casinos, 17 Joa Groupe Casinos, 16 from the Tranchant Group, 8 from the Emeraude Group and 24 independent Casinos.



Map showing the Casinos networked in the Magic Casinos Jackpot

EUROPEAN CASINO ASSOCIATION HOSTS ICC 2010

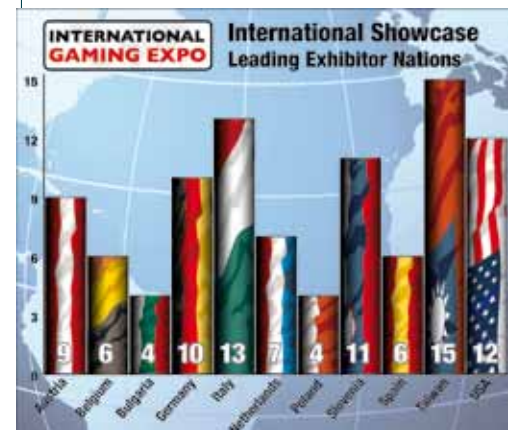
On 25 January 2010, the European Casino Association (ECA) and Clarion Gaming will be hosting their second annual conference for the Casino and gaming industries in London. With top speakers and panellists from across Europe and beyond, the International Casino Conference (ICC) will focus on the key issues driving the Casino industry in the coming year.
On the other hand, ECA announced that the European Dealer Championship 2010 will take place over 11-12 May 2010 at the Olympic Casino in the Reval Hotel Lietuva, Vilnius, Lithuania.
Now in its 4th year, the European Dealer Championship attracts top dealers from across Europe, who come together to demonstrate their skills and craftsmanship at the Roulette and Black Jack tables.



One of the ICC sessions held last year at the London fair

CASINO SUPPLIERS EXPAND OFFERING AS COSMOPOLITAN IGE SHAPES UP

The 2010 International Gaming Expo (IGE) is set to stage an even greater display of products and services to help Casino operators enhance profitability following news that at least three of the industry' s notable product developers WMS Gaming, Bally Technologies and Konami Gaming have expanded their London Show presence.
Despite the physical size of the exhibition the international make-up of IGE will once again be the stand-out feature of the show. The latest statistics, which were announced two months ahead of IGE going live, reveal a cosmopolitan roster of manufacturers, developers and suppliers comprising 184 companies from 35 nations spread across Africa, Asia, Europe, North America and South America.
Outside of the UK the most represented nations on the IGE floor plan are Taiwan (15 exhibitors), Italy (13) and the USA (12), followed by Slovenia (11), Germany (10), Austria (9), Netherlands (7), Spain, Belgium (both 6) and Bulgaria and Poland (both 4).



SUZO HAPP CARRIES OUT CASINO INSTALLATION ON CRUISE SHIP

Suzo Happ introduced a completely new service to the gaming industry - technical Casino installations. This service includes installation of slots and live gaming tables.
Both Casinos and cruise ships are invited to make use of this new service.
The first installation has taken place on board the Italian-built " Carnival Dream", owned by Carnival Cruise Lines. A total of three Suzo Happ technicians invested a number of weeks on the project, consisting of installing 189 slots and a series of live gaming tables.



Carnival Dream

ABBIATI EXHIBITS PRODUCTS WORLDWIDE

Italian firm Abbiati was present at the recent G2E Fair in Las Vegas, showing a range of new live gaming tables, once again exhibiting the quality for which the company is renowned.

"As every year, we are expecting to continue to strengthen our position in the global markets and further develop our business, and we strongly believe that this show will give us access to excellent networking and the educational and professional development opportunities offered by the marvellous organisation and facilities" explained Giovanni Abbiati, Chairman of the company. Abbiati also took part at the Second Balkan Entertainment & Gaming Expo, held over 5-7 October in Sofia, Bulgaria. General Manager Giorgio Abbiati and Commercial Director Terry Clarke made the most of the occasion to visit several Casinos in Sofia, establishing important new contacts with the local gaming and entertainment industry.

The company also signed a new Agency Agreement with Mrs Moscovia, who will be sole agent for Bulgaria, and took orders from repeat and new customers.



INTRODUCING TREBOR CONSULTANCY

The main focus of Trebor Consultancy is to give strategic support to companies in the gaming and amusement industry in opening new markets and exploring new opportunities.

With Robert van Enkhuijzen, ex Suzo Sales Director, at the helm, Trebor Consultancy offers privileged experience in the gaming world.

Trebor Consultancy has already celebrated its first success – Robert was conferred with the Friend of the Bulgarian Gaming Industry at

this year's Bulgarian BEGE exhibition, in recognition of his unceasing support for the industry over the years.



ZITRO SLOTS CONTINUE TO WIN FANS

Zitro continues to expand through bingo parlours, gaming arcades and Casinos in Spain. The process includes the inauguration of a special slot room at Bingo Canoe in Madrid.

The room has 60 B3 slots, all from Zitro, particularly games for its "Bluewave" platform, such as "Power Mania", "Island Bingo", "Doble Bingo", "Bingo 3000", "Fishmania", "Lucky Hero" and "Bingo Dream".



APEX GAMING SPONSORS MAJOR EUROPEAN GOLF TOURNAMENT

Apex Gaming Europe was once again a major sponsor the INGO Casinos Golf Tournament, held in the spa town of Franzensbad in the Czech Republic.

The tournament, one of the biggest industry sporting events, saw 120 participants from Austria, Belgium, Italy, Czech Republic, Slovenia and Germany. Dennis Jensen from Grand Casino Brussels was proclaimed champion.

Johannes Weissengruber, founder and owner of Apex Gaming, had this to say: "The INGO Casinos Golf Tournament is an excellent opportunity to spend quality time with our customers. We use this opportunity to gain invaluable feedback on our Multi Magic slots. We take this feedback very seriously as customer feedback enables us to continually improve our game offering. The fact that INGO Casinos operate only Apex slots is testimony to this. Naturally, the Golf Tournament was also a fitting occasion to thank our customers for their continued support and to enjoy their company".



Manfred Maximilian Bittermann, Manager of the Golf Club Franzensbad, Dennis Jensen of Grand Casino Brussels – Tournament Champion, and Pavel Sedlacek, Event Manager at INGO Casino Franzensbad



Peter Amling

APPOINTMENT AT MERKUR CASINO

Peter Amling has been appointed Managing Director of Merkur Casino, the internationally-oriented subsidiary of Merkur-Spielothek. He joins Thomas Niehenke and Rolf Falke on the Board.

From now on, his new duties as Member of the Board will include international activities in the products and technologies divisions, in addition to his former duties as division manager.

EASG TO HOLD NEW CONFERENCE

The 8th European Conference on Gambling Studies and Policy Issues, organised by EASG will be held from 14-17 September 2010 at the Radisson SAS Palais Hotel Vienna.

Information on the event available at www.easg.org



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF GAMBLING

NAIPES COMAS UP FOR SALE

Spanish company Naipes Comas, considered by many the oldest playing-card factory in the world, has put its trademark and intellectual property rights up for sale, including Naipes Comas Spanish deck playing-card illustrations and other rights over illustrations and games produced throughout the lifetime of the firm, along with its current inventory of games. Also for sale are the image rights of all games, the machinery, lithographs, moulds, reproductions and the commercial fund.

Poker deck from Naipes Comas, designed by Paco Ibañez for EUROPEAN CASINOS-The Elite



CARROLL CONSULTING UPDATES WEBSITE TO REFLECT GROWTH IN BUSINESS

Carroll Consulting reported that the company website www.carrollconsulting.de has been updated to reflect the growth in business. Carroll Consulting was founded in January 2008 by John Carroll who has over fifteen years of experience in the industry.

Carroll Consulting offers three key services – sales and marketing support, public relations and advertising and thirdly – translations.

Mr Carroll sums up, "I invite industry participants to visit the company website containing all the details in three languages: English, German and Spanish. Naturally I will be pleased to continue to expand the business by providing focussed services for the benefit of our clients".



John Carroll

APPOINTMENT AT JOAGROUPE



Pauline Boyer has been appointed Marketing Director and Executive Committee Member of French Casino JOAGROUPE, owner of 20 Casinos throughout France.

Pauline Boyer

CASINO KURSAAL CHARITY DECK

The Casino Kursaal in San Sebastian, Spain, has launched an exclusive numbered poker deck, illustrated with typical Basque scenes, to raise money for charity. It will be on sale at the Casino and over the internet, from www.doaong.net and www.casinokursaal.com. All proceeds will go to the NGO DOA.



CASINO GRAN MADRID HOLDS FULL TILT POKER SERIES FINAL

The grand final of the Full Tilt Poker Series (FTPS) was held at Casino Gran Madrid, distributing over €1 million in prizes.

Full Tilt Poker™ is one of the biggest and best-regarded online poker rooms in the world. Team Full Tilt is made up of a select group of the best professional poker players, including Chris Ferguson, Phil Ivey, Howard Lederer, Jennifer Harman, Erick Lindgren, Erik Seidel, Andy Bloch, Phil Gordon, John Juanda, Mike Matusow, Gus Hansen, Allen Cunningham and Patrik Antonius.

Casino Gran Madrid is unique in Europe in having a special room for poker tournaments.



POKER STILL ALL THE RAGE

César Ordóñez was winner of the Barcelona Full Tilt Poker Series, beating players from Ireland, Portugal and Germany at the final table. The tournament was a huge success, with the many participants showing great skill.

On the other hand, Joseph Cada became the youngest winner in the history of the World Series of Poker, walking away from the Rio All-Suites Hotel & Casino in Las Vegas with US\$ 8.5 million.

