

## **IGAA - Irish Gaming & Amusement Association**

*Country Report for EUROMAT Annual General Meeting 2009 in Brussels, Belgium*

### **Irish Gaming & Amusement Statistics**

**The most recent statistics issued by the Revenue Commissioners in Dublin reveal that in 2006 there were 92 Gaming (Premises) Licences issued nationally, (generating EUR 59,110 in licence fees), compared with a slightly higher figure for 2005 of 102.**

Gaming (Premises) Licences are issued for a period not exceeding 3 months (EUR 175). Gaming (Premises) Licences - Annual are issued for a period exceeding 3 months but not exceeding 12 months (EUR 630)

In 2006 there were 10,105 Gaming Machine Licences issued nationally, (generating EUR 2,778,377 in licence fees), compared with a slightly lower figure for 2005 of 9,673.

Gaming Machine Licences are issued for a period not exceeding 3 months (EUR 145). Gaming Machine Licences - Annual are issued for a period exceeding 3 months but not exceeding 12 months (EUR 505)

In 2006 there were 6,586 Amusement Machine Licences issued nationally, (generating EUR 794,584 in licence fees), compared with a slightly higher figure for 2005 of 6,831.

Amusement Machines are defined as games with a video screen including video games, simulators, touchscreens etc. There is anecdotal evidence of an ongoing increase in the numbers of other amusement games, for which there are no official statistics.

These include an estimated 6,000 Pool Tables, 4,000 Jukeboxes, 1,000 Soccer Tables, 1,000 Kiddie Rides, 1,000 Cranes, 500 Pinballs, 500 Pushers, 500 Redemption Games and 500 Novelty Games.

There are 2 Manufacturers, 10 Distributors, an estimated 300 Single Site Operators and an estimated 300 non-gaming FEC type locations, including bowling and play centres, pool and snooker halls, etc.

**AmEx 2009, the 30th Irish Gaming & Amusement Trade Exhibition, was held at the Green Isle Hotel, Dublin on Tuesday 3 and Wednesday 4 March 2009.**

Activity in Ireland (North & South) over the past year has been considerable, with investment in new equipment at a high level. Many of those already involved in the trade are expanding their businesses and new people are entering the trade at an unprecedented rate.

In addition to the exhibition there was a seminar and a programme of meetings, business presentations and social gatherings, continuing the show's reputation for bringing together Irish and international manufacturers, distributors and operators in a businesslike atmosphere.

AmEx 2009 presented the Irish Gaming Industry Seminar - a fact filled seminar that will update delegates on recent happenings in the Irish Gaming Industry, presented by the organisers of the Irish Gaming Conference.

From arcades to casinos and from bookmakers to single site operators, this session updated visitors and exhibitors at the AmEx 2009 show on all market influences that are impacting on the industry.

With legislative review, political influences and a shift in consumer spending on gaming, the Irish industry is on the cusp of substantial change. The seminar allowed attendees to find out where the industry is and where it is forecast to be by the end of 2009 and beyond.

The seminar was presented by John Purcell, Director, Hannibal Purcell & Associates - Gaming Industry Management & Technology Consultants.

Exhibitors at AmEx 2009 included Almotech Ltd, Amusement Sales & Service, AtariExpo & Paytec, Automatic Amusements, Brent Sales, Cash Automation, Cosmic Video Amusements, Crown Direct, Donegal Leisure, ECM Systems Ltd, Elaut Sales, Electrocoin Sales Ltd, Future Gaming Europe, FX Simulation UK, Game Concepts, Gaming Machine Supplies Ltd, Genesis Games & Amatic, Hannibal Purcell & Associates, Hazel Electronics, Infinitygames, Innovative Technology, Intergames, ITM Leisure, JC Gaming, Kimble Gaming, Laser Electronic Systems, Leisure Electronics, Noraut, NSM Music, Olympic Sales, Playtrix Ltd, Q Leisure, SAM Leisure, SB Machines, Scan Coin Ireland, Sega Amusements Europe Ltd, Sound Leisure, Superleague (Ireland), The Novelty Toy Company, Tobycos Ltd, Towergate Risk Solutions, Turbo Leisure Ltd, UDC, Vegas Ltd and Wexford Amusements Ltd.

Visitors from all over Ireland and further afield converged on Dublin for the two most important days in the Irish Gaming & Amusement Trade Calendar, combining business activity and social events, making it an occasion not to be missed.

The number of international visitors and exhibitors has increased considerably in recent years, to include companies from Britain, USA, Spain, Germany, Austria, France, Belgium, Netherlands, Italy, Japan, Russia, Hungary, Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Latvia, Serbia and Slovenia.

AmEx is organised by MD Associates, supported by IGAA - Irish Gaming & Amusement Association (Member of Euromat), sponsored by Coin-Op News and promoted by many international gaming and amusement trade publications and exhibitions.

*IGAA officers are Jim McCann (President) and Alan Muir (Treasurer).*

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