

What's New at this Year's Conference?

If you have attended the IRMI Construction Risk Conference in the recent past, you may be wondering what is different about the plans for this year. We have a number of new offerings this year, from networking events to new workshop topics and speakers. Here's an overview of What's New at the 29th IRMI Construction Risk Conference.

- **Nineteen new faces at the podium.** Every year, we develop a program that includes a combination of new speakers and “tried and true” speakers. We believe that this approach helps ensure a consistency in the quality of the program while also keeping things fresh for those who attend the Conference on a regular basis.
- **Twenty-one new workshops.** While we sometimes ask speakers to repeat popular workshops, we work hard to make sure we keep the program fresh by introducing new speakers on new topics, new speakers on repeat topics, and return speakers on new topics. Even though the subject areas may sound similar from year to year (they are all construction related), the content is always changing. For example, a new speaker can put a completely fresh spin on a topic that has been covered before. This year, 21 out of 27 workshops (including the keynote presentations) offer a new subject, a new perspective, or a new aspect of a subject area. [Review the agenda and read the workshop descriptions](#) to gain insight into the topics being covered.
- **A new networking reception following the Monday afternoon workshops.** Come and meet the “movers and shakers” in the construction risk and insurance markets. Enjoy a beverage and some appetizers while reconnecting with old friends or establishing new contacts. The addition of this event fills out a trio of official networking receptions on Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings, as well as many unofficial events on Wednesday night.
- **Breakfast speakers on Tuesday and Wednesday mornings.** In what we hope will be an annual event, we have invited two high-profile industry insiders to address the topic of federal regulation of the insurance industry. Joel Wood of The Council of Insurance Agents and Brokers (CIAB) and Terri Vaughan of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) will share their opinions and insights on this timely subject, including how it would impact insurance and risk management professionals.
- **One-day passes.** For the first time ever we are [offering one-day passes](#) to the Conference. If you cannot commit to an entire week of learning and networking, this provides the flexibility to attend some of the sessions and networking events.
- **Award-winning speakers.** Many of our return speakers are the recipients of our Words of Wisdom award for excellence in their preparation and delivery of relevant, practical material. This year, nine Words of Wisdom award winners will present workshops on new or refreshed topics.
- **A great new location.** This year's Conference will be at the [Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center](#). A world-class hotel and convention center covering 41.7 acres, Gaylord National overlooks the monuments and skyline of our nation's capital. It has been many years since the Conference was on the East Coast, other than Orlando, and this convenient location is a short plane or train ride away for our attendees in the Northeast.