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CONTACT: Nick Lashinsky <u>nick@marketingdesigngroup.com</u> 619.298.1445 x123

Atlanta Pet Fair & Conference Sees Rise in Attendance After Move to Georgia International Convention Center

Monrovia, CA – The recently-concluded Atlanta Pet Fair & Conference – the Southeast's largest competition and trade show for professional pet stylists – saw a six percent spike in attendance at it's newly expanded event at the Georgia International Convention Center, featuring a larger show floor and additional seminars.

The new location meant attendees were able to observe North America's largest grooming competitions – with 13 contests, featuring 122 entrants and 290 dogs – right on the show floor, while browsing the top product, tool and equipment supplies in the industry.

"The new venue, robust grooming competitions, expanded education sessions and overwhelming sense of community made for an incredible event," says Doug Poindexter, President of World Pet Association. "It's important for World Pet Association to provide a fun and professional setting for attendees to further their grooming education and offer products and services to boost their business."

Best in show winners included:

- Leslie Dover, Best First Time Competitor
- Lindsey Dicken, Best Pet Stylist in Show
- Lindsey Dicken, Best All Around Pet Stylist in Show

For a complete list of winners: <u>www.atlantapetfair.org/2016-winners/</u>

Atlanta Pet Fair & Conference 2016 offered 72 seminars – including eight special seminars – in subjects ranging from mobile grooming and cat grooming to treating skin and coat problems. Sessions also covered new trends, such as Asian-fusion styles in Olga Zabelinskaya's "How to Achieve the Modern Styles" and business-focused tracks like Lynn Switanowski's "A Picture is Worth Thousands in Sales."

2016 sponsors included: Andis Company, Earthbath, Electric Cleaner Company, EQyss Grooming Products, Espree Animal Products, Evolution Shears, Fresh 'n Clean Products, Kenchii Professional Grooming, Learn2GroomDogs.com, Nature's Specialties Mfg., Oster Professional Products, PuppyPlayGround.com, ShowSeason Animal Products, Wag'n Tails Mobile Conversions and Wahl Clipper Corporation.

For more information: www.atlantapetfair.org.

About The World Pet Association

Founded in 1950, the World Pet Association (WPA) is the pet industry's oldest non-profit organization. Based in Southern California, WPA coordinates industrydefining trade show events — SuperZoo, Atlanta Pet Fair & Conference — to promote responsible growth and development of the pet retail industry. Other popular annual events include America's Family Pet Expo, a consumer pet and pet product expo, and Aquatic Experience, which combines consumer pet products and trade show annually. Proceeds from these events are funneled back into key industry organizations and non-profits supporting the pet retail community and making it easier for pet retailers to do business. WPA provides thought leadership on consumer and legislative issues for the good of pet retailers as well as the industry as a whole and leads efforts in the public sector to inform consumers and ensure safe, healthy lifestyles for all animals.

For more information about WPA: <u>www.worldpetassociation.org</u>.