



NO-DIG 2008 Moscow
2nd June – 6th June 2008

Practical information

Dear Delegate and Exhibitor

The Conference and Exhibition

The NO-DIG 2008 event is being held in the Crocus International Exhibition Centre which is on the Moscow Ring road about 30 minutes from the centre of Moscow by Metro on Arbatsko-Pokrovskaya Metro Line #3 (Blue) to STROGINO station. During the event shuttle busses will run from STROGINO to the Crocus Centre which will take about 25-30 minutes or you can walk, which is about 2kms.

By public transport (metro, bus, minibus taxi - "marshrootka")

The new metro station "Strogino", located 1,5 km distance from the Expo Center, was opened in January. On the registration day as well as during the working days of the Exhibition the Exhibition Management will organize FREE TRANSFER for exhibitors and visitors. The shuttles will depart from "Strogino" and will transport passengers to the start of a pedestrian pathway which leads over the Moscow Ring Road to the Crocus Centre. The shuttle busses will depart for the return journey from the same point. Information on schedule, time intervals and itineraries will be published on the Exhibition invitation cards and on the Exhibition web site.

Metro station "Strogino": Take the bus 631 to the bus stop "Ulitsa Isakovskogo" (Isakovskogo Street) or bus 652 to the bus stop "Departament Truda".

By car

Crocus Expo is situated 1 km from the crossing of Moscow Ring Road and Volokolamskoye highway. It is at the 66th km marker of the Moscow City Ring Road. Please keep in mind that there are often traffic jams on the Ring Road. If you leave your hotel around 8 am – 8.30 am we advise you to take the taxi, it will take you 40 minutes. If you leave the hotel after 9 am we advise you to take the metro to "Strogino" and the free shuttle busses to the Crocus Expo. If you do take a taxi it can take you up to 90 minutes. A taxi will cost you about 1000R and 10R per minute additional when you are in a traffic jam.

The Conference Hotels

The conference hotels are to the west of the city centre near the Garden Ring Road and about 2.5 kms from the historic heart of Moscow. Sheremetyevo International airport is 35 kms and Domodedovo 50 kms from the area.

Hotel Golden Ring (5 stars), 5 Smolenskaya, Moscow 119121 (www.hotel-goldenring.ru) is the main Conference Hotel and will have a registration desk for pre-registration open on Sunday 1st June and also on Monday 2nd June. Delegates from other hotels nearby will be most welcome to use this facility too.

Radisson SAS Slavyanskaya Hotel, (4 stars) Europe Square 2, Moscow 121059, is 5 minutes walk from the Golden Ring Hotel across the Moscow River

Hotel Belgrade (3 stars) 8 Smolenskaya, Moscow 121099, is opposite the Hotel Golden Ring.

There are additional hotels which are shown on the attached list or you can visit www.moscow-hotels.net/hotels/standard-hotels.asp. The organisers recommend that it is best to select hotels which are close to Metro stations on Line 3 (Arbatsko-Pokrovskaya Metro Line, [Blue on the map]) to make traveling easier.

Although accommodation can be booked direct with hotels in Moscow this method will not attract the discounts which are available through the 2 recommended travel agents:

OA O VOA "INTOURIST" www.intourist.ru and <http://onreg.intourist.ru>

Phone: +7(495) 730 61 18, Fax: +7(495) 956 89 34

Email: expo@intourist.ru

Internet: <http://expo.intourist.ru>

Internet: <http://onreg.intourist.ru/> (on-line registration)

Contact person: Ms. Elena Chernishova (elenach@intourist.ru)

ZAO "AEROTOUR" www.aerotour.ru

Phone: +7 (495) 925 3040, Fax: +7 (495) 925 3044

E-mail: moscow@erotour.ru,

Internet: <http://www.aerotour.ru>

Contact person: Svetlana Gavrikova

A list of the current prices available through Intourist and Aerotour are given on the attached list. Because these are block bookings made by the agents you should check both websites because prices can vary as blocks of accommodation are filled.

The terms and conditions for bookings can vary according to the deposit paid. Both these agencies will provide a visa service depending on the payment arrangements agreed. Payment in advance has to be done for all the nights in the hotel. Payment by credit card is only possible if a special form from the travel agent is downloaded from their website filled out and is returned to them by FAX. (See "Payment" below)

For small groups an economic alternative is to use short stay self catering apartments. A useful link giving details and on line booking facilities is www.moscow-comfort.com.

Payment. Payments in advance for accommodation and registration are different in Russia in comparison to most other countries. Hotel pre-payment for the full stay is expected rather than just a deposit for the first night. Payments can only be made by electronic bank transfer by your bank to a bank in Russia, or by credit card. For credit card payments you will be required to download a form from the agent's website, complete the details and sign the form before sending it back to the agent by FAX. You may also have to provide additional proof of identity and signature – for example a copy of your driving licence. These regulations are tedious but are required by the Russian authorities to prevent illegal financial transfers.

For Conference Registration the same requirements apply. The application form is on the conference website www.nodig2008.ru. Delegates however may defer payment and pay by credit card in person on arrival at Registration.

Visas

Entry visas are required and must be dated to start on or before the date of arrival in the Russian Federation and must cover the full period of your visit. Visas should be obtained from your nearest Russian Federation Consulate or Embassy in good time before your departure. Both Intourist and Aerotour will undertake obtaining a visa for you but you can purchase your own visa direct by using an agent in your own country WITHOUT a letter of invitation. The agent completes the form dealing with questions such as itinerary, insurance, purpose of visit, etc. The agent will provide you with a document when your passport is returned to you with the visa which will give you the details of a contact in

Moscow who will be responsible for your stay. If for example you have an accident or are ill and are likely to overstay the authorized period of your visa then the contact is responsible for obtaining an extension of date. Without an in date visa you will suffer considerable delays in leaving the country and may miss your flight.

A TOURIST visa is fully acceptable for conference delegates provided you are not carrying any trade samples or materials. A BUSINESS visa is required by exhibitors and this must be accompanied by an invitation letter from SIBICO on headed paper confirming your position within your own company and an outline of your travel/business plans for your stay. You should have full (world coverage) medical insurance cover for your visit although there is no need to give details. Just answer "YES" to the question on the visa application form about insurance. You will be asked to register your visa by your hotel on arrival or by the agent for your apartment. Registration is not required for stays of 3 days or less.

Early application for a visa is recommended because the requirements are detailed and specific, including providing a passport sized picture. If requirements are not met then the visa will not be issued.

Arriving at the airport and getting around in Moscow

On the airplane every non-Russian has to fill out the Migration card, it consists of 2 parts – an arrival "part" and a departure "part". You will have to show it together with your passport at customs. They will keep the arrival part of the migration card and the departure part will be stamped with your data of arrival. Do not loose this part of the card; you will have to hand it over upon leaving the country. After customs you can collect your luggage and then head for the exit. You can either exit through the red corridor or the green corridor. If you have something to declare (e.g. >3000 dollars or equivalent) – choose the red corridor. If you don't have anything to declare (this is most likely the case) then you need to exit through the green corridor.

International travelers may arrive at either Domodedovo, Sheremetyevo 2 international or Vnukovo airports.

Domodedovo - About 15kms south of Moscow, Domodedovo has an express bus link to the metro system or an express train to the city centre (to Paveletskaya, on the Ring Metro Line) running between 0600 and 0100. Each takes about 40 minutes and costs US\$ 1 for the bus and US\$4 for the train.

A taxi to the hotel area will cost about 1900R (100R = US\$4.28) and takes 1 to 1.5 hours depending on the traffic. It is best to get your taxi at one of the official taxi counters in the arrival hall rather than risk bargaining (in Russian) with one of the freelance operators available on the taxi rank. (See pre-booking details below)

Sheremetyevo - About 15Kms north of Moscow, Sheremetyevo is less well served by public transport. There are express buses to the nearest metro station, Retsjnoj Vokzal, which takes about 50 minutes and costs less than US\$1.

The best option is a taxi booked at one of the official taxi counters in the arrivals hall costing 1600R taking 1 to 1.5 hours to the hotel area depending on traffic. (See pre-booking details below).

Vnukovo – About 11Kms south-west from Moscow, Vnukovo has a high-speed rail link between Kievsky Train Station in downtown Moscow which takes about 40 minutes. There is also an express bus to Metro Yugo-Zapadnaya.

The best option is a taxi booked at one of the official taxi counters in the arrivals hall costing 1500R taking 30 minutes – 50 minutes to the hotel area depending on traffic. (See pre-booking details below).

Pre-booking of a taxi has the advantages of a guaranteed price and an English speaking driver. Payment can be made in advance by credit card (See Payment box above). Two recommended firms are:

MV-Motors - www.775-6-775.ru/english.htm
Gorodskoe Taxi - www.500-0-500.ru/eng/

Metro

Prices of metro tickets are (100R = Euro 2.80)

1 ride	19 Rubles
2 rides	38 Rubles
1 passenger-luggage	19 Rubles
1 ride and 1 passenger-luggage	38 Rubles
5 rides	84 Rubles
10 rides	155 Rubles
20 rides	280 Rubles

The metro starts at 5.30am in the morning and closes at 1am, **so make sure you are at your final metro destination at 1 am or a bit earlier, to be safe.**

The metro system in Moscow is extremely reliable, you will not have to wait for more than 1-2 minutes during the rush hour for the next train.

A metro map can be downloaded from <http://engl.mosmetro.ru/flash/scheme01.html>

The Conference Organisers hope to be able to have books of metro tickets on sale at Registration and a guide in English with destinations in Russian script will also be available

Cash

You can find ATM's all over town, starting at the airport. You can withdraw Rubles, Dollars and Euro's. You can also change your foreign money into Rubles at Foreign Currency Exchange kiosks. Credit cards are widely accepted at restaurants and department stores **but check before placing your order.**

International No-Dig Moscow 2008

Moscow in June is at its best. The weather is warm and the city wears its best clothes. The historic city centre has well organized sites to visit or you can explore further afield on tours which can be pre-booked or on arrival at the Registration desk. (please see the social programme following after the hotel information)

The No-Dig Conference and Exhibition is eagerly awaited by the city and your hosts, the ISTT and RSTT, who are looking forward to welcoming you both for business and pleasure.

We hope this information sheet is useful. If you have any questions please contact nodig2008@sibico.com and we will be delighted to help you.

We look forward to seeing you in June!

SIBICO

Professional Conference Organisers.

SPECIAL OFFER FOR THE PARTICIPANTS AND VISITORS OF ECWATECH-2008 AND NO-DIG 2008

Dear Guests!

Please find below our hotel offer for your staying in Russia. Prices include VAT and breakfast.

Hotel	Description	Price (per room per night)
Based hotels		
Golden Ring	5 * located in the centre of Moscow near the metro station	230 euro sgl 230 euro standard sgl 270 euro standard dbl 230 euro deluxe sgl 270 euro deluxe dbl 280 euro junior suite sgl 320 euro junior suite dbl
Radisson SAS Slavyanskaya	4 * located in the centre of Moscow near the metro station	350 euro standard sgl 380 euro standard dbl
Belgrad	3 * located in the centre of Moscow	from 230 euro tourist sgl
Additional hotels		
Iris Congress	4 * located in the north of Moscow provides with free of charge transfers to/from city centre	185 euro standard sgl 215 euro standard dbl
Art Hotel	4 * located in the north of Moscow near the metro station provides with free of charge morning transfers to Crocus Expo	265 euro standard king sgl 300 euro standard king dbl
Arbat	4 * located in the very centre of Moscow	from 280 euro standard modus sgl 440 euro junior suite modus sgl
Holiday Inn Lesnaya	4 * located in the centre of Moscow	from 320 euro standard king sgl
Rushotel	3 * located in the south of Moscow provides with free of charge transfers to/from Crocus Expo and to/from the nearest metro station	114 euro standard sgl 129 euro standard dbl
Irbis/ Zarya	3 * located in the north of Moscow	108 euro sgl 118 euro standard sgl 133 euro standard dbl
Soyuz MO	3 * located in the south of Moscow, not far from the city centre	90 euro standard sgl (+25% for first night) 110 euro standard dbl (+25% for first night) 110 euro junior suite sgl (+25% for first night) 115 euro junior suite dbl (+25% for first night)
Soyuz	3 * located in the north of Moscow, one of the nearest hotels to Crocus Expo	125 euro standard sgl 137 euro standard dbl

Terms of booking:

1. Request for accommodation should be sent by 20 May 2008.
2. Cancellation of booking without penalties can be made until 20 May 2008.
3. Payment for accommodation must be made in full by 20 May 2008.

Social Program



Our travel agent AEROTOUR offers NO-DIG 2008 participants to combine both business and leisure while visiting Moscow. They have carefully designed a variety of social programs in Moscow, ancient Russian towns (so called "Golden Ring of Russia") and St. Petersburg.

**Moscow City Tour with Kremlin territory + 5 Cathedrals
1 June, 2 June 2008, 3 June 2008
Duration: 5 hours**

This excursion is to get you acquainted with the city of Moscow and its most important and beautiful sights. You can't miss the city center – The Red Square with the Lenin Mausoleum, and Tverskaya Street.

After this you will go to the Lenin's Hills, which is considered to be the highest point of Moscow and where you can enjoy a great panorama of the city. Continuing the city tour, you will pass along the Kutuzov Street and visit the Victory Park with its fountains and churches.

The Kremlin is the symbol of Russia, it is one of the biggest architectural ensembles in the world, which is included into the UNESCO list. You will visit some of the churches in the area of Kremlin, walk by the Tsar Bell and the Tsar Cannon and see the unique and priceless collections of the Armory Chamber.

Additional options for delegates, exhibitors and accompanying persons

**Excursion Museum-Estate "Kolomenskoe"
4 June 2008
Duration: 5 hours (in Moscow)**

Kolomenskoe Estate is an old Russian Tsar's residence where a huge wooden palace is located. A unique architectural ensemble was created in the 16th and 17th century. Now there's an amazing architectural complex, collection of the old wooden architectural construction, the oldest oak-trees (400-600 years old) and a beautiful park on the bank of the Moskva River.



Folk holidays and performances are held on the territory of Kolomenskoe, which attract many tourists; you may taste Russian tea with pancakes and enjoy some horse riding (so called "Russian Troika").

Excursion Museum-Estate "Tsaritsino"
5 June 2008
Duration: 5 hours (in Moscow)



A Museum and nature preserve. Architectural and park ensemble of 18th -19th century in pseudo-Gothic style ordered by Ekaterina II is newly opened after renovation. The park and beautiful garden are reconstructed.

Sergiev Posad Tour
5 June 2008
Duration: 7 hours (70 km from Moscow)

The Museum-Reserve Sergiev Posad: The St.Trinity Monastery founded by Venerable Sergius of Radonezh in the middle of the 14th century became a center where traditions of icon painting, crafts and book writing developed.



Excursion in Vladimir and Suzdal
6 – 7 June 2008 (2 days/1night)
Duration: 2 days (180-220 km from Moscow)

□ Suzdal is the pearl of Golden Ring. This calm Russian town first was mentioned in chronicles in the 11th century. No other town possesses as many splendid specimens of Russian architecture of different epochs whilst retaining its original character and appearance. The hilly green town is very seductive, walking around is a pleasure, the monasteries and old beautiful churches offer dream views.



□ Vladimir bears the name of its founder, Prince Vladimir Monomach. In 1108, on the high bank of the Klyazma River, a fortress was built, which soon grew into a town. The walls of the distinguished-looking Assumption Cathedral (1158-1161) carry the inimitable frescoes of Andrey Rublev. There are many more interesting sights here, but the town appeals because of its peaceful atmosphere and its big contrast with big cities.

Excursion to St-Petersburg (overnight train)

5 – 8 June 2008

Duration: 2 days (3 nights)

05.06.08 – night train to St-Petersburg

06.06.08 – meeting on the railway station, City tour, check-in the hotel, dinner, excursion to Hermitage. Free time.

07.06.08 – check-out the hotel, visit to Peterhof, dinner in Peterhof, visit to Mariinsky Theatre. Transfer to the night train to Moscow.

08.06.08 – arrival to Moscow.



It was founded 300 years ago in 1703 by Peter the Great. The city also known as "The Venice of the North" - 65 rivers and canals, spanned by 360 bridges, criss-cross the city which is located on 42 islands. If you join a general sightseeing tour you will see the most interesting buildings and world famous architectural ensembles of the city. Also, you will visit one of the most famous museums all over the world – The Hermitage.

1 day (6th of June)

City Tour (duration 3 hours) including breakfast in a city café.

Route: Nevsky prospect, St. Isaac's Cathedral, Monument to Peter the Great (the Bronze Horseman) - Isaac's square, Basil Island Spit, Peter & Paul Fortress, Kazan Cathedral.

Arriving to the hotel (4*)

The Hermitage Museum (duration 3 hours)

The Hermitage Museum ranks among the most famous museums in the world such as the Louvre, the National Gallery in London, the Prado and others. The setting is magnificent and lavish; malachite, jasper, agate and marble provide a fine backdrop to the treasures. The Hermitage collection shows the development of art and material culture in the West and the East from the prehistoric times to the present days. There are remarkable collections of paintings, prints, sculpture as well as tapestries, carpets, archeological finds, furniture, unique articles of jewelry.

2 day (7th of June)

Peterhof (duration 6 hours)

Peterhof is located at the seaside some 29 km from the center of St Petersburg. Peterhof is known throughout the world as a jewel of the Russian art, a town of parks, palaces and fountains. In the past it used to be an exquisite summer residence of Russian tsars. Nowadays the whole complex comprises the Grand Palace, the Lower and the Upper Parks with quite a few park pavilions, 150 fountains and 5 monumental cascades.

Dinner in Peterhof

Visit to Mariinsky theatre