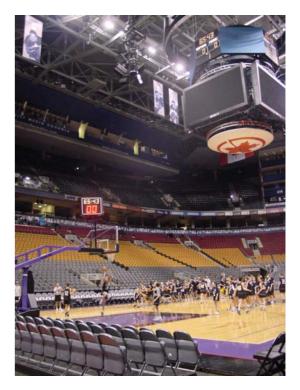




Arenas: Factors for success

Ian Nuttall, EVMI 27th November 2007 Copenhagen







An independent observer of the venues business since 1999...







What is EVMI?

- A not-for-profit, international network of venues, teams & experts
- Knowledge transfer/exchange
- Professional development
- Recruitment/Appointments





Industry challenges

- Too many new facilities, too many seats...
- Insufficient content, poor revenues
- Shortage of experienced management
- Rising operating costs
- Competition from all other forms of LEISURE





Why are you building ..?

- For the public good? Increase sports participation, civic pride, social welfare etc...
- Or for **business** (profit)?





Critical Factors for Success

- 1. Clear **strategic plan** from outset... The venue business is NOT inherently profitable. What makes <u>your venue UNIQUE</u>
- 2. That **CONTENT** is king...
- 3. Partnerships... you cannot do this alone!
- 4. And last (but not least) your management team





Factor 1: The Plan

- Arena ≠ Arena (each one is **unique**)
- Catchment area A local facility? Or an international icon?
- Concept/programming comes before architecture
- What do you want the building to do? What are the **revenues**?
- The REAL COSTS are over the next 20-30 years....







Factor 2: CONTENT

- Who is using the building? The **anchor** tenant
- Do you have access to other content?
- Will you create it? How?
- Breakeven is 80-100 full events pa







Factor 3: Partnerships

- Content partners
- Operation partners
- Naming rights/sponsor
- ...Marketing Partnerships
- Not just €£\$ WHO brings the most added value





OTHER POTENTIAL SECONDARY REVENUE AREAS INCLUDE:

ATM's

Advertising, including: roadside table top bench media / street furniture escalator light boxes car park 6 sheet and A2 advertising toilet advertising 3-sided lamppost Website Telecom aerials LCD or plasma screens Contract publishing

In-transit Advertising Entertainment Pouring rights Food + beverage offers Vending including: soft drinks hot drinks Snacks children's products Umbrellas Licensing Film & television locations Photo machines Photographic retailing and services (including processing) Internet pods/wifi/WiMax

Podcasting/downloads Interactive retail kiosks Amusement machines Casual leasing Specialty leasing Car valet Data sales Mobile phone top-ups SMS Mobile Phone initiatives All forms of children's entertainment, including: video and arcade games toy 'n' grab Kiddies Rides Breakdown services Voucher books





Factor 4: Management

- Like any business, venues need good management
- Who is running your facility?
- Do they bring added-value?
- Young industry = Small supply of skills/experience







Case Study 1: Color Line Arena

- PLAN hockey, handball and concerts
- CONTENT yes
- PARTNERS beer, catering, naming rights...
- MANAGEMENT experience
 from hotel sector
- RESULT = profitable success for Hamburg









Case Study 2: LTU Arena

- PLAN ???
- CONTENT some...
- PARTNERS a few...
- MANAGEMENT needed turnaround to focus on to the real business
- RESULT = operating...







Case study 3: The Dome

- PLAN ???
- CONTENT ???
- PARTNERS ???
- MANAGEMENT who was the manager?
- RESULT = a €1bn+ flop







Case Study 3A: The O2

 PLAN - to build Europe's finest entertainment destination







- CONTENT live music is the anchor...
- Sports is a bonus
- Cluster of venues
- Something for everyone...







- PARTNERS...
- A host of partners who all add value
- Signed up prior to construction
- O2 provides massive (brand) marketing







- MANAGEMENT
- Picked the best...
- CEO from consumer/TV, tourism background
- Customer service







- RESULT
- The best venue in the world?
- Next stop... Berlin..
 And then...







Closing thoughts...

- Be clear from the outset...
- Get the best management...
- Partner for added value
- BE CREATIVE! You are in the entertainment business







Thank you. Any questions?

- EVMI can be visited at <u>www.evmi.org</u>
- Email <u>i.nuttall@evmi.org</u>

• Save the dates: 18-30 May 2008, EVMI's Stadium Management Summer School in Frankfurt and London...