Following the inaugural event in Beijing last year, the ConExpo Asia exhibition is moving to a new home in Guangzhou, South-East China. Chris Sleight previews the event, which runs from December 4 to 7 this year.

The Association of Equipment Manufacturers (AEM) is famous the world over for its ConExpo-Con/Agg exhibition, which takes place every three years in Las Vegas, US. The AEM also owns several other US shows, including World of Asphalt and ICUEE, but 2006 saw it spread its wings significantly with the launch last May of the ConExpo Asia show in Beijing, China.

Organised in co-operation with the China Chamber of Commerce for Import and Export of Machinery and Electronic Products (CCCME), ConExpo Asia 2007 is being held just 18 months after the inaugural event, but this time in the southeastern city of Guangzhou.

Although coming close on the heels of the last event, and less than two months after the rival BICES exhibition in Beijing, the this year's ConExpo Asia promises to be bigger than last year. The AEM is expecting more than 400 exhibitors from 20 countries to take part this year, compared to the 200 or so that booked space in 2006. The total show space is expected to hit 100 000 m², compared to the 16000 m² (net), and it is hoped visitor numbers will hit 35000 – about double 2006's levels.

**Guangzhou**

The move from Beijing to Guangzhou is an interesting one, but this southern city has a lot going for it. The capital of Guangdong province, it is located about 170 km from Hong Kong and its international airport, with connections available by express train (a two hour journey), bus and ferry. Guangzhou also has its own airport, New Baiyun International Airport, and with a population in the greater area of about 8.5 million people, it is mainland China's third largest city after Beijing and Shanghai.

The venue for this year's show is the China Import and Export Fair (CIEF), Pazhou Complex, which is situated in the city on the Pearl River, in reach of Line 2 of the city's metro system. It is also accessible by bus and taxi.

**New equipment**

With April's Bauma exhibition in Germany still fresh in the memory, and next March's ConExpo (Las Vegas) show just around the corner, ConExpo Asia is unlikely to see many brand new pieces of equipment launched. However, visitors to the event can expect to see machines being introduced to the Chinese and wider Asian markets for the first time.

**Ailmak Hek**

Meanwhile will launch the new Ailmak 650 CN construction hoist, which will extend the Ailmak hoist range in China. In addition, the Ailmak 450 CN VFC will be shown together with the new Ailmak 650 CN.

**See you there**

In addition to these products, there is sure to be more equipment launched at the show. With strong support from its US members – companies like Caterpillar and Terex, the AEM is pushing hard to establish ConExpo Asia as a major event in the Chinese, and indeed global calendar of construction equipment trade shows. IC

Retrieval summary:

- ConExpo Asia 2007 is moving to Guangzhou, China.
- The AEM expects 400 exhibitors from 20 countries.
- Guangzhou is about 170 km from Hong Kong.
- Pazhou Complex will host the event.
- Ailmak Hek is launching the Ailmak 650 CN and 450 CN VFC hoists.
- The show is expected to have 35000 visitors.
- The venue is accessible by bus and taxi.
- The show starts on December 4.