

Get Lost in SPACE!

By Kayla Currie

The 23rd annual SPACE 2009 will be held September 15-18th at the Rennes Exhibition Centre, Rennes, France. SPACE is an international trade fair for livestock professionals around the world, and is comparable to World Dairy Expo that we have here in the United States. SPACE is known globally as one of the best specialist livestock shows in the world, and this year's event is guaranteed to be an exciting & informational show for people in all sectors of agriculture. It serves as a great platform for businesses who supply the livestock industry, as well as a place for both exhibitors and visitors to check out new ideas, services, and technologies to enhance their businesses. While at SPACE you can explore the trade show, watch livestock shows, attend conferences & presentations, go on agricultural business tours and much more! Last year, SPACE had over 113,000 visitors, with over 9,000 of those coming from outside of France.

SPACE always has a full and varied range of exhibits. At SPACE 2009, you will find exhibits focused on cattle, agri-energy, animal nutrition & health, poultry, pigs, drilling & soil, livestock housing, equipment, handling and transport. Each year there is a research & development platform which focuses on a different aspect of agriculture. This year's theme is "Farms in shape! Healthy animals, happy farmers." With this, they will bring to your attention the many systems & services available to aid in keeping farmer's animals healthy and sustainable.

In order to ensure that SPACE is truly an international affair, SPACE takes a special interest in getting people and businesses from many different countries involved

with the trade show. They offer promotional opportunities for businesses in the livestock industry and encourage international visitors and exhibitors to come and be apart of this special event! This year, there are 9,000 international visitors expected, along with trade professionals from over 100 countries! International visitors can also feel right at home at *The International Club*, a VIP reception area that is exclusive to international visitors. It offers many special perks including a meeting place for delegations and exhibitors, tour registration, free interpretation services, farm visits, internet access and refreshments. *The International Club* also has a multi-media link that broadcasts interviews with exhibitors, visitors and international personalities, which are held in the special reception area.

For all the Holstein enthusiasts out there, the Prim' Holstein Breed Festival will be held on Thursday, September 17th, which will include the Holstein show and championship, with the "Arc Atlantique" sale at the end of the day. Various breed classes will be held throughout the week with the parade of prize winning animals to be held Friday, September 18th at 4pm.

There will also be several exciting and informative conferences held at this year's SPACE event. These conferences will cover several different topics such as: dry treating, genomics, the impact of the media on farming, cost of milk production, milk price around the world, the organic dairy industry, investment strategies & cost in farm networks.

Everyone is encouraged and welcomed to attend SPACE 2009. No matter what part of the agriculture industry you specialize in, there will be something for everyone! For more information about **SPACE 2009**, you can visit www.space.fr