

# Global Venue Experts Forum



**Mahir Abdulkarim Julfar**

Executive Vice President  
Dubai World Trade Centre (DWTC)

Mahir Julfar is the Executive Vice President at Dubai World Trade Centre after having served as the Senior Vice President for over 3 years. Since taking over the reins of one of DWTC's core business lines, Mahir has managed the department's commercial and operational arms, including the hospitality Division working to increase targeted commercial activities and provide excellent end-to-end services for all DWTC's external organisers, exhibitors and visitors. His focus is on promoting DWTC as a world-leading destination for business tourism and as a commercial hub for international conferences, exhibitions and meetings.

Mahir joined DWTC in 2005 and has since held commercial and leadership positions within the organisation, focused on client liaison, exhibitor and supplier relationships, and business development. In addition, he has been actively involved in various prestigious roles, including: the Dubai Sports Council Investment and Projects Committee Board; the ICCA (International Congress and Convention Association) Board as the Geographic Representative for the Middle East; President of the ISES Alumni Chapter Board in United Arab Emirates; a Board of Director to the Riyadh International Convention and Exhibition Centre; appointed by the Crown Prince of Dubai on the Board of Hamdan Sports Complex; and was elected to serve on the Board of Directors at UFI, the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry.

Prior to joining DWTC, Mahir gained experience at Dubai Convention Bureau and Dubai's Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing. He holds a degree in Exhibition Management from University of Cologne – Germany and has completed his Executive Program from IESE Business School –Barcelona/ University of Navarra.