DAC 2020 Going Virtual – Frequently Asked Questions

Why is DAC going virtual in 2020?

The world-wide COVID-19 pandemic makes conference events infeasible. The safety and health of our attendees, authors, exhibitors, and the electronic design industry, is our top priority at the Design Automation Conference. Concerns about the health and safety of conference participants traveling in July, as well as Moscone Center being designated as a care site during the COVID-19 pandemic, has made it impossible to host the 57th DAC in San Francisco, CA, as planned.

What will the virtual DAC2020 look like?

The DAC organization is currently defining the virtual platform to showcase the exhibit and technical program. We will provide details by the end of May.

How does going virtual affect DAC?

The virtual DAC will be a different experience than the physical conference. We are confident we can make this a positive experience for the entire conference, bringing together thousands from across the globe. As a non-profit organized by volunteers, DAC depends on exhibit and conference income to provide the best experience for thousands of attendees each year. DAC has deliberately operated on slim margins, investing nearly all income back in a high-quality exhibit and conference. With the backing of the sponsors (ACM and IEEE) DAC will survive this, and we count on your understanding and cooperation to get us all through the age of COVID-19.

I am a speaker/presenter at DAC2020, what is the status of my participation?

The DAC program committee members along with the DAC executive committee are currently reviewing the program (all tracks, workshops, poster sessions, etc.) and defining the platform to showcase the technical program. More details will be provided to speakers, authors, presenters within the next 2 weeks. We ask for your patience and understanding as we define the virtual DAC experience.

What options do exhibitors have regarding their exhibit space payments?
Exhibitors can receive a credit or refund of their payment for DAC 2020 exhibit space and suite space. DAC is providing you with the following options:

1. For exhibitors who wish to SAVE $$$ on their DAC 2021 participation, you can transfer your DAC 2020 payment to DAC 2021 and receive the same amount of exhibit space without any increase in the booth space rate (rates are increasing for 2021) plus additional no cost marketing incentives for DAC 2021. We consider our exhibitors a significant contributor to DAC’s success, and encourage our exhibitors to transfer payments to DAC 2021 in San Francisco, CA July 11-15, 2021.

2. For exhibitors who wish to connect virtually with the DAC 2020 audience, you can transfer a portion of your DAC 2020 payment and secure a booth in the DAC 2020 Virtual Exhibit Hall. Details on the features and benefits of a virtual booth will be available soon.

3. For exhibitors who request a refund of their DAC 2020 payment, DAC will process a refund to your original form of payment (Refunds may not be available until late Q4 2020). However, since DAC 2021 rates will increase, we strongly encourage you to consider transferring your current booth commitment to 2021.

You will be contacted shortly by our exhibit sales team to learn which option(s) you choose. For additional questions, contact exhibits@2020dac.com.

**Will I get a refund of my marketing sponsorship opportunities?**

Exhibitors who have signed up and paid for a marketing sponsorship can request a credit for DAC 2021, a refund, or the option of transferring their sponsorship (if viable) to the virtual DAC event. You will be contacted shortly by our exhibit sales team to learn which option(s) you choose. For additional questions, contact exhibits@2020dac.com.

**How can exhibitors participate in the DAC 2020 Virtual Event?**

The DAC Executive Committee is committed to making the DAC 2020 virtual event a robust and successful experience for an expanded global community. Features and costs for a booth in the virtual exhibit hall are being finalized now. To receive detailed information about the features offered and the associated costs, please contact our exhibit sales team at exhibits@2020dac.com. Participation will be limited, so don’t delay!

**I plan on exhibiting at DAC 2021 in San Francisco, July 11-15, 2021. What’s next?**

We will be distributing the DAC 2021 Exhibitor Information by June 15, 2020 and we plan to conduct an online exhibit space selection meeting in July. All DAC 2020 exhibitors will have the opportunity to select their exhibit space for 2021 before we open up exhibit and sponsorship sales to the general industry. You will receive details shortly about your online exhibit space selection appointment in July. For questions about the DAC 2021 exhibit space selection meeting, contact exhibits@2020dac.com.
I made travel arrangements through DAC 2020 and the official housing company Convention Management Resources (CMR). What should I do now?

All hotel accommodations made through DAC via Convention Management Resources (CMR), the official housing company, are entitled to a full refund and will be cancelled without further fees or penalty. No action is required.

For additional exhibit questions, contact Hall-Erickson, DAC Exhibition Management, at exhibits@2020dac.com or call 1.630.434.7779.

For additional conference questions, contact MP Associates, DAC Conference Management, at Sophia@mpassociates.com.