



PROTECTED STATUS POLICY FOR THE TMS ANNUAL MEETING & EXHIBITION

The Board of Directors may grant “protected status” to an event held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting & Exhibition.

1. The chairperson(s) of the event’s sponsoring committee(s) must submit a written request for protected status to the Board. Alternately, the Board may designate an event for protected status.
2. A request for protected status must include, at minimum, a description of why the event should be protected and from which competing activities it should be protected.
3. Requests will be considered not later than the spring Board meeting in the year prior to the affected Annual Meeting & Exhibition. The request should be submitted two weeks in advance of the Board meeting.
4. Protected status is not automatically renewed and must be re-requested and re-approved by the Board of Directors for each meeting to which it would apply.

In evaluating requests for protected status, the Board will consider:

1. Strategic rationale for protection
2. Impacts to the overall planning of the Annual Meeting & Exhibition
3. Potential impact to attendees (both those who would attend the protected event and those who would participate in events that would otherwise be scheduled during a protected time)