

Virtual/Hybrid review  
committee

December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020



The Econometric society



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## Committee Mandate

- During a September 2020 post-World Congress meeting of the Society's Council, a decision was made to create a Virtual and Hybrid Meeting Committee to review virtual and hybrid meeting options and the meeting planning process going forward.
- It was decided to create a two-tiered committee, Tier I consisting of EC members and incoming EEA President Oriana Bandiera, and Tier II consisting of regional secretaries and/or their appointed representative

# Tier 1 Committee

## Tier 1 Committee Members

Orazio Attanasio

Oriana Bandiera

Dirk Bergemann (Chair)

Penny Goldberg

Larry Samuelson

Enrique Sentana

Guido Tabellini

## Central Office Reps

Lyn Hogan

Ritu Johorey



# Tier 2 Committee Members

## **Africa Standing Committee**

Nour Meddahi  
Prosper Dovonon

## **Asia Standing Committee**

Atsushi Kajii  
Hanming Fang

## **Australasian Standing Committee**

Christopher Skeels  
Brenda Gannon

## **Europe and Other Areas Standing Committee**

Sven Rady  
Sanjeev Goyal  
Aureo de Paula

## **Latin American Standing Committee**

Irene Brambilla  
Jeanne Lafortune

## **North American Standing Committee**

Jeff Ely  
Silvia Goncalves

## **Tier 1 Cmt and Central Office Reps**

Enrique Sentana  
Dirk Bergemann (Chair)  
Lyn Hogan  
Ritu Johorey

# The Econometric Society Meetings & Schools

## Six regions

Africa, Asia, Australasia, Europe, Latin America and North America

**Nine regional meetings annually**

**Six schools annually**

### REGIONAL MEETINGS

**Africa Meeting**  
Early June

**Asia Meetings (at least 2 annually)**  
Late June and early July

**Australasia Meeting**  
Early July

**Europe Meetings (2 annually)**  
Summer with EEA – late August  
Winter with Job Fair – December

**Latin America Meeting**  
with LACEA - November

**North America Meetings (2 annually)**  
Winter with AEA/ASSA – first week in January  
Summer, early to mid-June

### SCHOOLS

**Delhi Winter School (DSE)**  
Mid December

**Latin American Workshop in Econometrics or Economic Theory** (topic rotates annually)  
May or November/December

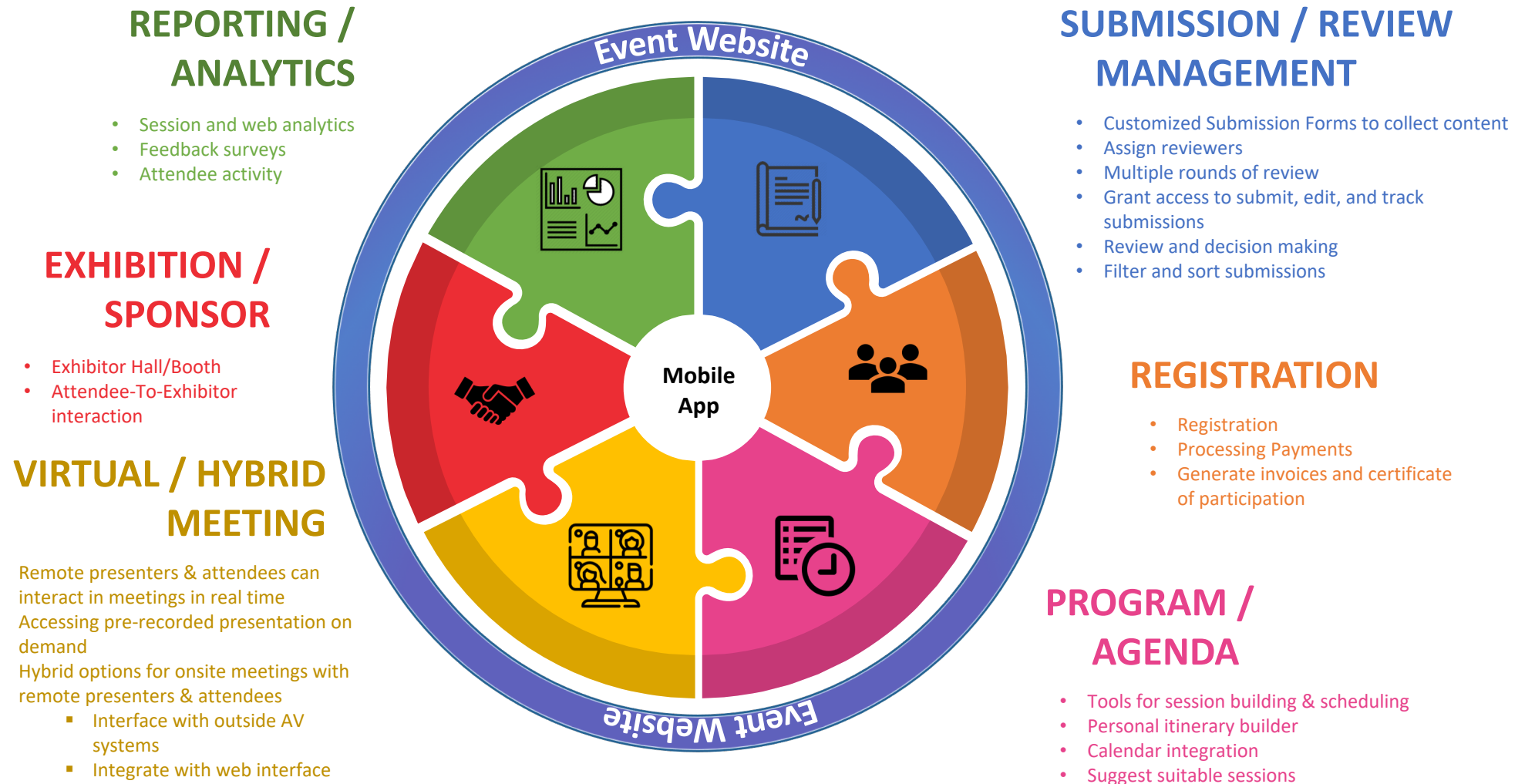
**Africa Summer School in Econometrics (NEW)**  
Late May/Early June

**Summer School in Dynamic Structural Econometrics (DSE)**  
July, (rotating worldwide)

**Asia School in Econometrics and Statistics**  
July, (Asia-Yongmiao Hong)

**Asia School in Economic Theory**  
August, (Asia-In-Koo Cho)

# Key Elements of a Virtual/Hybrid Conference





# Key sources of information

## CONFERENCE

- ACM-EC / CCS  
*Ariel Procaccia*
- AEA-ASSA  
*Gwyn Loftis*  
*Peter Rousseau*
- ES – EEA  
*Gemma Prunner-*  
*Thomas*
- INFORMS  
*Elena Gerstmann*
- NBER AI  
*Joshua Gans*

## EVENT WEBSITE

- ATIV  
*Silke Fleischer*
- Brooklyn Design  
*Will Arnold*
- CDL  
*Michael Mackillop*
- CTI  
*Sandy Pigott*
- CVENT  
*Will Knecht*
- EEA Flix  
*Gemma Thomas*
- ImageBox  
*John Mahood*

## SUBMISSION MANAGEMENT

- ConFex  
*Kevin O'Neill*
- ConfMaster  
*Thomas Preuss*
- EasyChair  
*Lee Hiu Yau*
- Oxford Abstract  
*Geoffrey Campbell*
- Scholar One / Clarivate  
*TBD*

## VIRTUAL PLATFORM

- Conference Compass  
*Younes Bouhab*
- Gather.town  
*Parker Null*
- HopIn  
*Melissa Niewald*
- Intrado  
*Paul Oh*
- Socio  
*Brandon Reed*
- Virtual Chair  
*Nicole Immorlica*

# Contact Information

## EVENT WEBSITE

- **Brooklyn Design**  
*Will Arnold*  
[will@designbrooklyn.com](mailto:will@designbrooklyn.com)
- **ImageBox**  
*John Mahood*  
[john@imagebox.com](mailto:john@imagebox.com)

## SUBMISSION MANAGEMENT

- **Conference Maker**  
*John Rust*  
[jrust@editorialexpress.com](mailto:jrust@editorialexpress.com)  
*S. Bandyopadhyay*  
[sbandy@editorialexpress.com](mailto:sbandy@editorialexpress.com)
- **EasyChair**  
*Lee Hiu Yau*  
[hiu-yau.lee@staff.easychair.org](mailto:hiu-yau.lee@staff.easychair.org)
- **Oxford Abstract**  
*Geoffrey Campbell*  
[geoff.campbell@oxfordabstracts.com](mailto:geoff.campbell@oxfordabstracts.com)

## VIRTUAL PLATFORM

- **ATIV**  
*Silke Fleischer*  
[sfleischer@ativsoftware.com](mailto:sfleischer@ativsoftware.com)
- **CVENT**  
*Will Knecht*  
[wknecht@cvent.com](mailto:wknecht@cvent.com)
- **EEAFlix**  
*Gemma Prunner-Thomas*  
[gemma@eeassoc.org](mailto:gemma@eeassoc.org)
- **Socio**  
*Brandon Reed*  
[brandon@socio.events](mailto:brandon@socio.events)

# Events Reviewed

	EVENT WEBSITE	SUBMISSION MANAGEMENT	REGISTRATION	VIRTUAL PLATFORM
ACM-EC / CCS	ImageBox	Easy Chair	Cvent	Zoom and Virtual Chair / Gather.town
AEA-ASSA 2021	Developed Internally	Developed Internally	Developed Internally	ATIV
ES - EEA	EEA Flix	Conference Maker	EEA Flix	EEA Flix
INFORMS	CTI Meeting	CTI Meeting	Fonteva	CTI Meeting / Remo
NBER AI	CDL	CDL	CDL	Zoom, Slack & Salesforce

ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (Association for Computing Machinery - **ACM**)

American Economic Association - Allied Social Science Associations (**ASSA**)

European Economic Association (**EEA**)

The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (**informs**)

National Bureau of Economic Research - Economics of Artificial Intelligence (**NBER**)



## Tier 2 Regional Meeting – Key takeaways

- Regions expressed interest in standardizing the products and approach to regional virtual meetings
  - Have common process across regions
  - Not start from scratch every year/feel they are constantly “reinventing the wheel”
  - Bulk purchasing deals
  - Without these, continued loss of institutional memory
- Need to understand software, budgeting, and staffing requirements for virtual meetings and how they are different from in-person meetings
- Typical program committee size may not suffice for virtual meetings—need bigger program committees
- Need to define role of local organizing committee in virtual meetings
- Numbers of submissions greatly increases with virtual meetings
- Preference for live presentations vs recorded but some like option of recording
- For virtual conferences, the funding model with the host university is very different from that of an in-person conference
- In choosing software programs, do not use a tool just because it is there but choose the best tool for the job (e.g. Conference Maker vs. Oxford Abstracts)

# We Recommend These Top Products From All We Have Reviewed

## Event Website

- Brooklyn Design
- ImageBox

## Submission Management + Registration

- Conference Maker
- EasyChair
- Oxford Abstract

## Virtual Platform

- ATIV
- CVENT
- EEA Flix\*
- Socio

\* EEA Flix is in the process of developing a Submission tool, will be ready by summer of 2021.

## Candidate solution – ASSA/North America

Element	Vendor	Pricing
Event Website	Custom Development – ImageBox	Approx. \$5,000 - \$7,000
Submission Management/Registration	Oxford Abstracts	\$1,800 per meeting
Virtual Platform	ATIV	Between \$12,000 - \$24,000 (depending upon number agenda items; over 5,000 items \$24,000)
	Zoom – mix of pre-recorded and live sessions	\$19.99 / zoom licenses For 500 presenters – assuming you will need 50 licenses -> \$1,000
Integrations (API)	ATIV	Around \$3,000 - \$5,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$22,800 - \$38,800</b>



## Candidate solution – EEA/Europe (Winter and Summer)

Element	Vendor	Pricing
Event Website	EEAFlix	Included in the Virtual Platform
Submission Management/Registration	EEAFlix New Submission tool and Conference Maker	Approx. \$1,500
Virtual Platform	EEA Flix	For 3-day meeting, 500 presenters, 125 sessions, Approx. €20,865 plus 22% VAT (Approx. \$30,000)
	Zoom – mix of pre-recorded and live sessions	\$19.99 / zoom licenses For 500 presenters – assuming you will need 50 licenses -> \$1,000
Integrations (API)		Up to \$1,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$33,500</b>

## Alternative option

Element	Vendor	Pricing
Event Website	CVENT	Included in the Virtual Platform price
Submission Management/Registration	Easy Chair	Approx. \$3,600 (\$4.50 per submission for 800 submissions)
Virtual Platform	CVENT + Virtual Chair for Networking	CVENT - \$20,000-\$25,000 per meeting + Virtual Chair - \$20,000
Integrations (API)	CVENT	Around \$8,000 - \$15,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$40,000 - \$45,800</b>

# Small Meetings/Schools

Element	Vendor	Pricing
Event Website	Custom Development – ImageBox + Socio	Approx. \$5,000 - \$7,000 + Included in Virtual pricing
Submission Management/Registration	Oxford Abstracts or ECON Job Market	\$1,800  Free
Virtual Platform	Socio	\$8,000 (including storage for 3 months)
Integrations (API)	Oxford Abstracts	Around \$3,000 - \$5,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$17,800 - \$21,800</b>



# Best Practices/Components for Virtual Meetings

Event Website	Branding and Customization opportunity	
	Event URL	
	Allows multiple meetings from the same site	
	Allows management of in-person & virtual events on single platform	
	Native App/Phone App included	
	User interface and “look and feel”	Information center Easy navigation
	Content delivery in China	
	Integration with various software	using Open API's Import/export using csv
Submission / Review Management	Customized Submission Forms to collect content	
	Assign reviewers and committee members	
	Ability to self-submit, edit, and track paper submissions	
	Review (multiple levels) and decision making	
	Filter and sort submissions	
Registration	Attendee / Speaker Registration	
	Data integration with the submission software and membership DB	
	Manage Speaker Profile	
	Ticketing (Processing Payments – integrate )	Vat support
	API integration with Authorize.Net for payments	
	Generate invoices and certificate of participation	
Program / Agenda	Tools for session building & scheduling	
	Personal itinerary builder	Calendar integration
	Schedule Preview (Coming Up Next)	Suggest suitable sessions

# Best Practices/Components for Virtual Meetings, Cont

Virtual / Hybrid Meetings	Networking opportunities (speakers, delegates, sponsors)	Remote presenters & attendees can interact in meetings in real time Attendee-To-Attendee Chat Group Or 1-On-1 Chat Within Sessions
	Speaker management/support	pre-recording collection of presentations during live event rehearsals
	3-D/2-D Reception Area / Event space	facilities: entrance, lobby, session halls, lounge, networking area, exhibition hall
	Accessing pre-recorded presentation on demand	
	Hybrid options for onsite meetings with remote presenters & attendees	Ability to interface with outside AV systems Ability to integrate with web interface
	Audience engagement tools	Live QA   Voting   Polls   Gamification
Exhibition / Sponsor	Exhibitor Hall/Booth	Presence in the main lobby
	acknowledgement page	
	option to upload sponsors/exhibitors profiles, logos, videos and promotional material	
	Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction	
Reporting / Analytics	Session and web analytics	
	Feedback surveys	
	Attendee activity	
	Email Management	

# Programmatic Choices and Decisions for Chairs and Organizers

## Requirements/Decisions to be Made by Chairs/Organizers at Beginning Process

- Should any/all/some presentations be pre-recorded and available before official opening or will all presentations be live?
- If presentations are pre-recorded, should they remain in the standard 4-person session format or might each be recorded separately?
- Should all live presentations be live-to-recorded and made available on the on-demand following the live presentation?
- For a virtual meeting, do the organizers want to keep the traditional live program format or include fewer contributed or invited sessions, shorter sessions, or sessions broken up with more Q&A and/or breaks? (One should not assume that a physical meeting format can precisely translate to a virtual format.)
- What are best ways to encourage networking between participants-- virtual chat, face-to-face networking, topical networking, networking rooms lead by experts, or using software such as gather.town?
- Do organizers want to incorporate mechanisms to encourage participation and increase attention span like polling software, gaming tools, or surveys?

# Programmatic Choices and Decisions cont.

## Possibilities to augment regional meetings with

- Tutorials
- Special topics symposium
- Summer Schools
- Special lectures/classes on recent advances etc.

# Product Evaluations

# ATIV – Virtual Meeting Platform

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: 1,000 or fewer agenda items, \$12,000 a meeting; 1,001-5,000 agenda items, \$24,000 a meeting
- Company Size – 6
- Virtual Experience > 7 years

## Registration

- Does not exist

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Event Website

- Event website
- Native app

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda
- Robust search filters

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Uses Zoom for all virtual meetings
- Zoom licenses to be provided by ES

## Submission

- Does not exist

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Creates and sets up Zoom links automatically
- Sends reminders and links to speakers automatically
- Networking limited but can integrate with other tools

## Current overall assessment

- Strong contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Strength - Creates zoom links automatically for various sessions
- Weakness - Will need integration with a Registration and Submission software tool



# Conference Compass – Virtual Meeting Platform

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: €7,700 + €100 a month for storage
- Company Size – 40
- Virtual Experience - 6 years

## Registration

- NA
- Interfaces with Oxford Abstract

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Event Website

- Event website
- Has a very strong Native App

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant
- Provides extensive CMS training

## Submission

- NA
- Interfaces with Oxford Abstract

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Networking rooms
- Native live streaming and session recordings using RTMP protocol
- Can integrate Zoom licenses rooms

## Current overall assessment

- Moderate contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Strength – Does not need Zoom, uses its native RTMP protocol for live streaming; extremely user-friendly native app
- Weakness - Will need integration with a Registration and Submission software tool

# Conference Maker - Abstract Management

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: \$1,500 per meeting
- Can bundle meetings for discounts
- Company Size – < 10
- Virtual Experience - 20 years

## Event Website

- Does not exist

## Submission

- Comprehensive Abstract Management tool
- Easy setup for admins, reviewers and committee members
- Working on revamping the tool – will be ready by summer of 2021

## Registration

- Basic registration tool
- Ability to process payments and interface to Authorize.net

## Program / Agenda

- Creates a basic dynamic scientific program

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Does not exist

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Does not exist

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Can link payment system via API
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Current overall assessment

- Strong/Moderate contender for Submission and Registration tool
- Strength – Has been used by multiple conferences of ES and the integration exists with membership db and EEAFLix
- Weakness – User interface needs to be upgraded (which they plan to do by summer of 2021)

# ConFex – Event Management Tool

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: ??
- Company Size – 75
- Virtual Experience > 15 years
- Highly configurable
- Personalized support

## Registration

- Extensive registration tool
- Can generate certificates of attendance and invoices

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Event Website

- Event website
- Webcast Support
- Has a native app

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Can link payment system via API
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Submission

- Customizable submission forms
- Allows multiple rounds of review
- Collects permissions for recording and copyright agreement
- Speakers can manage their own profile

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Networking limited but can integrate with other software
- Comprehensive solution for in-person and hybrid events
  - Venue sourcing / onsite check-in and badging
  - Room block and travel

## Current overall assessment

- Not a strong contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Weakness – Covers most of the elements of a Virtual Congress, but features lacks depth

# CTI – Event Management Tool

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: \$42,000 - \$50,000
  - Integration with registration and submission software included
  - AV production of 9 live sessions
- Company Size >100
- Virtual Experience > 25 years

## Event Website

- Event website
- Native app

## Submission

- Easy setup for admins, reviewers and committee members
- 100% configurable and customization
- Collects permissions for recording and copyright agreement
- Speakers can manage their own profile

## Registration

- Does not exist
- Integration with registration and submission software

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda
- Robust search filters
- Speaker conflict reports

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Tracks and flags missing materials like Bio and papers
- Livestream using RTMP
- Hybrid options for onsite meetings with remote presenters and attendees

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Uses RTMP and Zoom for virtual meetings
- Zoom licenses to be provided by ES

## Current overall assessment

- Strong contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Strength – Most of the components exists on one platform
- Weakness - Zoom links for contributed sessions will have to be created

# CVENT – Event Management Tool

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: \$16,000-\$18,000 per meeting
- Can bundle meetings for discounts
- DIY to white-glove service available
- Company Size – 10,000+
- Virtual Experience > 10 years

## Event Website

- Event website
- Webcast Support

## Submission

- Speakers can manage their own profile

## Registration

- Robust registration tool, most of the conferences have used CVENT for registration
- Can generate certificates of attendance and invoices

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Networking limited but can integrate with GatherTown
- Comprehensive solution for in-person and hybrid events
  - Venue sourcing / onsite check-in and badging
  - Room block and travel

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Can easily replicate pages
- Can prepopulate registration
- Can link payment system via API
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Current overall assessment

- Moderate/Strong contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Strong contender for robust Registration tool
- Weakness – Limited networking capabilities

# Easy Chair – Abstract Management & Virtual Conference Solution

## Company / Pricing

- Cost:
  - \$4.50 / submission
  - \$19 per user for the virtual platform
- Has the largest market share – 3Million + users || 85,000 conferences
- Virtual Experience - 18 years

## Event Website

- Does Not exist

## Submission

- Comprehensive Submission management tool
- Automatic paper submission
- Speakers can manage their own profile

## Registration

- Basic registration
- Strong API's

## Program / Agenda

- Auto program generator
- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Networking limited

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Does Not exist

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Can replicate/reuse initial set up
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Current overall assessment

- Moderate/weak contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Strong contender for comprehensive submission management tool
- Strength – Generates scientific program automatically
- Weakness – Will need a landing website and networking is limited



# EEA Flix - Virtual Meeting Platform

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: €20,865 plus 22% VAT
- Company Size – ??
- Virtual Experience < 1 year
- Zoom licenses will have to be bought by the meeting host

## Event Website

- Event website (customization will have to be done by the software development company)
- Content Access and configuration will have to be done by the development team
- No native app

## Submission

- Being developed currently, will be available by summer 2021
- The paper submission part is developed
- The work flow for assigning it to Committee members will be done by Feb 15<sup>th</sup>.
- The grading part will be developed by April 18<sup>th</sup>.
- It is being developed on Drupal.

## Registration

- Basic registration
- Does not have the ability to process payments

## Program / Agenda

- Program will have to be created manually before submitting it to the development team
- Can build your own agenda

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Networking capabilities are limited
- No hybrid component

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors will have to be set up by the development team

## Integration

- Can import data using csv file
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Pricing breakup

- For 3-day meeting, 500 presenters, 125 sessions, Approx. €20,865 plus 22% VAT
- Set-up, €2500
  - Hosting, €830 daily (x3=2490)
  - Back-up support, €830 daily (x3=2490)
  - Annual hosting post-conference, €885
  - Speaker file set-up, €2000
  - Per presenter, €18 (x 500=9000)
  - Per session, €12 (in addition to speaker fee) (x125=1500)
  - Delegates, no cost
  - 22% VAT

# Intrado – 2D - Virtual Meeting Platform

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: Approx. \$30,000 per meeting (new pricing details being released in December)
- Can bundle meetings for discounts
- DIY to white-glove service available
- Company Size – 1,000+
- Virtual Experience >10 years

## Event Website

- Event website – 2D
- Webcast Support
- No native app

## Submission

- Does not exist

## Registration

- Does not exist
- API integration with CVENT

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Strong Networking
- Comprehensive solution for in-person and hybrid events
  - Venue sourcing / onsite check-in and badging
  - Room block and travel

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Can easily replicate pages
- Can prepopulate registration
- Can link payment system via API
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Current overall assessment

- Moderate contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Weakness – Covers most of the elements of a Virtual Congress, but features lacks depth

# Oxford Abstracts - Abstract Management

## Company / Pricing

- Cost:
  - \$1,800 per meeting
  - API integration \$1,000
- Can bundle meetings for discounts
- DIY to white-glove service available
- Company Size – < 10
- Virtual Experience - 20 years

## Event Website

- Does not exist

## Submission

- Comprehensive Abstract Management tool
- Easy setup for admins, reviewers and committee members
- 100% configurable and customization
- Speakers can manage their own profile

## Registration

- Robust registration tool

## Program / Agenda

- Creates a dynamic scientific program

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Does not exist

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Does not exist

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Can link payment system via API
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant
- Has an outstanding support staff

## Current overall assessment

- Strong contender for Submission and Registration tool
- Strength – 100% configurable and customizable abstract management system
- Weakness - Will need integration with a membership database and Virtual Hybrid platform

# Socio – Event Management Tool

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: \$6,500 (\$8,000 with Registration) per meeting
- Can bundle meetings for discounts
- DIY to orange-glove service available
- Company Size < 100
- Virtual Experience > 1 year

## Event Website

- Event website
- Webcast Support

## Submission

- Does not exist

## Registration

- Branded - Customizable registration tool
- Currently uses only Stripe as the payment authorization tools – additional gateways being added in the next rollout

## Program / Agenda

- Can add events to personal schedule / calendar
- Can build your own agenda
- Supports local time

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Stream via RTMP or Zoom
- Advanced networking and engagement tools – Q&A, Chat and Polling available for each session
- Creates and sets up Zoom links automatically
- Sends reminders and links to speakers automatically
- Comprehensive solution for in-person and hybrid events

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Exhibitor Hall/Booth
- Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction
- Sponsors / Exhibitors manage their own profiles

## Integration

- Can easily replicate pages
- Can prepopulate registration
- CCPA and GDPR Compliant

## Current overall assessment

- Strong contender for Virtual / Hybrid meeting
- Strength – Advanced networking and streaming capabilities
- Weakness - Will need integration with a Registration and Submission software tool

# Virtual Chair – Virtual Meeting Venue

## Company / Pricing

- Cost: \$20,000-\$30,000 for 500 people / meeting
- Company Size < 10
- Virtual Experience < 1years

## Registration

- Does not exist

## Exhibition / Sponsor

- Does not exist

## Event Website

- Does not exist

## Program / Agenda

- Smart program creator

## Integration

- Can import data using API's
- Has an outstanding support staff

## Submission

- Does not exist

## Virtual / HYBRID meeting

- Virtual meeting software built on Gather.town
- Offers a mix of content – live and on-demand (pre-recorded sessions)
- Strong Networking
  - Spontaneous group interactions with 3D avatars
  - Limited to 100 people per networking room
- Zoom for larger talks

## Current overall assessment

- Strong contender for Virtual networking element
- Strength – Raises the level of engagement and interaction
- Weakness – Limited to just the Virtual interaction. Will need to create interfaces and acquire software for all the elements of the Virtual Conference.

# Product Reviewed

		ATIV	Brooklyn Design	Conference Compass	Conference Maker	ConFex	CTI	CVENT	Easy Chair	EEA Flix	HopIn	ImageBox	Intrado	Oxford Abstract	Socio	Virtual Chair
Event Website	Branding and Customization activity	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
	Event URL	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
	Multiple meetings from the same site		✓			✓					✓	✓	✓			
	Manage Your In-person & Virtual Events On A Single Platform				✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	
	Native App			✓		✓	✓	✓							✓	
	Integration with various software – using Open API's			✓		✓	✓	✓							✓	✓
	Integration with various software – using csv	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Submission / Review management	Customized Submission Forms to collect content				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		
	Assign reviewers and committee members				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓					✓		
	Ability to self-submit, edit, and track their submissions					✓	✓		✓					✓		
	Review (multiple levels) and decision making				✓	✓			✓					✓		
	Filter and sort submissions				✓	✓			✓					✓		
Registration	Attendee / Speaker Registration	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Data integration with the submission software and membership database			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓	✓	✓	
	Manage Speaker Profile	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
	Ticketing (Processing Payments – integrate )	✓		✓		✓		✓	✓		✓				✓	
	API integration with Authorize.Net for payments			✓				✓								
	Generate invoices and certificate of participation			✓				✓	✓		✓				✓	
Programme / Agenda	Tools for session building & scheduling			✓		✓	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓
	Personal itinerary builder			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	Calendar integration			✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	Schedule Preview (Coming Up Next)					✓									✓	
	Suggest suitable sessions			✓			✓	✓							✓	✓



# Product Reviewed (contd ...)

		ATIV	Brooklyn Design	Conference Compass	Conference Maker	ConFex	CTI	CVENT	Easy Chair	EEA Flix	HopIn	ImageBox	Intrado	Oxford Abstract	Socio	Virtual Chair
Virtual / Hybrid Meetings	Remote presenters & attendees can interact in meetings in real time	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
	Accessing pre-recorded presentation on demand	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	Attendee-To-Attendee Chat	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	Group Or 1-On-1 Chat Within Sessions	✓		✓			✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	3-D/2-D Reception Area / Event space						✓	✓					✓		✓	✓
	Hybrid options for onsite meetings with remote presenters & attendees			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	
	Ability to interface with outside AV systems			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	
	Ability to integrate with web interface			✓		✓	✓	✓					✓		✓	
Exhibition / Sponsor	Exhibitor Hall/Booth	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	Attendee-To-Exhibitor interaction	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
Reporting / Analytics	Session and web analytics	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓
	Feedback surveys	✓				✓		✓		✓			✓		✓	
	Attendee activity	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓		✓		✓	✓
	Email Management	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓

# AV Options For Hybrid Meetings

To run a hybrid meeting, on-site AV equipment is required to live-stream presentations through the virtual meeting tool.

Meeting planners must decide which and how many presentations they will live stream – the more presentations live streamed, the more cost is involved.

Some universities are equipped with AV meeting rooms—this is likely the most cost-effective approach.

If the number of University AV rooms is limited, or rooms are not available, hiring university-based AV team is more cost-effective than hiring outside AV company.

Do-it-yourself tech options are possible for live streaming but quality likely low.

Private AV companies are option and provide multiple services but cost is high.

# Private AV Companies– Virtual Event Production w/ Sample Pricing

Private AV Companies are expensive but can provide multiple services including:

- Camera operation (if needed) for live-streaming presentations through a virtual platform or social media;
- Zoom-room operation for live-streaming direct;
- Pre-production planning and rehearsals;
- Creative work/broadcast graphics (presentation titles, speaker names/titles etc.);
- Set up and operate switching, play-back, run multiple streams concurrently, sound-mixing etc.;
- Provide equipment in addition to cameras such as sound booms, mics and laptops.

## Bright AV

- Cost: \$22,825 for a 4-day conference
- Works with Cevent and other virtual platforms
- Virtual Experience > 15 years
- [www.brightav.com](http://www.brightav.com)
- Michael Arp @ [michael@brightav.com](mailto:michael@brightav.com)

## Warp Speed Tech

- Cost: \$42,600 for a 4-day conference
- Works with ATIV and other virtual platforms
- Virtual Experience > 20 years
- <https://warpspeedtech.com/>
- Brian Leone @ [brian@warpspeedtech.com](mailto:brian@warpspeedtech.com)

## event.video

- Cost: waiting on the proposal
- Works with Socio and other virtual platforms
- Virtual Experience > 10 years
- <https://event.video/>
- Michael Lunt @ [mike@event.video](mailto:mike@event.video)

## Problem Solutions

- Cost: waiting on the proposal
- Works with CTI and other virtual platforms
- Virtual Experience > 15 years
- <https://www.problemsolutions.net/>
- Todd Wagner @ [twagner@problemsolutions.net](mailto:twagner@problemsolutions.net)