

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2007

The Real Deal

A few months back, an owner of one of the companies that serves our industry asked me about the newly restarted Atlanta Market and the market organizer Roger Tully.

"Is he for real?" the person asked me.

I wasn't sure how to respond.

"I mean ... there aren't really people left in the world who are that nice, are there?" the company owner said. "He has to be the most genuinely nice person I've ever spoken with."

Yes, I assured him, Roger is the real deal. There's not a lot of pretense about him. He does what he says he's going to do.

So this weekend I get to spend some extended time with Roger and his staff (mostly family!) and soak up some Georgia sunshine and warmth.

This is Roger's second market since the former association market here in Atlanta crashed and burned. His numbers appear to be up considerably from the first go-round.

The venue here in Norcross is modest, but serves its purpose. I'll have more numbers later, buyers, vendors, etc.

Throughout the years, a lot of us have said to anyone who would listen, "Let's get markets down to Denver and one other." I have since come to realize that several of our regional markets -- like Atlanta -- have become such a tradition, they may never disappear.

But think of the dream show that could be created if somehow the Tully Market in Atlanta could be merged with the AETA Expo. Western meets English. Now that would be a winning combination.

posted by Paul Wahl @ [4:28 PM](#) [0 comments](#)