

Harrah's boss says gaming industry gets bad rap

By Amanda Finnegan, Las Vegas Sun

Harrah's Entertainment Chief Executive and President Gary Loveman said a major roadblock in the path of the growth of casino companies is misinformation about the industry.

Rather than talk about the industry's recovery, Loveman used his afternoon keynote address at the Global Gaming Expo Wednesday to campaign against the misconceptions that surround the casino industry. He made no mention of the Las Vegas-based operator's progress or future plans during his address.

"The vast majority of people cannot conveniently access our services, and that is a big problem. People who want to use our services have to get on an airplane, make an international trip or drive hours for something that we could provide," Loveman said.

"It should offend us every day that adults can't entertain themselves in the way that they want to when they have access to so many other things."

While products like fast food and liquor that are viewed as unhealthy are available almost everywhere in the U.S., casino companies only operate in 13 states, Loveman pointed out.

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