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SWISSÔTEL HOTELS & RESORTS WINS PRESTIGIOUS TOP EMPLOYERS AWARD™ IN CHINA

SINGAPORE, 6 January 2009 - Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts has been named one of China's Top Employers™ 2009 (China Nationwide) in a research programme conducted by Corporate Research Foundation (CRF). CRF is a global publishing organisation that specialises in research into best business practices, identifying leaders in the field of Human Resources, Strategy and Leadership.

Mr Meinhard Huck, President, Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts comments on the achievement, "Our Swissôtel credo is "A Passion for Perfection" which means an unyielding commitment to only the finest. We benchmark ourselves against the best international practices and this award puts us in good company with other internationally renowned brand names. We are thrilled that we are able not only to bring to the world, Swiss hospitality of the highest standards but also to build a legacy of developing much needed talent around the world."

Established as the Corporate Research Foundation in the Netherlands in 1991, CRF has developed into an international organisation with operations that span 10 countries across three continents. CRF conducts extensive in-depth research into the management and business practices of companies. These findings are published as benchmark reports which have come to be recognised as a hallmark of quality for best practices around the globe.

520 companies were considered for the 2009 Top Employers™ Award (China Nationwide). Only ten winners are selected from this pool of 520 which included Fortune 500 companies, boutique companies, non-profit and Government organisations. The study involved internal benchmarking of Human Resource practices in the areas of talent attraction and retention and was based on six key criteria: Compensation and Benefits; Working Conditions; Training; Promotion and Career Development; Company Culture and Health Management.

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Mr Huck adds, "As an internationally renowned deluxe hospitality brand, we rely on our employees to consistently deliver the highest service standards. Our employees are our greatest assets. Integral to the Swissôtel philosophy is developing talent in each of the countries that we operate. We pride ourselves as an employer of choice and this award is validation of our continuing efforts in people development."

The other winners of CRF's Top Employers™ Award 2009 are: ABN AMRO TEDA Fund Management Co., Ltd.; Autodesk ACRD; Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu CPA Ltd.; Dow Chemical (China) Investment Company Ltd.; DSM (China) Ltd.; Ernst & Young; McDonald's (China) Company Ltd.; PepsiCo China Foods & Beverages; and Wal-Mart (China) Investment Co., Ltd. For more information on the award, please visit www.crf.com

Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts manages four properties in China – Swissôtel Beijing Hong Kong Macau Centre, the Swiss hospitality pioneer's first property in China, and Swissôtel Foshan, Swissôtel Kunshan and Swissôtel Grand Shanghai are more recent additions.

Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts is a distinctive group of deluxe hotels for today's discerning business and leisure travellers, combining the renowned Swiss touch with a fresh, contemporary and modern design. Each Swissôtel hotel offers personalized service with charm and efficiency. Located in main gateway destinations and city centres, the hotels have convenient access to business and shopping districts, and local attractions. Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts worldwide have won prestigious awards and accolades.

Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts is owned by Fairmont Raffles Hotels International, a leading global hotel company with 90 hotels and resorts worldwide under the Raffles, Fairmont and Swissôtel brands. The company also owns Fairmont and Raffles branded Residences, Estates and luxury private residence club properties.

Swissôtel Hotels & Resorts under development:
Swissôtel Novosibirsk, Russia (Opening 2010), Swissôtel Dresden, Germany (2010)

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