## News Release



Brussels, November 27, 2006

## The Rezidor Hotel Group receives HOFTEL's award for Best Hotel Chain working with Responsible Business

The Rezidor Hotel Group has been awarded the 2006 Owner-Friendly Innovation of the Year Award (OFI) by HOFTEL (Hotel Owners and Franchises Transatlantic and European League) at its annual conference in Helsinki, Finland. Rezidor was nominated as a result of HOFTEL's members' enthusiasm for its Responsible Business Program, not least because this focuses on the financial requirements of owners as well as the social and environmental benefits of a responsible approach.

Pia Heidenmark Cook, Vice President Responsible Business at Rezidor, comments: "Rezidor has worked seriously with environmental and social issues for almost a decade, and receiving third party recognition proves to us that we are on the right track. As the success of our Responsible Business program is very dependent on the support and co-operation of our hotels owners, we are delighted that HOFTEL shows that owners also appreciate the responsible approach we take as hotel operators".

The Rezidor Hotel Group has continuously reduced its energy and water consumption, as well as carbon dioxide emissions. Its latest General Managers' conference was made carbon neutral, thus offsetting the carbon dioxide emissions from the conference and related travel through Carbon Neutral. Rezidor strives to be a good corporate citizen both locally and internationally. It is a founding member of IBLF's Tourism Partnership, and also supports various local charities, with almost 700 TEUR collected in 2005. Over 20 Radisson SAS and Park Inn hotels have received third party environmental certification, like the Nordic Swan Eco-Label.

## Notes to editors:

**The Rezidor Hotel Group** is one of the fastest growing hospitality companies in the world and currently has 271 hotels, encompassing approximately 55,000 rooms in operation and under development in 47 countries.

In September 2002, Rezidor announced a unique deal with US-based Carlson Hotels Worldwide to expand selected Carlson brands in Europe, the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). Rezidor now operates **Radisson SAS Hotels & Resorts**, **Regent International Hotels**, **Park Inn** and **Country Inns & Suites** along with the goldpoints plus<sup>SM</sup> loyalty programme for frequent hotel guests. Initially, Rezidor was a wholly owned subsidiary of the Stockholm-based SAS Group. In June 2005, Rezidor completed the strategic agreement with US-based Carlson Hotels Worldwide, which resulted in an enhancement of their long-time franchise partnership into a shareholder agreement. Carlson Hotels Worldwide acquired a 25 percent shareholding in Rezidor from SAS group in return for renegotiated commercial terms of the parties' current master franchise agreements.

In November 2005, Rezidor signed a worldwide license agreement with the Italian fashion house Missoni, to develop and operate a lifestyle hotel brand of the same name: Hotel **Missoni**.

The Corporate Office of The Rezidor Hotel Group is based in Brussels. For more information on Rezidor and its different brands, visit <u>www.Rezidor.com</u>.

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