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## **Arild Hovland receives RHIC 2010 Leadership Award**

*Russian Hotel Investment Conference honours Rezidor's business development*

Arild Hovland, Senior Vice President Business Development at Rezidor, has received the RHIC 2010 Leadership Award on the occasion of the Russian Hotel Investment Conference in Moscow. Hovland, who heads Rezidor's business development in Russia/CIS out of the company's full fledged branch office in Moscow, was awarded for his "significant contribution to the development of the Russian hospitality industry", said Jonathan Worsley, Chairman of Bench Events and organizer of RHIC.

The Norwegian-born Arild Hovland is a graduate of Ecole Hôtelière Lausanne in Switzerland and joined Rezidor in 1988 after a 13-year career in Asia. He is the driving force behind Rezidor's ambitious business development in Russia and the further CIS countries. The group which was one of the first international hotel operators to enter Russia is today the leading international player on the market – with 36 hotels with 9,600 rooms in operation and further 27 properties with 6,000 rooms under development. Rezidor's Russian flagship is the outstanding Radisson Royal Hotel, Moscow – the former "Hotel Ukraina" which belongs to Stalin's famous skyscrapers "Seven Sisters" re-opened its doors in early 2010 after a gigantic three-years-renovation. Rezidor also develops the young and dynamic mid-market brand Park Inn in Russia/CIS – under Arild Hovland's leadership, the group signed a strategic agreement with Regional Hotel Chain (RHC) for the development of at least 20 Park Inns across the region; mainly located near railway stations.

"All these projects require a deep understanding and excellent knowledge of the local and national markets – something which Arild Hovland has brought to perfection. We are delighted and proud that he has won this prestigious prize which also reflects our commitment to Russia/CIS", commented Kurt Ritter, President & CEO of Rezidor. The Rezidor Hotel Group has identified the emerging markets of Russia/CIS as one of their key focus areas for future growth. Within the next five years, the company will have 10 hotels in operation in greater Moscow, 5 in St. Petersburg, and a considerable Park Inn network across the region.

### **For further information please contact**

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# Press Release

## **About The Rezidor Hotel Group**

**The Rezidor Hotel Group** is one of the fastest growing hotel companies in the world. The group features a portfolio of more than 400 hotels in operation and under development with more than 86,300 rooms in over 60 countries.

Rezidor operates the brands **Radisson Blu Hotels & Resorts**, **Regent Hotels & Resorts**, **Park Inn** and **Country Inns & Suites** in Europe, Middle East and Africa, along with the goldpoints plus<sup>SM</sup> loyalty programme for frequent hotel guests. Under a worldwide licence agreement with the iconic Italian fashion house Missoni, Rezidor also operates and develops the new lifestyle brand **Hotel Missoni**.

In November 2006, Rezidor was listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange. Carlson Companies is the main shareholder.

The Corporate Office of the Rezidor Hotel Group is based in Brussels, Belgium.

For more information on Rezidor, visit [www.rezidor.com](http://www.rezidor.com)



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