

WINGS CHAMBER

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WORLD
TRAVEL
AWARDS



WORLD TRAVEL AWARDS ANNOUNCES GLOBAL WINNERS

Travel and tourism leaders come good in adversity

After a challenging year for travel and tourism, the brands that have demonstrated the greatest strength in adversity are to pick up top honours at World Travel Awards 2010 Grand Final, being held at Grosvenor House hotel in London on Sunday 7 November.

Awards to watch include "World's Leading Airline", which features a heavy Asian and Middle Eastern contingent, reflecting how the two regions are leading aviation out of recession. Nominees include Cathay Pacific, Etihad Airways, Emirates, Singapore Airlines and Malaysia Airlines.

A host of VIPs will be attending the gala ceremony, including His Royal Highness Prince Khalid Al Faisal of Saudi Arabia, who will be picking up "Leading Personality of the Year" for his development of religious tourism in the Holy City of Makkah, and his pioneering philanthropic work for the King Faisal Foundation.

Meanwhile, German businesswoman Regine Sixt, President of Sixt, will be collecting "Woman of the Year" for her pivotal role steering the car rental giant through the downturn.

Other VIPs confirmed to attend include David Scowscill, President & CEO, WTTC; Sally Chatterjee, CEO, Visit Britain; H.E. Chumpol Silapa-Archa, Minister of Tourism & Sports, Thailand; Fiona Jeffery, Chairman, World Travel Market & Just a Drop; Alec Sanguinetti, CEO & Director General, CHTA; Josef Forstmayr, President, CHA; Tan Sri Dr. Mohd Munir bin Abdul Majid, Chairman, Malaysia Airlines; Dato' Lee Choong Yan, President & COO, Resorts World Genting; Hon. Ed Bartlett, Minister of Tourism, Jamaica and Adam Stewart, CEO, Sandals Resorts International.

The power of celebrity come good times or bad is also being acknowledged with a new category. Arnold Schwarzenegger, David Beckham,

Kevin Spacey, Usain Bolt, Rafael Nadal, Kevin Costner and Iron Maiden's Bruce Dickenson are among the favourites to win "Face of Travel 2010", which recognises the celebrity endorsement that has made the biggest contribution to the travel industry over the past year.

Hailed as "The Oscars of the Travel Industry" by the Wall Street Journal, the World Travel Awards is recognised globally as the ultimate travel accolade.

The WTA Grand Final marks the climax of a year-long search to find the very best travel companies in the world, and follows heats in Dubai, Johannesburg, Antalya, Delhi and Jamaica. These regional winners will now go head to head on Sunday as they bid to be recognised as the very best of the best in travel.

WTA nominations featured 5,000 companies in 1,000 categories across 162 countries. The winners were selected by thousands of industry professionals and consumers worldwide who have been voting online. Other brands competing on the night include the likes of Armani Hotels, Ritz-Carlton, Mandarin Oriental and Versace.

Graham Cooke, President and Founder, World Travel Awards, said:

"Our industry is under no illusions that 2010 has been one of the toughest on record. Yet these turbulent times have also seen the true leaders of travel turn adversity into opportunity. And winners on the night will all share this vision, entrepreneurial spirit and inner strength to succeed."

Established 17 years ago, World Travel Awards is committed to raising the standards of customer service and overall business performance throughout the international industry.

Consumers are increasingly using the list of winners as a reliable guide and means of reassurance when choosing their holiday. Companies and destinations that make it on to the winners' podium receive extensive commercial benefits and global coverage.

Happy New Year from The Media Group

Wishing you every happiness this Holiday Season and prosperity in the New Year. Thank you for all your help and support. We look forward to continuing our relationship in the coming year.

The Business Continuity Awards 2011



The Business Continuity Awards

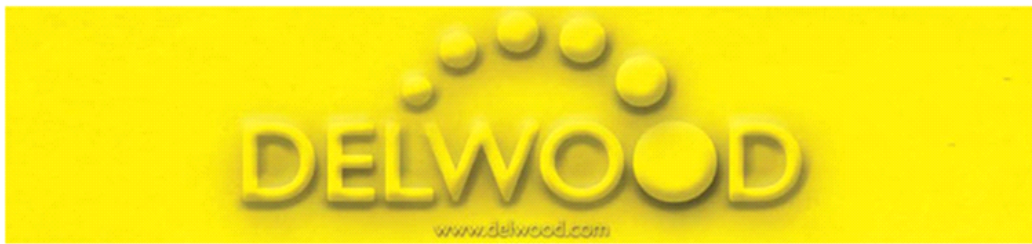
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Tourism Authority of Thailand





Outrigger Announces New Resort in Koh Samui, Thailand

RED PLANET HOTELS DELIVERS ON AGGRESSIVE EXPANSION STRATEGY FOR GLOBAL CHAIN

Emerging Asian hotel investment company Red Planet Hotels continues to chronicle an impressive array of achievements as it forges ahead in its mission to place multiple limited service hotels in key Asian cities.

In recent significant developments for the company, the number of rooms it has under construction surged past 1,000 this week, fuelled by the injection of fresh investment capital.

Red Planet Hotels Chief Executive Officer, Tim Hansing, said the company is developing a portfolio of Tune hotels in China, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand and Bangladesh. It currently has 1,023 hotel rooms through six hotels in Jakarta, Bangkok, Pattaya, Angeles City and two in Manila, with more announcements expected soon.

All Red Planet-owned hotels operate under a franchise agreement with Tune Hotels.

Tune Hotels is part of the Tune Group, the private investment group of Tony Fernandes, founder and Group CEO of low cost airline AirAsia and Team Principal of the Lotus F1 Racing team.

"Tune Hotels' business model is solid and complements our investment methodology," Mr Hansing said from the Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific in Hong Kong today.

"Even though many investment companies have been looking to contain expenses and put expansion on the back burner, we were able to go out at the end of the global financial crisis in 2009 and raise significant capital.



Tim Hansing.

"To be able to raise funds and then to quickly secure sites and contracts to have over 1,000 keys under construction is a tremendous achievement and testament to the strength of our experienced management team and the Tune Hotels business model.

"We are looking for more opportunities to expand in Asia's emerging markets with multiple sites in key cities, particularly those that Tune Hotels have interest in."

Group CEO of Tune Hotels, Mark Lankester said: "We are very pleased to be extending our portfolio in Asia.

World Tourism Organization

UNWTO Supports Advances of T.20 in Positioning Tourism in the Global Agenda

UNWTO welcomes the decision of the Second T.20 Ministers' Meeting, held in Bueyo, Republic of Korea (11-13 October), to convey to the President of the Republic of Korea in his capacity as Chair of the forthcoming G-20 Seoul Summit, the message that: "Tourism can make an important contribution to the initiatives that the G-20 is undertaking to achieve shared growth beyond crisis, particularly in terms of global job creation and the development agenda. The tourism sector stands ready to work towards the common objectives of strong, sustainable and balanced growth".

"UNWTO is very happy to support this initiative and believes that the outcome of the second T.20 Ministers' Meeting is a major step towards our common objective of mainstreaming tourism in the global agenda. Given its ability to create employment and generate development across the whole economy, tourism is well positioned to contribute to the current challenge of achieving sustained and fair growth," said UNWTO Secretary-General, Taleb Rifai.

The T.20 initiative was created in close connection with the UNWTO Roadmap for Recovery approved during the last UNWTO General Assembly (Kazakhstan, October 2009) as the strategic response of the tourism sector to the challenge of the economic crisis. The Roadmap's core message that tourism is a driver of job creation and economic growth is now being taken by the T.20 to high level fora such as the G-20.

In advancing its objectives, the T.20 further agreed to "continue to work together to share information and best practices as well as to strengthen the analytical base that underpins the economic and development case for tourism. In doing so, it will count on the full support of the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO),

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ITB Asia Announces Egypt as Partner Country for 2010

SINGAPORE ITB Asia, the primary B2B trade show for the Asia Pacific travel industry, has announced Egypt as official partner country for 2010.

Egypt, which positions itself under the tagline, "Where it all begins," will use Egypt Night when ITB Asia opens on 20 October to show case the best of the destination to hundreds of travel industry leaders from Asia and beyond.

Egypt, led by its First Assistant Minister, Ministry of Tourism, Mr Hisham Zaazou, will join the ITB Asia opening press conference and will benefit from extensive branding throughout the event, premium positioning in front of the travel industry and enhanced media relations exposure.

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Egypt, a land of ancient pyramids and magnificent heritage, attracts around 12.5 million tourists each year. It is now focusing on the Asian market.

"Messe Berlin Singapore is delighted that Egypt has chosen ITB Asia to announce its intent in the Asian travel market," said Dr Martin Buck, Vice President of Messe Berlin. "It is the beginning of a new relationship between Asia and Egypt. ITB Asia is proud to be at the foundation of that partnership," he said.

Minister Hisham said: "Asia is among the most favoured tourism markets for Egypt. We are always looking for opportunities to attract more tourists to the jewels of Egypt. It is our pleasure to participate in large scale events like ITB Asia and promote Egypt as an emerging international holiday destination."

The Chairman of the Egyptian Tourism Authority, Mr Amr El Ezaby, added: "We are honoured to be the official partner country for a premier event like ITB Asia 2010. Asia is one of the biggest markets for us. An event of this scale allows us to showcase Egypt and its attractions to a larger audience."

This year Egypt will focus on promoting Luxor City, known as "the world's greatest open air museum" which has remarkable ruins and temple complexes at Karnak and Luxor. Luxury River Nile cruises on the MS Darakum are also being promoted as a serene new way to take in the ancient historic sites along the River Nile.

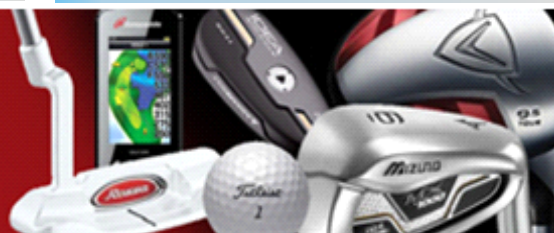
"Each year, through various promotional channels, we aim to promote yet undiscovered and unexplored tourism products that Egypt can offer to its guests worldwide," said Mr Adel El Masry, Director, Egypt Tourism Office, Mumbai.

In Cairo, there was a similar message. "We are working hard to make Egypt an unforgettable and world-class travel experience for our Asian guests," said Mr Samy Mahmoud, Under Secretary, Head of International Promotions at the Egypt Tourism Authority. "Partner country status at ITB Asia 2010 is a major step in that direction," he said.

In the first eight months of 2010, international visitor arrivals to Egypt increased at a rate of 18.7% compared to same period last year.

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ASIAN AEROSPACE 2011 CONGRESS FOCUSES ON CHINA'S GROWING INFLUENCE ON THE GLOBAL AIR TRANSPORT INDUSTRY

Set against continuing strong growth across the region, more than 400 business leaders from the world's aerospace, airline, airport, aircraft leasing and financial community have already registered to attend the Asian Aerospace 2011 Congress, which will focus on China's increasing influence on the global air transport industry. The event is an integral part of the region's leading commercial aviation exhibition, which takes place in Hong Kong 8th-10th March 2011

The three-day event will explore vision and strategies with the following themes: Challenges and benefits of the aerospace growth curve in Asia, which will tackle how China's blueprint of aviation infrastructure will shape up over the next decade, together with how market-led funding opportunities can support aerospace development as the Chinese-built C919 regional jet edges closer to its in-service target date of 2016. How China's operating lessors are making their presence felt in the global market will be addressed by some of the industry's leading industry financial figures.

Visionary infrastructure strategies to keep growth on track, where India for example is going to need about 400 airports and 3,000 passenger aircraft over the next decade, will be addressed, with a focus on how the airlines are preparing for competitive pressures of the upturn. Delegates will hear from leaders of low cost carriers and how they believe the market is shaping up for short haul operations, together with what the EU's emission scheme means for Asian carriers.

Afternoon debates will give speakers and delegates the opportunity to examine and discuss in detail some of the critical issues facing civil aviation in the region. Subjects to be covered include financing strategies underpinning growth and how China's maintenance specialists are engineering a regional MRO powerhouse. Optimising airspace for maximum efficiency and capacity and advanced materials and emerging technologies that will shape the future of aviation manufacturing will be addressed. The essentials for leveraging maximum value from next-generation cabins with a look at new technologies, on board WiFi and how mobile services will boast ancillary revenue.

"Following a very successful event in 2009, this year's Congress will be held over three full days, structured to enable delegates and speakers ample opportunity to swiftly move between conferences, the exhibition and other activities taking place at Asian Aerospace, with plenty of time for networking and business discussions," said Brian Thomas, VP Aerospace, Reed Exhibitions Hong Kong.

An impressive array of speakers has been assembled with a wealth of expertise and experience. Tony Tyler, Chief Executive of Cathay Pacific, who takes over as the next IATA Director General in March will give the Congress keynote speech at 11.30 on March 8th.

New Aviation Awards Asia

Asian Aviation Magazine and Reed Exhibitions organisers of Asian Aerospace 2011, have joined forces to launch the inaugural *Aviation Awards Asia*. Winners to be announced at a gala lunch to be held on 9th March.

This truly Asia-focused event will recognise outstanding achievements in the Asian commercial aviation industry. The goal is to raise the profile of the key players in the market, rewarding innovation, excellence, professionalism and best business practices

The Awards will be presented in five categories:

Full-Service Airline; Low-Cost Carrier; Business Aviation; Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul and Technology & Environment. Entrants have been judged by a panel of industry experts taking into account a range of factors, including impact on business performance, originality, effect on operational safety, customer service and contribution to aviation in the Asia-Pacific region.

About Reed Exhibitions

Reed Exhibitions is the world's leading organizer of trade and consumer exhibitions. Reed Exhibitions excels in creating high profile, highly targeted business and consumer exhibitions to establish and maintain business relations, and generate new business.

Every year Reed Exhibitions runs more than 500 events in 38 countries, bringing together over 90,000 suppliers and more than six million buyers. With 2,600 employees in 39 offices around the globe, Reed Exhibitions serve 47 industries worldwide.



GAMA AVIATION FZC DEBUTS CHALLENGER 850 OPERATIONS IN UAE

Gama Aviation FZC recently introduced its latest aircraft, a Bombardier Challenger 850, into service, having received its Certificate of Air worthiness for the type on December 16, 2010 the first model in the UAE.

The aircraft, owned by a private individual and managed by Gama out of Dubai International Airport, has already operated several charters throughout the region. The 850 joins four other business jets in the Gama Aviation FZC stable and takes the total number of aircraft operated by Gama Aviation worldwide in Europe, the Americas and the Middle East to over 75. Gama's managed Bombardier fleet includes two Learjet 45s, two Learjet 60s, two Challenger 604s, two Challenger 605s and another recent addition, a Global XRS. The latter is also based in the Middle East.

"Gama Aviation FZC only obtained its UAE GCAA Air Operator's Certificate in February last year so we are pleased that this development is very much in line with our first year aims," said Managing Director Dave Edwards. Gama is on track to obtain its UAE GCAA CAR 145 maintenance approval within the first half of 2011 and is working to complete its new 12,000 sqm hangar facility at Sharjah which will provide hangarage and maintenance facilities for business jet aircraft in the region. It will also be home to a new Fixed Based Operation.

Captions: Gama Aviation's Managing Director Dave Edwards and Sales Manager Oliver Hewson with Wassim Saheb, Sales Director, Middle East, North Africa, and Turkey, Bombardier Business Aircraft.



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