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Daniel ME launches Middle East's first inclusive in-room communications system for hotel sector

Statistics reveal Internet access is hotel guest's number one priority for in-room technology

Daniel Middle East (ME), a leading provider of IT communication and entertainment solutions for the hospitality industry, has announced that it has recently launched an innovative in-room communication system for the UAE's hotel sector, in a move predicted to generate new benchmarks of guest comfort and satisfaction. It is the first time that the unique communications concept will be available to hotel guests in the Middle East.

The Dubai-based company has partnered with KTV Middle East, a leading manufacturer of hi-tech products, to launch what has been called the 'DANIEL' system, which provides hotel guests with in-room communication and entertainment options in a computer-less environment through high-definition LCD monitors. If a hotel is equipped with a DANIEL system, guests can access television channels, on-demand movies, computing applications, social networks, streaming video and more.

The DANIEL application also provides Internet access to guests that do not 'bring their own equipment' while travelling, providing them with an opportunity to access personal communication and entertainment options via Internet applications like they do at home.

"This very unique concept facilitates market differentiation for hotel properties, and provides the hotel sector with an opportunity to supply guests with superior in-room technology access. It is important for hotels in the UAE, operating in one of the world's leading destinations, to provide guests with reliable and fast Internet access, as well as communication, information and entertainment applications, so that guests do not have to bring a laptop or leave their room to access these critical services," said Ralph Bishop, Director of Business Development, Daniel ME.



"The competition within the hotel sector is very tough, making hotel managers think hard about satisfying guest demands and considering the most effective way to position the hotel uniquely. We are in the process of finalising deals with several high-profile hotels and hotel chains, which have been very enthusiastic about the opportunities of this concept," Bishop added.

According to international research, Internet access is a potential hotel guest's number one priority for in-room technology facilities. With 15 million tourists expected to visit Dubai annually from 2010, and 750,000 additional hotel rooms planned for the region, the demand for provided in-room Internet access is predicted to soar.

"The DANIEL system provides an incomparable level of guest satisfaction and as such, we are already eyeing regional expansion to cater to the growing demand for an affordable, cost-effective in-room communications network. Our partnership with KTV ME will support us in delivering premium quality products with the best prices, incorporating state-of-the-art features not available from competitors, and with paramount after-sales service," Bishop added.

Specifically targeting the hotel sector, the DANIEL system can be customised to fit each property's unique requirements as it is an easy-to-deploy network that does not need major infrastructure changes or disruption to everyday operations. The system is compatible with existing in-room technology options and provides the travelling guest with a robust, organized, and easy to use interface.

Daniel ME also offers a unique replacement service by replacing the LCD Monitors every three years, which will keep the hotels updated with the latest technology without causing an increase in the overheads. The company also offers local support for the DANIEL system and provides the hotel with customization features to connect the guest with the hotels unique value proposition.

Daniel Middle East is a limited liability company established in the UAE in 2007 with a Middle Eastern focus. The parent company was established in Calgary, Canada in 2001. Daniel ME aims to create new benchmarks in the hotel industry through capitalizing on guest satisfaction and catering to the demand by guests to have provided in-room access to Internet content.

KTV was established in 1969 under the business name "Toshiba Korea Co. Ltd.". In 1974 the name was changed to "Korea Electronics Co. Ltd.". In 1987 the company began the LCD TV line production and in 2003 it started KTV Global Corporation opening its headquarters in the Middle East.



E&P experts line up for inaugural SPE Indian event



Mumbai & London With the international oil and gas industry's attention increasingly focused on India as the country continues its emergence as a leading 'hot spot' for upstream activity, many of the world's major players are lining up to participate in the inaugural SPE Indian Oil & Gas technical conference and exhibition

With highly-respected individuals and companies from both India and around the world already confirmed to take part, the launch event to be held in Mumbai from 4-6th March 2008 is expected to establish itself as THE Indian upstream event. The biennial show's standing is further enhanced as it is being organised by the long-established partnership between the Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and Reed Spearhead Exhibitions (RSX), which already work together on other major oil and gas events including Offshore Europe in Aberdeen, Intelligent Energy in Amsterdam, and Russian Oil & Gas in Moscow.

Acting as Chairman of the event's Technical Programme Committee is Mr N K Mitra, Director (Offshore) of India's ONGC (Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd), the national oil company. His fellow committee members include several colleagues from ONGC, as well as representatives from Reliance Industries, BP, Chevron, Shell, ExxonMobil, Oil India Limited, Cairn Energy, Halliburton, Schlumberger, Weatherford, Baker Hughes, CERA and Harbison.

Mr Mitra said: "The conference theme is: 'The Changing Landscape: Emerging Opportunities in

The Indian E&P Industry'. The multidisciplinary programme includes issues surrounding Reservoir Management, EOR/IOR, Deepwater Exploration and Production, HSE, HR/Training and Development, etc ... that will address technology challenges facing the Indian E&P Industry as well as explore technological advances needed for the continuously increasing demand on energy consumption. The quality of the technical conference put together under the guidance of the Society of Petroleum Engineers is undoubtedly one of the key attractions for attendees at E&P events. We would still welcome further submissions of abstracts for the conference at this stage, and those interested should go to www.indianoilgas.org and click on 'Conference'."

Key technology topics to feature in conference programme

A Call for Papers was issued in July with the initial deadline set for 15 September, with the content of the agenda-setting conference programme to be firmed up and papers accepted by the following month. Other topics expected to be featured include: Marginal Fields; Offshore Infrastructure Development; Offshore Facility Engineering; Mature Field Development; Production; Drilling; Completions; Facilities; Coalbed Methanes; and Non-Conventional Resources.

Also on the committee is Ms Lesley-Ann Sandbach, Managing Director of joint organisers RSX. She commented: "This is a technical conference and exhibition for senior executives, engineers and industry

professionals that will bring national and international E&P companies to the Indian market to debate and invest in technology transfer and solutions. The unique technical content of this event will provide a superb technical environment for knowledge exchange and group networking. And it is being driven by an outstanding industry committee of experts from across the value chain.

"Confirmed exhibitors already include major operating companies such as ONGC as well as service companies such as Weatherford, amongst others, and these will all be showcasing the latest state-of-the-art technologies, services and expertise available."

The event will be held at the Bandra Kurla Complex, MMRDA Ground in Mumbai.

India the world's fourth largest economy but one of the least explored

India is the fourth largest economy in the world and the third largest consumer in Asia but currently imports the vast majority of its oil and gas. Its policy to increase domestic reserves and production has already started to pay off, with some of the world's largest ever gas finds having been made in the deepwaters off India's east coast and onshore Rajasthan.

The country remains one of the least explored regions in the world, with a well density of 20 per 100 sq km. Of the 26 sedimentary basins, only 8 have been explored so far. The level of international interest recently prompted India to offer its largest amount of acreage ever in its latest NELP round.

Asian Senior Masters @ Malaysia 2007 Returns to Palm Garden

The Asian Senior Masters @ Malaysia 2007 will be staged at the Palm Garden Golf Club, Putrajaya, Malaysia from 7th to 9th September 2007.

This year, the Asian Seniors Tour (AST) is pleased to welcome back Giant and to introduce Citi, two of our main partners of this much anticipated golf tournament, a showdown which will see 120 professional senior golfers from over 25 countries, including some of the best golfers from the region, doing battle to be this year's Asian Senior Masters @ Malaysia 2007 Champion and competing for prize money of US\$ 100,000, the third highest purse offered in Malaysia.

This year's tournament will incorporate six Asian Senior Masters Pro-Am events to be staged from Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th September, and both Amateur Junior and Open Invitational Pro-

Am Qualifier events taking place prior to the three-day Professional Tournament, which is to be staged from Friday 7th to Sunday 9th September.

Asian Senior Masters events are the only professional golf tournaments which provide leading amateur golfers from Malaysia, Singapore and the Asian region, who succeed in being placed in the top ten of a Pro-Am event, with the unique opportunity to play for the ASM Amateur Championship Semi-finals alongside three Asian Senior Tour PGA Professional golfers who will be competing in the first two days of the AIA Singapore Asian Senior Masters professional tournament.

We would like to send out a very warm welcome to all our regular amateur participants, supporting sponsors, the media, and a very special welcome and thank you to all the ASM @ Malaysia main partners Giant, AIG, American International Assurance, Citi, Indo Chine and F&N Coca-Cola.

More than 80 per cent of Scala Tower in Business Bay sold

The Al Madar Property Investments' residential project is known for its strategic location and world-class facilities

Al Madar Property Investments, a leading property developer in the GCC and part of the Al Madar Group, has recently announced that over 80 per cent of its 22-floor Scala Tower located in Dubai's Business Bay area has been sold. The company also highlighted that it achieved a significant percentage of the sales during the summer months this year, a period usually characterised by a lull in the property market.

The Scala Tower comprises 18 floors of residential units 182 in total including studios, one bedroom and two bedrooms, and boasts of world-class amenities such as an ultra-modern health club, high-speed internet connectivity, shopping area, coffee shops, recreation area, high-speed elevators, closed-circuit television, 24-hour security and maintenance, and ample car parking. The tower will be ready for delivery by the second quarter of 2009.

"We are pleased with the sales success of the Scala Tower so far and we are confident that the tower will soon be completely sold," said

Keith Pepperdine, Sales and Marketing Director of Al Madar Group. "The strategic location of the tower in the heart of Business Bay right on the creek and with an excellent view of the Burj Dubai - coupled with all the modern amenities that the tower offers, have been key factors that have driven sales of the Scala Tower."

"The major success of Scala Tower, the first project for Al Madar Property Investments in the UAE, paves the way for our other iconic real estate developments that will soon be launched in the country," he added.

By launching a series of high-profile projects in the UAE, Al Madar is looking to capture a sizeable share of the country's booming property market and reinforce its regional standing. Al Madar Property Investments has emerged as one of the foremost names in the GCC property sector, with an array of prestigious projects in major locations across the region. The company has been involved in the real estate sector for over 15 years and has completed more than 125 developments across the Middle East.



Al Madar Group was founded in 1992 in Qatar as a company specialised in the design and construction of civil and industrial projects as well as infrastructure and marine development works. The Group has since grown to become one of the premier business houses in the Gulf and today has a presence in several business and industrial sectors, including real estate, contracting, engineering, manufacturing and trading.

AMBITIONS FOR INTERNATIONAL ENERGY ACADEMY SET OUT AT OE 07

IFA Hotels & Resorts Enters the Wildlife Hospitality Market in South Africa

An investment of US\$ 411 million in Legend Golf & Safari Resort



Peet Cilliers, Legend group CEO, said “the Legend Lodges, Hotels & Resorts Group welcomes the partnering with IFA Hotels & Resorts, an internationally acclaimed leader in the development of premier integrated mixed-use hotel and tourism projects and luxury leisure services.”

Located in the Waterberg, Limpopo Province, the resort will be a comfortable 3 hour drive from Johannesburg. This exceptional residential estate is complimented by an 18-hole championship golf course with each hole endorsed by the signature of one of the world's top professional golfers 18 individual signatures, a world first. A state of the art Golf Academy with a driving range will offer the avid golfer a range of products including professional training programs with virtual reality training facilities.

Cilliers stated that, with full development rights in place, the main construction of the golf course is nearing completion and the construction of the resort's gate house is in progress. Bulk services have been completed in the estate's first phase, which has already been sold out by private invitation. Selected investors will be able to acquire further stands, also by private invitation, before the official launch of the remaining phases.

The local community also stands to benefit by the establishment of the Legend Foundation, which will be involved in a variety of sports such as soccer, rugby, netball, hockey, tennis and cricket at the Fields of Legends complex, in conjunction with associated sports academies. Educational sports programs offered at these academies will assist in the training of talented youngsters from the Limpopo Province.

IFA Hotels & Resorts (IFA HR) officially announces its entry into the wildlife hospitality market in South Africa by acquiring a 50% stake in a Joint Venture Company formed for the purpose of acquiring the Legend Golf & Safari Resort development (Legend).

The Legend development, to be officially launched in November, forms part of the 22,000ha (220,000,000 square meters) Big Five Entabeni Safari Conservancy, situated in South Africa's Limpopo Province. The total development cost is expected to exceed US\$ 411 million.

Talal Jassim Al-Bahar, Chairman and Managing Director of IFA HR, stated: “In addition to being very pleased about our announcement regarding our new partners, we're also very excited about our first Big Five Game Reserve investment in Southern Africa. As with all our investments, the Legend Golf & Safari Resort is an invaluable contributor to our set strategy to reach into the most beautiful corners of the globe.”

Legend is a truly unique world first, where the Big Five (lions, elephants, buffalos, leopards and black rhinoceros) roam freely on the savanna grasslands. Lying in the shadow of the imposing Hanglip mountain, the resort epitomises the unique lifestyle of the bush. The design and layout minimize impact on the surrounding natural resources, preserving the pristine bush environment whilst enhancing privacy, exclusivity and tranquillity.



Al-Bahar concluded: “This acquisition is a continuation of our intention to invest in South Africa and Africa, a focus area of our set global expansion strategy. Legend Golf & Safari Resort is one of a kind and it will be a great destination for South African and international investors and tourists. It is our aim to provide our clients with both superb and varied investment and recreational opportunities; this experience perfectly compliments the Zimbali Coastal Resort and our other developments.”

Other facilities of the resort include a Welcome Centre and Club House, offering a variety of boutique shops, dining options, entertainment and leisure activities for the whole family. The Club House affords golfers and patrons serviced dressing rooms and the exclusive founding members' lounge, with all spaces naturally and logically emanating from the central courtyard which overlooks the 9th and 18th greens and the majestic Waterberg mountain range. An internationally branded five-star hotel with a health spa and a wellness centre, as well as conference and recreational facilities for up to 2,500 delegates, add to its magnificence

