

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Russia & CIS Hotel Investment Conference (RHIC) Presents Investment Den to Showcase New Landmark Investment Projects

August 26—St. Petersburg, Russia:

The Russia & CIS Hotel Investment Conference (RHIC) is pleased to announce a special forum known as the "Investment Den" on 27 October 2009 at 9 a.m. to discuss and investigate four potential project opportunities to a small group of judges who are acting as investors. The investment opportunities include four projects within the Russia & CIS region and each of the judges will be given a simulated amount of \$40 million dollars to allocate to one or more of their chosen development projects at the conclusion of the session.

The Den will be hosted by Michael Cooper, Vice President Development Russia & CIS for InterContinental Hotels. "The Den will showcase some of the best new hotel development projects planned for St. Petersburg and Kiev as well as provide a wonderful opportunity to hear a variety of views concerning different approaches and attitudes to hotel funding in today's economic climate," Cooper said.

The projects presented will include: **A New Luxury Hotel Development in Central St. Petersburg** by Tomas Dukala, Vice President of Morgan Stanley Investment Banking; **A Luxury Hotel & Office Development Facing the Dnieper River in Kiev** by Rudolf Schmid, Managing Partner, EREC Environmental and Real Estate Consulting GmbH; **The Development of Nevskij One as a Luxury Hotel** by Yuri Ilyin, Chief Executive Officer at A-Plus Estate Company; **An Exciting New Mixed-Use Hotel Development in St. Petersburg** by Oleg Shaposhnikov, General Director of Nikolskiye Ryady CJSC.

"The Investment Den is a superb opportunity for developers to present their projects to the industry in a formal yet interesting question and answer session. We are hoping that such a session will initiate dialogue between presenters and those investors attending the conference," said Jonathan Worsley, co-organiser of the RHIC.

Each developer will be given the opportunity to present their project to the panel of investors and the investors will then ask one question about each project to better understand the opportunity, as well as to provide feedback. At the conclusion of the forum, once the investors have allocated their simulated \$40 million dollars, the results are calculated and a winner is announced. The developer with the most capital raised will take the opportunity to question the investors to determine the stability of the investor for the project.

"Attendees and participants of the Investment Den will be able to explore the investor mentality in this environment including their allowances for certain risks, geography, returns and so forth. We'll see how one can best present an investment idea and what questions one should be prepared for when in front of an experienced group of judges," said Jon Leibowitz, EVP of Questex Media Group, owners and co-organisers of the RHIC. "Times are tough, and the questions just get tougher when there are limited projects and scarce funding for them. It's a great learning experience for everyone and a very rewarding one as well."

The judging panel is comprised of: Georg Folian, Chief Financial Officer of Warimpex AG Austria, David Geovanis, Manager Director of London & Regional Properties Russia, Boris Korol, Managing Director of Alliance Investment Group Moscow and Dmitry Tetiochev, Partner & Head of Legal Group at Ernst & Young (CIS) Moscow.

The Russia & CIS Hotel Investment Conference will be held October 25-27, 2009 at the Corinthia Hotel, St. Petersburg, and is jointly organised by Questex Media Group, Inc. and Bench Events.

[Click here](#) to view the detailed programme or to download a copy of the full conference programme as a PDF.

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