

PRESS RELEASE

andel's Hotel Łódź receives award at “real estate Oscars” ceremony in Cannes

Warsaw/Vienna, 19 March 2010 – At the 2010 MIPIM Awards, the “Oscars” of the real estate industry, the andel's hotel Łódź continued its success story. The Polish hotel was awarded for its outstanding design and transformation with a nomination in the category of “Hotels & Tourism Resorts” and a special award as “Special Tribute to the Guest of Honour” at the renowned property trade fair in Cannes. The andel's hotel in Łódź was developed by Warimpex and is managed by Vienna International. The architectural teams were the Polish-Austrian team of OP Architekten and the London-based interior designers Jestico + Whiles.

“We are thrilled and feel absolutely honoured about the andel's Hotel Łódź having received the nomination in the category “Hotels & Tourism Resorts” together with the five-star plus Kameha Grand Hotel in Bonn and the Rocco Forte Augustine Hotel in Prague at one of our industry's most important events. Even more, we are proud to have received the “Special Tribute to the Guest of Honour” award for the best project in Poland – this really makes us feel overwhelmed. The nomination and the award acknowledge the unique design and history of the andel's Łódź. I want to thank my team, the architects and all of our partners for making this success possible. I believe this is good soil to build upon for the future, and we are looking forward to the already promising operating results,” said Warimpex CEO Franz Jurkowitsch.

The MIPIM Awards recognise excellence and innovation in the field of real estate. The high-profile event attracts global attention from key industry players who come together to celebrate the winners. The awards are presented every year at the MIPIM in Cannes – one of the world's leading real estate exhibitions. The entries are pre-screened by a renowned jury, and the winners are chosen from among the finalists by all MIPIM participants. The awards ceremony on the last evening of the exhibition is the event's crowning finale.

The andel's hotel Łódź

The andel's Łódź is located in a former factory, a weaving mill established in 1878 by textile magnate Izrael Poznanski, directly next to the Old Town. After decades of standing empty, the building was transformed into a shining example of how historic industrial architecture can blend with modern design. The interior design is the work of the London-based star designers Jestico + Whiles, while Polish-Austrian architectural firm OP Architekten mastered the conversion of the historical building.

With its 278 rooms and suites and seven flexible conference rooms with a total space of 3,100 m², the andel's Hotel is one of the most modern city and conference hotels in Poland. The 1,300 m² fully glass-enclosed ballroom on the roof of the hotel is unique in Poland for both its location and its size. Fantastic views over the city are also available from the pool on the top floor of the hotel as well as from the 1,200 m² fitness and health club. The pool itself is a relict of past times, created out of a 19th century fire water storage tank. The andel's Hotel is located directly in the Manufaktura shopping, arts and cultural centre and within walking distance from the city centre.

Previous awards for the andel's hotel Lodz

The showcase hotel project, built by Austrian developer Warimpex and operated by Vienna International, had previously won several awards for architecture, design and development, such as the "Architecture of the Year – Conversion of an Existing Building to Hotel Use" distinction at the 2009 European Hotel Design Awards. The hotel was chosen "Best Hotel Development" and "Best Development Overall" by CIJ, the CEE real estate magazine. In addition, andel's hotel Łódź received the prestigious 2010 Contract Magazine Interiors Awards in the category of "Adaptive Re-Use" for the transformation of an existing historical building into an exclusive conference hotel, as well as the CEE Real Estate Quality Award (CEEQA) in the category of "Hotel, Leisure & Residential Development of the Year 2009" by CEE Insight Forum in association with the Financial Times.

andel's Hotel Łódź

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About Jestico + Whiles

Jestico + Whiles is a practice of architects and interior designers, working from a head office in London and a satellite bureau in Prague accommodating 85 and 15 staff respectively. The practice incorporates a specialist studio of experienced hotel designers including architects, interior designers and FFE specifiers. We have earned a global reputation for excellence in this field, supported by an unmatched number of international awards including this year's European Hotel Design Award and recently the Building Design Interior Designer of the Year. Jestico + Whiles has successfully completed special projects for many operators in locations as varied as Spain, Croatia, Germany, Russia, Abu Dhabi and the Czech Republic.

About OP Architekten

OP Architekten is an international architectural office. It was established in 2004 in Vienna by two architects: Andrzej Orlinski and Wojciech Popławski. The main seat of OP ARCHITEKTEN ZT GmbH is in Vienna, while OP ARCHITEKTEN ZT Ltd. has its main office in Warsaw. Two years ago, an architectural office was opened in Łódź. Based on professional experience and the involvement of our team, the office aims at achieving high functional and aesthetic quality within a precisely defined and controlled economic framework. We optimise the process of construction through close cooperation with our clients and consultants, structural coordination of a project as a general architect, and enterprise cost management.

About Warimpex

Warimpex Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG is a real estate development and investment company with headquarters in Vienna and offices in Budapest, Prague, Saint Petersburg and Warsaw. In the last 25 years, Warimpex has developed properties in Central and Eastern Europe with a total value of more than one billion euro. Warimpex currently owns or co-owns 21 business and luxury hotels with more than 5,000 rooms as well as five commercial and office buildings with a total floor area of approx. 33,000 m² mainly in Central and Eastern Europe. A number of further real estate projects are currently under development. In the medium term, Warimpex aims at becoming market leader in hotel real estate in "New Europe". Warimpex is listed under WXF on the Vienna and Warsaw Stock Exchanges.

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About Vienna International

Vienna International Hotelmanagement AG was founded in 1989. On the basis of individual management contracts, Vienna International operates and is developing a total of 40 first-class hotels & resorts (38 hotels and 2 hotel projects). The portfolio, which includes three Leading Hotels of the World, comprises city, resort, spa and conference hotels in ten European countries: Austria, the Czech Republic, Poland, Croatia, Switzerland, France, Germany, Romania, Slovakia and Russia. In addition to holiday and leisure products internationally, e.g. in Loipersdorf, Salzburg, Carlsbad and Opatija, the focus of the destinations is on business centres such as Salzburg, Munich, Berlin, Paris, Prague, Cracow, Łódź, Bucharest, Moscow, Ekaterinburg and Vienna.

In 2010, Vienna International expects to welcome over 2,517,000 guests and post total revenues of € 180 million. The hotel group employs about 2,850 people. Further information and image material related to this press release is available at www.vi-hotels.com (Press).

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