

## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### **International Real Estate Award for andel's Hotel Łódź (Poland)**

- **Hotel wins European Property Awards 2010**
- **Tophotel Award 2010 in the category of design for the andel's Hotel Łódź**
- **Design hotel becomes showcase for combination of historic industrial architecture and modern design**

**Łódź/Vienna, 8 October 2010 – The international awards keep coming for the andel's Hotel Łódź, Poland's showcase project of successful architecture. The 4-star hotel recently won the The Architecture Award of the European Property Awards 2010 in the category of Leisure & Hospitality as well as the Tophotel Award 2010 for Design.**

The European Property Awards are awarded annually in association with Bloomberg Television for the most prestigious properties in Europe. The andel's Hotel Łódź in Poland recently won its first European Property Award, The Architecture Award, in the category of Leisure & Hospitality. The award was received by Wojciech Poplawski of OP ARCHITEKTEN in London last week. The developer was real estate firm Warimpex Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG, which is publicly listed in both Warsaw and Vienna.

#### **Tophotel 2010**

At the same time, the 4-star hotel was selected as Tophotel 2010 in the category of design in the third national competition organised by the Polish companies NetMedia SA and hotele.pl. More than 50 hotels had been nominated for the awards, presented in 20 categories at a gala ceremony in Warsaw.

#### **andel's Hotel Łódź – Historic industrial architecture and modern design**

The andel's Łódź is located in a former factory, a weaving mill established in 1878 by textile magnate Izrael Poznanski. After decades of standing empty, the building was transformed into a shining example of how historic industrial architecture can blend successfully with modern design. The interior design is the work of the London-based star designers Jestico + Whites, 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 m<sup>2</sup>, the andel's Hotel is one of the most modern city and business hotels in Poland. A 1,300 m<sup>2</sup> fully glass-enclosed ballroom adorns the roof of the building. Fantastic views over the city are available from the pool on the top floor of the hotel as well as from the 1,200 m<sup>2</sup> fitness and health club. The pool itself is a relic 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.

### **Past awards for the andel's Hotel Łódź**

Since its opening in May 2009, the 4-star hotel has already won several awards for architecture, design and development. The first was the Architecture of the Year – Conversion of an Existing Building to Hotel Use distinction at the 2009 European Hotel Design Awards. Soon thereafter, the hotel was chosen Best Hotel Development and Best Development Overall by CIJ, the CEE real estate magazine. Earlier this year, the hotel won the 2010 Contract Magazine Interiors Awards in the category of Adaptive Re-Use for the transformation of an existing historical building into a modern conference hotel. This was followed by the CEE Real Estate Quality Award in the category of Hotel, Leisure & Residential Development of the Year 2009 by CEE Insight Forum in association with the Financial Times. In May 2010, the hotel's Delight Restaurant received the prestigious Hermes Statue. The most recent past award was the Special Tribute to the Guest of Honour at this year's MIPIM in Cannes.

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### **About Warimpex Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG**

Warimpex Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG is a property development and investment company with its headquarters in Vienna and offices in Budapest, Prague, St. Petersburg and Warsaw. Over the past twenty-five years, Warimpex has developed properties worth over one billion euros in Central and Eastern Europe. Warimpex currently owns or jointly owns twenty-one business and luxury hotels with over 5,000 rooms in total and five commercial and office buildings with a total useable area of roughly 32,000 square metres. The properties are located primarily in Central and Eastern Europe. A number of further hotel projects are currently under development. Over the medium term, the Group has its sights set on becoming the market leader in the hotel property segment in the "New Europe". The Warimpex share is listed on the Vienna and Warsaw (WXXF) stock exchanges.

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**About Vienna International Hotelmanagement AG**

Vienna International Hotels & Resorts was founded in 1989. On the basis of individual management contracts, Vienna International operates and is developing a total of 39 first-class hotels & resorts (37 hotels and 2 hotel projects). The portfolio, which includes three Leading Hotels of the World and one Leading Spa, comprises city, resort, spa and conference hotels in 10 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](http://www.vi-hotels.com) (Press).

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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**

**Architect:** The architectural firm **OP Architekten**, founded by A. Orłowski and W. Popławski, has made a name for itself thanks to its strong and untiring relationship with contemporary, elegant and functional architecture. OP Architekten's achievements have already been distinguished at numerous architecture competitions. The main office of OP ARCHITEKTEN ZT GmbH is in Vienna. A second office, OP ARCHITEKTEN ZT Sp. z o.o., is located in Warsaw.