

PRESS RELEASE

andel's Hotel Łódź: Award for Outstanding Interior Design in New York

- **andel's Hotel in Łódź, Poland, wins 2010 Contract Magazine Interiors Awards in the category of "Adaptive Re-Use"**
- **Distinction for London-based interior designers / architects Jestico + Whiles and Polish-Austrian OP Architekten**

New York/Łódź/Vienna, 1 February 2010 – Just eight months after its grand opening, the 4-star hotel andel's in Łódź has already received its fourth award. On Friday, the hotel investor and the interior design team received the prestigious Interiors Awards from US-based Contract Magazine in New York for the hotel's outstanding design. The andel's Łódź won the award in the category of "Adaptive Re-Use" for the transformation of an existing historical building into an exclusive conference hotel.

„This a great example of how one can insert a new and dynamic object into an existing space to create a sense of unexpected spontaneity. Strong colour and form in juxtaposition with sinewy, rhythmic structure is effective in highlighting the adapted intervention. Each aspect is executed with enthusiasm and respect. Lighting is inspired!“ was the jury's enthusiastic comment.

The showpiece hotel project, built by Austrian developer Warimpex Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG and operated by Vienna International Hotelmanagement AG, had previously won several awards for architecture, design and development. In the autumn of 2009, executive project architects OP Architekten and interior designers / architects Jestico + Whiles accepted the "Architecture of the Year – Conversion of an Existing Building to Hotel Use" distinction at the 2009 European Hotel Design Awards, and the hotel was chosen "Best Hotel Development" and "Best Development Overall" by CIJ, the CEE real estate magazine.

"I am especially thrilled by this distinction – not only because the Contract Magazine Interiors Award is such a prestigious prize among top hotels, but also because we could show how much potential a building can have," says Warimpex CEO Dr. Franz Jurkowitsch. "The many awards of the past months, but above all the feedback of our satisfied guests and the fact that the hotel's success has been beyond our expectations, confirms our strategy of developing top-quality hotel projects in up-

and-coming locations such as Łódź. To date, the andel's hotel remains the only 4-star hotel in the city of 800,000 inhabitants.”

“International distinctions are recognition by the market in much the same way as the positive feedback we receive from satisfied guests. These kinds of recognition contribute to a hotel's image and are an always welcome marketing message,” says Rudolf Tucek, CEO of Vienna International, clearly pleased with the news of the award.

The andel's 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 business 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 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 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.

The Award

The Contract Magazine Interiors Awards have been awarded in New York every year since 1979 by a select panel of distinguished industry professional. Traditionally the previous year's winner of the “Designer of the Year” award also forms part of the jury. The awards honour outstanding work in the field of furnishings and interior design. More information: www.contractmagazine.com.

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 Orłowski 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 Finanz- und Beteiligungs AG

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 20 business and luxury hotels with more than 4,800 rooms as well as five commercial and office buildings with a total floor area of approx. 28,000 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 Hotelmanagement AG

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 (37 hotels and 3 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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