

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INTERCONTINENTAL NEW YORK TIMES SQUARE PROUDLY ANNOUNCES LEED CERTIFICATION
Times Square property is the nation's largest new-build hotel to achieve LEED status



NEW YORK (August 2, 2012) – After just two years of operation, **InterContinental New York Times Square** has been recognized by the **U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC)** as a **LEED Certified** property. This internationally acclaimed recognition is bestowed upon properties that were designed and built using strategies aimed at achieving high **performance in key areas of sustainability** such as sustainable site development, water savings, energy efficiency, materials selection and indoor environmental quality.

As the nation's **largest new-build hotel to achieve LEED status**, InterContinental New York Times Square has maintained a commitment to the environment from the start by building on a previously developed site cleared of hazardous material to ensure a safe redevelopment process. During construction more than 75% of the debris was diverted from landfills for recycling and an erosion-control plan was implemented to protect New York City's precious water system. Also included in the hotel's eco-conscious design plan were two **green rooftops** that house low-maintenance and drought-tolerant plants to retain heat in the winter and absorb the heat of summer's harsh sunlight. Most recently however, the 7th floor rooftop also became home to the property's **first rooftop beehive** which is expected to produce is 30-40 pounds of locally sourced honey by September.

Inside, the hotel opted for a high-efficiency ventilation system and specialized paints and coatings to result in better air quality throughout. Floor-to-ceiling windows were also installed to allow for maximum amounts of natural lighting while the use of CFL and LED light bulbs provide excellent lighting quality while conserving electricity. The hotel's Todd English restaurant, **Ça Va Brasserie**, was also recently recognized by the **Green Restaurant Association** for its dedication to the GRA's Seven Environmental Categories which includes water efficiency, waste reduction, and sustainable food. The 2-Star Certified restaurant is one of only 65 Green Certified Restaurants in all of New York.

As a brand, **InterContinental Hotels & Resorts (IHG)** recently launched a new online sustainability system called "**Green Engage**," assisting general managers across 4,000 hotels worldwide to manage hotel energy, water and waste consumption more effectively. The software allows hotels to input their onsite data, which generates reports comparing similar hotels around the world. The online lists for both new and current hotels show properties the specific actions they need to take to reduce their energy, water and waste. Every aspect of the hotel lifecycle is covered -- from picking a responsible destination, selecting correct lighting and cleaning materials for the hotel, and providing staff training on sustainability. Return on investment, carbon reduction and potential impact on customers is calculated for each action item suggested. Through "Green Engage," IHG will benefit by having a common environmental reporting and management system, while consumers will benefit by staying in hotels that are more environmentally friendly.

InterContinental New York Times Square offers a superb location on 44th Street in the heart of the Broadway Theater District, and a short stroll from Fifth Avenue shopping and world-class museums, making it an ideal location from which to explore the city. Opened in July 2010, the Times Square hotel features 36 stories with more than 600 rooms; Ça Va, a Todd English restaurant; 10,000 square feet of flexible meeting and event space, including a 4,000-square foot Gotham Ballroom, and 10 smaller meeting rooms on one designated floor.

For reservations or additional information, please call 1-877-331-5888 or visit www.interconny.com . For more information on the hotel's Green initiatives, visit www.interconny.com/New-York-Times-Square/Green-Initiatives.html.

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Notes to Editors:

About InterContinental Hotels & Resorts

InterContinental Hotels & Resorts has 171 hotels, located in more than 60 countries with local insight that comes from over 60 years of experience. At InterContinental we believe that superior, understated service and outstanding facilities are important, but what makes us truly different, is the genuine interest we show in our guests. Our desire is to help guests make the most of their time. We connect our well-travelled guests to what's special about a destination, by sharing our knowledge so they enjoy authentic experiences that will enrich their lives and broaden their outlook. For more information, visit www.intercontinental.com.

About IHG

IHG (InterContinental Hotels Group) [LON:IHG, NYSE:IHG (ADRs)] is a global company operating seven hotel brands including InterContinental® Hotels & Resorts, Hotel Indigo®, Crowne Plaza® Hotels & Resorts, Holiday Inn® Hotels and Resorts, Holiday Inn Express®, Staybridge Suites® and Candlewood Suites®. IHG also manages Priority Club® Rewards, the world's first and largest hotel loyalty programme with almost 60 million members worldwide.

IHG is the world's largest hotel group by number of rooms and franchises, leases, manages or owns over 4,400 hotels and more than 656,000 guest rooms in 100 countries and territories, and has more than 1,100 hotels in its development pipeline.

IHG expects to recruit around 160,000 people worldwide over the next few years and is committed to gender balance throughout its business. We aspire to continue retaining a minimum of 25% female representation on the Board.

InterContinental Hotels Group PLC is the Group's holding company and is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales.

Visit www.ihg.com for hotel information and reservations and www.priorityclub.com for more on Priority Club Rewards. For our latest news, visit www.ihg.com/media, [www.twitter.com/ihgplc](https://twitter.com/ihgplc) or www.youtube.com/ihgplc.

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