

THE WESTIN

MELBOURNE

the westin melbourne welcomes new director of sales & marketing

29 June 2009: The Westin Melbourne today welcomes new Director of Sales and Marketing Carl Leahy. Leahy will replace Anne Jamieson who has gone on to make her mark as Director of Sales at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre.

Leahy is returning to his home state of Victoria after three years as Director of Sales and Marketing at Australia's largest hotel, the 630 room Four Points by Sheraton, Darling Harbour, Sydney. During this time, he was instrumental in developing an award winning sales and marketing team. He has been recognised as a 'Best in Class' leader by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide. Other accolades achieved during his time there include winning Tourism NSW 'Best Deluxe Hotel' (2007) award and gaining recognition as the AHA (NSW) 'Function Venue of the Year' (2007).

Carl has more than 15 years international hotel management experience and holds substantial post-graduate business qualifications. General Manager, Mr Richard Bussiere said, "We are very impressed with the wealth of experience and knowledge Carl has to offer The Westin Melbourne and are looking forward to working with such an experienced executive."

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About The Westin Melbourne

The Westin Melbourne has become the most decorated Westin property in the world, receiving dozens of international, national and state accolades. Most recently the hotel has been voted 'Outstanding Marketed Hotel of the Year' by AHA in the Victoria Accommodation Hotels Awards for Excellence, *'Best Location'* and *'Best Service in the Business Category'* by Qantas Frequent Flyer members, recognised as Victoria's *'Best Luxury Hotel'* at the Victorian Tourism Awards for three years running and won the *'Best Luxury Hotel - South Pacific'* category in the TripAdvisor Travelers Choice Awards.

About Starwood Hotels & Resorts

Westin Hotels & Resorts, with 169 hotels and resorts in more than 31 countries and territories, is owned by Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. (NYSE: HOT).

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with 960 properties in 97 countries and 145,000 employees at its owned and managed properties. Starwood Hotels is a fully integrated owner, operator and franchisor of hotels, resorts and residences with the following internationally renowned brands: St. Regis®, The Luxury Collection®, W®, Westin®, Le Méridien®, Sheraton®, Four Points® by Sheraton, and the recently launched Aloft®, and Element SM. Starwood Hotels also owns Starwood Vacation Ownership, Inc., one of the premier developers and operators of high quality vacation interval ownership resorts. For more information, please visit www.starwoodhotels.com

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