

Press Release

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Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort and Spa wins sustainability award

The Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort and Spa, which is owned by the Commonwealth Property Hotel Fund, has been awarded a prestigious sustainability award announced at the Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific (HICAP) in Hong Kong on Friday 12th October.

The award recognises the very significant efforts the Fund manager, Colonial First State Global Asset Management and hotel manager, Marriott International, have made in reducing the hotel's water, waste and energy consumption, as well as its involvement in staff and community education programs on sustainability.

Peter Brampton, General Manager, Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort and Spa, said, "The Environmental Committee, chaired by the resort's Assistant Chief Engineer, Adam Lane, has operational responsibility for identifying, analysing, implementing and thereafter measuring the returns from innovative ideas to reduce the hotel's environmental impact."

Mr Brampton stated, "It is refreshing to work with a hotel owner that is focused on being at the forefront of environmental best practices and who thoroughly investigates and is prepared to invest in new machinery and equipment for environmental impact advantages.

"At the operational level the resort celebrates important environmental events, such as Earth Day and World Environment Day, and has encouraged staff and guests to participate in the hotel's sustainability efforts through various means, including the planting of a rare Wolemi Pine, which was up until recently thought to be extinct," Mr Brampton said.

"Over a 12 month period, the hotel reduced water consumption by almost 13,000 kilolitres, gas consumption by 1,000 giga-joules, and energy consumption by almost 1 million kilowatt hours. These are very significant achievements for a single property."

The resort has seen these substantial savings for energy, gas and water by implementing initiatives including:

- water flow controllers to all hotel rooms, kitchens and bars
- waterless urinals, saving 150,000 litres of water a year
- dual flush toilets in all hotel rooms and public areas
- recycling bins on every hotel floor
- staff towel dispensers saving 17,000 paper towels each week

- contractors to re-use chemical containers
- bio-bins for composting organic waste
- LED garden lights and the replacement of all existing globes with compact fluorescent globes and energy efficient long life globes
- Use of ozone in the on-site laundry, which requires no hot water, less water overall and less chemicals.

Mr Brampton stated, "The Fund has agreed to invest in new initiatives including a water treatment plant to improve the quality of harvested water from rain run-off and bores, to a level that will allow its use for irrigation, water features, and swimming pools. In addition, we are implementing Power Factor Correction on our electricity supply. This will improve the quality of power thereby reducing the energy necessary to provide ongoing power."

Mr van der Wallen, Fund Manager, of the Commonwealth Property Hotel Fund, praised the hotel operator Marriott for their systematic approach to reviewing environmental opportunities and their proactive stance.

Mr van der Wallen stated, "By investing in new plant and equipment the significant savings in power and water usage have also resulted in savings of over \$250,000 in the past 15 months. As such, the investment has not only been good for the environment but also for the Fund's unitholders' financial return.

About Surfers Paradise Resort & Spa

The Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort & Spa offers five star hotel accommodation, combining casual Queensland charm with superior international style.

Situated in the heart of the Gold Coast, the resort is just a short stroll from the famous beaches, shopping and nightlife of Surfers Paradise. It comprises 28 floors, 300 rooms, 30 suites and eight meeting rooms.

About Commonwealth Property Hotel Fund

The Commonwealth Property Hotel Fund is a closed-end wholesale property fund, which owns interests in four Marriott Hotels in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, and Surfers Paradise. The Fund is managed by Colonial First State Global Asset Management, Australia's largest asset manager of Australian-sourced funds, employing more than 190 investment professionals located in Sydney, London, Edinburgh, Singapore and Hong Kong.

The business manages more than A\$140 billion across a diverse range of asset classes including Australian and global shares; cash, fixed interest, and credit; property securities, hedge funds, direct property, private equity, global resources and infrastructure.

In February 2007, Colonial First State Global Asset Management became a signatory to the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment (UN PRI), a voluntary program which encourages best practice in environmental, social and corporate governance issues.

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For further information contact:

Malvina Zayats
Investor Communications Manager
Colonial First State Global Asset Management
Telephone: (02) 9303 6746

Peter Brampton
General Manager

Surfers Paradise Marriott Resort and Spa
Telephone: (07) 5592 9700