



CONTACT: WAGSTAFF WORLDWIDE, INC.

(For White Lodging)

Amber Holst

(312) 943-6900

amber@wagstaffworldwide.com

Starwood Hotels:

Roxanne Rabasco

(914) 640.3687

Roxanne.rabasco@starwoodhotels.com

SHERATON WARMLY WELCOMES TRAVELERS TO ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA

*Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel is Erie's First Waterfront Hotel,
Just Steps from the Bayfront Convention Center*

ERIE, PA (April 10, 2008) – Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. (NYSE: HOT) and White Lodging announce the opening of Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel, the first waterfront hotel to open in Erie, Pennsylvania. Opening on April 10, the new hotel introduces bold, modern style and a welcoming, interactive setting to the heart of Erie's Bayfront Marina District. The 200-room, eight-story property is the first Sheraton hotel in White Lodging's managed portfolio.

Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel is the companion piece to the Bayfront Convention Center. Guests will enjoy sweeping views of Lake Erie's Presque Isle Bay and the hotel's central location, ideal for business and weekend getaways. Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel is within walking distance from the downtown business and entertainment district and the Historic Warner Theater – home of the Erie Philharmonic Orchestra, Erie Broadway Series, Lake Erie Ballet and Erie Civic Music events. Erie is also home to the Erie Sea Wolves Double A baseball team, which plays at the Jerry Uht Ball Park. Guests can also enjoy day trips to nearby Pennsylvania wineries, ski resorts and local specialty boutiques.

An enclosed tower on the west end of the hotel provides elevator access and stairs to the Hotel Skywalk, which is 65 feet above water and 180 feet long, placing guests just steps from the new Bayfront Convention Center.

“Sheraton invites travelers to enjoy the relaxing water views and welcoming atmosphere of this conveniently located hotel,” said Hoyt Harper, Senior Vice President for Sheraton Hotels and Resorts. “Sheraton Erie Bayfront creates an ambience that is both sophisticated and comfortable

and a guest experience that is enhanced by superior service and the full range of the Sheraton brand's signature amenities.”

Guests are invited to relax with fellow travelers in the hotel's energetic and interactive lobby space. There, they will find the Link@Sheraton communications hub, which delivers the technology services guests expect while on the road, allowing them to check their email, research local attractions and print boarding passes.

The Sheraton Erie Bayfront offers a swimming pool, restaurant with a bar, indoor and outdoor dining, meeting rooms, an exercise room and whirlpool. Each of the property's 200 non-smoking guest rooms offers everything guests need for an inviting and relaxing stay including waterscapes and views of the marina or city. Rooms also come equipped with the signature Sheraton Sweet Sleeper(SM) Bed, flat screen TVs, wired/wireless connectivity, oversized workstations with ergonomic chairs, free guest laundry, and more.

To complete the experience, visitors can dine at the hotel's Bayfront Grille offering regionally fresh cuisine and breathtaking waterside views, making it an ideal spot for a business lunch or a leisurely evening out. The Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel will feature nearly 6,000 square feet of meeting space ideal for all types of social events, business functions and weddings. Intimate meeting and boardrooms are also available for smaller groups.

White Lodging is one of the fastest growing independent hospitality, development and management companies in the country, managing a portfolio of more than 127 mid- to large-scale hotels throughout the country. The Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel is White Lodging's first Sheraton brand property and marks the beginning of the company's ambitious growth plan of adding more than 100 new properties and \$1.5b in managed sales over the next five years.

The Sheraton Erie Bayfront Hotel is located at 55 West Bay Drive, Erie, PA 16507. Individual room reservations will be available on June 3, 2008 and will start at \$209 to \$229 a night. For more information and to make reservations, please call 814-454-2005 or visit www.starwood.com.

About White Lodging

Established in 1985 and headquartered in Merrillville, IN, White Lodging is a fully integrated developer, owner and manager of premium brand hotels – a recognized leader that consistently delivers superior leading brand hotel experiences and premium returns on investment among mid-to-large scale hotels across the country. With over 20 years of expertise and future development projects of \$1.5 billion over the next three to five years, White Lodging continues to break ground as one of the fastest growing independent hospitality companies in the country. Their managed portfolio of 127 hotels in seventeen states encompasses representation of the following leading brands: Marriott; Residence Inn by Marriott, Courtyard by Marriott, Fairfield Inn & Suites by Marriott; SpringHill Suites by Marriott; Renaissance; Radisson Hotels; Intercontinental Hotel Group; Hilton Garden Inn, Homewood Suites and Starwood. For more information about White Lodging Services, visit www.whitelodging.com.

About Starwood

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with approximately 900 properties in more than 100 countries and 155,000 employees at its owned and managed properties. Starwood Hotels is a fully integrated owner, operator and

franchisor of hotels and resorts with the following internationally renowned brands: St. Regis®, The Luxury Collection®, Sheraton®, Westin®, Four Points® by Sheraton, W®, Le Méridien® and the recently announced AloftSM and ElementSM Hotels. 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.

(Note: This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of federal securities regulations. Forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance or events and involve risks and uncertainties and other factors that may cause actual results or events to differ materially from those anticipated at the time the forward-looking statements are made. These risks and uncertainties are presented in detail in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Although we believe the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based upon reasonable assumptions, we can give no assurance that our expectations will be attained or that results and events will not materially differ. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.)

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**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT
WAGSTAFF WORLDWIDE, INC., (312) 943-6900**