



**For Immediate Release**

**GRAND HÔTEL STOCKHOLM ENTERS  
FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH  
INTERCONTINENTAL HOTELS & RESORTS**

*12<sup>th</sup> December 2007* – Grand Hôtel Stockholm is delighted to join the InterContinental Group as a franchisee, effective from January 2008.

As the only InterContinental hotel in Scandinavia, The Grand will retain its name and branding and will continue to run its highly acclaimed signature service, interior décor and food & beverage offerings independently under the franchise agreement, while making a strategic move to position itself globally by sharing the InterContinental's international sales and reservation system. In addition, The Grand will also continue its membership with The Leading Hotels of the World further strengthening its international presence.

CEO and Managing Director of Grand Hôtel Stockholm, Nils Axing says: *'We are pleased to strengthen the brand of Grand Hôtel Stockholm by joining one of the leading distribution systems and loyalty programmes in the industry. We very much look forward to further strengthening our international presence.'*

The Grand has witnessed a series of impressive developments since its opening 132 years ago, including the refurbishment of the newly acquired adjoining Burmanska Palace, The Princess Lilian Suite and renovated Cadier Bar in 2006, and four new meeting rooms and the opening of a new fine dining restaurant, *Mathias Dahlgren* in 2007. Looking ahead to 2008, Grand Hôtel Stockholm will be significantly developing its spa offering and is confident of a successful year with the support of one of the world's leading hotel groups.

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**Note to Editors:**

**About Grand Hôtel Stockholm ([www.grandhotel.se](http://www.grandhotel.se))**

*Grand Hôtel Stockholm is a landmark located next to the National Museum and opposite the Royal Palace and Old Town. The Parliament buildings and Royal Opera House are within view, the best shopping district is but five minutes away, and the docks for the archipelago are 25-metres from the hotel. Since 1901, the Nobel Prize laureates and their*

families have all been guests of The Grand and the list of royalty, heads of state and artists who have stayed is impressive. In the words of a famous past guest, "The Grand is where it happens".

The hotel has been a member of The Leading Hotels of the World since 1970 and is a subsidiary of Investor AB.

### **About IHG**

InterContinental Hotels Group PLC (IHG) of the United Kingdom [LON:IHG, NYSE:IHG (ADRs)] is the world's largest hotel group by number of rooms. IHG owns, manages, leases or franchises, through various subsidiaries, over 3,700 hotels and more than 558,000 guest rooms in nearly 100 countries and territories around the world. IHG owns a portfolio of well recognised and respected hotel brands including InterContinental® Hotels & Resorts, Crowne Plaza® Hotels & Resorts, Holiday Inn® Hotels and Resorts, Holiday Inn Express®, Staybridge Suites®, Candlewood Suites® and Hotel Indigo®, and also manages the world's largest hotel loyalty programme, Priority Club® Rewards with over 33 million members worldwide.

The company pioneered the travel industry's first collaborative response to environmental issues as founder of the International Hotels and Environment Initiative (IHEI). The IHEI formed the foundations of the Tourism Partnership launched by the International Business Leaders Forum in 2004, of which IHG is still a member today. The environment and local communities remain at the heart of IHG's global corporate responsibility focus.

IHG offers information and online reservations for all its hotel brands at [www.ihg.com](http://www.ihg.com) and information for the Priority Club Rewards programme at [www.priorityclub.com](http://www.priorityclub.com).

For the latest news from IHG, visit our online Press Office at [www.ihg.com/media](http://www.ihg.com/media)

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