



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Kathryn Potter, AH&LA
(kpotter@ahla.com)

Bob Hayes, BHN
(bhayes@burba.com)

ALIS AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

Most Noteworthy Hotel Investment Deals and Executives Honored

San Diego, January 26, 2011 — During yesterday's awards luncheon at the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS), executives and companies responsible for the most influential hotel industry deals in 2010 were honored with prestigious ALIS awards. Nominees are considered for the awards based on outstanding business performance in various industry sectors and determined by ALIS sponsors and delegates. This year's winners included:

Development of the Year 2010

- The 878-room JW Marriott, 123-room Ritz-Carlton and 224 Ritz-Carlton Residences at the Marriott Complex at L.A. LIVE – Los Angeles, California, developed at a cost of \$1 billion by the Anschutz Entertainment Group and managed by Marriott International, Inc.

Single Asset Transaction of the Year 2010

- Omni Hotels & Resorts purchase of the 249-room Amelia Island Plantation – Amelia Island, Florida, for \$67.1 million or approximately \$269,000 per room at bankruptcy auction, from Amelia Island Company.

Merger & Acquisition of the Year 2010

- A consortium led by Centerbridge Partners, Paulson & Co., and The Blackstone Group completed the acquisition of Extended Stay Hotels for approximately \$3.9 billion.

Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year 2010

- Robert J. Webster, *Managing Director*, Hodges Ward Elliott

John C. Portman, Jr., chairman of John Portman & Associates, Inc., Portman Holdings, LLC, and AmericasMart, also was honored with the prestigious **Lifetime Achievement Award**.

Co-hosted by the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA) and Burba Hotel Network (BHN), the two-and-a-half-day ALIS event features an extensive array of seminars and panels hosted by leading experts and investors discussing important trends and identifying new opportunities. The conference attracts the lodging industry's leading hotel executives, investors, lenders, developers, and professional advisory community. Proceeds from ALIS benefit the educational, research, and training missions of the Educational Institute (EI) of the American Hotel & Lodging Education Foundation (AH&LEF), AH&LA's nonprofit affiliate.

#

About the ALIS Hosts

Serving the hospitality industry for a century, **AH&LA** is the sole national association representing all sectors and stakeholders in the lodging industry, including individual hotel property members, hotel companies, student and faculty members, and industry suppliers. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., AH&LA provides members with national advocacy on Capitol Hill, public relations and image management, education, research and information, and other value-added services to provide bottom line savings and ensure a positive business climate for the lodging industry. Partner state associations provide local representation and additional cost-saving benefits to members.

AH&LEF is the charitable fund-raising and endowed fund-management subsidiary of the American Hotel & Lodging Association. Founded in 1953, AH&LEF is the premier organization for scholarships, professional certification, and instructional material as well as funding for hospitality industry research.

BHN is the worldwide leader in developing and organizing conferences for the hotel and tourism investment community. With more than two decades of experience, over 80 events completed or in production to-date, and more than 60,000 international delegates, BHN conferences have become "must attend" events for industry leaders who come together to network, conduct business and to learn about the latest trends. BHN events include: the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) in San Diego; the ALIS Summer Update in Los Angeles; the Caribbean Hotel & Resort Investment Summit (CHRIS) in Miami; the Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific (HICAP) in Hong Kong; HICAP Update Southeast Asia in Singapore; HICAP Update Japan in Tokyo; the Hotel Investment Forum India (HIFI) in Mumbai; the new Hotel Opportunities Latin America (HOLA) conference in Miami; and the new Hotel Investment Conference Europe (Hot.E) in London. The BHN website at www.Burba.com is the gateway for information about the conferences BHN produces, as well as a direct link to important players in the hospitality investment world.