

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Orlando World Center Marriott Resort & Convention Center Receives Two Palm Designation in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Green Lodging Program

ORLANDO, Fla., July 8, 2009 – The premier and eco-savvy 2,000-room Orlando World Center Marriott Resort & Convention Center recently received the distinguished Two Palm status in the Florida Department of Environmental Protection’s *Green Lodging Program*. “*Adopting effective eco-practices is a winning combination for everyone,*” stated Tim Pyne, director of sales and marketing at the Orlando World Center Marriott Resort & Convention Center. “*Collectively our guests, meeting planners and staff are all participants in making a positive difference to preserve the environment while saving resources.*”

An overwhelming 380.55 tons of recycled material in 2008 saved 3,186 trees. In addition, Hawk’s Landing Golf Course proudly received Audubon Bird Sanctuary Certification. From green key cards to earth friendly towels, the Orlando World Center Marriott’s eco-friendly initiatives are garnering respect from guests and planners across the globe.

The voluntary state initiative provides the lodging industry with free technical assistance, encouraging hotels and motels to adopt cost-saving “green” practices that reduce waste, conserve natural resources and improve the bottom line. Facilities can achieve up to three levels of green within the Florida *Green Lodging Program* ranging from One Palm to Three Palm based on increased reductions in waste, water and energy consumption.

To become a designated member of the Florida *Green Lodging Program*, hotels must implement a variety of green practices. These practices include, but are not limited to, water conservation measures through low flow plumbing fixtures and a linen reuse program, and energy efficiency achieved by installing ENERGY STAR® appliances and programmable thermostats. The waste reduction criteria are met by providing the

opportunity to recycle, purchasing items in bulk, purchasing recycled materials and by recycling ink and toner cartridges. All designated members of the Florida *Green Lodging* Program must also use green cleaners and high efficiency air filters, and clean air handler units frequently. (SOURCE: Florida Department of Environmental Protection)

The award-winning meeting destination is home to an impressive 450,000 square-feet of event space almost entirely on one level and under one roof. It also boasts a diverse array of outstanding amenities and services including: 2,000 beautifully designed guest rooms and suites, most with spacious balconies; 10 restaurants and lounges; Marriott's Signature Red Coat Program, 18-hole championship golf course and a full service spa and fitness center.

The Orlando World Center Marriott Resort & Convention Center is located within minutes of the Orlando International Airport and a host of major attractions. For more information, please call **407-239-4200**, or visit **www.marriottworldcenter.com**.

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