



Press Release – Embargo 7am Thursday 17th December 2009

Carlton Hotel Group adds Tralee hotel to expanding portfolio

The Carlton Hotel Group, Ireland's fastest growing hotel group, has moved into the lucrative Kerry tourism market by taking-over Fels Point Hotel, Tralee.

The Chairman & CEO of the Carlton Hotel Group, Michael Kearney, said: *"We are pleased to add a Tralee location to our expanding portfolio of hotels and we will bring our extensive range of group benefits to the property going forward. Even in this challenging period for the hospitality industry we see strong potential for growth in the Group and we expect to enter into further deals of this type both here in Ireland and in Europe."*

Carlton Hotel Tralee brings to 10 the number of hotels in the Carlton Group portfolio; it currently employs over 900 staff and offers over up to 1,365 rooms. All properties are situated in stunning locations throughout Ireland including Kinsale, Westport, Galway, Bunclody, Donegal, Dublin, Kildare. New additions earlier in the year were Carlton Castletroy Park Hotel in Limerick & Carlton Hotel Galway City (formerly Days Hotel) where the Carlton Brand is already proving a tremendous success to both hotels.

The General Manager at the re-branded Carlton Hotel Tralee, Thys Vogels, said: *"We are delighted to have the Carlton Group on board and we see it as a premium brand which offers unique knowledge of the Irish Market that will strengthen and improve our already successful hotel."*

Since it opened as Fels Point Hotel on June 1st 2007, the hotel has enjoyed great trading success and international recognition as the home to the world famous Rose of Tralee International Festival. The Carlton Group has also been a major sponsor of the Rose of Tralee since 2008 providing luxurious hospitality to the Roses at many of the Carlton Hotels throughout the country.

Located only 15 minutes from Kerry Airport, Carlton Hotel Tralee employs 88 people on a full and part-time basis. These jobs have been secured going forward and all existing bookings & deposits will be honoured.

The Carlton brand is renowned for leisure breaks, business meetings and local family occasions from christenings to weddings. For reservations and more details of the amazing value and offers available at Carlton Hotel Tralee please go to www.carlton.ie/tralee

For further information or interview requests please contact John Drummey Communications on 087-7909487 or info@JohnDrummey.ie