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The International Hotel takes hospitality to another level

- Rochester luxury hotel unveils 10th floor expansion -

Rochester, Minn. (August 14, 2008) – The International Hotel, Rochester’s premier luxury property, will open its doors for a special sneak preview of their newly expanded suites. On September 3 and 4, from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. at Lord Essex Tavern in the Kahler Grand Hotel lobby, a reception will be held that will feature complimentary refreshments from the International’s gourmet menu, and guided tours of the suites.

“People are constantly asking to see the new suites,” said Bruce Fairchild, the hotel’s regional director of operations. “In fact, most of Rochester has not had a chance to see the International Hotel at all. The completion of the expansion seemed an ideal opportunity to invite the community to take a look at what we’re doing here at the hotel and to see the role that Rochester plays in the growing medical tourism industry.”

During the two-day unveiling reception, all of Rochester is invited to tour the renovated suites. Group and personal tours available: September 3 and 4, from 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Group tours will depart multiple times daily from Lord Essex Tavern in the Kahler Grand Hotel lobby. To schedule an appointment for a personal tour, call (507) 285-2743.

The 11th floor International Hotel was built in 2006 as the 25-room penthouse of the Kahler Grand Hotel. Since then, a considerable rise in the demand for luxury medical travel accommodations lead the hotel to expand its offerings. In late 2007, renovations began that have extended the International Hotel to occupy most of the Kahler Hotel’s 10th floor, adding 20 new suites and nearly doubling the square footage of the property.

Inbound medical travel projections are on the rise. According to the Deloitte Center for Health Solutions, an estimated 400,000 non-U.S. residents will seek care in the United States in 2008. During their stay, these travelers will spend nearly \$5 billion for health related services. Unlike outbound travelers, cost is seldom of concern for inbound medical tourists. These affluent consumers are seeking the highest quality care, latest technology and most progressive treatment options. Similarly, the International is continuously seeking innovations in the ways to best care for this type of guest.

Merging wellness with luxury, the International’s updated amenities add convenience and comfort. In addition to the International’s signature walk-in showers, European-style bidets and plush furnishings, the new suites will boast accessibility-conscious layouts, heightened attention to furniture design for those with limited mobility, hypo-allergenic 600-count Egyptian cotton linens, heated bathroom floors, and more.

“The new suites of the International were developed to provide an enhanced wellness sanctuary; a soothing atmosphere where guests can be indulged in the simple pleasures during their stay in Rochester,” said Fairchild.

For media inquiries, contact Julie Kent at 414-224-9424 or julie@ebadvertising.com.

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The International Hotel, operated by Sunstone Hotel Properties, a division of Interstate Hotels & Resorts, delivers luxury facilities, services and amenities for guests from around the world. Located at the top floor of the Kahler Grand Hotel, the AAA Four-Diamond International was designed keeping travelers visiting the Mayo Clinic in mind. One of five sister properties surrounding the Mayo Clinic, the International Hotel completes the companies portfolio in Rochester, which provides for every preference and travel occasion. Visit www.InternationalHotelMN.com for more information.