

CARLSON HOTELS APPOINTS VASSO ZOGRAPHOU AS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER FOR ASIA PACIFIC

SINGAPORE (Jan. 9, 2012) - Carlson, a global hospitality and travel company, today announced the appointment of Vasso Zographou as executive vice president and chief financial officer for Carlson Hotels, Asia Pacific. Vasso will report directly to Simon Barlow, president, Carlson Hotels, Asia Pacific, and will oversee the financial management of Carlson Hotels in Asia Pacific and play a key role as part of the Asia Pacific leadership team in driving Carlson's growth strategy. Vasso's appointment marks another significant step in Carlson's focus to strengthen its capabilities to support its plan of doubling its hotel portfolio in the region by 2015.

"Vasso is a valuable addition to the Asia Pacific leadership team, especially as we are stepping up our efforts to expand strategically in the region," said Simon C. Barlow, president, Carlson Hotels, Asia Pacific. "He brings extensive experience and credentials, having had more than 20 years of hospitality experience in advisory, transactional and asset management roles."



Vasso was most recently the joint managing director of Horwath HTL Australia. He has vast experience throughout the region in hotel transactions, hotel asset management and a range of advisory services including hotel feasibility studies and operational reviews. He is also a Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants and of the Finance & Securities Institute of Australia.

About Carlson

Carlson is a global hospitality and travel company headquartered in Minneapolis, Minn. Carlson encompasses more than 1,070 hotels, including Radisson®, Country Inns & Suites By CarlsonSM, Park Inn by Radisson and Park Plaza®; more than 909 T.G.I. Friday's® restaurants; and a majority stake in Carlson Wagonlit Travel®, the global leader in business travel management. Carlson operates in more than 164 countries and its brands employ about 170,000 people. <http://www.carlson.com>

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