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City News



The Arte – A Masterpiece of
Modern Living

CDL Records Second
Highest Earnings since 1963

CDL Achieves SQC
Certification

Artist's Impression

THE **ARTE**
AT THOMSON A COVETED
MASTERPIECE OF
MODERN LIVING

CDL's latest 336-unit freehold development, The Arte at Thomson, has become a prized possession for home buyers in search for luxury city-living in the well-located Thomson vicinity. About 75% of the 180 units released were sold to enthusiastic buyers impressed with The Arte at Thomson's excellent location, beautifully-

designed living spaces, luxurious fittings and finishes and well-thought out amenities. Given its unrivalled proximity to good schools, food, shopping, MRT lines and major thoroughfares with a wealth of recreational activities in a green setting, buyers would certainly enjoy the best of living next to the city centre with no compromise in living standards.

The exquisite show suites were buzzing with visits from potential home buyers. At an average early bird selling price of S\$880 per square foot, with interest absorption scheme also extended to buyers for a limited period at no additional cost, The Arte at

Thomson was considered by many as a good buy indeed as purchasers could enjoy all the benefits of a freehold, exceptionally located and luxuriously finished development at a very attractive price. A majority of the units were purchased by Singaporeans for owner occupation and for investment.

Designed by renowned founding principal and design director Chan Soo Khian, of his award-winning architectural firm – SCDA Architects Pte Ltd, The Arte at Thomson comprises two stunning 36-storey towers of sculptured elegance, embodying a modernistic architectural approach softened by flowing lines and subtle curvature. Surrounded by a sprawling landscaped garden, the development offers complete condominium facilities with elevated apartments and generous balconies that fully capture the glorious views of MacRitchie Reservoir, the Singapore Polo Club and the stunning city skyline.

With a choice of units from 2-bedrooms to 4-bedrooms, Sky Suites and Sky Villas, The Arte at Thomson is poised to define a new perspective in contemporary city living. Living spaces have been designed to the finest of details. Full height windows allow light to illuminate the spacious interiors of elegant simplicity. Every apartment is finished to high standards of refinement, blending natural elements such as timber and marble with contemporary materials to craft exquisite forms. The fully-furnished modern kitchen comes complete with cooker hood, hob and electrical oven from Bosch and a refrigerator. The bathrooms feature European designed fittings including a Vitra long bath and Hansgrohe tap and shower fittings.

Residents will appreciate the thoughtfulness behind the beautifully groomed gardens, which feature a Water Court Garden, Yoga Court, Reflexology Walk, Eco Pond and an almost 500-metre long Garden Walk. Fitness buffs



Apartments and penthouses enjoy panoramic vistas of the city skyline, MacRitchie Reservoir and Singapore Polo Club.



Urban luxury – living spaces designed to the finest of detail.

can enjoy the Lap Pool, Cabana Pool Deck, Sun Deck and Tennis Court, or work out either in the fully-equipped indoor Work-Out Room or the outdoor Work-Out Station. Wireless hotspots around the pool area allow residents to stay connected to the Internet or the office.

The Novena and Toa Payoh MRT stations are within strolling distance and there are also exit roads to both Thomson Road and Balestier Road. The Arte at Thomson is surrounded by shopping malls nearby such as Novena Square, United Square and the HDB Hub; and the Orchard shopping area is mere minutes away. CHIJ Toa Payoh is within easy access at less than a kilometre away. Other top-notch schools in close proximity include SJI International School, St. Joseph's Institution, Catholic Junior College and Pei Chun Public School.

To discover how to live it up in the city, please call [6253-7337](tel:6253-7337) or [6253-6996](tel:6253-6996).

CDL RECORDS SECOND HIGHEST EARNINGS SINCE INCEPTION IN 1963

The CDL Group achieved revenue of S\$2,945.2 million (2007: S\$3,106.1 million) and posted after-tax profit attributable to shareholders of S\$580.9 million (2007: S\$725.0 million) for the year ended 31 December 2008. The Group's net profits which are core earnings, showed a creditable performance given the severe economic conditions that it operated during 2008. Its results are the second highest achieved since its inception in 1963.

The decrease in earnings was largely due to lower contribution from the Group's subsidiary, Millennium and Copthorne Hotels plc (M&C) hotel operations as a result of a strong Singapore dollar against the Sterling Pound which had a significant impact when the exchange rate translation was factored in the consolidation at the Group level. M&C also took in impairment charges relating to its joint-venture investments in Beijing and Bangkok and some of its assets in Asia, UK and US.

The Group's property development segment continued to be the main contributor to its core earnings. Profits have also yet

to be recognised fully from its pre-sold residential developments as these projects are still in the early stage of construction. These healthy gains have been locked in and will be booked in progressively based on the construction progress.

Rental properties segment had shown a further improvement of 2.0% on top of last year's profit which had benefited from S\$75.0 million of reversals of impairment provisions. This year, the rental properties segment benefited from the sale of Commerce Point and higher occupancy during the year.

Whilst the credit market has tightened, the Group continued to maintain a healthy balance sheet. Net gearing ratio was at 48.0% (2007: 48.0%) with interest cover of 11.0 times (2007: 10.5 times). Had the Group adopted a revaluation policy on its investment properties, its net gearing ratio would be 32.0%.

CREDITABLE PERFORMANCE DESPITE CHALLENGING ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

Financial Highlights – 10-Year Analysis

	1999	2000#	2001#	2002	2003	2004#	2005	2006	2007	2008
Revenue (S\$)	2,015m	2,626m	2,227m	2,289m	2,326m	2,380m	2,374m	2,547m	3,106m	2,945m
Profit before tax (S\$)	513m	546m	139m	243m	214m	503m	404m	692m	955m	834m
PATMI (S\$)	383m	287m	54m	151m	152m	227m	200m	352m	725m	581m
Net Debt Equity Ratio*	0.54	0.76	0.86	0.80	0.64	0.55	0.50	0.40	0.48	0.48
Return on equity	11.1%	7.3%	1.4%	3.9%	3.3%	5.2%	4.4%	7.4%	13.9%	10.7%
NAV per share (S\$)	4.28	4.86	4.71	4.82	5.56	4.99	5.12	5.21	5.72	5.97
EPS - Basic (cents)	47.8	35.8	6.7	18.9	18.8	25.3	20.8#	37.0	78.3	62.5
Dividends (cents/share)										
- Final Ordinary Dividend	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5	7.5
- Total Special Dividends	-	-	-	-	50.0	-	5.0	17.5	22.5	-
- Preference Dividend	-	-	-	-	-	2.19	3.9	3.9	3.9	3.9

* No revaluation

Restated

“Depending on how quickly the global economy recovers, the Group is confident that with good management strategies in place, its sheer tenacity and resilient spirit will help tide it through this year; and the Group expects to continue to perform profitably.”

Mr Kwek Leng Beng,
Executive Chairman, CDL

DIVERSIFYING FINANCIAL STREAM THROUGH SINGAPORE'S FIRST CORPORATE SUKUK-IJARAH

The Group pioneered Singapore's corporate Sukuk-Ijarah through the establishment of a S\$1 billion unsecured Islamic Trust Certificate Programme. It was able to do so because it has a diversified portfolio of assets and had the advantage to extract appropriate assets which have to be Shariah compliant to tap on these new investors and diversify its financing stream. The company has issued S\$100 million in notes under this programme in January 2009. It plans to embark on a second tranche.

In parallel, the Group had also upsized one of its existing Medium Term Note Programmes from S\$700 million to S\$1.5 billion. This fund-raising exercise adds another dimension to the Group's financial strength by providing flexibility to meet the Group's financing and working capital requirements as well as enhancing its war-chest to seize potential investment opportunities at the appropriate time.

CORPORATE UPDATES ON KEY ISSUES*

- **Low stock of unsold inventory of launched projects**
Only 142 units are left of the Group's share of already launched developments. Less than 10% of these units are for the high-end market and the remainder is for the mid and mass market.
- **Limited exposure to Deferred Payment Scheme (DPS) buyers**
An estimated 30% of units sold were under this scheme. The Group does not extend DPS to subsales. Notwithstanding the current market conditions, and considering the land cost of those pre-sold developments, the Group believes the situation has not arisen to warrant any alarming concern on DPS buyers defaulting.
- **Deferred construction of South Beach**
As announced in Q3 2008, the Group in consultation with its joint-venture partners have deferred the construction of its South Beach development until building costs come down further which will make the project even more attractive when market conditions improve. The joint-venture partners are engaged in discussions with the consortium's banks to extend its loan for the land.

PROSPECTS FOR 2009

- **Adoption of a “3P” approach**
The Group will adopt a “3P” approach: *Prudence* in the management of expenses, *Pragmatism* in undertaking risks and opportunities for continued profitability, and *Patience* in riding out this difficult period.
- **Singapore remains an excellent city to live, work, play and invest**
The Group remains optimistic on Singapore's prospects. Given Singapore's strong fundamentals and the dedication shown by the Government in its recent extraordinary 2009 budget, it is confident that Singapore has the ammunition to ensure that her economy will be one of the first to emerge from this recession stronger.

* Information as at 26 February 2009



A REFRESHING LOOK FOR CDL ANNUAL REPORT 2008

CDL embarks on a personable and light-hearted disposition for its Annual Report this year with graphic illustrations fronting its design aesthetics. The theme *A Greater Affinity* resounds CDL's larger existence beyond the walls of shaping landscapes. This corporate publication reports on CDL's financial and business performance as well as shares the company's efforts in

establishing greater affinities with the community and the environment where it operates.

The messages are exemplified in an amiable fashion via freestyle illustrations, giving the Annual Report a fresh and friendly aura while bringing a smile to the faces of our readers in the midst of today's economic uncertainty.

Visit www.cdl.com.sg to download your copy of *A Greater Affinity*.

CDL ACHIEVES SINGAPORE QUALITY CLASS CERTIFICATION

IMPROVING WORK PROCESSES FOR BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AND A HIGH PERFORMANCE ORGANISATION

In a challenging operating environment where competition today is global and intense, organisations strive for world-class standards of business excellence to achieve a competitive edge for themselves. Business excellence involves being vision-driven, strategic, value-focused, responsive, adaptable, efficient and customer-centred.

Towards this purpose, CDL embarked on a rigorous six-month mission which involved all operational functions at its headquarters to adopt, align and integrate its approach to managing a business for excellence. The dedication of the CDL management and its employees came into fruition when CDL achieved the Singapore Quality Class (SQC) certification awarded by SPRING Singapore in February 2009. As the national standards and accreditation body, SPRING Singapore also develops and promotes internationally-recognised standards and quality assurance to enhance competitiveness and facilitate trade.



Based on the internationally benchmarked business excellence framework, CDL was evaluated on its approach to seven broad disciplines, namely, leadership, planning, information, people, processes, customers and results.

Points were awarded for CDL top and senior management's leadership in developing and managing a high performance organisation

as well as how the company discharges its responsibilities to the community and the environment. Operational functions such as project development, property and facilities management, customer service, marketing and leasing were assessed on their key processes for innovation, production and delivery, customer as well as supplier partnership management.

SQC assessors also reviewed the strategies and mechanisms deployed to develop employees potential, promote team work

and involvement as well as how CDL's vision, mission and shared values are embraced by one and all within the organisation.

These accomplishments bode well for CDL. The SQC award affirms CDL's sound management strategies and its stride towards greater business excellence and long term sustainability.



A happy, dynamic and highly-committed workforce – CDL, the company of choice for employees.

Our Vision:

To maintain industry leadership in innovation, product quality, service standards, profitability and corporate social responsibility.

Our Mission:

For Customers:

To offer quality and innovative products, unsurpassed service and value for money.

For Investors:

To maintain profitability and optimum returns for their investment.

For Employees:

To maximise the potential of staff and care for their personal well being and career development.

For Contractors / Suppliers:

To select based on quality work and their ability to complement our commitment to environment, health and safety.

For the Community:

To serve the community we operate in so as to create a better place for all, especially caring for the less fortunate, enhancing youth development, promoting the arts and conserving the environment.

Our Core Values:

Competent | Committed | Creative | Co-operative | Caring



Artist's Impression

9 Tampines Grande will boast the largest use of thermal solar and photovoltaic panels measuring some 2,080m² installed on the roofs and facades of a single development in Singapore.

Innovation is key at CDL. Besides pioneering refreshing new living concepts such as i-Homes, Home office, eco-homes, branded residences, CDL is also leading the green revolution. It has been taking bold steps in implementing innovative green designs and state-of-the-art technology for its developments, ensuring that when a customer invests in a CDL property, they are also investing in a green home or office.

CHAMPIONING BEST PRACTICES IN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

MORE THAN PRODUCT QUALITY AND INNOVATION, CDL HAS CONTINUALLY SET BENCHMARKS IN ENVIRONMENTAL, HEALTH AND SAFETY (EHS) PRACTICES AT ITS WORKSITES THROUGH QUARTERLY EHS SEMINARS AND AUDITS. CDL ALSO ADVOCATES BEST PRACTICES IN PROJECT MANAGEMENT AMONG INDUSTRY PLAYERS BEYOND SINGAPORE'S SHORES.



From left: Mr Eddie Wong, CDL General Manager and Head, Projects Division, Mr Frederic Perez, Dragages Project Director, Guest of Honour Mr Ho Siong Hin, Divisional Director for Occupational Safety and Health, Ministry of Manpower, Mr Masanobu Shinoda, Kajima Vice Managing Director and Mr Chia Ngiang Hong, CDL Group General Manager at the CDL 5-Star EHS Excellence Award Presentation Ceremony.

SPURRING OUR BUILDERS TOWARDS EHS EXCELLENCE

Since 2001, CDL has continually raised the bar to spur its builders to be environmentally, health and safety-conscious and to improve their EHS practices at all CDL worksites. CDL achieves this by way of quarterly inspections and independent audits of its builders' activities in areas such as energy and water conservation, safety,

noise and waste management and public health. The results of the audits as well as best EHS practices are shared with all builders and consultants during a peer learning session known as the "CDL 5-Star EHS Seminar" held quarterly to encourage better performance in the next review.

To encourage builders to strive for consistently high audit scores all year through, CDL presents an annual EHS Excellence Award. In addition, it also introduced a monetary reward as an added incentive for its builders who have clinched international and national-level EHS awards.

Experts from government agencies are also invited to attend and speak on issues pertinent to the real estate industry during the CDL 5-Star EHS Seminar. At the recent 31st 5-Star EHS Seminar held on 11 February 2009 in conjunction with the 5-Star EHS Excellence Award Ceremony, its Guest of Honour Mr Ho Siong Hin, Divisional Director for Occupational

CDL 5-Star EHS Excellence Award 2009

EHS Certificate of Excellence

- Dragages (for The Arte)
- Kajima (for Cliveden at Grange)
- Kajima (for City Square Mall)

EHS Monetary Reward

- Tiong Seng Contractors (for Tribeca)
- Woh Hup (for City Square Residences)

Safety and Health at the Ministry of Manpower, spoke on the "Pledge for Zero" CEO Charter initiative which saw top level representatives pen their commitment to this charter that aims for zero injuries at worksites. He noted the significant and influential step taken by CDL to get its builders on board this initiative.

Mr Ho praised CDL for its commendable role in Workplace Safety and Health (WSH), which includes the implementation of WSH best practices and safety systems at all its projects; influencing builders and helping them improve their EHS performance through the quarterly audits; and positioning EHS leaders at the working level to champion safety practices amongst workers on the ground.

SHARING BEST PRACTICES WITH OVERSEAS DELEGATES

CDL was honoured to be invited by the Singapore authorities to share the company's strategic thrusts in project management with two overseas delegations in February 2009. The delegations, comprising top government officials from the Sino-Singapore Tianjin Eco-city Administrative Committee and regional occupational safety and health specialists from the ASEAN-OSHNET (ASEAN Occupational Safety and Health Network), visited Singapore to seek best EHS practices. Two CDL developments, namely, City Square Residences and The Quayside Collection - Residential, were selected to showcase innovative building systems and engineering technology as well as responsible site management systems.



In addition to excellent EHS practices on site, City Square Residences has been awarded the highest CONQUAS (Construction Quality Assessment System) score to-date by the Building and Construction Authority.



A PINNACLE OF DISTINCTION – RoSPA GOLD

CDL clinched the highly coveted RoSPA (Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents) Gold Award for the fourth consecutive year. This is a remarkable achievement as CDL is the only private property developer in Singapore to be conferred the Gold Award for outstanding occupational health and safety management since 2006.

Occupational safety and health specialists from ASEAN-OSHNET visited The Quayside Collection - Residential, CDL's upcoming landmark development at Sentosa Cove.

THE ART OF FINE DINING AT TOWER CLUB

A breathtaking experience awaits true epicureans with the transformation of the two dining levels – Atlantic and Ba Xian – at the celebrated Tower Club Singapore. With its central location, stupendous views and the finest in facilities and services, this premier private business club located on the three penthouse floors of CDL's flagship Republic Plaza, in the hub of the business district, is recognised as the setting for business and social entertainment unmatched elsewhere in Singapore.



Luxuriate in sophistication at Atlantic Dining Room, which plays host to Tower Club's specially-commissioned art piece, "The Emanation" by Ron Seivertson – a blown glass artwork of the Phalaenopsis Orchid which embraces life, movement and beauty.

HEIGHT OF SOPHISTICATION AT ATLANTIC

Set on the 62nd floor of the 280-metre high Republic Plaza, the Atlantic Dining Room was conceptualised to exude luxury in every way to give distinguished Members and their guests who hail from the top echelons of the business community, a sense of being at the peak in terms of height and indulgence.

The rejuvenated Ba Xian (Eight Immortals) Dining Room boasts an opulent décor that draws its inspiration subtly from Chinese artistic and literary traditions.



"Atlantic is designed to articulate treasure, to signify a taste for beauty and sensual dining pleasure," explains interior designer Lea Andrea Dato of James Park Associates, whose portfolio of hospitality and luxury transportation projects includes palaces, resorts, urban hotels and luxury cruise trains.

Golden accents are highlighted throughout the Atlantic's main dining hall, from the plush carpets to the backdrop of the walls and ceiling. Stepping into the dining room, one is immediately drawn to the intriguing Trinity Pendant Lights hanging from the ceiling top. Inspired by the Cartier ring, the interlocking rings express the dynamic trio of Gold, Rose and White Gold accompanied with glass crystal studs. Signifying a continuous body of magnificence, the 'Trinity' also represents the harmony of the Club's three outlets, namely Atlantic, Ba Xian and Straits Bar.

Keeping in line with the essence of opulence, a wine display houses all the finest labels of

the Club and the Members' Private Reserve, designed with a floating effect. All furniture is custom made and upholstered with the finest fabrics and highly-treated wood, giving justice to the luxurious feel of the room, while floor-to-ceiling glass windows showcase views of the city skyline.

Atlantic Dining Room offers a spread of unique contemporary dishes conceptualised by the award-winning Executive Chef Edward Voon,

whose list of accolades includes Best New Asian Chef of the Year (2004), Top Ten Most Innovative Chef around the World (2007), and the Louis Vuitton Black Collar Man of the Year (2007).

REDEFINING ORIENTAL LUXURY AT BA XIAN

Just as the Eight Immortals need an elixir to revitalise themselves, so did the much revered Ba Xian, Tower Club's beloved Cantonese restaurant which underwent a refreshing makeover. Ba Xian now boasts an opulent décor that draws its inspiration subtly from Chinese artistic and literary traditions, in lines of contemporising the restaurant and appealing to a design-conscious clientele.

The main thematic motifs permeating the interior are the four plants traditionally representing the Chinese seasons – orchid, bamboo, plum and chrysanthemum – which were chosen for their steeped significance and association with Chinese art. The focal point in the restaurant is the four wine chillers which represent the four seasons and are decorated with patterns laser-cut in metal.

The restaurant's colour scheme takes its palette from various shades of jade and also hues of amber and turquoise. To round off the luxurious feel, emblems of the Eight Immortals, after whom



Entertain in prestige and elegance in one of the private dining rooms.

the restaurant is named, are embedded on a huge mirror. Custom-designed, hand-tufted silk carpets with embossed patterns line the floor while the walls are covered with panels done in sand-carved glass back painted in gold leaf. The custom-made furniture is contemporary Western but given an Eastern twist in the finest finishes.

This extensive facelift was conceptualised by Lea Dato of JPA Design, the well-known consultancy behind Singapore Airlines' new A380 and B777 premium cabins, the resurrection of New York's Pierre Hotel, the Orient Express and the upcoming St. Regis Hotel & Residences in Jakarta. "The departure from traditional Orientalism," explains Ms Dato, "was the main challenge we set ourselves – attaining the right balance between a recognisable palette of Chinese motifs and the desired contemporary aesthetic."

Against this lush setting, fine dining experience is redefined with Executive Chef Wan Chung Hang at the helm. Ba Xian features Chinese regional delicacies, specialising in Cantonese cuisine. Complete with six cosy private dining rooms, Ba Xian proves to be the perfect setting for social and corporate gatherings.

For the pleasure of membership at Singapore's premier private business club, please contact Tower Club's Membership Department at **6725 7003** or **6725 7005** for an appointment.

FULL YEAR PERFORMANCE FOR M&C AND CDL HOSPITALITY TRUSTS



The award-winning Grand Millennium Beijing has played host to many international and star-studded events since its opening in 2008.

MILLENNIUM & COPTHORNE HOTELS PLC

Revenue in 2008 was up for the London-based Millennium & Copthorne Hotels plc (M&C) despite a bleak global economy, marking its fifth consecutive year of positive revenue and profit. The Group's revenue rose 5.0% to £702.9 million and RevPAR in reported currency improved by a healthy 7.6% to £57.19. However, in constant currency, the Group's revenue fell by 1.2% while RevPAR increased by 1.9%. The Group maintained a strong balance sheet and gearing remained low at 16.4%, compared to 18.3% in December 2007.

M&C is bracing for rough waters ahead, with an expected dip in global travel. However, with a prudent approach to acquisitions, divestments and a sound financing structure, the Group is confident in its ability to weather out the storm.

"I believe that with a continued policy of tough, prudent and analytical management, we can steer our ship through the roughest waters," said M&C Chairman Kwek Leng Beng. "When calm returns to the world economic scene – as eventually it must – we will have secured an enviable competitive position from which we may exploit the best commercial opportunities that become available."

M&C opened seven new hotels in 2008 – one in Beijing, another two in China operating under franchise agreements and four in the Middle East region operating under management contracts. Since then, a new managed hotel in Sheffield, United Kingdom, has been opened and a management contract for two hotels has been signed in Liverpool. As at 31 December 2008, M&C had 103 hotels operational and 17 hotels in the pipeline to be managed under M&C's brands.

CDL HOSPITALITY TRUSTS

CDL Hospitality Trusts, a stapled group comprising CDL Hospitality Real Estate Investment Trust (H-Reit) – Singapore's first H-Reit – and CDL Hospitality Business Trust (HBT), pulled in an impressive performance for its 2008 full-year results, despite a softening tourism market in the fourth quarter of 2008.

Gross revenue rose by 26.5% to S\$114.7 million for FY 2008, up from S\$90.7 million the year before. The company's balance sheet also remained healthy with a total asset base of S\$1.5 billion and debt of S\$273.1 million, representing a low gearing of 18.2% as at 31 December 2008.

RevPAR for the group's five Singapore Hotels also grew 20.9% in FY2008.

As a result of proactive asset management, income available for distribution per stapled security also increased to 11.11 Singapore cents, up 23.7% compared to 8.98 cents in 2007. However, to exercise financial prudence and boost CDL Hospitality Trusts's financial flexibility, income distributed for 2008 was 10.62 Singapore cents (2007: 8.98 cents) per stapled security.

M&C 'CHECKS IN' TO LIVERPOOL WITH TWO NEW HOTELS



The addition of Millennium Hotel Liverpool and Copthorne Hotel Liverpool to the M&C portfolio will add more than 400 new hotel rooms and create over 200 new jobs in the city that is fast becoming an international tourist destination.

Millennium & Copthorne Hotels plc (M&C) will open the Millennium Hotel Liverpool and the Copthorne Hotel Liverpool in 2011. The new hotels will be at the heart of Central Village, a £160 million joint-venture mixed development by Merepark and Ballymore.

The two hotels will add more than 400 new hotel rooms and create more than 200 new jobs in the city.

The 4-star deluxe Millennium Hotel Liverpool will be created in the refurbished and extended Watson Building adjacent to the Lewis's building. The Copthorne Hotel Liverpool will face onto Newington Square and the Boardwalk public spaces. The hotels are designed by international award-winning architects Woods Bagot.

Richard Peel, director of North West-based Merepark, said: "This is clearly not only a significant milestone for the Central Village project but also for Liverpool's growing reputation as an international tourist

destination. There has been much debate regarding the legacy of the city's tenure as Capital of Culture and whether Liverpool can maintain the success of 2008. The fact we are making this major announcement in the first weeks of 2009 is a very positive start to that legacy."

Richard Hartman, Chief Executive Officer for M&C said, "The addition of the two Liverpool hotels to our growing UK portfolio marks a significant step forward in our intention to manage properties in the best locations available. We are a destination-focused hotel group with the right hotels in the right places and we look forward to opening the M&C hotels in Liverpool."



With its prime city centre location, Central Village is set to become the landmark mixed use scheme in Liverpool.

REAP ADDITIONAL VALUE WHEN YOU MEET AT M&C HOTELS IN ASIA

Millennium & Copthorne's latest Meetings, Incentive, Conventions and Events (MICE) offering, *M&C Meetings*, looks set to bring a spring to the step of MICE planners throughout Asia.

A total of 16 participating M&C hotels in Singapore, China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand are offering a bed and breakfast package at competitive rates until end 2009. MICE planners will enjoy better rates by booking their events with one hotel group.

Ms Cecilia Lim, Vice President of Sales, Millennium & Copthorne International Limited (MCIL) explained, "*M&C Meetings* is a simple way for MICE planners to secure the best available deal for their clients. With our hotels in major gateway city destinations in Asia, MICE planners will enjoy a one-stop shopping experience when researching and recommending destinations to their clients. To sweeten the deal, *M&C Meetings* is offering an additional 3% on meetings package on top of the 10% rooms commission."

For larger meetings and events, MCIL also endeavours to offer greater value to its clients such as providing higher quality food and imported specialties from abroad and additional technical equipment and support.

In Singapore, the five hotels under MCIL – Grand Copthorne Waterfront, Orchard Hotel, M Hotel, Copthorne King's and Copthorne

Orchid – offer one of the largest combined MICE capabilities in the city, and are also favourite venues for events and weddings.

The Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel received the "Meeting of the Year" award at Singapore Tourism Board's Business Events Awards 2008. The award was for the World Vision International Triennial Council in 2007, where an interactive "village" was constructed in the hotel lobby to simulate the field conditions of World Vision's community development work. In addition, a "village square" afforded delegates and keynote speakers a conducive environment to interact and share ideas.

Most recently, the Grand Copthorne Waterfront was also the official hotel for the first round of the 2009 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum meetings. About 1,000 senior APEC officials and delegates representing APEC's 21 member economies attended the event from 13 to 26 February 2009. The staff's dedication and enthusiasm garnered written praise for the hotel from the visiting delegates.

For rates and package availability, visit www.millenniumhotels.com.sg/specials or email sales@millenniumhotels.com.



Attractive packages, professional service and excellent infrastructure and facilities, MICE planners will enjoy a one-stop shopping experience at *M&C Meetings* that has a network of 16 participating M&C hotels in gateway cities in the region.



PASSION MARRIED WITH INGENUITY



Executive Chef Frank Kilian of Pontini, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel.

TALENTED CHEF FRANK KILIAN TAKES THE HELM AT PONTINI

The hotels under Millennium & Copthorne Hotels plc in Singapore – Orchard Hotel, Grand Copthorne Waterfront, M Hotel, Copthorne King's and Copthorne Orchid – have always offered top notch cuisine throughout their F&B outlets. Favourites include Hua Ting at Orchard Hotel, which was recently named one of the top five Chinese restaurants in the highly regarded Business Times/Citibank Gourmet Choice Awards 2009. Café 2000 at M Hotel is also a business district favourite, while Princess Terrace at Copthorne King's enjoys a very loyal clientele.



Cod fillet with parma ham, red endive, lentils and garlic air.

Pontini, a perennial Italian favourite at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront, can now boast the talents of Executive Chef Frank Kilian, who joins the restaurant with 16 years of culinary experience garnered from Michelin-starred restaurants worldwide.

With a dose of pure ingenuity, 34-year old Chef Frank leads the culinary efforts at Pontini, with a refreshingly creative take on Italian cuisine and a modern menu that is already delighting lovers of good Italian food.

"I welcome this wonderful opportunity to showcase my modern menu offerings. I believe my menu is timeless yet constantly updated

with fervour and passion; where my focus is on simple, wholesome flavours and seasonal products," said Chef Frank. Frank's signature dishes include Scallop tartare with mascarpone and Oscietre caviar; fresh Lobster linguine; and Beef tenderloin served with black Truffle jus.

"Frank has the ability to surprise diners by cleverly tweaking traditional dishes and modernising them. For example, not only has he deconstructed the Tiramisu, he has also changed the forms of basic ingredients - instead of shaving Parmesan directly to a dish, he's made custard, air and jelly out of it," said John Sartain, General Manager, Grand Copthorne Waterfront.

Frank started his career at the age of 18 in his home country of Germany. Following stints at one Michelin star restaurants such as Die Ulrichshoehe, Becher Restaurant, Waldhorn Restaurant and Vintage Restaurant, Frank moved to the UK when the luxurious Old Course Hotel at St Andrews, Scotland offered him a position. A year later in 2002, he was Sous Chef at London's award-winning Michelin star restaurant Zafferano, where Frank developed an appreciation for all things Italian.

Armed with the determination to broaden his culinary vision, Frank boldly relocated Down Under to Sydney in 2003 where he was soon snapped up by renowned restaurants such as Wildfire and 4 in Hand Dining Room. His talents did not go unnoticed. In 2004, Frank was wooed by the owner of three-hat waterfront Pier Restaurant and subsequently joined them as Senior Sous Chef. In his four years there, Frank redefined his personal cooking style – food made simple with top quality fresh ingredients.

Pontini is located at Level 2, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. Lunch is served Monday to Friday, 12noon to 2.30pm, and dinner from 6.30pm to 10.30pm, Monday to Saturday. For reservations, please call 6233 1133.



Potato and rosemary agnolotti with mixed mushrooms, parmesan jelly and chicken jus.

CDL SINGAPORE SCULPTURE AWARD INSPIRES YOUNG CREATIVE TALENTS



The budding sculptors in the making from Temasek Secondary School with their soon-to-be-completed maquettes.

Since the 4th CDL Singapore Sculpture Award was launched in January, a number of schools took the opportunity to expose their students to 3-dimensional fine arts by introducing the competition into their curriculum. At Temasek Secondary School (TSS), a group of Secondary 3 students were introduced to the Award by their art teacher Mrs Ow-Kok Choy Yoke, and worked individually as part of their course work for the Study of Visual Arts, to conceptualise a sculpture based on the Award's theme, "Reconnection", for the designated sculpture site at the soon-to-be redeveloped Bishan Park.

Before rolling up their sleeves to conceptualise and create their maquettes, they studied the works of renowned sculptors and artists that run the gamut from Ng Eng Teng to Picasso. This was followed by an intensive brainstorming process that required the budding artists to formulate ideas and concepts based on the theme.

While Mrs Ow-Kok acknowledged that the creative process was very challenging for most of her students, they nevertheless found much satisfaction in creating their pieces and going back to the basic principles of design. "Through the CDL Singapore Sculpture Award, I can fuel my students'

artistic energies in a new art form, as well as allow them to gauge their abilities against junior college and polytechnic students," she explains. Incidentally, this is the first year that TSS is participating in the CDL Singapore Sculpture Award.

Indeed, the students' foray into the sculptural form has given way to exciting conceptual pieces and bold interpretations of the theme – including a doorway that leads to a paradisiacal Eden and even a graceful "dancer" poised atop a "field" surrounded by trickling water.

The creative challenge aside, the project also ignited a deeper interest and greater appreciation for the sculptural art form for many, such as Annabelle Lam. "In the past I used to think of sculptures as just shapes, but nowadays when I come across a sculpture, I will stop to think about what the sculptor or artist is trying to convey through his work," she said.

Created to nurture artistic talent and encourage creativity amongst youths and local artists alike, and to provide a platform to showcase the works of local sculptors, the Award is an extension of CDL's long-standing commitment to the development of the arts and youth in Singapore.

Held for the fourth time since the inaugural Award in 2003, this nation-wide sculpture competition has seen many memorable entries from talented young artists in the Student Category, as well as numerous notable pieces by veteran and aspiring sculptors alike in the Open Category.

The winning work of the 2nd CDL Singapore Sculpture Award by sculptor Mr Yeo Chee Kiong has been commissioned and will soon be installed at City Green, the Urban Park adjoining City Square Mall.

Entry submission closes on 24 April 2009. For more information on the competition details, please visit www.cdl.com.sg/sculptureaward

The winning works and selected shortlisted entries, from both the Open and Student Categories of the 4th CDL Singapore Sculpture Award will be exhibited at the Singapore Art Museum from 23 to 31 July 2009.

LIGHTS OFF AT CDL PROPERTIES FOR EARTH HOUR 2009

As a green landlord advocating eco-consciousness, CDL once again continued to sustain its support for "Earth Hour Singapore 2009". This is its second year of supporting the Earth Hour campaign. To encourage more tenants to take a collaborative stand against global warming, CDL has doubled its efforts by increasing the number of participating buildings from five to 11 this year, and achieving a commendable tenant participation rate of 99%.

"Earth Hour Singapore 2009" took place on Saturday, 28 March from 8.30pm to 9.30pm. It was held in conjunction with the annual international event, created by conservation organisation WWF Australia, which saw landmark properties, offices and homes in 742 cities around the world turn off their lights for an hour in a symbolic movement to combat global warming.

In Singapore, CDL's commercial buildings together with offices and hotels owned by member companies within the Hong Leong Group had their facade and non-essential lights within the building and tenanted offices switched off during Earth Hour. The Group's participation, the largest by a corporation in Singapore, has impacted a total of 25 local buildings, hotels and offices, representing a combined reach of an estimated 4,000 staff, tenants and hotel guests.



CDL's tenants took an affirmative stand against global warming this year with eight out of 11 buildings achieving an impressive 100% tenant participation rate. CDL buildings, including Republic Plaza (left) and Palais Renaissance (below) made an impactful "lights off" during "Earth Hour Singapore 2009".

To generate greater awareness in the community, CDL also supported "Earth Hour @ The Heartlands" co-organised by WWF and ECO Singapore. Community events ranging from movie screening, cultural and dance performances, live bands, as well green carnival were organised simultaneously across the different parts of the island, to commemorate Earth Hour.



CDL Buildings Participate in Earth Hour

- Republic Plaza
- The Corporate Office
- Plaza By The Park
- Fuji Xerox Towers
- New Tech Park
- GB Building
- City House
- King's Centre
- The Arcade
- Central Mall (Office)
- Palais Renaissance

CITY SUNSHINE CLUB CELEBRATES 10 YEARS OF VOLUNTEERISM

City Sunshine Club, CDL's staff volunteer platform, turns 10 this year. And staying true to the company's tradition and deeply ingrained commitment of giving back to society, CDL and its employees will be stepping up its support for the community especially during these times of difficulty.

Commemorating the happy milestone of this 10th anniversary, CDL employees will embark on three new projects, in addition to the Club's ongoing programmes, that will leverage on staff expertise, and resources as well as draw staff participation from all levels.



ASSISI HOSPICE CHARITY FUN DAY

Come 2 May, employees of CDL, CBM Pte Ltd and sister hotel companies will collectively participate in this festive fundraising carnival to be held at SJI International School. The event is open to the public. In addition to sponsoring and manning a 30-metre food pavilion, the CDL group of companies will also provide cleaning, carpark control, security services as well as organisational support to the event.

EAT-IN FOR CHARITY

This is a fundraising lunch to be held once per week in July. Staff trade in their keyboards for woks to whip up mouth-watering fare for fellow colleagues and business associates in a bid to raise funds for charity. Scrumptious homemade food specialties are expected to be snapped up within minutes of sale.

SUNSHINE MAKEOVER

This is a refurbishment exercise of two nursing homes scheduled for September 2009 where staff will roll up their sleeves to carry out repair and painting works, and also to befriend the residents of the homes.

Amidst the challenging economic outlook, CDL staff volunteers endeavour to be a beacon of light that continues to shine brightly

“CDL will continue to be a caring and committed workforce that reaches out and offers relief to the needy in our midst. Despite the challenging times that we are facing, we will find meaningful and creative ways to support our beneficiaries and community partners with whom our volunteers have built a close friendship over the years.”

**Mr Kwek Leng Joo,
CDL Managing Director**

and bring smiles to all. Through meaningful activities, we hope to make a difference by sharing kindness, friendship, goodwill and more with the community.

City Sunshine Club was founded 10 years ago by Mr Kwek Leng Joo, CDL Managing Director, to light up the lives of the less fortunate in the community. The Club's activities, as he envisioned it, would convey a personal touch, and complement the company's corporate giving. What started out as a modest programme with staff making monthly befriending visits to the lonely elderly in the Chinatown area and Indus Road expanded over the years to helping children at risk of delinquency, the sick and physically challenged, as well as activities that inculcate the spirit of volunteerism and compassion among CDL stakeholders.

SUSTAINED SUPPORT FOR A HEARTWARMING CLIMB



CDL employees and their Special Olympian friends have much to cheer for, after completing the 60-storey relay race at Republic Plaza.

CDL VOLUNTEERS STEP UP TO THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS CHALLENGE, HELD AS PART OF THE NATIONAL VERTICAL MARATHON 2009, FOR THE THIRD CONSECUTIVE YEAR.

Beaming smiles were visibly apparent on the faces of many Special Olympians during the National Vertical Marathon (NVM) 2009, as they recognised their CDL buddies from previous years.

For the third consecutive year, some 40 CDL employees and their family members volunteered their time and energy on Sunday, 8 February, to help 36 Special Olympians complete their 60-storey relay race to the top of Republic Plaza. Participants of the Special Olympics Challenge are from the special schools including MINDS Lee Kong Chian Gardens School and MINDS Towner Gardens School.

Organised by students from the Nanyang Technological University Sports Club and into its 15th year, this demanding challenge is Singapore's first and oldest vertical running challenge. A record total of 1,638 participants signed up for the climb that spans 1,380 steps across 60 floors.

Sustaining its support for this national sports event, CDL is proud to sponsor the venue and prizes for the CDL Corporate Challenge category.



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