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Hotel Employee Scoops Top Accolade

Guest Relations Manager wins 'Hotel Employee of the Year 2011' at Pride in Ashford & Tenterden Awards

Leon Watts, Guest Relations Manager at the Ashford International Hotel cannot stop smiling after winning the 'Hotel Employee of the Year' award at the Pride in Ashford & Tenterden Awards 2011.

Now in their 5th year the Pride in Ashford & Tenterden Awards recognise and reward individuals in the tourism, hospitality and leisure industries who provide outstanding service to their customers. Residents as well as visitors to Kent can vote for any employee who they feel has made their day extra special. Leon, who has been the Guest Relations Manager at the Ashford International Hotel for the past three years, was a firm favourite with the judges and public alike receiving the most nominations for his helpful, friendly manner and 'can do' attitude.

"Leon is always willing to go that extra mile for any of our guests" said General Manager of the Ashford International Hotel Deirdre Billing "Nothing is too much trouble for him and he is always smiling, helpful and friendly to guests and staff alike. He is a real asset to the team and we are incredibly proud that he has been honoured with this achievement."

For more information about the Ashford International Hotel please go to www.QHotels.co.uk/ashfordinternational or call 01233 219988.

ENDS

The QHotels 21: **The Westerwood Hotel & Golf Resort** - Near Glasgow... **Aldwark Manor Golf & Spa Hotel** - York... **The Queens** - Leeds... **Forest Pines Hotel & Golf Resort** - North Lincolnshire... **Tankersley Manor** - Tankersley, Nr Sheffield... **The Midland** - Manchester... **The Park Royal** - Stretton, Warrington... **Crewe Hall** - Crewe, Cheshire... **The**

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Nottingham Belfry - Nottingham... **Telford Hotel & Golf Resort** – Telford, Shropshire... **Stratford Manor** - Stratford-upon-Avon... **The Stratford** - Stratford-upon-Avon... **Chesford Grange** – Kenilworth, Warwickshire... **Hellidon Lakes Golf & Spa Hotel** – Hellidon, Northamptonshire... **The Cheltenham Chase Hotel** - Gloucestershire... **The Cambridge Belfry** – Cambourne, Cambridge... **The Oxford Belfry** –Thame, Oxford... **The Hampshire Court Hotel** - Basingstoke, Hampshire... **Norton Park** - Winchester, Hampshire... **Bridgewood Manor** – Chatham, Kent... **Ashford International Hotel** – Ashford, Kent

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A little bit about us:

- QHotels prides itself in its collection of 21 carefully nurtured, unique properties throughout the UK. Some hide away in the most beautiful countryside, some preside over bustling city centres, but each with its own little idiosyncrasies, ensures guest enjoy a truly unique experience - whether staying for pleasure or business.
- Founded in 2003 by Managing Director - Michael Purtil, Sales Director - David Taylor, Finance Director – Ian Goulding and investment company Alchemy Partners;
- The collection has grown from 2 to 21 properties over the last six years.
- The collection, which boasts iconic properties including The Midland in Manchester, The Queens in Leeds and Crewe Hall in Cheshire, has been voted AA Hotel Group of the Year 2008/09 and is ranked 17th in The Times Buyout FastTrack register of the 100 fastest growing private equity backed businesses... one of the few companies to feature in the top 100 in two consecutive years. In addition to this... January 2009 alone saw QHotels shortlisted for the Business Hotel Brand of the Year Award at the Business Travel Awards and Winchester property Norton Park scoop two HRS Hotel Excellence Awards (Excellence in Meetings and Excellence in Business Management). Since then QHotels trophy cabinet is buckling under the weight of new awards, including 'Most Improved Brand' for the second year in a row in the 2009 BDRC UK Meetings Market Survey and the 'Excellence in Training Award' in Caterer & Hotelkeeper's Best Places to Work in Hospitality 2009
- Take a look at our website www.QHotels.co.uk

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