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MIAMI-BASED TECTON HOSPITALITY

APPOINTS DAVID LOPEZ GENERAL MANAGER OF NEW YORK PROPERTY

--Seasoned hotelier to open stylish boutique hotel – Hotel Mela - combines Italian flare and New York Style --

NEW YORK, NY – Desires Hotels, the boutique division of Miami-based Tecton Hospitality Corporation, a hospitality management firm specializing in upscale boutique hotels and prestigious franchise properties, has named David Lopez general manager of Hotel Mela. The hotel will become the company’s first property in New York City and is expected to open **some time in the 4th quarter of 2006**.

A seasoned hospitality executive with over a decade of hospitality experience in sales, marketing and operations, Mr. Lopez was most recently founder and president of Dream Luxury Hotels-Resorts-Villas, which specialized in sales, marketing and brand support. Under Mr. Lopez’s guidance, the consultancy represented leading luxury hotels and resorts in the Caribbean.

Prior to Dream-Luxury, Mr. Lopez was general manager of the Mansfield Hotel in New York where he was responsible for food and beverage, operations, and sales and marketing. He is credited for successfully repositioning the property and capturing significant market share within the fashion and corporate segments, as well as increasing revenue in the food/beverage outlet. Other senior management positions held include general manager of the Roger Williams Hotel in New York where he oversaw an extensive refurbishment program that repositioned the hotel as one of the city’s leading boutique properties.

In his role as general manager, Mr. Lopez’s primary responsibility will be to introduce Hotel Mela to the corporate, fashion, entertainment and leisure (domestic and international) segments.

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Revolutionary in concept and design, the hotel's overall philosophy is to deliver guest service based upon the guests' desires while far exceeding their expectations. A signature program in support of this concept will be *Your Desires* service created by Tecton Hospitality and offered at designated hotels within the Desires Boutique Division. *Your Desires* at Hotel Mela will center on the diverse and culturally rich New York marketplace bringing to hotel guests the very best the city has to offer along with comfort and personal requests. Highlighting the *Your Desires* program is a POD-cast program available for downloading by hotel guests and featuring hotel information as well as the latest news on cultural events and entertainment happenings in the city during their guests' visit. Currently, this program is offered throughout the Desires Boutique Division.

Classically architectural in design, the lobby features accents that pay homage to the elegance of old New York through carefully selected New York themed artwork set against a backdrop of highly stylized contemporary design. It will be a welcome depart from traditional hotel public space design. The name La Mela means 'the apple' in Italian and was selected by the executive team as a celebration of The Big Apple and the significant role Italian culture has played in the city's history.

The 230-room Hotel Mela combines 'old world' charm with the style, sophistication and convenience of modern day living in all guestrooms and suites. Hotel Mela's guestrooms and suites will be furnished in rich decadent fabrics with interesting architectural accents. Rooms will feature smart technology and electronic equipment for the ultimate in guest comfort. An expansive penthouse will be the showpiece of the hotel where special care has been given to preserve the historical aspects of structural design while providing guests with a living space that is as unique as the city in which it resides.

Hotel Mela will also offer an intimate state-of-the-art fitness facility and signature restaurant to be named in the near future. "Tecton Hospitality is thrilled to mark our entrance into the New York market with a product destined to redefine the hospitality and guest experience," said **Raul Leal, president of Tecton Hospitality**. "Hotel Mela is a celebration of the Italian fine art of living and the rich history and diversity of New York City. I can think of no one more experienced and entrenched in the New York market than David Lopez to launch this unique hotel."

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For more information visit the website at www.hotelmela.com or contact us at 1-800-452-6352.

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Tecton Hospitality provides a wide range of management services to both institutional and individual owners of hotels in the United States and Caribbean. The Miami-based company operates branded hotels, including full-service properties and resorts under the Sheraton, Marriott, Hampton Inn, Holiday Inn and Best Western names, as well as boutique hotels through the Desires boutique-hotels division. The Desires portfolio currently includes the award-winning 84-room San Juan Water & Beach Club Hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico, the 50-room Aqua Hotel, the 66-room Wave Hotel, the 83-room Circa 39, the 40-room Hotel Astor, the 61-room Betsy Ross Hotel and the 87-room condo hotel The Strand Ocean Drive in Miami Beach, Fla., and the 110-room Glenn Hotel in Atlanta, Ga. For more information about Tecton Hospitality, call (305) 577-8484 or visit www.tectonhospitality.com or www.desireshotels.com.

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