



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Molly Bruder
(425) 248-2975
The Hotel Group
mbruder@thehotelgroup.com

**THE HOTEL GROUP OPENS HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS
Hotel & SUITES IN FAIRBANKS ALASKA**

Edmonds, WA. (July 23, 2008)— The Hotel Group, the largest independent hotel management company based in the Pacific Northwest, has expanded its portfolio of properties in Alaska with the opening of the Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites in Fairbanks. The new construction 114-room property adjacent to the Johansson Expressway at 400 Merhar Avenue, was developed and constructed by A&A Development, Spokane, WA, who has been active in Alaska hospitality since 1992. Mark Clark has been named as the hotel's general manager.

The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites has 92 standard guest rooms, 16 suites and six deluxe spa suites. The lobby is decorated in an Alaska theme with native hardwoods, accent rocks and is finished in rich marble floor tile. Hotel amenities include an indoor swimming pool and whirlpool, business center, exercise facility and guest laundry. Guest rooms include coffee makers, iron and ironing boards and free high-speed internet. In addition, the hotel will offer The Express Start® Breakfast Bar featuring the Holiday Inn Express signature cinnamon roll.

"The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites is a great addition to the lodging landscape in Fairbanks offering some unique amenities and features and is backed by a dedicated team of professionals led by Mark Clark. We are delighted that Mark has rejoined our company, he is a great leader and a talented general manager," said Lara Latture, executive vice president, The Hotel Group. "I'm also extremely proud of Tammy Griffin, our director of operations, the entire pre-opening team, and their commitment to meeting a very tight opening deadline," she added.

According to Douglas Dreher, president, The Hotel Group, "The Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites in Fairbanks was built to serve a steady increase in tourism and commerce. It is our second venture in Fairbanks and represents the seventh hotel managed by the company in Alaska. Fairbanks is a very dynamic city and we are truly excited to be back in the market with another tremendous hotel."

Other Alaska hotels which The Hotel Group currently manage include: the Holiday Inn Express Anchorage Airport, Microtel Inn & Suites Anchorage Airport, Comfort Inn Ship Creek, Fairfield Inn & Suites and Motel 6, all located in Anchorage; and the Holiday Inn Express in Seward Harbor.

The Hotel Group (THG) is recognized as a top 40 hotel management and national investment company with headquarters in the Pacific Northwest. THG currently manages and/or owns 25 properties in 10 states and employs over 1,300 people. Since its inception in 1984, THG has managed more than 100 properties in 20 states, directed the design and construction of 30 new hotels, has purchased nine full-service hotels representing more than \$100 million in assets, and is the sponsor of The Hotel Group Opportunity Funds I, II, III and IV. For more information visit www.thehotelgroup.com or call (425) 771-1788.

###