

For immediate release



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GEP and Krisam Join with destex, Expand in Central Europe

Global Events Partners and Krisam Group join with Germany-based destex for European Sales, establishing a Global Meetings, Incentives, Conventions and Exhibitions (MICE) Gateway for Austria, Germany and Switzerland

Washington, DC – September 18, 2007 – Global Events Partners, (GEP), the leading partnership of destination management companies (DMCs) worldwide, and Krisam Group, the pioneering hotel membership company for independent and unique hotels worldwide, announced the opening of a new sales office in Central Europe, together with destex, based in Germany.

The office will become a global MICE gateway from Austria, Germany and Switzerland, and will be directed by Wolfgang Hartmann, an international destination management executive with more than thirty years in the hospitality industry. Hartmann can be reached at wh@destex.eu, or +49.7941.988660.

“We are delighted to join with Wolfgang and destex in this exciting new venture,” said Chris White, Chief Executive Officer of GEP, and Chairman & Chief Executive Officer of Krisam Group. “Having worked with Wolfgang for many years, we are excited to leverage the tremendous growth opportunities in Central Europe by joining his experience and contacts with the successful track record of our companies and business model.”

Jim Schultenover, President of Krisam, added, “Wolfgang Hartmann is highly regarded in the industry, and brings unique experience and a strong track record of sales success to the creation of destex, and to our mutual efforts in Central Europe. We are delighted that he will be bringing his talents to bear for our customers and member hotels. ”

About destex and Wolfgang Hartmann

Wolfgang Hartmann brings more than thirty years of executive experience in the hospitality industry to his role leading destex.

Most recently, he served as Vice President, Travel, Tourism & Events at Gulf Dunes, the leading Destination Management Company for Dubai. He has also held executive positions with leading industry companies, Wuerth Group, Marbet, and Droste Reisen, all based in Germany, and with Icelandic Airlines and Air Bahamas. He has managed dozens of events and group tours to all major U.S. destinations, along numerous major incentives, conferences and events for up to 1,500 participants.

Hartmann said, “I am pleased to join with Krisam and GEP at this important and promising moment in the companies’ worldwide growth.” He concluded, “I look forward to working closely with Krisam members worldwide, as well as DMCs in the GEP partnership, to build business, serve clients and leverage the tremendous international potential of these dynamic companies.”

Hartmann resides in Germany with his wife and son.

About Krisam Group

Krisam Group, founded in 1975, is the top hotel membership company for independent and unique hotels worldwide, and is the leading advocate and service provider for meeting planners.

Krisam has been active in the European market, and in recent weeks announced the addition of the Jumeirah Carlton Tower, as its newest member hotel in the UK - bringing to more than 800 rooms the inventory that Krisam makes available to meeting planners in the sought after downtown London market -, as well as the opening of a sales office for Western Europe under the direction of industry veteran, Anita Heathcote. Krisam members in Europe include exclusive hotels and resorts in sought-after destinations such as Prague, Vienna, Luzern, and Saint Jean Cap Ferrat, France.

Krisam has more than 40 member hotels located outside the U.S., and has 221 member properties worldwide. For more information on Krisam Group, please visit www.krisam.com.

About Global Events Partners (GEP)

Launched in 1999, Global Events Partners includes more than 70 leading destination management companies (DMCs) around the world. A DMC is a professional services company possessing extensive local knowledge and resources, specializing in the design and execution of group tours, transportation, events, activities and program logistics. GEP partners provide consistently high quality DMC services in the most desirable locations worldwide.

Thanks to affiliations with sister company, Krisam Group – the top independent national sales office for hotels –, and production company August Jackson, GEP offers a unique “one-stop” solution for corporate meeting planners worldwide.

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