

GBTA AWARD: INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR NH'S EXCELLENT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENT

- **The Global Business Travel Association (GBTA) has awarded NH its Outstanding Achievement Award at its annual European prize ceremony, which this year took place in Prague**
- **The tangible results of the chain's environmental efforts to date and those projected as a result of new initiatives in the pipeline were crucial factors in the GBTA's decision to award NH this prestigious European prize**

Madrid, 9 October 2013. NH Hoteles has received another prestigious award from the Global Business Travel Association (GBTA), the world's premier business travel and meetings organization. This time the Group has been acknowledged at the European level with an Outstanding Achievement Award for its sustainable development measures.

The strong results achieved on the sustainability front since implementing its 2008-2012 Environmental Action Plan were one of the main factors deciding this award in favour of NH Hoteles. Over this period, NH Hoteles has set in motion a broad range of measures that have enabled it to deliver all its initial targets - namely energy savings of 25.1%, water savings of 30.5% and reductions in carbon emissions and waste generation of 44.2% and 34.1%, respectively.

The new 20+15 Environmental Action Plan was also a factor in the GBTA's decision to award this prize to NH. The new plan contemplates specific initiatives designed to reinforce the Company's commitment to protecting the environment and its ongoing search for innovative sustainability solutions. The idea underpinning this new plan is to make hotels presenting further room for improvement more efficient, while defending the high sustainability levels already achieved in the chain's top-performing establishments.

"We are very pleased to receive a second award in a single year from such as prestigious organism as the GBTA. It will make us even more motivated to deliver on our sustainability commitment", said Mónica Chao, Corporate Environment Manager at NH Hoteles, who also stressed the importance "of continuing to work with the same intensity, committing strategically to sustainability as the way forward in terms of making the most of limited resources, creating value and building up our Company's reputation".

Further international recognition for NH's sustainability effort

Last March, the GBTA awarded NH Hoteles its Gold Medal for the Icarus Project, making it the first hotel chain to achieve this accolade at the global level, thanks to its strong commitment to innovative sustainable development and its efforts on the environmental, social and economic fronts.

One of the specific factors valued by GBTA in favour of NH was the sustainable development initiatives offered by NH Hoteles in the business travel segment.

Among the initiatives on offer, the Group provides its clients with a series of products, including laundry bags, biros and bathroom amenities, made using a plastic additive that catalyses these materials' natural degradation process. The towels in the hotel chain's guest rooms come with the ECOLABEL, the European environmentally-friendly seal that analyses a product's impact on the environment throughout its entire life cycle.

Moreover, thanks to the Ecomeeting concept, clients can request 100% environmentally-friendly meeting rooms that, among other things, use fair-trade ecological materials.

In addition, all NH guests that want to minimise the carbon footprint generated by their trips and stays at NH hotels can do so by using the GHG emissions calculator hosted on the chain's corporate website. Thanks to this innovative initiative, the Group offset over 2,000 tonnes of emissions in 2012.

About NH Hoteles

NH Hoteles (www.nh-hotels.com) is Europe's third-ranked business hotel chain. It operates close to 400 hotels with almost 60,000 rooms across Europe, the Americas and Africa, including top destinations such as Berlin, Madrid, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, Buenos Aires, London, Rome, Vienna, Bogota, Mexico City, Barcelona, Frankfurt and New York.

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