## HIGHEST STATUS IN THE TRIPADVISOR<sup>®</sup> GREENLEADERS PROGRAM ACHIEVED BY HAMPTON INN & SUITES MIAMI BRICKELL.

## Hotel awarded with Platinum status from world's largest travel website.

MIAMI, FL – August 19, 2013 – <u>Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown</u> has been awarded Platinum status, the highest available, in the TripAdvisor GreenLeaders Program. The only hotel in Miami to achieve that status. The hotel is also the top-ranked hotel in Miami by

<u>TripAdvisor.com</u>, the world's largest travel website. The boutique-style Hampton Inn & Suites, which opened in late 2011, is ranked #1 Miami hotel by TripAdvisor.com and has held the top spot among 131 Miami-area hotels for sixteen consecutive months, with the ranking based entirely on guest reviews.

The Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown is outperforming the market when it comes to green initiatives as the news comes only a few months after the hotel was awarded LEED



Silver certification by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The property is the first LEED certified hotel within City of Miami limits. LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is the nation's preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings. "Our LEED certification and TripAdvisor ratings prove that a hotel can prioritize social and environmental responsibility alongside affordability, service, and value-added amenities," said Eduardo Chapoval, general manager of the Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown.

Less than two years after opening its doors, there is evidence the hotel's green investments are paying off. Overall energy savings are 16 percent below the property's initial budget. Actual water consumption is 17 percent below budget, thanks to low-flow water fixtures, efficient washing machines and a 35,000 gallon cistern that harvests rainwater for irrigation purposes. Natural gas costs are 49 percent below budget, the result of high-efficiency boilers and a laundry system that uses less hot water and reduces drying time. Cost of electricity, the largest source of energy consumption for hotels, is 11 percent below budget.

"The hotel industry has historically trailed other sectors when it comes to emphasizing sustainability, largely due to excessive energy and water usage," said Bernard Wolfson,

president of Miami-based hotel development firm Hospitality Operations, Inc., the hotel's owner. "We are overcoming these obstacles at the Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown by embracing green features that conserve resources, appeal to eco-conscious guests, and reduce our operating costs."

GreenLeaders status and LEED certification of the hotel were based on green design and construction features that positively impact the project and the broader community:

- A 35,000 gallon cistern to harvest rainwater for irrigation and washing exterior surfaces including decking, walkways and driveways
- An in-room energy management system which automatically powers down air conditioning systems when guests are not in their rooms
- Energy Star-qualified compact fluorescent lights (CFLs) and LED lighting, televisions and other appliances
- Occupancy sensors which control lights in public spaces and work areas
- An ozone laundry system designed to reduce the consumption of water, energy and cleaning chemicals
- Low-flow water fixtures, dual flush toilets, and motion-activated faucets that reduce water usage
- Biodegradable plates, cups and tableware for use at breakfast and coffee stations
- Paints with low volatile organic compounds
- Environmentally safe, non-toxic cleaning agents used by housekeeping staff
- Preferred garage parking spaces designated for hybrid and electric automobiles, with electric vehicle charging stations available for guests
- Bicycle racks, showers and changing facilities for employees who bike and walk to work

In addition to its eco-friendly design and construction features, the Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown is centrally located within walking distance to several public transit systems – with Metromover and Metrorail stations less than a block away from the hotel. Guests also have direct train access to and from Miami International Airport with the new AirportLink, a 2.4-mile extension of the Metrorail system. The hotel's close proximity to dozens of retail, restaurant and entertainment options creates a pedestrian-friendly atmosphere.

Amenities at the 15-story hotel include a rooftop pool/spa deck; full-service lobby/pool bar; state-of-the-art fitness facility; 24-business center featuring multiple touch-screen computers and printers; and 3,800 square feet of meeting and event space. Additional perks include free high-speed WiFi throughout all guest rooms and common areas, complimentary On the House<sup>™</sup> hot breakfast served daily, and coffee and teas available free of charge in the lobby, day and night. Guests also enjoy compatibility with the Hilton HHonors<sup>®</sup> rewards program and the peace of mind that comes with Hampton's signature 100% satisfaction guarantee.

The chic, "boutique-style" Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown is accentuated by stylish furnishings, original artwork and a modern, art-deco inspired design that evoke Miami's

persona. Located at 50 SW 12th Street in Downtown Miami's Brickell Financial District, the Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown is owned by Hospitality Operations Inc. and managed by Tennessee-based management group Hospitality America, Inc.

To book reservations, please call (305) 377-9400 or visit

http://www.hamptoninnmiamibrickell.com; and for more information on special offers at Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown, follow the hotel on Facebook (www.facebook.com/HamptonBrickell) and Twitter (@HamptonBrickell).

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## About Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown:

Located at 50 SW 12th Street in the heart of Miami, Florida's Brickell Financial District, the boutique-style, 221-room Hampton Inn & Suites Miami Brickell-Downtown combines modern design, exceptional amenities and a convenient, urban location at an affordable price. Signature features include a rooftop pool/spa deck, full-service lobby/pool bar, state-of-the-art fitness facility and 24-hour business center complete with in-room and property-wide complimentary wireless internet and a free hot breakfast served daily. The 15-story hotel also includes 10,000 square feet of street-level retail space and 3,800 square feet of flexible meeting space. The hotel, which is LEED registered with the US Green Building Council, was developed by Miami-based hotel development firm Hospitality Operations, Inc. which operates a portfolio of five Hampton Inn franchises in South Florida, including properties in Coconut Grove, Pembroke Pines, downtown Ft. Lauderdale and the Miami Airport market. Learn more at www.hamptoninnmiamibrickell.com.

## Media Contact:

Howard Wolfson - hwolfson@hospitalityamerica.com

Bernard Wolfson – hotelgroups@aol.com