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Press Release

Resorts World at Sentosa to save 200 trees

Singapore, June 13, 2007 – Resorts World at Sentosa today announces its massive conservation exercise to save some 200 trees that are on its site.

The trees – a 15-specie collection including the Ficus, Rain Trees, Palms and Khaya trees – are located within its 49 ha site. Over the past two weeks, and well into the next few weeks, excavators, lorry-crane and trucks have been moving in full swing, transplanting these trees to their temporary nursery near the western end of the resort’s worksite. RWS’ goal is to protect these trees for later replanting as construction of the $5.2 billion Resort takes place over the next three years.

When the resort opens in 2010, the trees will return to their new homes in various parts of the development. They will be shading guests in, among other areas, the Jurassic Park attraction in RWS’ Universal Studios theme park, the beach-themed roof garden at Hard Rock Hotel and the Riverside Promenade. These gifts of nature will provide visitors with much-needed respite from the weather, and add to the tropical ambience of the Resort.

RWS Deputy Director, Projects, Patrick Too says of the conservation exercise, "We aim to make our Resort an outstanding tropical family resort, and so it only makes sense that we keep it as green as possible. Rather than cut down all the trees that have taken decades to mature into what they are today, we would rather move some of them during the construction, then bring them back on-site later. In this way, we won’t have to start from saplings all over again when we open."
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Each of these trees and palms costs about $2,000 to keep, or about three times the price of buying new nursery stock. RWS, however, believes that the value or conserving them outweighs the costs. By showing that it could be done practically and feasibly, RWS hopes that tree conservation will become prevalent in local developments. We believe that we are the first commercial development to transplant trees on such a scale.

Timber to be reused within Resort

Again a ground-breaking initiative, RWS plans to reuse the timber from 300 trees of 10 different species. When the resort opens in 2010, timber from trees that could not be saved will re-emerge as items ranging from benches and trellises, posts in covered walkways, to wooden carvings and souvenirs. We believe that we are the first local developer to reuse timber in such a way. We hope to lead the way in promoting good husbandry and the responsible use of resources in a development.

RWS landscape consultant and director of ICN Design International Henry Steed says: “The re-planting of trees from the original site is the right thing to do. It is also a good storyline for visitors, to know that RWS did not wipe out all the plants on the site, and was sensitive to the re-use of a natural resource.”

Sentosa Leisure Group’s director of environment management, Mr Tan Kok Yeang said: “Sentosa is heartened by the care and commitment behind this conservation effort and is happy to collaborate with Resorts World at Sentosa on this important initiative. From helping to identify the more valuable species, to doing what we can to ensure that we retain as much of our natural heritage as possible, Sentosa will continue to add value to our partnership. Maintaining and enhancing our island's lush ambience for our guests' and stakeholders’ future enjoyment remains one of our top priorities.”

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About Resorts World at Sentosa

Resorts World at Sentosa will be a leading global holiday destination for families when it opens in 2010 at Singapore's Sentosa Island. A resort of resorts, RWS will house the region's first Universal Studios theme park, the world's largest oceanarium called the Marine Life Park, the water-ride attraction called the Equarius Water Park and a wellness centre operated by award-winning Espa. There will be six world-class hotels providing more 1,800 rooms and full meeting and conference amenities.

The $5.2 billion resort projects 15 million visitors in 2010, and its array of family-friendly attractions will be a place that Singaporeans can call their own.

Beyond the gated attractions, the Resort will offer all-day entertainment. There will be free shows such as the Crane Ballet, a moving art and cleverly choreographed animatronics crane dances at the waterfront. The 1,700-seat Imagineering Theatre will feature a magical dreamlike show with water, light and visual effects. There will also be an unparalleled array of retail and dining options at the FestiveWalk, and roving acts and street performances at the Bull Ring.

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