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## COURTYARD IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS COMPLETES A MAJOR LOBBY RENOVATION

***Intuitive lobby design features high-tech GoBoard® 4.0, flexible work and social spaces, and 24/7 food and beverage market***

Chicago, Illinois – April 04, 2013– White Lodging Services and RLJ Lodging Trust are pleased to announce the 306-room Courtyard by Marriott located at 165 East Ontario St. in Chicago, Illinois has completed a renovation of its lobby. The hotel, which completed its renovation January 30, now features new furniture offering greater functionality for work and relaxation, where guests can enjoy an open and flexible space. Along with Wi-Fi and a variety of seating zones, the redefined space is ideal for everything from pop-up meetings to social gatherings.

“From day one, Courtyard has prided itself as a brand that listens to what travelers want from a hotel,” said Janis Milham, vice president and global brand manager, Courtyard. “Guests want more control and choice with services and amenities that create a healthy balance between working and relaxing. The Courtyard lobby invites guests to get out of their rooms to work, socialize or be entertained, whether traveling alone or with colleagues.”

The traditional front desk is replaced with separate welcome pedestals to create more personal and private interactions when guests check in and allow staff to show guests the lobby features and provide assistance.

A key component of the Courtyard lobby is the newly enhanced GoBoard® 4.0, which presents local information, maps, weather, and headline news on a 55-inch LCD touch screen. Designed with today’s busy traveler in mind, the award-winning GoBoard® features mobile integration, enabling guests to send directions from the GoBoard® directly to their smart phones. Guests can also touch the screen for immediate access to detailed flight information for local airports, popular entertainment and local event information, as well as walking directions.

"Our new lobby helps us continue to put a step up above our competition," said Lynn Dersley, director of sales & marketing at the hotel. "Finishing 2012 in the top 5% of Courtyard hotels, we have always strived to provide our guests with the best and most comfortable stay. Our new lobby design continues to enhance the experience of our guests and allows for a more welcoming and natural interaction with our staff."

Throughout the hotel, guests can connect to complimentary Wi-Fi, and there are ample electrical outlets in the lobby to power digital devices.

The hotel is home to Viand Bar & Kitchen, a casual Chicago Bistro and a full-service Starbucks. The Market<sup>TM</sup>, a 24/7 shop for snacks, beverages and sundries, is always open for late-night cravings or the toothpaste you forgot to pack.

The hotel located in downtown Chicago is in close proximity to the Magnificent Mile shopping and restaurants, the lakefront and the John Hancock Observatory.

"Location is crucial and our hotel offers the smart choice for travelers looking to experience the best of Chicago. With spectacular shopping, world-class museums, dynamic corporates and breathtaking architecture, the Windy City has it all and our hotel is located right in the heart of everything," Dersley said.

Courtyard by Marriott offers a refreshing environment that helps guests stay connected, productive and balanced. Intuitive services and design accommodate guests' needs for choice and control. With more than 900 locations in 38 countries and territories, Courtyard hotels participate in the award-winning Marriott Rewards® frequent travel program that allows members to earn hotel points or airline miles for every dollar spent during each stay. For more information or reservations, contact the Courtyard by Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile directly at 312-573-0800, call the Courtyard toll-free number at 800-321-2211, visit [www.courtyard.com](http://www.courtyard.com) or become a fan at [www.facebook.com/courtyardmagmile](http://www.facebook.com/courtyardmagmile).

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**White Lodging Services** - White Lodging Services Corporation was established in 1985 and is headquartered in Merrillville, Indiana. White Lodging is a fully integrated hotel ownership, development, and operations company – a recognized leader that has defined and cultivated the ability to achieve consistent, sustainable growth among mid-to large-scale hotels across the country. Their current portfolio consists of over 161 hotels in 20 states and encompasses representation of the following leading brands: Marriott International, Inc., Hilton Worldwide, Hyatt Global, Starwood Hotels and Resorts, InterContinental Hotel Group, and Carlson Hotels Worldwide. For more information about White Lodging, please visit [www.whitelodging.com](http://www.whitelodging.com) or call 219-472-2861.

**RLJ Lodging Trust** - RLJ Lodging Trust is a self-advised, publicly traded real estate investment trust focused on acquiring premium-branded, focused service and compact full-service hotels. The Company's portfolio consists of 145 hotels in 21 states and the District of Columbia, with a total of more than 21,600 rooms. Additional information may be found on the Company's website: <http://rljlodgingtrust.com>.

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