

Marriott Goes Underground

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CIO Magazine Honors Marriott with 2008 CIO 100 Award

International Data Group's (IDG) CIO magazine has announced that Marriott International, Inc. (NYSE:MAR) is a recipient of the 2008 CIO 100 award for the ninth time. The 21st annual award program recognizes organizations around the world that exemplify the highest level of operational and strategic excellence in information technology (IT). Marriott is the only hospitality company honored this year.

CIO magazine has recognized Marriott for its development of an underground data recovery and development center in an energy efficient, naturally-cooled mine 220 feet underground. Once completed, the new facility positions Marriott to in-source disaster recovery operations, leverage a second data center for development, testing and quality assurance, and accommodate future business growth.

"We are extremely proud to be recognized for our accomplishments," says Wendell Fox, Marriott International's senior vice president of Information Resources Shared Services. "This award demonstrates our dedication to our corporate philosophy of environmental awareness and commitment to innovative technology solutions."

"The CIO 100 honors organizations that have used technology in innovative ways to generate value to the business," said Abbie Lundberg, Editor in Chief of CIO magazine. "Unlike other top lists, it's not just about who's biggest -- it's about who's doing the most interesting and relevant things."

The recipients of this year's CIO 100 award were selected through a three-step process. First, companies filled out an online application form detailing their innovative practices in both business and IT. Next, a team of judges reviewed the applications in depth, looking for unique practices and substantial results. Finally, CIO editors reviewed the judges' recommendations and voted on the final 100. Once the top 100 honorees were selected, several honorees were chosen to receive an additional special award.

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