

Berlin's largest hotel and conference centre further increases competitive edge with new communications from NextiraOne

Estrel Hotel and Conference Centre expands services for mobile workers and reduces overheads

Germany – 2 July, 2007. Europe's leading expert in communications services, NextiraOne, has enabled Berlin's prestigious Estrel Hotel and Conference Centre to further extend services to guests and delegates with a new telecommunications infrastructure. In a highly competitive European conferencing market, hotels and conference centres must be equipped to offer the latest communications technology to mobile workers. The new network, which includes voice-over-internet protocol (VoIP) telephony and wireless internet access, empowers the hotel's staff to improve communications with guests and share critical information with its sister hotel, Hotel Ellington. The new infrastructure also provides guests with wireless broadband in all 1,125 rooms, and enables them to access internet services from anywhere in the hotel or conference centre.

Mario Gärtner, IT Manager, Estrel Hotel said: "The Estrel Hotel and Conference Centre has a reputation for being one step ahead of its competitors in terms of innovation and quality of service. In an international market, where we're competing against European cities as well as other conference centres, we have to make our offering as compelling as possible for the business traveller. By deploying this project we're able to provide the very latest in communications technology, ensuring guests have an even more enjoyable stay or can host an even slicker business event."

For the project implementation, NextiraOne selected Alcatel-Lucent's OmniPCX Enterprise technology for IP Networking, local area network (LAN) switching, wireless internet (WiFi) and IP telephony. Estrel Hotel can now reap the benefits of being able to offer a contemporary VoIP telephone system, high speed wireless broadband, remote access voicemail and a new integrated accounting system. Besides from cost savings, the new network infrastructure will simplify the hotel's booking processes while the new accounting system will ensure a more timely, streamlined billing

procedure.

Axel Schnell, General Manager, NextiraOne Germany, said: "The Estrel Hotel's project will demonstrate what a co-ordinated approach to communications services can do to support businesses and dramatically improve quality of communications. NextiraOne's expertise in delivering first class, communications solutions in many of Europe's top hotels is the reason it was chosen to help drive the Estrel Hotel and Conference Centre forward."

The Estrel Hotel and Conference Centre, with capacity for 6,000 people, was built in 1994 and occupies a space of more than 230 thousand square metres. NextiraOne's Experts integrated technology from a number of hospitality focused partners to deliver the right solution for Estrel. The ecosystems included specialist hospitality sector experts GoingSoft and Tiger Communications delivering ADSL switches and modems as well as accounting and voicemail software.

The project follows the successful refurbishment of the network infrastructure for the hotel's subsidiary, Hotel Ellington, by NextiraOne in 2006.

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About NextiraOne

Headquartered in Paris, NextiraOne are Europe's leading experts in communications services. We design, install, maintain and support all of our customers' communications needs from voice to mobility, security and applications. We provide seamless, end-to-end communications solutions working with the leading technology vendors in the industry to deliver maximum business benefit to our customers. Discover more at: <http://www.nextiraone-eu.com>

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About Estrel Hotel

The Estrel Berlin is Europe's largest convention, entertainment and hotel complex. Under its motto "Convention, entertainment and accommodation – everything under one roof", the Estrel Hotel offers its guests unique conference facilities in the new, multi-functional Estrel Convention Centre. Entertainment of an international standard is provided at the Estrel Festival Centre, and guests enjoy a 4-star plus service in the Estrel Hotel. Boasting 1,125 rooms and suites, the Estrel is Germany's largest hotel. Combined with first-class catering and logistical facilities that have helped successfully host numerous major events, this innovative concept has become a major draw for Berlin.

A total of 550 people are permanently employed by the Estrel complex, including apprentices and trainees, as well as an additional 150 people sourced from outside contractors.

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