

Choice Hotels Promotes Judd Wadholm to Senior Vice President and General Manager, Core Brands

Move Bolsters Company's Commitment to Upper Midscale, Midscale and Economy Brands, Including Comfort, Country Inn & Suites, Quality Inn, Econo Lodge and More

NORTH BETHESDA, Md., April 9, 2024 /PRNewswire/ -- Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH), one of the world's largest lodging franchisors, announced today that it has promoted Judd Wadholm to Senior Vice President and General Manager, Core Brands. A nearly 17-year veteran of Choice Hotels International and Radisson Americas, Mr. Wadholm is now charged with driving the growth and performance of the company's nine upper midscale, midscale, and economy brands in the U.S. market, which as of the end of 2023 consist of 5,500 hotels. Most recently, Mr. Wadholm served as Vice President, Managed Hotels Americas.

"Even as we up the game in upscale and extend our lead in extended stay, Choice is as committed as ever to growing and improving the performance of our great core brands," said Chief Segment and International Operations Officer Raul Ramirez. "Judd has a proven ability to develop strong relationships with hotel owners and operators while driving hotel revenue, profitability, and guest satisfaction, and I'm confident he'll help lead our core portfolio to the next level."

Choice's core brand portfolio includes some of the hospitality industry's best-known brand names: Comfort, Country Inn & Suites, Sleep Inn, Quality Inn, Clarion, Clarion Pointe, Park Inn by Radisson, Econo Lodge and Rodeway Inn. Recent highlights include:

- In March, Sleep Inn unveiled newly redesigned guest rooms and common areas as part of its Scenic Dreams prototype, which was found in consumer testing to significantly increase guests' likelihood to stay.
- In December 2023, Country Inn & Suites awarded 10 new franchise agreements, pushing the total number of agreements in 2023 to 19, the most for the brand in a single year since 2016.
- Comfort opened 33 new hotels in 2023, the most in a single year since 2019, including the first new-construction Rise & Shine prototype Comfort hotel in Mountain Grove, Missouri.
- Quality Inn opened 35 new hotels and awarded an impressive 64 franchise agreements in 2023.

"We call these brands our core for a reason," said Mr. Wadholm. "It's because they are central to what Choice does and to the tremendous value we offer hotel franchisees and guests alike. Our core is strong, and I can't wait to get to work with our talented team and experienced hotel owners to drive performance and grow our Core Brands portfolio."

Mr. Wadholm joined Choice in 2022 and previously held leadership roles in operations, owner relations, and finance with Radisson Americas and its predecessors. He holds a Master of Business Administration from St. Cloud State University and a Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance from the University of North Dakota.

About Choice Hotels®

Choice Hotels International, Inc. (NYSE: CHH) is one of the largest lodging franchisors in the world. The challenger in upscale and a leader in midscale and extended stay, Choice® has over 7,500 hotels, representing more than 630,000 rooms, in 46 countries and territories. A diverse portfolio of 22 brands that range from full-service upper upscale properties to midscale, extended stay and economy enables Choice® to meet travelers' needs in more places and for more occasions while driving more value for franchise owners and shareholders. The award-winning Choice Privileges® rewards program and co-brand credit card options provide members with a fast and easy way to earn reward nights and personalized perks. For more information, visit www.choicehotels.com.

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