



Marriott Selects Ernst & Young as Independent Auditor

WASHINGTON, May 3 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Marriott International, Inc. announced today that its board of directors has appointed Ernst & Young LLP as the company's independent auditor for 2002, replacing Arthur Andersen LLP.

The change was based on the unanimous recommendation of the Audit Committee after careful consideration. "We are pleased to select Ernst & Young as our independent auditor," said Arne M. Sorenson, executive vice president and chief financial officer of Marriott International.

Prior to the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP, Arthur Andersen had served as the company's independent accountants since 1959. "We appreciate the dedication and professionalism Andersen brought to Marriott, and thank the firm and the individuals who worked on our account for their years of service," said Sorenson.

Although the timing of events involving Andersen this year prevented Marriott from submitting the selection of its independent auditor to the shareholders in 2002, the company fully expects to resume this practice next year.