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## YOTEL NEW YORK AWARDED PRESTIGIOUS LEED® GOLD CERTIFICATION

New York, NY, September 5, 2012—YOTEL New York, located on tenth Avenue at W42nd Street, part of the MiMA development by Related Companies, has been awarded LEED® “Gold” certification established by the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI). LEED is the nation’s preeminent program for the design, construction and operation of high performance green buildings.

"Construction of YOTEL New York offered us a great opportunity to demonstrate our commitment to water and energy conservation as well as sustainable practices overall," said YOTEL Operations Director, Nigel Buchanan.

YOTEL New York achieved LEED certification for energy, lighting, water and material use, as well as incorporating a variety of other sustainable strategies. By using less energy and water, LEED certified buildings reduce greenhouse gas emissions and contribute to a healthier environment for hotel guests, employees and the local community.

“YOTEL New York’s LEED certification demonstrates tremendous green building leadership,” said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO & Founding Chair, U.S. Green Building Council. “The urgency of USGBC’s mission has challenged the industry to move faster and reach further than ever before, and YOTEL New York serves as a prime example with just how much we can accomplish.”

LEED certification of YOTEL New York was based on a number of green design and construction features that positively impact the project itself and the broader community. These features include:

1. High efficiency lighting, which includes LED lamps that shine as bright as halogen lamps using a fraction of the energy.
2. A heat recovery system that captures the heat and humidity from the exhaust air and transfers it to the supply in winter and vice versa in the summer. This ensures that all the energy invested in tempering the ventilation air is not lost from the building.
3. A rainwater collection system that captures water, which is then used to irrigate the landscaped terrace. This strategy not only conserves drinking water for potable needs, but also reduces storm water runoff from the site.
4. Occupancy sensors in each YOTEL cabin automatically turn on the lights to greet guests when they walk in the door and turn them off when guests leave. The occupancy sensors also scale back the heating and air conditioning when the room is vacant for an extended period of time.
5. Renewable energy certificates, which equal to 35% of the building’s total predicted energy use for 2 years, support the generation of wind and solar power.
6. Building finishes were hand selected in part for their indoor air quality features.
7. Before opening, YOTEL tested the air quality of a sample set of rooms and amenity spaces to confirm all of their indoor air quality goals had been achieved.

## **About U.S. Green Building Council**

The Washington, D.C.-based U.S. Green Building Council is committed to a prosperous and sustainable future for our nation through cost-efficient and energy-saving green buildings.

With a community comprising 80 local affiliates, more than 18,000 member companies and organizations, and more than 167,000 LEED Professional Credential holders, USGBC is the driving force of an industry that is projected to contribute \$554 billion to the U.S. gross domestic product from 2009-2013. USGBC leads an unlikely diverse constituency of builders and environmentalists, corporations and nonprofit organizations, elected officials and concerned citizens, and teachers and students.

Buildings in the United States are responsible for 39% of CO2 emissions, 40% of energy consumption, 13% water consumption and 15% of GDP per year, making green building a source of significant economic and environmental opportunity. Greater building efficiency can meet 85% of future U.S. demand for energy, and a national commitment to green building has the potential to generate 2.5 million American jobs.

## **About LEED**

The U.S. Green Building Council's LEED green building certification system is the foremost program for the design, construction and operation of green buildings. Over 100,000 projects are currently participating in the LEED rating systems, comprising over 8 billion square feet of construction space in all 50 states and 114 countries.

By using less energy, LEED-certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the larger community.

USGBC was co-founded by current President and CEO Rick Fedrizzi, who spent 25 years as a Fortune 500 executive. Under his 15-year leadership, the organization has become the preeminent green building, membership, policy, standards, influential, education and research organization in the nation.

For more information, visit [www.usgbc.org](http://www.usgbc.org).

## **About YOTEL New York**

YOTEL was created by YO! founder Simon Woodroffe and YOTEL CEO Gerard Greene. Inspired by first class travel, they have translated the language of luxury airline travel and Japanese influence into a small but luxurious cabin. YOTEL's first city centre location 2 blocks from Times Square at 10th Avenue and West 42nd Street features 669 stylish cabins. 'Premium' cabins come with convertible beds for saving space, monsoon showers, technowall with TV and MP3/iPOD connectivity, workstation and free super strength WiFi. For the 'extra' factor there are 19 'First' cabins, some with private outdoor terraces and hot tubs and three 1,100 sqft VIP 2 cabin suites with 360 degree views, rotating king size beds and dining tables that convert to a billiard table! YOTEL New York is home to YOBOT, the world's first robotic luggage concierge, and 'FOUR' with 20,000 sqft of flexible entertainment space to include 'Dohyo' restaurant, Club Lounge surrounded by private bookable cabins and DJ at the weekends, New York's largest outdoor hotel terrace and Studiyo for meeting, cinema screening and parties. YOTEL New York received its LEED "Gold" Rating from the U.S. Green Building Council in 2012, signifying the hotel's dedication to environmental initiatives. YOTEL currently operates three terminal airport properties at London Heathrow, London Gatwick and Amsterdam Schiphol.

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