43rd ANNUAL NYU

INTERNATIONAL HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY INVESTMENT CONFERENCE

JUNE 7-8, 2021

AGENDA

Conference Chair
Jonathan M. Tisch
Chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co. and Co-Chairman of the Board of Loews Corporation

Conference Vice Chair
Jeffrey Stewart
Founder, Walnut Hill Advisors

Conference Host
Nicolas Graf
Associate Dean
NYU School of Professional Studies
Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality

Conference Co-Host
Susan Greenbaum
Dean
NYU School of Professional Studies

Conference Coordinator
Dorothy A. Jennings
Executive Vice President, HVS
Conference Coordinator
NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference

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JONATHAN M. TISCH CENTER OF HOSPITALITY
MONDAY, JUNE 7th

1:15 PM EDT
WELCOME REMARKS

Jonathan M. Tisch
Chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co.
and Co-Chairman of the Board of Loews Corporation

1:30 PM - 2:30 PM EDT
THE CEO’S CHECK IN: WHERE ARE WE, WHERE ARE WE GOING, AND WHEN WILL WE GET THERE?

We are emerging from unprecedented times. Which business conditions have changed permanently, and which are looking as though they are snapping back into their prior shape? Where are the hazard signs, and where are the tremendous opportunities? What are the imperatives of lodging industry leaders right now?

MODERATOR:
Sara Eisen
Anchor, Closing Bell, CNBC

PANELISTS:
Keith Barr
Chief Executive Officer, IHG Hotels & Resorts

Sébastien M. Bazin
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Accor

Tony Capuano
Chief Executive Officer, Marriott International

Mark S. Hoplamazian
President and Chief Executive Officer, Hyatt Hotels Corporation

David Kong
President and Chief Executive Officer, BWH Hotel Group

Christopher J. Nassetta
President and Chief Executive Officer, Hilton

2:45 PM - 3:15 PM EDT
POLICY MATTERS: EMERGING CONSIDERATIONS FOR EVOLVING CONDITIONS

The economic and societal stresses of the past 16 months have thrown into high relief the role of public policy in shaping the lodging and travel industries. As we emerge into the post-pandemic world, what are the top issues and, as importantly, how are they being addressed in the public forum? Learn about today’s most compelling policy issues from the individuals who are not only leading the national dialogue, but who are also leading the organizations that most directly influence Washington.

MODERATOR:
Jonathan M. Tisch
Chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co.
and Co-Chairman of the Board, Loews Corporation

PANELISTS:
Roger Dow
President and Chief Executive Officer, U.S. Travel Association

Andy Ingraham
President, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers (NABHOOD)

Chip Rogers
President and Chief Executive Officer, American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA)

Cecil P. Staton
President and Chief Executive Officer, AAHOA
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM EDT
THE MONEY TALKS: NAVIGATING CASH AND THE CAPITAL STACK IN THESE TIMES

Whether it is the after-effects of debt forbearance, a hard stop to capital spending, needed renovations, or other of the many ramifications of the cash flow decimation that has resulted from so many hotels being closed or under-occupied for so long, many hotel asset owners need capital. But can rescue capital end up sinking you, your company or your asset? Hear these leaders’ thoughts on how and where to get and structure cash and capital.

MODERATOR:
Jeffrey A. Horwitz
Senior Partner, Proskauer

PANELISTS:
Michael D. Bluhm
Managing Director, Global Head of Gaming & Lodging, Morgan Stanley-Investment Banking

Michael I. Lipson
President and Chief Executive Officer, Access Point Financial

R. Tyler Morse
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, MCR

Mit Shah
Chief Executive Officer, Noble Investment Group

3:00 PM - 4:00 PM EDT
CEOS’ THINK TANK: HOW STRONG LEADERS ADAPT TO CHANGE

In times of stress, successful organisms adapt. The same is true of organizations and their leaders. In the midst of the unprecedented pressures of our time, how have the brands adapted? Top leadership from the brand side of the business shares what is being done, what is being learned, and what we can expect next.

MODERATOR:
Gilda Perez-Alvarado
Global Chief Executive Officer, JLL Hotels & Hospitality

PANELISTS:
Jim Alderman
Chief Executive Officer, Radisson Hotel Group, Americas

Geoff Ballotti
President and Chief Executive Officer, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Sloan Dean
Chief Executive Officer and President, Remington Hotels

Patrick Pacious
President and Chief Executive Officer, Choice Hotels International
Jim Alderman
Chief Executive Officer
Radisson Hotel Group, Americas

Jim Alderman is the chief executive officer, Americas for Radisson Hotel Group and is based in the company’s US headquarters in Minnetonka, Minn. Alderman is responsible for the corporate offices and more than 680 hotels in the company’s portfolio throughout the Americas. He also is a member of the U. Board of Directors for Radisson Hotel Group.

With more than 34 years of experience in hospitality real estate, Alderman has an extensive background in hotel and restaurant development, private equity fund investment, management contracts, franchises, public/private partnerships and investor relations. Most recently, he served as executive vice president for Extended Stay America (ESA), where he was instrumental in driving the company’s franchising strategy. In just 18 months, he took ESA from zero to 150 franchise deals. He was responsible for their next-generation product through new construction and franchise sales, and asset management of existing real estate portfolio, as well as acquisitions/disposition, and future redevelopment.

Alderman joined ESA from Kimpton Hotels where he was the chief development officer. Prior to joining Kimpton, he held numerous senior leadership positions with Wyndham, Starwood Capital, IHG, and Ernst & Young.

Throughout his career, Alderman has been involved in the acquisition, development, joint venture, and financing of over $15 billion of hotel real estate projects globally. He has helped guide the strategy and branding of hundreds of hotel projects from limited service and extended stay to independent boutiques and ultra-luxury properties with branded residential components.

He earned a Bachelor of Science in Real Estate from Florida State University. He is an executive board member for The Center of Real Estate Education and Research at Florida State University.

Gilda Perez-Alvarado
Global Chief Executive Officer
JLL Hotels & Hospitality

Gilda Perez-Alvarado is the global chief executive officer of JLL Hotels & Hospitality, where she is responsible for investment sales, debt and equity placement, strategic advisory, and asset management, supported by a team of 350 hotel professionals in over 30 countries. Additionally, she leads the group’s Global Hotel Desk, a specialized team of cross-border investment sales professionals based in the Middle East, Asia Pacific, the Americas, and Europe. Previously, she served as chief executive for the Hotels & Hospitality Americas region.

In the past 36 months, Perez-Alvarado has utilized her global experience to coordinate the sale of several high-profile assets, including The St. Regis New York, The Plaza Hotel in New York, Montage Beverly Hills, Fairmont Copley Plaza in Boston, and the Fairmont portfolio in Canada.

Prior to rejoining the team in New York in 2010, Perez-Alvarado was based in Madrid as head of hotel debt advisory in Spain and Portugal, where she was responsible for working with financial institutions for hotel asset receiverships and workouts, as well as supporting the executive team in Spain and London in international capital markets. Prior to Madrid, she was based in London and responsible for luxury hotel transactions in the United Kingdom, Benelux, and Scandinavia. Prior to her experience in London, she was based in the New York and Miami offices of JLL beginning in 2004, and before that, she worked for the hospitality and leisure advisory practice of PricewaterhouseCoopers in Miami for more than two years.

Perez-Alvarado serves as a member of JLL’s Americas Capital Markets Executive Committee, Cornell’s School of Hotel Administration Dean’s Advisory Board, and the Global Advisory Board of Qiddiya, a PIF giga-project in Saudi Arabia. She also is an active member of the Industry Real Estate Financing Advisory Council (IREFAC). In 2016, she was named the Jack A. Shaffer Financial Advisor of the Year.

Perez-Alvarado earned an executive MBA from Instituto de Empresa (IE Business School) in Madrid in 2010. In 2002, she earned a bachelor of science from the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration, from which she graduated with honors and served as Degree Marshall for her graduating class. She also has attended executive education courses on competitive strategy and leadership at INSEAD and Stanford Graduate School of Business, respectively.

Geoff Ballotti
President and Chief Executive Officer
Wyndham Hotels & Resorts

Geoff Ballotti is the president and chief executive officer of Wyndham Hotels & Resorts, the world’s largest hotel franchisor with more than 9,200 hotels across 20 iconic brands in 80 countries united by the award-winning loyalty program, Wyndham Rewards. Under his leadership, Wyndham Hotels & Resorts makes hotel travel possible for all.

In 2018, Ballotti led the company’s journey to a pure-play hotel company with its spin-off from parent Wyndham Worldwide and stewarded its acquisition of La Quinta, the largest acquisition in the company’s history. Under his leadership, Wyndham commands a leading presence in both the economy and midscale segments of the lodging industry with two of the top three brands in each segment.

First joining Wyndham Worldwide in 2008, Ballotti previously served as president and chief executive officer of Wyndham Exchange & Rentals, the global leader in vacation exchange and the world’s largest professionally managed vacation rentals destination business across Europe and the United States.

Prior to joining Wyndham, Ballotti spent nearly 20 years in various leadership positions at Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide both in the US and in Europe, including as president of Starwood North America where he led the 65,000 associates of the owned, managed, and franchised St. Regis, Luxury Collection, Westin, Le Meridien, W, and Sheraton hotel brands. In Europe, he served as managing
Keith Barr  
Chief Executive Officer  
IHG Hotels & Resorts  

Keith has been chief executive officer of IHG® since July 2017. He is responsible for implementing IHG's strategy for high-quality growth and generating industry leading value creation for hotel owners, operators and shareholders. This strategy focuses on strengthening a diverse portfolio of differentiated brands, building scale in key markets, creating lifetime guest relationships, and delivering highly profitable revenues to hotels.

Barr has spent more than 25 years working in the hospitality industry across a wide range of roles, having started his career in hotel operations. He has been a member of IHG’s Executive Committee since April 2011 and served as chief commercial officer (CCO) for four years before being appointed CEO. Prior to his role as CCO, he spent four years as CEO of IHG’s Greater China business, where under his leadership, IHG drove outstanding results and helped set the foundations for growth in a key market.

Barr joined IHG in 2000 and subsequently held a number of senior positions in IHG’s Americas and former Asia, Middle East and Africa (AMEA) regions. He was previously vice president of operations for Midscale brands in North America, vice president of operations for the Holiday Inn brand in North America and chief operating officer for Australia, New Zealand, and South Pacific.

Prior to joining IHG, Barr held several senior positions at Bristol Hotels and Resorts, which was acquired by IHG in 2000. He is a non-executive director of Yum! Brands. He also sits on the Board of WHTL (Women in Hospitality Travel & Leisure). Barr is a graduate of Cornell University’s School of Hotel Administration and is currently a member of the Dean’s Advisory Board for The School of Hotel Administration, Cornell SC Johnson College of Business.

Sébastien M. Bazin  
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer  
Accor  

After five years working in several financial positions in New York, San Francisco, and London, Sébastien Bazin was appointed CEO of Hottinguer Rivaud Finances, an investment bank, in 1990, and then CEO of L’Immobilière Hôtelière, a hotel developer in France, in 1992. In 1997, he moved to Colony Capital, a private real estate investment firm, to head its European branch and to lead several acquisitions, principally in the hospitality sector (Générale des Eaux, Club Méditerranée, Lucien Barrière, Fairmont & Raffles, Buffalo Grill, Château Lascombes, Stadia Consulting, and others).

Bazin joined the Accor Board of Directors in 2005, and via Colony Capital, he became a Paris Saint-Germain Football Club shareholder in 2006 and the club’s chairman in 2009.

In August 2013, Bazin resigned from his duties at Colony Capital and was appointed chairman and CEO of Accor.

Bazin has served as chairman of the Théâtre du Châtelet Board of Directors since 2015 (and a board member since 2013), as vice-chairman of the Gustave Roussy Foundation’s Supervisory Board, and as a member of the GE Board of Directors since 2016.

Michael D. Bluhm  
Managing Director, Global Head of Gaming and Lodging  
Morgan Stanley-Investment Banking  

As a managing director of investment banking at Morgan Stanley, Michael Bluhm is responsible for capital raising and financial advisory services to the real estate industry. Additionally, he is head of Morgan Stanley’s global gaming and lodging practice. Throughout his career, he has been involved in more than $150 billion of public and private debt, equity, and equity-linked offerings, as well as a range of merger, acquisition, and restructuring assignments, primarily with publicly traded companies. For the period of 2017 through 2019, Bluhm stepped down at Morgan Stanley to take the role of EVP, CFO, and head of strategy at Host Hotels & Resorts, an S&P 500 company and the largest owner of hotels in the United States. Bluhm returned to Morgan Stanley earlier this year. He is an active member of The Real Estate Roundtable, Nareit, and AHLA, including an elected role on IREFA.

Anthony “Tony” Capuano  
Chief Executive Officer  
Marriott International  

Anthony “Tony” Capuano is chief executive officer of Marriott International. In this role, he presides over the world’s largest hospitality company and some of the most iconic brands in travel.

Capuano joined Marriott in 1995 and was instrumental in its steady growth over the years which culminated in the acquisition of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide in 2016. The company now has more than 7,600 properties across 133 countries and territories and 30 brands. It also has the travel industry’s largest customer-loyalty program, Marriott Bonvoy, which has more than 147 million members.

Before his appointment as CEO in February 2021, Capuano was group president, Global Development, Design and Operations Services where he led the strategic unit growth of all of Marriott’s brands while overseeing the global design team as well as Marriott’s global operating standards and protocols for thousands of properties around the world. He also was responsible for oversight of the EDITION Hotels, a unique concept in the luxury lifestyle hotel space conceived by hotelier Ian Schrager and Marriott International.
Capuano began his Marriott career as part of the Market Planning and Feasibility team, where he helped the company assess the overall economic viability of new and existing hotels, balancing the company’s interests with the needs of hotel owners and developers, investors, lenders, and operators.

That role prepared him to lead Marriott’s development efforts in the Western United States and Canada for its full-service hotel brands. Later, his responsibilities expanded to include North America, the Caribbean, and Latin America. In 2009, he assumed global development responsibility. He began overseeing global design in 2014 and global operations in January 2020.

Capuano earned a bachelor’s degree from Cornell University in Hotel Administration. He is an active member of the Cornell Hotel Society, The Cornell School of Hotel Administration Dean’s Advisory Board, as well as the Business Roundtable and the American Hotel and Lodging Association’s IREFAC Council. Additionally, he is an active member of the Board of Directors of Save Venice, a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving the artistic heritage of Venice, Italy. He resides in Potomac, Maryland with his wife and daughter.

Sloan Dean
Chief Executive Officer and President
Remington Hotels

Sloan F. Dean III joined Remington January 1, 2018 as COO, and was promoted to CEO & president on January 1, 2020. Prior to leading Remington, Dean was with Ashford for the five years prior as SVP of Underwriting & Revenue Optimization. Remington manages 88 hotels in 27 states with annual revenues over $1B. Prior to Remington & Ashford, Dean held vice president of Business Development & Acquisitions, vice president of Sales & Marketing, senior vice president of Revenue & Market Strategy, corporate director of Revenue Management, Regional Revenue manager and analyst positions with Interstate Hotels. Alliance Hospitality, Noble Investment Group, IHG, & Oliver Wyman. Dean holds a BS in Industrial & Systems Engineering and a Certificate in Finance from Georgia Tech. He is currently a member of Young President’s Organization (YPO), Hilton’s Distribution Owner Advisory Council, ASFONA Board of Directors, and AH&LA Board of Directors.

Roger Dow
President and Chief Executive Officer
U.S. Travel Association

Roger Dow is president and CEO of U.S. Travel Association, the Washington, D.C.-based organization representing all segments of travel in America. U.S. Travel’s mission is to increase travel to and within the United States.

As the leading travel industry advocate, Dow and his team regularly confer with administration and congressional leaders to advance policies that benefit the broader travel industry. His efforts have resulted in major legislative victories, including securing pandemic-related relief for the hard-hit travel industry, establishing and renewing Brand USA, the highly effective national travel and tourism promotion program, and procuring funds to maintain America’s treasured national parks. Dow and U.S. Travel also are leaders of the Meetings Mean Business Coalition, which promotes and defends the value of face-to-face business meetings, trade shows, conferences, and conventions, as well as the Let’s Go There Coalition, a domestic initiative to inspire future travel following steep declines associated with the coronavirus pandemic.

U.S. Travel provides the industry with unrivaled research and insights and holds renowned annual events, such as IPW, the leading international inbound travel trade show, and ESTO, the premier learning and knowledge-sharing forum for destination marketing professionals. Most recently, Dow launched The Dow Report, a regular video series that features conversations with prominent CEOs across the industry about their leadership throughout the pandemic.

For his efforts to unify the travel industry and increase its effectiveness on Capitol Hill, Dow has received multiple honors and awards. Dow has also held seats on several boards, including ASAE, GWsae, MPI Foundation, PCMA, Tourism Diversity Matters, RE/MAX International, the Travel Institute, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Committee of 100, among others.

Prior to joining U.S. Travel in 2005, Dow spent 34 years at Marriott International, rising to senior vice president of global and field sales. Dow served in the United States Army with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam, where he received the Bronze Star and other citations. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree from Seton Hall University and was honored as a Most Distinguished Alumnus in 2012. In addition, he holds an honorary degree from Johnson & Wales University.

Sara Eisen
Closing Bell, CNBC

Sara Eisen is co-anchor of CNBC’s “Closing Bell” (M-F, 3PM-5PM ET). She is known for her deep expertise in financial markets and the global economy as well as regular news making interviews with some of the most prominent names in the financial world, including Phil Knight, Leon Black, Janet Yellen, and Christine Lagarde, among others.

Previously, Eisen was co-anchor of the 10AM ET hour on CNBC’s “Squawk on the Street” (M-F, 9AM-11AM ET), which broadcasts from Post 9 at the New York Stock Exchange. Before that, she was co-anchor of CNBC’s “Power Lunch” (M-F, 2PM-3PM ET) and co-anchor of CNBC’s “Worldwide Exchange” (M-F, 5AM-6AM ET), both of which broadcast from CNBC Global Headquarters in Englewood Cliffs, NJ. She joined CNBC in December 2013 as a correspondent, focusing on the global consumer.

Prior to CNBC, Eisen was co-anchor of “Bloomberg Surveillance” as well as a correspondent for Bloomberg Television, where she covered global macroeconomics, policy, and business. During that time, she covered the European debt crisis, and the tsunami aftermath and Fukushima nuclear crisis in Japan. Eisen also hosted the Bloomberg Radio program, “On the Economy.”


Eisen holds a master’s degree in broadcast journalism with a concentration in business reporting from the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University.
with virtually every major player in these industries, including Group, he has handled virtually every type of matter and has worked lodging. As co-head of the firm’s Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure transactions and disputes relating to real estate, and particularly Africa, and India.

Leading Proskauer’s Private Equity Real Estate Group, Horwitz works with a team of 75 lawyers from across the firm advising on complex transactions and disputes relating to real estate, and particularly lodging. As co-head of the firm’s Hospitality, Gaming & Leisure Group, he has handled virtually every type of matter and has worked with virtually every major player in these industries, including transactions for nearly 3,500 hotels comprising more than 275,000 rooms and involving more than $12 billion. Horwitz’s experience, both in and outside the US, extends to hotel and casino development and construction, portfolio and single-property acquisitions, sales and restructurings, financings, management, marketing, reservations systems, litigation counseling and strategic planning, and ancillary services. This breadth of work is key to executing complex and sophisticated transactions for clients such as Accor, Dilmun, Fortress, Gehr Hospitality, Rubicon, and Yucaipa, among others.

Ingraham first started by marketing South Florida’s merchandise and services to the Caribbean islands. He launched Horizons Marketing Group International, his first company, in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The focus of his company was to provide car rental, hotel, and flight packages for Caribbean travelers to South Florida. As president/CEO of Horizons International Group, Ingraham has been instrumental in expanding its marketing and public relations, with special emphasis on African American and multicultural tourism. Horizons created a number of programs for international, domestic, and Caribbean destinations. He also has worked with many clients to create conferences, including the Vibe Music Conference, FUBU, Impact, and Revolt Music Conference. He was responsible for recruiting the American Tennis Association (ATA) to Fort Lauderdale and the Acapulco Black Film Festival to Miami when it changed the name to the American Black Film Festival.

Later, Ingraham saw the opportunity for multicultural tourism and began searching for ways hotels could cater to a more diverse population. In 1999, he founded the National Association of Black Hotel Owners, Operators & Developers (NABHOOD), which was officially incorporated in 2001. He is president and CEO of NABHOOD, whose mission statement is “to increase the number of African Americans developing, managing, operating, and owning hotels.” He has created partnerships with many hotel brands, including Marriott, Hilton, Choice, Starwood, Wyndham, IHG, Best Western, La Quinta, and others, with the purpose to grow African American ownership. Today, NABHOOD members have more than 1,000 hotels both domestically and internationally, and that number is expected to increase to more than 1,500 hotels in the next five years.

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David Kong

President and Chief Executive Officer of Hyatt Hotels Corporation

Mark S. Hoplamazian

President and Chief Executive Officer of Hyatt Hotels Corporation

Jeffrey A. Horwitz

Senior Partner of Proskauer

Andy Ingraham

President, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) board of directors and he also serves as the vice chair of the board of Brand USA. Hoplamazian is on the board of directors, the executive committee of the board of directors of World Business Chicago, and the board of trustees of the Aspen Institute and the Latin School of Chicago. He is a member of the World Travel & Tourism Council and the Commercial Club of Chicago. He also is a member of the Discovery Class of the Henry Crown Fellowship.

David Kong

President and Chief Executive Officer of Best Western Group

Jeffrey A. Horwitz

Senior Partner of Proskauer

Andy Ingraham

President, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHLA) board of directors and he also serves as the vice chair of the board of Brand USA. Hoplamazian is on the board of directors, the executive committee of the board of directors of World Business Chicago, and the board of trustees of the Aspen Institute and the Latin School of Chicago. He is a member of the World Travel & Tourism Council and the Commercial Club of Chicago. He also is a member of the Discovery Class of the Henry Crown Fellowship.

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company to its greatest growth to date. Most recently, he led the acquisition of WorldHotels, a luxury hotel collection, to expand Best Western Hotels & Resorts’ portfolio to 17 brands across every chain scale segment.

Under Kong’s leadership, Best Western Hotels & Resorts has become a frontrunner in innovation, being named one of the top 10 “World’s Most Innovative Companies” by Fast Company in 2018. Kong’s dedication to innovation was further honored in 2019 when both Hotel Interactive and Guest Magazine named Kong “Innovator of the Year.”

His career includes serving as executive vice president of international operations, senior vice president of marketing and development, and senior vice president of strategic services and operations. Prior to Best Western Hotels & Resorts, Kong held leadership positions with KPMG, Hyatt, Omni, and Hilton. A long-time, active member of the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHLA), Kong served as its chairman in 2010, its centennial year. Kong continues to serve on the executive committee and board of trustees of the AHLA Education Foundation. In 2010, Kong was appointed to the US Department of Commerce Travel and Tourism Advisory Board, on which he served for three years.

Kong received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hospitality Sales & Marketing Association International (HSMAI) in 2014 and the 2013 Stephen W. Brener Silver Plate Award at the NYU International Hospitality Industry Investment Conference for his contributions to the resurgence of Best Western and his services to the industry. Kong also was inducted into the University of Hawai'i Hall of Honor in 2013.

Kong completed the Executive Development Program at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University, and he earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from the School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawai'i.

Michael I. Lipson
President and Chief Executive Officer
Access Point Financial

Michael I. Lipson serves as chief executive officer and chairman of the Board at Access Point Financial. He has more than 40 years of experience in finance, asset management, and banking services. Prior to serving on the Access Point Financial board, he held numerous leadership roles, including serving as senior vice president, Multifamily Asset Management & Operations for Freddie Mac. During his tenure in this position, Lipson led business operations and oversaw asset management and technology teams responsible for day-to-day functions, as well as risk and loss mitigation of the Freddie Mac Multifamily business. Additional responsibilities included overseeing all loan funding and servicing, surveillance, insurance, special servicing and risk governance activities. Other notable roles that Lipson has previously held include serving as president and CEO of Berkadia Commercial Mortgage, executive vice president at Capmark Finance, and as president/founder at Lexington Mortgage Company.

Lipson holds a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, as well as a Master’s in Real Estate & Urban Development Planning from The American University. He also is recognized as a Certified Mortgage Banker (CMB) by the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA).

R. Tyler Morse
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
MCR

Tyler Morse is chairman and CEO of MCR, which comprises three discretionary funds and is the fourth-largest hotel owner-operator in the United States. With $4 billion of assets under management, MCR owns and operates 100 hotels (over 13,000 guestrooms) across 30 states and has developed landmark properties such as the TWA Hotel at JFK Airport.

Morse serves on the Board of Directors of NYC & Company, the convention and visitor arm of New York City. He is a member of the Marriott International (NASDAQ: MAR) Courtyard by Marriott Advisory Board and the Hilton Worldwide (NYSE: HLT) Distribution Advisory Committee. He serves on the advisory board of the NYU SPS Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality and on the Policy Advisory Board for the Fisher Center for Real Estate and Urban Economics at the University of California, Berkeley, Haas School of Business. Morse is an active member of IREFAC, PREA, NAREIT and The Real Estate Roundtable. He serves as a trustee on the board of Prep for Prep.

Morse graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, and Harvard Business School.

Christopher J. Nassetta
President and Chief Executive Officer
Hilton

Christopher J. Nassetta is president and CEO for Hilton. He joined the company in 2007. Previously, Nassetta was president and CEO of Host Hotels & Resorts beginning in 2000. He joined Host in 1995 as executive vice president and was elected chief operating officer in 1997.

Before joining Host, Nassetta co-founded Bailey Capital Corporation in 1991, where he was responsible for the operations of the real estate investment and advisory firm. Prior to founding Bailey Capital Corporation, he spent seven years at The Oliver Carr Company, ultimately serving as chief development officer. In this role, he was responsible for all development and related activities for one of the largest commercial real estate companies in the mid-Atlantic region.

Nassetta graduated from the University of Virginia McIntire School of Commerce with a degree in finance. He currently serves on McIntire’s Advisory Board.

Patrick Pacious
President and Chief Executive Officer
Choice Hotels International

Patrick Pacious is president and chief executive officer of Choice Hotels International, (NYSE: CHH), one of the largest and most successful lodging franchisors in the world, with more than 7,100 hotels, representing nearly 600,000 rooms, in 45 countries and territories as of December 31, 2020.
Throughout his 15-plus years of leadership in increasingly senior roles at Choice, Pacious has revitalized legacy brands, launched new brands, and acquired a brand that is the fastest growing in its segment, as well as led enterprise-wide technology transformation initiatives. He has improved business delivery to hotel owners and advanced a corporate culture focused on diversity, equity, and belonging as well as performance for Choice associates. In 2020, he successfully navigated the company through the unprecedented circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic and delivered results that outperformed the industry. Throughout the pandemic, he also led advocacy efforts with Congress and the administration to drive assistance for small business owners and the company’s franchisees, helping to ensure that their needs would be addressed in the economic relief bills enacted during the crisis. Before becoming CEO in 2017, Pacious was the company’s president and chief operating officer.

Pacious served as a US Navy officer after earning his bachelor’s degree from Duke University and went on to earn a master’s in business administration from Northwestern’s Kellogg Graduate School of Management. In 2020, Pacious was named one of the “Top 50 Best CEOs of Large Companies” by Comparably for a second-straight year, as determined by employee ratings, ranking No. 7 overall. In 2019, he received the inaugural Veterans in Business Award from the Washington Business Journal for his work to help veterans in the workplace and beyond. Pacious is currently a member of the board of directors of the Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts.

Chip Rogers
President and Chief Executive Officer
American Hotel and Lodging Association (AHILA)

Chip Rogers joined the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AHILA) as president and CEO in January 2019. AHILA is America’s only national association dedicated to serving the interests of the entire hotel and lodging industry.

In his role as president & CEO, Rogers has led the AHILA team and the lodging industry to achieve tangible results. Subsequently, he has received numerous awards and recognitions including Business Travel News “25 Most Influential 2020”, “Top Lobbyist in 2019 and 2020” by The Hill, “Small Business Defender of the Year” by Job Creators Network, and “Most Influential People in Washington” by Washingtonian magazine.

Under his leadership, AHILA was named as “100 Associations That Will Save the World” by ASAE, was honored with the White House “Presidential Award for its Pledge to America’s Workers” and was recognized with the PR Week Purpose Awards 2020.

In addition to leading AHILA, Rogers is a member of the board of directors for the United States Travel Association, Community Leaders of America, and the California Hotel & Lodging Association. Prior to joining the hospitality industry, he served in the Georgia General Assembly. He was elected to office six times and was unanimously elected twice to serve as Senate majority leader.

Rogers earned his undergraduate degree from Georgia Tech and his MBA from Georgia State.

Mit Shah
Chief Executive Officer
Noble Investment Group

As founder and chief executive officer, Mit Shah provides overall strategic guidance for the Noble organization and heads its investment committee. He has been profiled in Newsweek magazine as one of the most influential South Asians in the United States, named one of Atlanta’s most prominent leaders by Atlanta Magazine and the Atlanta Business Chronicle, and recognized as one of the 21st century’s most influential hospitality industry leaders by both Lodging Hospitality magazine and Lodging magazine. He is the most recent recipient of the prestigious Industry Real Estate Financing Advisory Council (IREFAC) C. Everett Johnson Award for leadership in the hospitality industry.

Shah presently serves as non-executive chairman of the board for CorePoint Lodging and on advisory boards with Marriott International and Hyatt Hotels Corporation. He is an executive committee member of the board of directors for the American Hotel and Lodging Association, and a member of IREFAC.

Shah is an active supporter of educational objectives and currently is serving his fourth term as a member of the board of trustees of his alma mater, Wake Forest University.

Cecil P. Staton
President and Chief Executive Officer
AAHOA

Cecil Staton serves as president and CEO of AAHOA, the world’s largest hotel owners association.

Prior to joining AAHOA in 2019, Stanton’s career included the entrepreneurial launch of several successful businesses, a decade as a Senator in the Georgia State Senate, and executive leadership and teaching positions in higher education.

Stanton’s private sector endeavors include founding two publishing companies that brought two New York Times Best Sellers to print. Stanton also founded Georgia Eagle Media, which owned several radio stations and a newspaper. Georgia voters elected him to five terms in the Georgia Senate where he rose to leadership including two terms as Majority Whip, the third-highest ranking leadership position in the Senate. Most recently, Stanton served as the 11th chancellor of East Carolina University, where he also served as a tenured professor.

Stanton serves on the boards of the U.S. Travel Association and the California Hotel and Lodging Association, as well as the Center for Hospitality Research Advisory Council and the ALEC Private Sector Advisory Council.

Stanton holds a D.Phil from Oxford University and an undergraduate degree from Furman University.
Jonathan M. Tisch
Chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co and Co-Chairman of the Board
Loews Corporation

Jonathan M. Tisch is chairman and CEO of Loews Hotels & Co and co-chairman of the board and a member of the Office of the President of Loews Corporation.

Tisch has led Loews’ expansion and emergence as a leading hotel company with a widely praised culture that embraces the power of partnerships—with team members, guests, communities, and owners. He was voted “Hotelier of the World” by HOTELS magazine.

Recognized nationally as a leader of the multibillion-dollar travel and tourism industry, Tisch is chairman emeritus of the U.S. Travel Association and previously served as chairman of the Travel Business Roundtable and the American Hotel & Lodging Association. Committed to a vibrant tourism industry locally, Tisch served for nearly six years as chairman of NYC & Company, New York City’s official tourism agency, and was chairman of New York Rising, which was established to bring back visitors and revive the economy after 9/11. Crain’s New York Business named him one of the “Top 10 Most Influential Business Leaders” and inducted him into its Hall of Fame, which recognizes individuals who have transformed the City in both their professional work and in their civic and philanthropic activities.


Tisch is a champion of corporate responsibility and active citizenship. More than 25 years ago, he initiated the Loews Hotels Good Neighbor Policy, a recipient of the US President’s Service Award. He served as vice chairman of the board of trustees of his alma mater, Tufts University, and is the naming benefactor of the Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life at Tufts. In 2017, he was honored by the NYU School of Professional Studies with the naming of the Jonathan M. Tisch Center of Hospitality, of which he has been a driving force for years. He is a founding board member and vice chairman of The Shed, New York City’s cultural center for arts and ideas, and a member of the Board of Trustees of the Hospital for Special Surgery.

A co-owner of the New York Giants, Tisch was instrumental in bringing the 2014 Super Bowl to the NYC metropolitan area and served as co-chair of the NY/NJ Super Bowl Host Committee.