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PRESS RELEASE
Elegant Resorts Honours the Best in Luxury Travel
At Annual Awards Ceremony

The stylish Mandarin Oriental in Knightsbridge last night played host to the Elegant Resorts' glamorous Annual Awards Ceremony and Cocktail Party– an authoritative insight into what's hot in luxury travel from the country's leading luxury travel company.

The event was enjoyed by more than 300 hoteliers and airline partners from around the world, amongst whom the awards are hotly contested. With 10 awards voted for by more than 35,000 Elegant Resorts clients, and four awards by Elegant Resorts staff, categories include 'Best Hotel Group', 'Best General Manager' and 'Travel Personality of the Year'. This exclusive occasion was hosted by the Elegant Resorts team, with Nathan Philpot, Managing Director; Alison Scott, Commercial Director and Michelle Sephton, Operations and Sales Director all handing out awards, as well as Non-Executive Director Barbara Catchpole, one of Elegant Resorts' founding directors.

Commenting on the evening, Nathan Philpot, Managing Director, said 'As the leaders in luxury travel, we are delighted to be able to recognise the wonderful service and innovation that our partners provide. Our own reputation is built on our knowledge and expertise, and our customers themselves are highly discerning, often seasoned luxury travellers. As such, recognition from them, as well as our own staff, is a true endorsement of the service and experience on offer from the winning properties, airlines and individuals. Congratulations and thanks go out to all our winners and we look forward to another successful year ahead, working in partnership with them to offer exemplary luxury holidays around the world to our clients.'

The categories and winners of the 2009 awards are:

Best Safari or Game Reserve:	Ulusaba
Best Family Hotel or Resort:	Sandy Lane
Best Hotel Group:	Ritz Carlton
Best Ski Hotel or Resort:	Fairmont Chateau Whistler
Best Airline Service:	Emirates
Best Spa Experience:	Soneva Fushi
Best Dining Experience:	Villa D'Este
Best Overall Service:	One&Only le Saint Geran
Best General Manager:	Jennifer Harding – Fairmont Royal Pavillion
Best Hotel in the World:	The Datai

Four special awards were also presented, as voted for by the Elegant Resorts team:

Best service from Reservation Team:	Lori Doucet - Fairmont
Travel Personality of the Year:	George Beguinot British Airways
Best Product Training:	Essential Detail

Best Tourist Board:

Dubai Tourism

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