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Press Release: April 2011

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QHotels Invests £1.7m in Tech Upgrade

QHotels, the award-winning collection of 21 unique hotels across the UK, has announced a £1.7m investment into its IT facilities, making it the only hotel group in the UK to offer a massive 90 megabits per second (Mbps) dedicated bandwidth for conferences. The investment will also see all guests provided with free, unlimited internet access.

The increase in bandwidth is ideal for large scale events, such as pharmaceutical product launches, technological training or finance conferences, where delegates need to access and use the internet simultaneously.

David Kelly, Director of IT at QHotels, said: "This investment gives us an incredibly strong IT product that really is the cherry on the top of our Total Meetings Package. With the explosion of video conferencing, our ability to offer 90Mbps bandwidth is a real point of difference for us, especially for international clients who require high definition video conferencing facilities.

"We now have a very distinct, unique selling point, which I am confident will help us to attract and maintain conference business. Indeed, we have already confirmed a large scale conference at The Cambridge Belfry, based on the fact that we can offer 90Mbps bandwidth.

"To put this investment into context, your average hotel can offer around just 8Mbps of bandwidth for conferences, and this would be shared with the rest of the hotel and amongst other guests. Our 90Mbps of dedicated bandwidth means that our delegates can enjoy uninterrupted internet access at high quality and speed without interruption from other users in the hotel."

The investment follows the £1.1 million investment into the group's conference and events offering in 2010 that included a dedicated conference concierge service; the addition of healthy fruit smoothies or fruit skewers and home baked cakes and cookies to liven up breaks; and the opening of a conference café at QHotels' Stratford Manor in Stratford-upon-Avon.

- That's all for now -

The QHotels 21: **The Westerwood Hotel & Golf Resort** - Near Glasgow... **Aldwark Manor Golf & Spa Hotel** - York... **The Queens** - Leeds... **Forest Pines Hotel & Golf Resort** - North Lincolnshire... **Tankersley Manor** - Tankersley, Nr Sheffield... **The Midland** - Manchester... **The Park Royal** - Stretton, Warrington... **Crewe Hall** - Crewe, Cheshire... **The Nottingham Belfry** - Nottingham... **Telford Hotel & Golf Resort** - Telford, Shropshire... **Stratford Manor** - Stratford-upon-Avon... **The**

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Hotel Group of the Year
2008 - 2009

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Stratford - Stratford-upon-Avon... **Chesford Grange** - Kenilworth, Warwickshire... **Hellidon Lakes Golf & Spa Hotel** - Hellidon, Northamptonshire... **The Cheltenham Chase Hotel** - Gloucestershire... **The Cambridge Belfry** - Cambourne, Cambridge... **The Oxford Belfry** - Thame, Oxford... **The Hampshire Court Hotel** - Basingstoke, Hampshire... **Norton Park** - Winchester, Hampshire... **Bridgewood Manor** - Rochester, Kent... **Ashford International Hotel** - Ashford, Kent

If you've got a question, need a few pictures or simply want to pay us a visit... you only have to ask:

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A little bit about us:

- QHotels prides itself in its collection of 21 carefully nurtured, unique properties throughout the UK. Some hide away in the most beautiful countryside, some preside over bustling city centres, but each, with its own little idiosyncrasies, ensures guests enjoy a truly unique experience - whether staying for pleasure or business.
- Founded in 2003 by Managing Director - Michael Purtil, Sales Director - David Taylor, Finance Director - Ian Goulding and investment company Alchemy Partners.
- The collection has grown from 2 to 21 properties over the last six years.
- The collection, which boasts iconic properties, including The Midland in Manchester, The Queens in Leeds and Crewe Hall in Cheshire, has been voted AA Hotel Group of the Year 2008/09, and is ranked 17th in The Times Buyout FastTrack register of the 100 fastest growing private equity backed businesses – one of the few companies to feature in the top 100 in two consecutive years. In addition to this, January 2009 alone saw QHotels shortlisted for the Business Hotel Brand of the Year Award at the Business Travel Awards and Winchester property Norton Park scoop two HRS Hotel Excellence Awards (Excellence in Meetings and Excellence in Business Management). Since then QHotels trophy cabinet is buckling under the weight of new awards, including 'Most Improved Brand' for the second year in a row in the 2009 BDRC UK Meetings Market Survey and the 'Excellence in Training Award' in Caterer & Hotelkeeper's Best Places to Work in Hospitality 2009.
- Take a look at our website www.QHotels.co.uk

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