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THE YAS HOTEL LAUNCHES... WELCOMING THE INAUGURAL 2009 FORMULA 1™ ETIHAD AIRWAYS ABU DHABI GRAND PRIX

22 October 2009: **The Yas Hotel** on Yas Island in Abu Dhabi, is gearing up to welcome its first guests over the inaugural Formula 1™ Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, which will take place between 29 October and 1 November 2009. The hotel will then open to the public on 3 November, the day after the final race of the Formula 1 season.

Owned and operated by Aldar Hotels and Hospitality, The Yas Hotel will become the first hotel in the world to span a race track. Its extraordinary 5000 LED panel Grid-Shell will light up Yas Island, which plans to draw around 50,000 spectators to its soil over the three day event this month.

The hotel consists of two towers linked by a bridge, under which the race track runs, giving unparalleled views of this thrilling leg of the Grand Prix season. In addition, The Yas Hotel's Main Building will offer some of the best views of the circuit, the marina and Yas Island.

Completion of the bridge has been closely followed by the crowning glory of the hotel, the LED Grid-Shell, which veils the two towers and the adjoining bridge. This 'cloak' has the ability to change colour, enabling the hotel to act as a light show, even staying in time with the beat of various concerts being held over the Grand Prix event.

The Yas Hotel's General Manager and avid motorsport enthusiast, Jean-Francois Laurent, said: "We are very much looking forward to welcoming our first guests in October for the Grand Prix and it's appropriate that they are from the motorsport fraternity. However, it will be great to share this magnificent hotel with enthusiasts of not only motorsport, but also architecture, those seeking unique culinary experiences, residents of Abu Dhabi and international visitors, when we open to the public on 3 November".

- Ends -

The Yas Hotel

Opened in November 2009, The Yas Hotel, operated by Aldar Hotels & Hospitality, is the first in the world to span a Grand Prix circuit, hosting the inaugural 2009 Formula 1 Etihad Airways Abu Dhabi Grand Prix. Offering 499 luxuriously

appointed guest rooms, international cuisine in 8 restaurants and pioneering design and architecture, The Yas Hotel will host several illustrious events in its first year, ranging from fashion to sports on a global scale. Located on Yas Island, The Yas Hotel is 10 minutes drive from Abu Dhabi airport, 15 minutes from Abu Dhabi's National Exhibition Centre and 50 minutes from Dubai Marina.

Aldar Hotels and Hospitality

Aldar Hotels and Hospitality was established in 2007 to become an industry leader in Abu Dhabi, offering established, strong working relationships with leading global and regional hospitality brands and management companies to offer products and services which will redefine hospitality in Abu Dhabi and the region. Aldar Hotels & Hospitality strives to establish levels of service that will set the benchmark for the Emirates, delivered by outstanding, motivated staff with bright futures.

Yas Island

The Yas Hotel is located on Yas Island, a natural island measuring 7.5km by 6.5km, which is currently being developed by Aldar Properties PJSC. As well as Yas Marina Circuit, the island will feature Ferrari World Abu Dhabi (the world's largest indoor theme park), Yas Links Abu Dhabi, an 18 hole Links Championship golf course, a VIP marina, Yas Marina, a water park and Yas Mall, a super-regional retail experience.

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