

Accor Names Balendra Nagesvaran as Vice President of Operations Upscale and Luxury Brands

Accor North America, Central America and the Caribbean (NCAC) region has announced the promotion of Balendra Nagesvaran to vice president of operations for Accor luxury and upscale brands in the region. The segment encompasses all Sofitel (luxury), Pullman (upscale), and MGallery (upscale) hotels throughout the region, excluding Cuba and the Dominican Republic. His role will also include the development of the luxury and upscale segment in the region, including Sofitel Mexico Reforma, set to open in 2017.

Nagesvaran brings more than 27 years of experience in international hotel operations and management to his new position. Prior to his new role, Nagesvaran was vice president of hotel operations for North America and general manager of Sofitel New York.

"Balendra has been integral to the Sofitel leadership team and the success of the brand for more than two decades," said Dominique Colliat, executive vice president of Accor North America, Central America and the Caribbean region. *"With his exceptional track record and experience, his expertise will position Accor's upscale and luxury brands for greater growth."*

Nagesvaran has been with Accor for nearly three decades in locations including Miami, where he served concurrently as general manager of Sofitel Miami and area general manager overseeing various Accor hotels in Asia-Pacific, including Bangkok and Chiang Mai, Thailand; and Columbo and Hikkaduwa, Sri Lanka.

An active community member and involved professional, Nagesvaran was a previous board member of the Greater Miami Hotel Association, where he won multiple years of diversity awards. He is also a founding member of the external advisory board at Florida International University's Hospitality Department. He has also been honored with the prestigious Bernache Award from Accor.

He attended the University of Massachusetts Hospitality and Tourism program and has attended various Cornell University executive programs over the years.



Accor is the world's leading hotel operator, with **470,000 rooms** in **3,700 hotels** across **14 trusted brands** in **92 countries**. The company is organized around two distinct divisions, **HotelServices**, which operates and franchises the hotels and **HotelInvest**, which is a hotel owner and investor. The Accor hotels sit in three segments from budget to luxury which are constantly reinventing their concept to satisfy the needs of business and leisure customers around the globe. Accor brands include in luxury-upscale; **Sofitel, Pullman, MGallery and Grand Mercure, The Sebel**, midscale; **Novotel, Suite Novotel, Mercure and Adagio** and economy; **ibis, ibis Styles, ibis budget, adagio access and hotelF1**. The Group boasts a powerful digital ecosystem, notably its booking portal **accorhotels.com**, its brand websites and its loyalty program **Le Club Accorhotels**.

The Group's **170,000 employees** benefit from working for a company that believes in progression and has an industry leading training program, the Accor Académie. Since its creation 45 years ago, Accor is making innovation and sustainable hospitality the focus of its strategic vision as well as of its customer-centric approach development and innovation process.

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Media Contacts

Hawkins International PR
Ashley Fenton
Ashley@hawkpr.com
Phone: (212) 255-6541

Accor North America, Central America and the Caribbean
Sandra Pinto Duhamel
sandra.pinto-duhamel@accor.com
Phone: (305) 401-1556