

## **For Immediate Release**

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### **TRAVEL WEEKLY CELEBRATES SUCCESSFUL TRAVEL AGENT EVENT**

SECAUCUS, NJ - Travel Weekly announces the successful completion of the sold-out third annual Global Travel Marketplace (GTM) event, held June 28-30, 2015 at the Diplomat Resort & Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. GTM is a three-day appointment-only event for top-producing travel agents in North America and leading travel suppliers seeking to conduct business face-to-face.

“This year’s event brought together high-caliber travel agents representing over \$150 million in annual individual sales and global travel suppliers to conduct business, make new connections and expand their professional horizons,” said Alicia Evanko-Lewis, Senior Vice President of Events, Travel Group, Northstar Travel Media. “These professionals are serious about growing their business and far exceeded our expectations with the business closed onsite. As a result, Travel Weekly remains committed to providing a unique platform and successful model to serve our great industry.”

One hundred ten North American travel agents in attendance were selected from nearly 800 applicants. One hundred fifteen suppliers engaged with travel agents through 6,005 one-on-one pre-scheduled meetings, exclusive boardroom presentations and networking events.

“After working in the travel business for 30 years, I came to GTM for two reasons—to reenergize and refocus,” said Angela Hughes, Co-Owner, Vice President Sales & Marketing, Trips Inc. (Bedford, NH). “Connecting with new and existing products has been a game-changer for me and I am leaving enthusiastic and recharged. It has been the best decision I have made and the knowledge I am taking away is invaluable.”

“GTM is an investment in our business,” said Hugh Sheppard, President, Encore Travel, LLC (Urbandale, Iowa). “The selection of travel professionals again proves to be effective. Both being stringently vetted, the three days of intense networking provided ample opportunities to connect with members of the travel community who can truly affect the business of everyone attending.”

“GTM is by far the best professional travel industry event in North America, bringing together truly qualified agents and suppliers, and where real business happens,”

said Jesus Repetto, CEO, Titanium Tours.

“I have now attended both GTM events and I can say for sure they are highly worthwhile,” said Lisa Norton, Vice President, Emerald Waterways Brand Management, North America. “As a relatively new brand, I have found that the one-on-one appointments are invaluable for explaining who we are and what sets us apart. All of my appointments have been engaged and show genuine interest in learning more about Emerald Waterways.”

GTM returns to the Diplomat Resort & Spa August 21-23, 2016 with its sister event, GTM West, being held May 4-6, 2016 at The Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa in Tucson, Arizona. Travel agent applications open in January 2016. Qualifying travel agents must have a minimum of \$1 million in annual sales for GTM, and \$800,000 in annual sales for GTM West, reside in the U.S. or Canada, have a global book of business and provide supplier references. For more information, please visit [www.globaltravelmarketplace.com](http://www.globaltravelmarketplace.com). For supplier inquiries, please contact Emmy Morales at [emorales@travelweekly.com](mailto:emorales@travelweekly.com) or 201-902-1951.

#### **ABOUT TRAVEL WEEKLY:**

Travel Weekly is the most influential provider of news, research, opinion and analysis to the North American travel trade marketplace. In addition to a weekly print publication, [TravelWeekly.com](http://TravelWeekly.com) - updated several times daily - is the most-visited industry website. Travel Weekly is a division of Secaucus, New Jersey-based Northstar Travel Media, the largest business-to-business travel publisher in the world.

#### **ABOUT NORTHSTAR TRAVEL MEDIA:**

Northstar Travel Media is the leading provider of news, information and data for the travel, meetings and hospitality industries and parent of brands including Travel Weekly, Travel Weekly China, Travel Weekly Asia, Events China, Business Travel News, Travel Procurement, Phocuswright, Meetings & Conventions, Successful Meetings, Meeting News, Incentive, TravelAge West, Family Getaways, Explorer, Web in Travel and Inntopia.

Northstar's electronic directories - Travel Weekly's Hotel and Travel Index, Official Cruise Guide, and M&C Facilities Search and Successful Meetings Facilities Search- provide in-depth data on hotels, meeting and convention properties, and business travel in the United States and internationally.

In addition to its directories and periodicals, Northstar publishes a number of online subscription information resources, including The Beat, travel42, STAR Service Online, Intelliguide Corporate and BTP24.

Northstar produces more than 40 face-to-face events including The Phocuswright Conference, Phocuswright Europe, CruiseWorld, Global Travel Marketplace, Global

Travel Marketplace West, M&C InterAct, M&C Events, M&C Asia, Successful Meetings Universities, The Beat Live, Tech Talk, Business Travel Trends and Forecast Forums and the Travel Weekly Leadership Forums, the Travel Weekly Leadership Forums, the Web in Travel conferences, WITX: Women In Travel, WIT Hospitality Roadshow and WITNext, and Mountain Travel Symposium.

Northstar also is an industry leader in marketing services, custom communications, content licensing and database management serving the travel and meetings industries. Based in Secaucus, NJ, the company also has offices in New York, NY; Glen Ellyn, IL; Los Angeles, CA; and Winston-Salem, NC.

Northstar Travel Media, LLC is a portfolio company of Wicks Group of Companies LLC, a leading private equity investor in the information and business services, communications, and media sectors.

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