

For Immediate Release

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**A Decade of Dedication
*Ken Lupp, Senior Sales Manager at The Founders Inn and Spa,
Receives Two Awards Prior to June 2008 Retirement***

Virginia Beach, Va. (March 4, 2008) - - For over ten years he arrived at the office at 6:00 am - rain, shine, snow or ice - rarely missing a day. Mr. Ken Lupp, senior sales manager at The Founders Inn and Spa, has been recognized for a decade of such dedication by both the Benchmark Hospitality International 10 Years of Service Award and the Religious Conference Management Association (RCMA) President's Award.

Tade Allen, director of sales at The Founders Inn and Spa applauds Ken. "He always met his annual sales goal. He exceeded it by 18% in fiscal year 2007 and is tracking to do the same in our current fiscal year. He grew ADR year over year, typically by 5%-8%, and expanded the association market by 72% from the previous year." Ms. Allen continues, "It's not only the impressive sales results that sets him apart, but his integrity, pleasant demeanor and consistency with his clients. He's assisted through the years as a mentor for other sales managers and has given freely of his time to help co-workers. His clients come back to him repeatedly throughout the last decade. He's a fine example for all of us."

Mr. Lupp attended every RCMA annual conference for the past 18 years and served with distinction as a member of the association's board of directors. A champion new member recruiter, he brought in more religious meeting planners into RCMA membership than any other associate member of the organization.

"Thank you," Mr. Lupp responds in his typically humble yet straightforward manner." To me, there is no greater honor in business than to be recognized by your peers."

Raised in Pennsylvania, he graduated from Huntington College in Indiana, with a major in education and an emphasis on mathematics. Formerly an elementary and middle school principal, he chose to take his compassion, patience and leadership to the business community 18 years ago. Mr. Lupp will continue his employment on a part-time capacity for The Founders Inn and Spa and as a consultant in the religious market.

MORE

About The Founders Inn and Spa

Boasting old-world charm and the finest southern hospitality, The Founders Inn and Spa provides the appeal and warmth of a country inn, accented by beautiful antiques and historic artifacts, with a new \$5 million full-service resort spa, grand scale pool featuring a circular slide and interactive fountains, luxurious amenities and award-winning cuisine. The Inn's 240 guestrooms and suites include High Speed Internet access, generous workspace and views of 26 landscaped acres. Select rooms include gas fireplaces, and views of the lake and formal gardens. The Founders Inn and Spa is located at 5641 Indian River Road in Virginia Beach near exit 286B off Interstate 64 East. For reservations and additional information, please call 800-926-4466 or visit [www.FoundersInn.com](http://wwwFOUNDERSINN.com). +

Benchmark Hospitality manages The Founders Inn and Spa, as well as three other Virginia properties: Lansdowne Resort near Leesburg, a suburb of Washington, D.C.; and Virginia Crossings Resort in Richmond.

Benchmark Hospitality International, an independent hospitality management company based in The Woodlands (Houston), Texas, operates resorts, conference centers, hotels and condominium resorts both domestically and internationally. For locations of Benchmark Hospitality properties and for additional information, visit Benchmark's Website at www.BenchmarkHospitality.com.

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