

## EMEA Elections - it's your Steering Group

February 2004

Membership in HEDNA carries with it responsibility for ensuring the excellence and value of the organisation. For those whose headquarter offices are within Europe, the Middle East and Africa, an essential part of this process is the election of the EMEA Chapter Steering Group.

We will shortly be holding elections of Principal and Allied members to this Group.

The information and forms necessary to participate are given below. First, please look at the "**Steering Group Rules and Procedures**" that follow this note. This outlines the Steering Group structure. It also identifies current members who will remain on the Group for the second year of their respective terms as well as those members whose terms are ending, and for whom replacements are required.

The first step in the process is to assemble a group of election nominees. Outlined below are the key criteria used to determine standing:

Steering Group member qualifications criteria:

- Must be willing and able to fulfil the scope of responsibility for a member of the HEDNA EMEA Steering Group.
- Must be a full-time employee of their company.
- Must be manager level or above.
- Must be able and willing to participate in the majority of monthly conference calls, the occasional day-long meeting and HEDNA conferences held in EMEA.
- Must have either a minimum two years' of HEDNA involvement or five years' of travel industry experience.
- Must be available to participate in occasional impromptu meetings/conference calls.
- Must be willing to commit to committee liaison responsibility as assigned.
- Must be willing to accept ad-hoc sub-committee involvement and assignments.

Please nominate anyone from among your HEDNA colleagues based in EMEA whom you believe possesses the qualities, commitment level and time necessary to positively contribute as a Steering Group member. If you believe that you possess these qualities and dedication, please propose yourself!

To propose a candidate for consideration or to submit your own candidacy, simply click to complete the form online OR return the attached form via email to <mailto:hgallacher@disa.org> OR return via fax to Heidi Spencer Gallacher at +1 703 548 5738 by **Friday 5 March 2004**.

Once we have received nominations, an e-mail will be distributed in mid March. This will be sent to the primary and secondary contacts within each member company based in EMEA and will include profiles of all nominees seeking a seat on the Steering Group. Online voting will be allowed on the basis of **one vote per HEDNA member company**. Details of the voting procedure will be contained in the March e-mail.

The results of the election will be announced in the next edition of this Newsletter and on the EMEA section of the HEDNA website.

Thank you for taking part in the HEDNA EMEA elections. We look forward to your support.

### **HEDNA EMEA STEERING GROUP: RULES AND PROCEDURES**

The HEDNA Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMEA) Chapter Steering Group is comprised of:

1. Seven (7) Principal / Allied members (including the Chapter Representative to the HEDNA Board of Directors, elected by the Principal Members)
2. One (1) GDS Member appointed from the three GDSs by the Steering Group to serve for one year, in strict rotation.

**It is the responsibility of the EMEA Chapter Representative to the HEDNA Board of Directors to represent the views of the Chapter and the Chapter Steering Group in all matters relating to HEDNA. Currently, the EMEA Steering Group has appointed Kristie Willmott of Jumeirah International, based in Dubai.**

It is the responsibility of the GDS and Allied Steering Group members to speak on behalf of and to liaise as relevant with HEDNA EMEA GDS, Allied and Fellowship members on matters relating to the Chapter.

The HEDNA Board of Directors has the ultimate right to exercise all corporate powers as stated in the Bylaws of the Hotel Electronic Distribution Network Association, Article IV, Section 1.

Steering Group positions are allocated to companies and not individuals. Should a Steering Group position become vacant it is up to the company holding that position to appoint another representative to the Steering Group. If the company is unable or unwilling to appoint another representative, then the Steering Group will be responsible for processing nominations and elections to fill the position.

The Steering Group shall stagger the initial terms of the Steering Group into two groups for the purpose of providing, as nearly as possible, for the election of one-half of the Steering Group in each year. The first group shall consist of one-half of the Steering Group whose initial term of office shall be one year. The second group shall consist of one-half of the Steering Group members whose initial term shall be two years. After the first year of existence, tenure of positions shall be two years from voting at the third quarter meeting.

#### **Steering Group members & current terms of office**

Principal members:

**Kristie Willmott**

Jumeirah International  
Chair HEDNA EMEA Steering Group  
HEDNA Main Board EMEA Chapter representative  
Term of office expires 31 March 2005

**Susana Roca López**

NH Hoteles  
Term of office expires 31 March 2005

**Carolyn Thelen**

Quality Reservations Deutschland  
Term of office expires 31 March 2005

**Ricky Castoldi**

Pegasus Solutions  
Term of office expires 31 March 2004 - available for re-election

**Mike Preager**

Wizcom International  
Term of office expires 31 March 2004 - available for re-election

#### **Two vacancies**

GDS member:

**Mark Palmer**

Sabre  
Term of office expires 31 March 2004

To be replaced by representative from Amadeus