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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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MARILYN CARLSON NELSON TO RECEIVE ALIS LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Washington, August 19, 2011—Marilyn Carlson Nelson, chairman of Carlson, will be honored with the prestigious Lifetime Achievement Award at the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS), January 23-25, 2012, in Los Angeles.

During Nelson's decade-long tenure as CEO, the company – which includes such brands as Radisson Hotels, Country Inns & Suites, Carlson Wagonlit Travel and T.G.I. Friday's in 150 countries – almost doubled its system wide revenue to nearly \$40 billion and grew its presence to become a truly global company. Under Nelson's leadership, Carlson became the first North American global travel company to sign the industry's international code of conduct to protect children from sexual exploitation in tourism.

Nelson is a member of the World Economic Forum's International Business Council and in 2004, co-chaired the Forum's annual meeting in Davos, Switzerland. She is past chair of the U.S. Travel and Tourism Advisory Board. Nelson serves on the boards of ExxonMobil, the Committee Encouraging Corporate Philanthropy, The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, and is chair of the Mayo Clinic board of trustees

Author of the bestselling book "How We Lead Matters: Reflections on a Life of Leadership," Nelson was named one of "The World's 100 Most Powerful Women" by *Forbes*, and *U.S. News and World Report* has called her one of "America's Best Leaders."

"We are delighted to honor Marilyn Carlson Nelson with the prestigious ALIS Lifetime Achievement Award," said Jim Burba, president, BHN and chair of ALIS. "She has not only led Carlson to tremendous growth over the past decade, but she has raised the bar in corporate philanthropy and social responsibility. She's an amazing leader and a great spokesperson for the hotel/travel industry worldwide."

Co-hosted by the American Hotel & Lodging Association (AH&LA) and Burba Hotel Network (BHN), the two-and-a-half-day event features an extensive array of seminars and panels hosted by leading experts and investors discussing important trends and identifying new opportunities. The conference attracts the lodging industry's leading hotel executives, investors, lenders, developers and professional advisory community. Proceeds from ALIS benefit the educational, research, and training missions of the American Hotel & Lodging Education Foundation (AH&LEF), AH&LA's nonprofit affiliate. For information on the Foundation, visit www.ahlef.com.

Early bird registration is US\$1,700 and ends September 27. Online registration is available via the [ALIS Website](#). For general event information and sponsorship opportunities, contact BHN associate Jodi Braverman at jbraverman@burba.com.

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Serving the hospitality industry for a century, AH&LA is the sole national association representing all sectors and stakeholders in the lodging industry, including individual hotel property members, hotel companies, student and faculty members, and industry suppliers. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., AH&LA provides members with national advocacy on Capitol Hill, public relations and image management, education, research and information, and other value-added services to provide bottom line savings and ensure a positive business climate for the lodging industry. Partner state associations provide local representation and additional cost-saving benefits to members.

AH&LEF is the charitable fund-raising and endowed fund-management subsidiary of the American Hotel & Lodging Association. Founded in 1953, AH&LEF is the premier organization for scholarships, professional certification, and instructional material as well as funding for hospitality industry research.

BHN is the worldwide leader in developing and organizing conferences for the hotel and tourism investment community. With more than two decades of experience, over 80 events completed or in production to date, and more than 60,000 international delegates, BHN conferences have become "must attend" events for industry leaders who come together to network, conduct business and to learn about the latest trends. BHN events include the Americas Lodging Investment Summit (ALIS) in Los Angeles; the ALIS Summer Update in Dallas; the Caribbean Hotel & Resort Investment Summit (CHRIS) in Miami; HICAP JAPAN in Tokyo; the Hotel Investment Conference Asia Pacific (HICAP) in Hong Kong; HICAP UPDATE in Singapore; the Hotel Investment Forum India (HIFI) in Mumbai; the Hotel Opportunities Latin America (HOLA) conference in Miami, and the new Hotel Investment Conference Europe (Hot.E) in London. The BHN website at www.Burba.com is the gateway for information about the conferences BHN produces, as well as a direct link to important players in the hospitality investment world.