

News Release

BAKER & MCKENZIE CELEBRATES DOUBLE SUCCESS AT THE 2007 ALB JAPAN LAW AWARDS

Tokyo, June 7, 2007 – Baker & McKenzie celebrated double success at this year's (*Asian Legal Business*) ALB Japan Law Awards with the Firm's landmark hotel joint venture deal in Japan winning the Real Estate Deal of the Year and Senior Partner, Shinichi Saito, winning the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Real Estate Deal of the Year Award was given in recognition of the Firm's excellent work in advising InterContinental Hotels Group ("IHG") on its operating joint venture partnership with All Nippon Airways Co., Ltd ("ANA") in 2006. The transaction, remarkable for its scale and innovation under the new Japanese LLC (*godo kaisha*) system, involved setting up a co-branded hotel management joint venture between the world's largest hotel group and the hotel business arm of Japan's largest domestic carrier. The newly formed entity manages a combined estate of over 40 hotel properties, out of which 13 ANA's owned and leased hotels were sold to Morgan Stanley Real Estate Fund for JPY281.3 billion (approximately USD2.36 billion) in April this year.

Commenting on the award, Chris Hodgens, Partner of Baker & McKenzie GJJ Tokyo Aoyama Aoki Koma Law Office (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) said, "That the IHG ANA joint venture deal was voted as the Real Estate Deal of the Year is a reflection of the significance and complexity of the transaction, and is a real accolade to all involved. This award confirms our strengths in the M&A, corporate and hotel space, and is a testimonial to our firm's capabilities in representing clients on complex cross-border transactions."

At the ALB Japan Law Awards ceremony held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Tokyo last week, Mr. Saito was presented with the Lifetime Achievement Award for his overall excellence and "sustained and internationally significant" contribution to the development of Japan's legal industry over a career that has spanned more than 30 years.

Mr. Saito has been instrumental in growing the Firm's corporate and M&A practice in Japan and attracting new talent to the firm. With 120 lawyers, Baker & McKenzie GJJJ Tokyo Aoyama Aoki Koma Law Office (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) is the largest and most successful integrated law firm in Japan. Mr Saito and his team have worked on some of the most challenging and ground-breaking transactions in Japan, such as advising Sony Corporation on its joint venture partnership with Ericsson for its mobile communication business in 2001 and in 2004, representing Siemens AG in entering into a strategic alliance with Mochida Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd and in acquiring shares in Mochida Medical Systems.

"Whilst I am honoured to receive this award, I am confident that this award equally recognises the achievements and successes of Baker & McKenzie in Japan. Drawing on a worldwide network of leading practitioners in 70 jurisdictions, we will continue to offer our clients with the most effective legal solutions that are in line with international best practice." Mr. Shinichi Saito, Partner of Baker & McKenzie GJJJ Tokyo Aoyama Aoki Koma Law Office (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) said.



ANA InterContinental Tokyo Hotel.
Source: IHG ANA Hotels Group Japan

For further details please contact:

Chris Hodgens, Partner, Tokyo on +81-3-5157-2700 or chris.hodgens@bakernet.com

Nahoko Shimokawa, Marketing Manager, Tokyo, on +81 3 5157 2838 or
nahoko.shimokawa@bakernet.com

Jamie Kar, Senior Coordination, Public Relations, Asia Pacific, on + 852 2846 1759 or
jamie.kar@bakernet.com

About Baker & McKenzie

Founded in 1949, Baker & McKenzie is a global law firm of more than 3,400 locally qualified, internationally experienced lawyers and 6,600 other professionals and staff in 70 offices in 38 countries. Global revenues for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006 exceeded US \$1.522 billion. John Conroy is Chairman of the Firm's Executive Committee. (www.bakernet.com)

Baker & McKenzie GJBJ Tokyo Aoyama Aoki Koma Law Office (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise), a fully integrated law firm, is one of the leading law firms in Japan, and offers a full range of cross-border and Japanese legal services. As a member firm of Baker & McKenzie, the world's leading international law firm, we are able to draw upon a network to provide high quality solution-oriented legal services through timely delivery.
(www.taalo-bakernet.com)

Baker & McKenzie GJBJ Tokyo Aoyama Aoki Koma Law Office (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) is a member of Baker & McKenzie International, a Swiss Verein with member law firms around the world. In accordance with the common terminology used in professional service organizations, reference to a "partner" means a person who is a partner, or equivalent, in such a law firm. Similarly, reference to an "office" means an office of any such law firm.