



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 13, 2008

Contact:
Marcel Verbaas
Inland American Lodging Corporation
407-671-3695

**THE INLAND REAL ESTATE GROUP OF COMPANIES, INC. AND
RLJ DEVELOPMENT LLC ANNOUNCE HOTEL PORTFOLIO CLOSING**

Oak Brook, Ill. February 13, 2008 – The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc. and RLJ Development LLC (“RLJ”) today announced the closing of the acquisition of 22 full and select service hotels. Inland American Lodging Corporation (“Inland American Lodging”) acquired the 22-hotel portfolio on behalf of Inland American Real Estate Trust, Inc. (“Inland American”) from The RLJ Urban Lodging Fund, an affiliate entity of RLJ Development, LLC, a privately-held hotel real estate investment company. The total merger consideration for the portfolio, subject to post-closing adjustments and including debt and transaction costs, is approximately \$900 million.

The 4,061-room portfolio consists of upper upscale and upscale full and select-service hotels, primarily located in major urban markets that Inland American Lodging believes to have strong barriers to entry and are less sensitive to economic changes, including Boston, Baltimore, Chicago and Washington D.C. These assets are currently operated by industry leading brands including Marriott, Hilton and Hyatt.

Marcel Verbaas, president and chief executive officer of Inland American Lodging commented, “We believe this acquisition exemplifies our targeted focus on select hotels in strategically located markets, and that this portfolio of upscale urban assets is well-positioned for continued growth. We are committed to enhancing our existing relationships with major hotel brands and strong third-party operators, and look forward to expanding our partnerships with Marriott, Hilton and Hyatt.”

“To be able to complete a transaction of this magnitude under the current credit market conditions is a testament to the quality of the portfolio, and the tremendous effort made by the RLJ and Inland teams. I congratulate both organizations,” stated Robert L. Johnson, chairman of RLJ.

Thomas J. Baltimore Jr., president of RLJ noted, “We are thrilled to complete this transaction. To be able to deploy our capital, execute our business plan and liquidate the RLJ Urban Fund in less than four years, with significant returns realized for our investors, is an excellent validation of our strategy.”

Mr. Verbaas and Mr. Eddie Hendriksen, senior vice president of acquisitions of Inland American Lodging negotiated the transaction on behalf of the Inland American. Shefsky & Froelich Ltd. acted as legal counsel. Craig Lambert, who was previously with Marriott International for over 30 years, is senior vice president of asset management and responsible for all aspects of asset management for the entire Inland American Lodging portfolio.

The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc., headquartered in Oak Brook, Ill., has been ranked collectively as one of the largest owners and managers of retail property in the United States (Retail Traffic, April 2007) and one of the top buyers of commercial property in the U.S. (Commercial Property News, February 2007). Inland-sponsored companies own and manage in total over 100 million square feet of commercial real estate located in 44 states in the U.S. and Canada, as well as managed assets in excess of \$21 billion. The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc. is comprised of a group of separate legal entities some of which may be affiliates, share some common ownership or have been sponsored and managed by subsidiaries of Inland Real Estate Investment Corporation. For additional information, please refer to the company website at www.inlandgroup.com.

Inland American Lodging Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Inland American Real Estate Trust, Inc. headquartered in Orlando, Florida, is focused on the acquisition and asset management of strategic urban lodging assets with strong industry brands and independent management companies.

Inland American Real Estate Trust, Inc. is a real estate investment trust focused on acquiring and owning a diversified portfolio of real estate assets. As of December 31, 2007, the company owned directly, or indirectly through joint ventures, 640 properties located in 33 states representing approximately 34.3 million leasable square feet. In addition, Inland American owned 76 hotels in 22 states for an aggregate of 10,411 rooms. Inland American is one of four REITs that are, or have been, sponsored by affiliates of The Inland Real Estate Group of Companies, Inc. For further information please refer to the company website at www.inland-american.com.

RLJ Development, LLC is one of The RLJ Companies' portfolio companies controlled by Robert L. Johnson. RLJ Development is a privately-held real estate investment company founded and led by Robert L. Johnson and Thomas J. Baltimore, Jr. and is the largest African-American hotel investment company in the U.S. with 114 hotels valued over \$2.0 billion. www.rljhotels.com