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HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO WINS IHG® 2016 TORCHBEARER AWARD

ATLANTA (Dec. 8, 2017) – The **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** has back-to-back wins with receiving the IHG® (InterContinental Hotels Group) 2016 Torchbearer Award, the company's most prestigious award, for a third time.

The **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** is among the top 1% of properties within The Americas (Canada, USA, Latin America) chosen from the IHG system for achieving the highest levels of excellence in all aspects of operation -- from quality to customer satisfaction. **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** was the first hotel in San Luis Obispo County to earn this recognition in 2011. With this third award, **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** continues to be the only hotel in San Luis Obispo County to ever earn this recognition.

"It is my pleasure to name the **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** as one of the top-notch hotels in our industry," said Elie W. Maalouf, Chief Executive Officer - the Americas, IHG. "This hotel embodies the heart of our brand promise and continues to make IHG properties known and admired throughout the world, continuing our mission to deliver on great brands and Great Hotels Guests Love."

"We are honored to again be the recipient of the coveted Torchbearer Award" said Amar Sohi, Managing Partner. "Our team's dedication to providing the best service experience for our guests truly shows throughout each department of the hotel. Many of our hotel's team members have been working at the hotel from nearly the beginning", said Sohi. "Each of our managers and department heads have worked their way up from the entry line level to now leading teams of their own. Each team member's dedication to our guests and fellow colleagues is why, I think, we continue to succeed in the eyes of our guests," Sohi explained. "We are all extremely proud."

A 2016 Torchbearer trophy, the company's symbol of top excellence, is on permanent display at the hotel, as well as previous Torchbearer trophies earned by them hotel in 2015 and 2011.

Owned by H & S Hospitality of San Luis Obispo, the company is also excited about its most recent project, the completion of the Caladero Room - 1400 sq ft of meeting and event space, and a 3,000 sq ft bar and restaurant – Marston's 101.

Prior to winning the Torchbearer Award 2016, **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** earned Torchbearer 2015 and Torchbearer 2011 which marked the first wins of this caliber for a hotel in San Luis Obispo County. Additionally, the hotel has continued to receive recognition as achieving the Highest Overall Guest Satisfaction in this Region each year since opening in 2008. The region spans Central and Southern California from Paso Robles to Ontario and east to Bakersfield.

The 80-room hotel opened its doors in July 2008, and is located in the heart of California's Central Coast wine country. **HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS & SUITES OF ATASCADERO** offers guests upscale ambiance, customized service, brand consistency and a perfect location to explore the best of the region.

To be eligible for evaluation, hotels must meet basic requirements for cleanliness, comfort, service and safety. Hotel properties must pass multiple inspections during unannounced evaluations and consistently meet a minimum overall guest satisfaction score which is determined by reviews from actual hotel guests. In addition, hotels must ensure each department of the hotel adheres to optimal performance.

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IHG franchises, leases, manages or owns nearly 5,100 hotels and more than 750,000 guest rooms in almost 100 countries, with nearly 1,500 hotels in its development pipeline. IHG also manages [IHG® Rewards Club](#), the world's first and largest hotel loyalty programme, with nearly 99 million members worldwide.

[InterContinental Hotels Group PLC](#) is the Group's holding company and is incorporated in Great Britain and registered in England and Wales. More than 350,000 people work across IHG's hotels and corporate offices globally.

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