## PEERMONT WINS TOP EMPOWERMENT AWARD AT BBQ AWARDS 2008

Peermont Hotels, Casinos and Resorts, South Africa's most empowered hospitality and gaming company, walked away with the prestigious Black Business Quarterly (BBQ) award for the Best Established Empowered Business of the year at the 7th annual awards formal gala event held at Vodaworld, Midrand last night (27 November 2008).

The BBQ Awards 2008 recognises the unsung heroes, leaders and visionaries who have broken barriers and regained or established new ground. It also acknowledges companies that challenge chaos and bring order to governing bodies, plant new ideas and harvest innovative solutions to current issues, thereby establishing a better and brighter future for South Africa.

The BBQ Best Established Business Empowerment Award recognises established, profitable companies that are role models in innovative strategic vision and excellence, companies who stand out in their ability to implement their vision and strategise for their future. The award also recognises companies that integrate best practice through empowerment of staff and communities, and who set a higher precedent for the South African business world and who practice good corporate governance and leadership.

Anthony Puttergill, CEO of Peermont commented "We are honoured and delighted in being acknowledged with this prestigious award. Peermont prides itself in being an empowered leader in the hotel and casino industry of southern Africa. This award is very important to the company and the principles we believe in."

Vusi Zwane, Peermont Group Corporate Affairs Executive who accepted the award on behalf of the company last night further commented "Our sustainable Corporate Social Investment programmes within the communities in which we operate are making a tangible difference to our guests, our staff and improving underprivileged communities. Our sincere wish is for this momentum to continue as Peermont goes from strength to strength."

This prestigious award follows Peermont recently being awarded the 2008 Barloworld Wits Business School BEE Award for the BEE Deal of the Year, as well as a host of other industry excellence awards over the past two years.

Ends

## **About Peermont**

Peermont is South Africa's most empowered hospitality and gaming company. Peermont has an excellent track record in the design, development, management, ownership and operation of multifaceted integrated resorts. This includes hotels, casinos, convention centres, retail outlets, restaurants, bars and other sport and entertainment facilities.

Peermont has a strong market position in South Africa and Botswana, where it owns and manages Emperors Palace Hotel, Casino and Convention Resort in Johannesburg, Graceland Hotel, Casino and Country Club in Secunda, the Mondazur Resort Estate Hotel at San Lameer, KwaZulu-Natal, the Frontier Inn & Casino in Bethlehem, Rio Casino and Convention Resort in Klerksdorp, Khoroni Hotel, Casino and Convention Resort in Thohoyandou, Tusk Mmabatho Hotel, Casino and

Convention Resort in Mafikeng and Tusk Umfolozi Casino Resort in Empangeni. In Botswana, Peermont owns and manages The Grand Palm Hotel, Casino and Convention Resort and the Mondior hotel in Gaborone, the Metcourt hotel in Francistown, as well as the Sedibeng and Syringa casino in Francistown and Selebi Phikwe respectively.

Distributed by: Speakers Corner

Ipelegeng Thibedi

Tel: 011 327 1540 / 082 481 9594

Email: <a href="mailto:ipelegeng@speakerscorner.co.za">ipelegeng@speakerscorner.co.za</a>

Distributed on behalf of: Peermont - Hotels Casinos Resorts

Ronel Wright (Corporate Marketing Manager)

Tel: 011 557 0344

Email: <a href="mailto:rwright@peermont.com">rwright@peermont.com</a>