

MEDIA INFORMATION
26th July 2012

OLYMPIC 'MOMENT TO SHINE' FOR ARORA HOTELS FOUNDER



On day 68 of the Olympic torch relay in the UK, Surinder Arora, CEO and Founder of UK hotel company Arora Hotels, had the privilege of carrying the torch through the streets of Harrow.

Among the thousands of people who had turned up to catch a glimpse of the historic moment, Surinder was cheered on by employees of his hotels across Manchester, Heathrow and Gatwick via live streaming.

Surinder Arora, the 5th torchbearer of the day, admitted being a little nervous beforehand but said he was “very excited” to complete his leg near Harrow Civic Centre. He was amongst 8,000 inspirational torchbearers in the London 2012 Summer Olympics Torch Relay, on its 8,000 mile journey across the UK.

According to Harrow Council, over 100,000 people lined up along the route to watch the historic event. Surinder’s son, Sanjay Arora, who also carried the torch a few weeks ago in Ashington, was among the cheering crowd in Harrow yesterday and said he and his dad were “very proud and honoured to have been chosen. It’s a once in a lifetime opportunity and we’ve been blessed with this beautiful weather!”

When asked about whether he would keep the 1KG Olympic torch as a souvenir of his special day, Surinder Arora said: “Of course! This is a unique little piece of history that I will cherish and proudly display at my flagship hotel, Sofitel London Heathrow T5!”

On behalf of all at Arora Hotels, we would like to wish Team GB the best of luck and hope everyone enjoys the Olympic Games!

Note to editors

About Arora Hotels – www.arorahotels.com

Arora Hotels is an independent hotel company owned and founded by Surinder Arora in 1999. It is the UK's leading specialist hotelier to the airline industry and one of the fastest growing private hotel companies in the UK.

The company has made a name for itself through the design, construction and operation of luxury hotels, with exceptional levels of hospitality.

The portfolio currently comprises of 6 directly managed hotels with over 2,200 bedrooms. Prime locations include the Arora Hotel Heathrow, Arora Park Heathrow, Arora Hotel Gatwick/Crawley, Arora Hotel Manchester city centre, the flagship and multi-award winning 605-bedroom Sofitel London Heathrow, directly connected to the iconic Terminal 5 and the Sofitel London Gatwick at the North Terminal. Both Sofitel hotels are operated under a franchise agreement with Accor Hospitality.

Arora hotels has been selected as the preferred partner to build and operate the 212 bedroom four star Royal Ascot Hotel, to be located on the High Street opposite the world famous racecourse.

The property arm of the Arora Group – Arora Management Services – is involved in property asset management of a portfolio of landmark office buildings at key UK airports. The development arm, trading as Grove Developments has secured an agreement to design and construct four new budget hotels for Premier Inn at Heathrow, Gatwick and Stansted airports. One property has already opened for trading at Heathrow and the properties at Stansted and Gatwick are under construction.

Excel Hospitality is another division created in June 2011, to bring in house all food and beverage services that were once provided by an external company.

Surinder Arora is Patron of Royal Holloway Entrepreneurs, a student society within the Royal Holloway University of London where he has established the annual 'Arora's Den' competition and the Arora Awards for Enterprise

Surinder's achievements have been recognized by a number of awards including the Eastern Eye Asian Business Award 2007– KPMG Entrepreneur of the Year; the GG2 Leadership & Diversity Award 2009 – Entrepreneur of the Year and the Lloyds TSB Dual Awards 2009 – Asian Corporate 100.

For further information about Arora Hotel contact:

Email: PublicRelations@arorahotels.com

Tel: +44 (0)20 8757 7770