

## **Press Release**

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### 5. Profile of Paul Muller, Chief Executive Officer of the Manotel Group

Manotel is the leading independent hotel group in the canton of Geneva, with a capacity of 610 rooms in its six 3- and 4-star hotels. The company employs 280 employees. Since the 2000s, an extensive investment program totalising more than CHF 120 million completed the renovation of the entire hotel group. The future holds further development in Switzerland and the acquisition of new properties. The group is led by Mr. Paul Muller.

### Media contact:

Philippe Eberhard	+41 (0)22 552 46 46 – eberhard@cpc-pr.com
Pascal Buchs	+41 (0)22 552 46 30 – buchs@cpc-pr.com

# **Company Profile**

Leader in the 3- and 4-star market in Geneva, the Manotel Group operates six hotels with a total capacity of 610 rooms out of a total of 9,500 rooms available. The Royal, N'vY, Auteuil, Kipling, Jade and Edelweiss hotels each have a unique concept, clearly distinguished from each other, while sharing certain key values.

Located on the right bank, between the lake side and the International Organisations' district, the six hotels are grouped in fair vicinity thus promoting the benefits of synergy. Close to Geneva's main railway station as well as the Geneva International Conference Centre, and only a few minutes' drive from the airport, the Manotel Group hotels are frequented by a wide clientele looking for an excellent service in a central, easily accessible location.

Under the leadership of Paul Muller, the Manotel Group has invested more than 120 million Swiss francs in its hotels since the 2000s. Each member hotel has been fully renovated, in order to offer not only an irreproachable level of quality, but also an original, carefully chosen identity: "Tradition on the move" for the Royal, "Hospitality and Design" for the Auteuil, "Arty. Cosy. Trendy" for the N'vY, "A journey of discovery" for the Kipling, "Feng Shui harmony" for the Jade and "A mountain experience in the city" for the Edelweiss.

The Manotel Group also operates several restaurants: The Aparté, the Bistro and the Bogie's Bar at the Royal, the Trilby, the Tag's Café and the N'vY Bar at the N'vY, and the Edelweiss at the hotel of the same name. Presented with the same attention to detail, these refined eateries serve their hotel guests as well as a local Geneva clientele.

Dynamism, reliability, conviviality and creativity: the Manotel Group practises an active business culture. One of the prime examples of this active approach is Manotel's partnership with Alinghi, twice winner of the America's Cup. The group has supported the Swiss team ever since 2001.

### Hotel Royal \*\*\*\* superior

The contrasting combination of heritage and innovation distinguish this traditional hotel located on rue de Lausanne, a stone's throw from the main railway station. Beside the 202 rooms and suites inspired by a neoclassical architectural style, the Hotel Royal offers two business centres, seminar and banquet facilities, a fitness club with sauna and hammam and a private parking.

The Aparté is the successor to the Duo côté restaurant. With a 16/20 rating by Gault&Millau the gourmet restaurant offers an intimate universe where Chef Armel Bedouet expresses his passion. The Bistro is the ideal spot for meals among friends or business lunches. Dishes are based on French brasserie Classics.

#### Hotel N'vY \*\*\*\* superior

Close to the railway station and within walking distance of the lake, the Hotel N'vY reflects a new lifestyle inspired by the bohemian chic spirit. The hotel offers 153 rooms and suites - some of which with a view of the lake -, a seminar and banquet centre, a fitness club and private parking facilities.

The Hotel N'vY offers three eating options:

The Trilby restaurant's creative and innovative menu, composed by Chef Cyrille Azevedo, changes with the seasons and adapts to customers' tastes. Tag's Café offers quick eats to-go or onsite in a relaxed, New York-style atmosphere. Finally, at the N'vY Bar, you'll enjoy distinctive cocktails to the DJ's beat.

#### Hotel Auteuil \*\*\*\*

Very close to the main railway station, the Auteuil provides a refined urban atmosphere and stylish design. The entirely renovated establishment situated on the rue de Lausanne features 104 rooms, a business centre, a fitness area and private parking.

#### **Hotel Kipling** \*\*\* superior

Only minutes from the main railway station, the Kipling is a perfect hideaway in the heart of the city and in the vicinity of the lake. Its interior decoration is inspired by exotic lands. The 62 rooms take you to another world, a profusion of fine woods and lush colours. A business centre and private parking complete the services available at this hotel equipped with the latest technology.

#### Hotel Jade \*\*\* superior

In the heart of the city, just steps away from the shores of Lake Geneva, the Hotel Jade has been designed according to the rules of Feng Shui. Clients discover a world which is both relaxing and revitalising. The hotel offers 47 rooms and junior suites, a business centre and private parking facilities.

#### **Hotel Edelweiss** \*\*\* superior

A mountain experience in the heart of Geneva. In the style of a genuine Swiss chalet... built practically on the lake side! The cosiness and comfortable furnishings of the 42 rooms and the presence of a business centre form an original and unique combination.

The "Edelweiss" restaurant offers authentic Swiss cuisine in an alpine environment and live music 6 days a week.

# **Facts and Figures**

•	Date group founded:	1978
•	Manotel Group CEO:	Paul Muller
•	Hotel portfolio: 4 star: Auteuil 3 star:	6 Royal, N'vY and Kipling, Jade and Edelweiss
•	Number of rooms:	610
•	Number of restaurants:	6
•	Number of employees:	280
•	Website:	www.manotel.com
•	Facebook:	www.facebook.com/Manotel
•	Head office:	<b>Manotel SA</b> Jean-Dassier, 8 1201 Genève
		Tel. +41 (0)22 909 81 11 Fax. +41 (0)22 909 81 99

### Awards and nominations

- Upgraded to 16/20 in the Gault-Millau guide restaurant l'Aparté (Hotel Royal), guide 2018
- Canton of Geneva Sustainable Development Award –Manotel Group, 2008
- « Prix Suisse de l'Ethique » Manotel Group, 2008
- Nominated at the Worldwide Hospitality Awards (Paris) Manotel Group, 2008
- Finalist in the « best room innovation » category at the Worldwide Hospitality Awards (Paris) Hotel N'vY, 2013

## **Sustainable Development**

### A programme based on ten points

In 2007 Manotel announced a programme of sustainable development. The group has decided to integrate the following three main priorities in its day-to-day management, in a very active and tangible manner: economic efficiency, social responsibility and environment preservation.

In order to achieve this, Manotel has made a commitment to respect ten measures grouped into 4 areas:

-	Clients:	safety,
		mobility,
		information
-	Human resources:	professional development,
		referrals
		men/women parity
-	Environment:	monitoring of consumption ratios,
		Efficient energy usage (investment in upgraded insulation,
		solar panels, presence detectors, cold ceilings, economic light
		bulbs, minimise water usage)
		Optimisation of cleaning techniques.
	Wasta managamenti	corting and reguling

- Waste management: sorting and recycling

Manotel was able to give out the green economies, particularly with the complicity of the customers and their increased awareness to limit their daily consumption of bath towels, to the programme "Explore" of WWF International. More than twenty students thus carried out an internship within the framework of the program "Explore!" in Madagascar and Paraguay. This course enables young ones to confront the reality of the environmental issues at stake and encouraged most of them to begin a career in this sector.

In 2008, the Manotel Group received the Canton of Geneva Sustainable Development Award, the "Prix Suisse de l'Ethique", and was nominated at the Worldwide Hospitality Awards in Paris.

Finally, the Manotel Group launched an ambitious soap recycling program in 2018, in collaboration with the *Fondation Ensemble* (the "Together Foundation" in support of handicapped persons) and the *Espace Entreprise* (the "Business Space" training centre). The initiative aims to collect used soap in the chain's six hotels to recycle and redistribute them free of charge to humanitarian associations. The nonprofit *Youth for Soap* project brings together numerous partners from various domains – schools, businesses and social organizations – for the common purpose of sustainable development. The initiative should enable as much as 1 tonne of soap to be recycled each year.

## Paul Muller, CEO of the Manotel Group

Paul Muller, graduate of the Lausanne Hotel School, managed several companies in Europe and the Bahamas before taking over the general management of the Manotel Group in 2001. At that time, the challenge was considerable. Together with Mr. Danial of Finial Capital, Paul Muller – in charge of the six hotels and as many restaurants – managed to give each establishment its own identity as well as coherence to the group.

A vast renovation programme was undertaken in 2000, which succeeded in creating six hotel concepts, acclaimed by professional experts. The portfolio comprises 3- and 4- star hotels.

Extremely customer and service-orientated, Paul Muller naturally attaches great importance to the qualification and ongoing training of the 280 members of staff.

In 2001 – at a time when the outcome was still far from decided – Omar Danial and Paul Muller had the excellent foresight to sign a sponsorship agreement with Alinghi. The image of the double winner of the America's Cup is therefore linked to the Manotel Group, which shares the same values: innovation, dynamism and team spirit.

Paul Muller was President of the Geneva Hotel Association from 2005 to 2011 and he continues to work as a Committee member. He is acknowledged for his negotiating capabilities and his qualities in the field of reconciliation. He is, in addition, a full member of the Administrative Board of Geneva Palexpo SA.