



**Press Release**

**Watertown, MA, 8 September 2008**

## INCREASING ENVIRONMENTAL FOCUS INSPIRES ACCLAIM BENEFITS AND ACCOR SERVICES USA TO PARTNER

Accor Services USA, a premier provider of national commuter benefit programs [WiredCommute](#) and [Commuter Check](#), and Acclaim Benefits, a Minneapolis based, national third-party benefits administrator, are pleased to announce their partnership whereby Accor Services USA provides transit and parking benefit programs via WiredCommute to Acclaim Benefits' national client base.

"Until recently, Acclaim Benefits saw limited interest in commuter benefits programs from our clients," said Jeffrey Ackerson, President of Acclaim Benefits. "With an increasing awareness of the carbon footprint and significant increases in gas prices, clients of Acclaim Benefits are now interested in providing commuter benefit programs to their employees. Our partnership with Accor Services USA provides our clients with a solution for its employees to help address these concerns."

Participation in transit benefits yields tremendous savings for the environment, employees and employers. The more than 300,000 people participating in Accor Services USA commuter benefit programs save over \$340 million in gasoline annually; over 8.7 million pounds of carbon every day; and over \$129 million in payroll and commuting costs savings for themselves and their employers.

"Commuter benefit programs are a highly effective way to reduce commuting expenses and contribute to a healthier environment," said Gerard Bridi, President, Commuter Benefits, Accor Services USA. "We are seeing more and more companies add commuter benefit programs to their corporate sustainability efforts and we are pleased to further expand our market presence through our partnership with Acclaim Benefits."

WiredCommute is a customizable commuter benefit solution designed for Third Party Administrators (TPAs), Payroll Companies, Benefit Card Companies, and other benefit providers interested in offering private-labeled commuter benefits and program administration. It is a fully compliant, comprehensive program for Section 132(f) commuter benefits, which allows employers to offer their employees up to \$220 per month in pre-tax parking benefits or \$115 per month in pre tax transit/vanpool benefits. Customers appreciate the WiredCommute web-based ordering platform as well as the ease of order fulfillment and direct delivery to participants,

For more information, please visit [www.accorservicesusa.com](http://www.accorservicesusa.com).

### **About Acclaim Benefits**

Acclaim Benefits is a leading national third-party administrator for **spending accounts, transportation benefits, continuation programs, and retiree billing**. Based in Minneapolis, Acclaim Benefits delivers flexible service options and competitive features that include innovative technology, comprehensive administration, educational seminars, and a personal approach to service. For more information about Acclaim Benefits, please visit [www.acclaimbenefits.com](http://www.acclaimbenefits.com).

### **About Accor Services USA**

Accor Services USA is a leader in innovative employee benefits solutions and premier provider of national commuter benefit programs: Commuter Check Benefit Solutions, a nationwide transit and parking voucher program; and WiredCommute, a program for private labeled commuter benefits. Its mission is to make tax-free commuter benefits a staple in employee benefits packages throughout the American workplace – while helping protect the environment.

### **About Accor**

Accor, a major global group and the European leader in hotels, as well as the global leader in services to corporate clients and public institutions, operates in nearly 100 countries with 150,000 employees. It offers to its clients over 40 years of expertise in its two core businesses:

- Hotels, with the Sofitel, Pullman, Novotel, Mercure, Suitehotel, Ibis, all seasons, Etap Hotel, Formule 1 and Motel 6 brands, representing 4,000 hotels and nearly 500,000 rooms in 90 countries, as well as strategically related activities, such as Lenôtre.
- Services, with 30 million people in nearly 40 countries benefitting from Accor Services products in employee and public benefits, rewards and loyalty, and expense management.

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*Commuter Check is a registered trademark of Accor Services USA. WiredCommuter trademark. All other names may be trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective owners.*

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