

## Gala Dinner and Awards Presentation

Saturday 1st December 2007

at Royal Orchid Sheraton, Bangkok

*Press Release*

### **Winners of the Thailand Property Awards 2007 announced** *Real estate from around the country are acknowledged*

BANGKOK, 01 December 2007 - The winners of the 2007 Thailand Property Awards were announced last night in a lavish Gala Dinner held at the Royal Orchid Sheraton in Bangkok. Over 350 of Thailand's real estate elite were in attendance to celebrate the 13 award winners on the night.

After a long and thorough process of nomination, entry and judging, the winners were:

- **McEvily & Collins** Best Developer, won by Raimon Land PLC. (Bangkok)
- Best Boutique Developer, won by **Dhevatar Properties Co. Ltd. (Samui)**
- **British Chamber of Commerce** Thailand Best International Agent, won by CB Richard Ellis (Thailand) Co. Ltd. (Bangkok)
- Best Thailand Agent, won by **Samui Villas & Homes Co. Ltd. (Samui)**
- Best Resort Villa Development, won by The Yamu. (Phuket)
- **Vivaldi PR** Best Urban Condo Development, won by The Legend. (Bangkok)
- Best Resort Condo Development, won by Royal Phuket Marina. (Phuket)
- **Lighthouse Club** Green Development Award, won by: West Sands. (Phuket)
- **Gaggenau** Best Architect, won by Woods Bagot (Thailand) Ltd. (Bangkok)
- Best Interior Designer, won by S.O.D.A. Sachdev ODell (Thailand) Co. Ltd. (Bangkok)
- Best Agent Website, won by [www.siamrealestate.com](http://www.siamrealestate.com). (Phuket)
- Best Development Website, won by: [www.theriverbangkok.com](http://www.theriverbangkok.com). (Bangkok)

Real Estate Personality of the Year is awarded each year by the publishers of Property Report Thailand magazine, and this year was awarded to Robert Collins, Managing Director of Savills.

"The 2007 awards saw a very high level of competition and the winners truly deserve this recognition. There was a good spread of winners from around Thailand, with strong showings from both Phuket and Samui, as well as Bangkok," said Duncan Worthington, Managing Director of organisers Ensign Media Co. Ltd.

"Thailand's real estate industry has faced a number of challenges this year with growth being slower than previously expected. However, the success of the 2007 Thailand Property Awards and acknowledgement of the winners by their peers here tonight is a good indicator of the underlying quality and dynamic of the industry throughout the country," added Worthington.

Now in their second year, the annual Thailand Property Awards have grown from 80 entries in 2006 to 112 entries in 2007. The most popular award categories by number of entries this

year were Gaggenau Best Architect, Best Agent Website and Best Resort Condo Development, and in a number of award categories the results were very close.

The 2007 Thailand Property Awards introduced an innovative process of entry and judging. The organisers took a three phase approach:

Phase I - The real estate industry were invited to nominate companies in the 12 categories. Nominees could not nominate themselves, nor nominate in a category where there may be a conflict of interest. This phase closed on 31st August with over 260 nominations received.

Phase II - All nominees were then contacted by the organisers and invited to enter. The entry procedure was done online with each entrant having secure password-protected access to ensure privacy. There was no entry fee. This phase closed on 31st October with 112 entries received.

Phase III - A team of 22 judges selected from different disciplines in the industry, were given secure password-protected access to their private judging areas online. Different Judges were selected to judge on different awards to ensure no bias and conflict of interest, and Judges were selected from around Thailand (Bangkok, Phuket, Samui, Pattaya and Hua Hin) to ensure fair representation of different market segments. This phase closed on 18th November.

To ensure the process of nomination, entry and judging was transparent and fair, an Ethics Committee was appointed. The Ethic's Committee were tasked with ensuring the end results were reached in a transparent and fair manner, and comprised Michael Belmont Murray, Attorney at Law (USA), the law offices of McEvily & Collins; Paul Ashburn, Senior Partner Tax & Legal Services, BDO Richfield Advisory Limited; Dr. Sapon Pornchokchai, Ph.D. MRICS President, Thai Appraisal Foundation.

"Last year 210 attended the Gala Dinner and this year 350 plus were in attendance - we are pleased to see so many in the industry taking part in the awards. We are looking forward to next year and already have some new ideas. We're considering adding more categories and possibly having province-specific awards," commented Worthington.

A charity auction was held during the Gala Dinner with all the proceeds going towards building a school for orphans at the Mercy Centre ([www.mercycentre.org](http://www.mercycentre.org)). Sponsors of the 2007 awards include Gaggenau, McEvily & Collins, the Lighthouse Club Bangkok, Vivaldi Public Relations; as media partners REIDIN.com and Property Report Thailand; and the British Chamber of Commerce was a supporting chamber.

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

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### **About Thailand Property Awards**

Thailand Property Awards was first held in 2006. The awards aim to create awareness and showcase the best of Thailand's real estate and promote the quality of Thailand's real estate, construction, architectural and interior design as well as industry professional services. The award night is a unique networking night for Thailand real estate professionals. For more information, please visit [www.thailandpropertyawards.com](http://www.thailandpropertyawards.com).

**About Ensign Media**

Ensign Media Co. Ltd. ([www.ensign-media.com](http://www.ensign-media.com)) has published the monthly English language real estate publication Property Report Thailand since 2003 - a leading property magazine in Thailand renowned for its strong content. In 2006 Ensign Media launched a sister publication Property Report Singapore-Malaysia-Indonesia. Ensign Media also publishes Asia's only online real estate portal Asia Property Report ([www.property-report.com](http://www.property-report.com)).

Ensign Media also offers tailor-made contract publishing tools for companies and products, as well as publishing niche publications such as The Sailing Legacy, Phuket Marine Guide, Phuket For Kids, and the Culture & Cuisine series of books (Phuket and Samui editions).