

CONTACT: Stuart Rosenberg
Studio Communications
713.524.2800
stuartr@studiocommunications.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TEXAS-BASED VALENCIA GROUP SETS THE GOLD STANDARD; HOTEL VALENCIA RIVERWALK IN SAN ANTONIO AND HOUSTON'S HOTEL SORELLA EARN SPOTS ON CONDÉ NAST TRAVELER GOLD LIST

HOUSTON, TX – January 6, 2012 – Valencia Group, a Houston-based hotel management and development company, is pleased to announce that two of its Texas properties have earned coveted spots on the *Condé Nast Traveler* Gold List for 2012. Hotel Sorella, a key anchor of Houston's CITYCENTRE district, and Hotel Valencia Riverwalk, located in the heart of downtown San Antonio, were among eight properties around the state to receive the prestigious honor, which places them in the ranks of the top 511 hotels, resorts and cruise lines in the world. The 2012 Gold List is featured in this month's issue.

The Gold List accolades resulted from a 93.2/100 guest score for Hotel Sorella and an 89.6 score for Hotel Valencia Riverwalk, which secured them the #12 and #54 positions, respectively, on *Condé Nast Traveler's* 2011 Readers' Choice Awards list of the Top 200 US Hotels. Approximately eight million votes are tabulated, taking into account criteria that includes rooms, service, food, location, design and activities.

According to Roy Kretschmer, Executive Vice President of Operations for the Valencia Group, "We are thrilled that a quarter of the Texas honorees are Valencia Group properties and are tremendously proud that these hotels have been chosen among the best in the world by our loyal customers."

This is the second year in a row that Hotel Sorella has attained Gold List status. It is the only Houston hotel represented in 2012 and ranks second in the state. The property, which debuted in 2009, provides guests pedestrian access to an array of premium shopping, dining and entertainment options within CITYCENTRE such as Studio Movie Grille, the 140,000-square-foot Lifetime Athletic club and a central plaza with ongoing programming. The contemporary, 255-room destination features award winning Bistro Alex restaurant, striking Monnalisa bar and rooftop pool terrace, fitness center, dedicated 15,000-square-foot Meetings & Events Centre and penthouse level with 11 suites averaging 1,500 square feet and boasting gourmet kitchens with Viking appliances.

While new to the Gold List, Hotel Valencia Riverwalk has earned spots on numerous *Condé Nast Traveler* polls since its 2003 opening – most recently the 2010 Readers' Choice list of Top 100 Hotels in US. One of San Antonio's premier hotels for business and leisure travel, the 213-room property offers a premier waterfront location, providing a chic oasis steps from the city's top attractions. Highlights include casually elegant Citrus restaurant, dazzling Vbar and nearly 7,000 square feet of flexible meeting and event space.

About Valencia Group

Valencia Group, a Houston-based company, provides management, development, branding and repositioning services for full-service, boutique, independent hotels owned by Valencia as well as third-parties. As with Hotel Valencia Santana Row in San Jose, California, Hotel Sorella CITYCENTRE in Houston, TX and Hotel Valencia Riverwalk in San Antonio, TX, most Valencia sponsored hotels are set in the cultural heart of each city. Valencia Group hotels fuse globally-inspired modern design with Mediterranean influences, becoming popular destinations for guests and visitors alike. Valencia Group continues to forge its position as a mixed-use anchor with projects where the right balance of residential, restaurant, retail and office coalesce to create full-spectrum accretive value in great urban settings. Known for exceptional service and style, Valencia Group properties have received international recognition by magazines such as *Condé Nast* and *Travel + Leisure*, and by discerning travelers seeking a memorable experience. For more information, please visit www.valenciagroup.com.