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The Conference Center at NorthPointe Chef to Represent Sodexo and U.S. at International Culinary Competition

Sodexo Chef Mark Moran named U.S. Champion and will compete in global championship at International Association of Conference Centers annual conference

GAITHERSBURG, Md.—February 10, 2009 — Sodexo chefs are known for their top-quality, innovative menus and Sodexo Conferencing Chef Mark Moran is no exception, as shown by his recent win at the U.S. Copper Skillet Competition. Moran, the executive chef at The Conference Center at Northpointe in Columbus, Ohio, was named U.S. Champion at the Iron Chef-style competition, earning him the lone spot to represent the country at the International Association of Conference Centers (IACC) global competition in March.

“Mark and his culinary team at The Northpointe Conference Center consistently do an outstanding job.” said Larry Pearl, senior vice president, Sodexo Conferencing. “He is creative, stays in touch with the latest market trends and is focused to continually exceed our customers’ expectations; we are confident that Mark will do a great job representing the United States at this prestigious event.”

Chefs from IACC’s 325-member hotels and conference centers are invited to compete in this annual competition in which a panel of independent culinary experts evaluate each dish in three categories covering twelve criteria. Chef Moran’s dish of pan seared chicken medallions with crab sauce was named the “best of the best,” earning Moran the 2009 title.

Sodexo Conferencing

Sodexo Conferencing (www.sodexoconferencing.com) operates and manages both lodging and day conference centers using Sodexo's unique expertise in professional staffing, great food and state-of-the-art technology to ensure meetings and events are smooth, productive and effective. Sodexo Conferencing manages properties around the world and is a member of the International Association of Conference Centers (IACC).

Sodexo, Inc.

Sodexo, Inc. (www.sodexoUSA.com) is a leading integrated facilities management services company in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, with \$7.7 billion (USD) in annual revenue and 120,000 employees. Sodexo serves more than ten million customers daily in corporations, health care, long term care and retirement centers, schools, college campuses, government, and remote sites. Sodexo, Inc., headquartered in Gaithersburg, Md., is a member of Sodexo Group, and funds all administrative costs for the Sodexo Foundation (www.sodexofoundation.org), an independent charitable organization that, since its founding in 1999, has made more than \$11 million in grants to fight hunger in America.

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Editor's note: Winning-recipe and chef's bio attached; photos available