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Steve Magnuson Joins Kalahari Resorts As Vice President and Managing Director of New Pocono Mountains Resort

Bringing More than 30 Years Experience, Magnuson Will Oversee All Operations for Kalahari's First East Coast Property

Wisconsin Dells, Wis. – (September 17, 2014) – Today, <u>Kalahari Resorts and Conventions</u> announces the addition of Steve Magnuson to its senior leadership team. In his role as Vice President and Managing Director, Pocono Mountains, Magnuson will lead all operations across the Nelson-family resort and convention business in the company's newest location. Slated to open in June 2015, the \$230 million dollar project will span over 150 acres upon completion.

"Steve Magnuson joins the Kalahari Resorts family at a crucial time in our company's history," said Todd Nelson, owner of Kalahari Resorts. "His extensive background in creating unparalleled guest experiences, paired with his iron-clad ability to steer growth and foster success for resorts pre-and post-launch will be essential to Kalahari's expansion – not only in the Pocono Mountains, but beyond."

Magnuson's responsibilities will include: overseeing the day-to-day operations of the new Pocono Mountains resort, as well as providing leadership, guidance and direction to the on-site management team, while serving as the resort's liaison not only to the regional Pocono community, but also to Kalahari's executive management board.

Magnuson brings more than 30 years of experience in the hospitality industry to his role, most recently serving as Vice President of Operations for the Marcus Hotels & Resorts senior leadership team. He first joined Marcus in 1994 as general manager of Grand Geneva Resort and Spa, ascending to the role of Vice President and Managing Director in June of 1998.

Prior to joining the Marcus Corporation, Magnuson spent 15 years with Renaissance Hotels & Resorts, holding numerous management positions, including Assistant General Manager at Renaissance Orlando Resort at Sea World.

Magnuson received a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management, and a minor in Business Administration and Accounting from the University of Wisconsin-Stout. He also holds the Certified Hotel Administrator (CHA) designation from the American Hotel & Motel Association. Mr. Magnuson also sits on various boards within the hospitality and tourism industry.

About Kalahari Resorts

Kalahari Resorts in Wisconsin Dells, Wis., and Sandusky, Ohio, deliver a "world-away" waterpark resort and conference experience beyond expectations. The authentically African-themed Kalahari Resorts, privately owned by the Nelson family, are home to America's largest indoor waterparks. All Kalahari Resorts feature well-appointed guestrooms, full-service Spa Kalahari, a fully equipped fitness center, on-site restaurants, unique retail shops, and a state-of-the-art conference center. Kalahari Resorts and Convention Centers frequently receive awards and accolades for our guest and convention services. Recent recognition includes: Condé Nast Traveler's #1 World's Coolest Indoor Waterparks, TripAdvisors' 2014 Travelers' Choice Awards, Silver Star recognition for Best Family-Friendly Meeting Hotel and Resort in Smart Meeting's 2014 Smart Stars Awards, Clean the World's Top 50 Hot Properties in 2013, January 2014 Diner's Choice recognition from OpenTable, the Daily Herald's 2014 Reader's Choice Awards for Best Indoor Waterpark, selection as one of the nation's Top Family Resorts by Family Fun magazine for 2013, being named the Best Conference Center in the state by the Wisconsin Hotel and Lodging Association, and selection as the Corporate Meeting Destination of the Year by Cleveland Business Connects magazine. For reservation and guest information, call 1-877-KALAHARI (525-2427) or visit: KalahariResorts.com. To learn more about Kalahari Resorts, members of the media are encouraged to visit KalahariMedia.com.