

## **For Immediate Release**

### **Executive Promotions at Cooper Hotels**

Memphis, Tenn., March 29, 2010 – Pace Cooper, president and CEO of Memphis-based Cooper Hotels today announced the promotion of Mr. Brian Carney, corporate director of food and beverage operations, to the position of vice president of operations.

Prior to joining Cooper Hotels in 1986, Mr. Carney served as department manager of food and beverage for 14 years for Opryland USA and the Grand Ole Opry. He attended the Cornell School of Hotel Administration.

In his new role, Mr. Carney will be responsible for the profitability and guest satisfaction efforts for 17 hotels throughout the eastern U.S., primarily Hilton brand franchises.

Chef Andy Laubscher is now the corporate director of food and beverage operations for Cooper Hotels. Mr. Laubscher joined the company in 1997, serving as corporate chef. A native of Switzerland, Mr. Laubscher was trained in Lausanne, located in the French part of the country, and he worked for a four-diamond resort. With over 23 years of culinary experience, he has held positions with Swissotel properties in New York and Boston, and he served as director of culinary research and development for Swissotel's Hotel Gourmet company in the U.S. and Europe.

Memphis-based Cooper Hotels owns and operates 23 hotels in the eastern half of the U.S. Cooper also owns the distinction of being the only company to own and operate all of the major franchised brands within the Hilton Family including Hampton Inn, Homewood Suites by Hilton, Hilton Garden Inn, Doubletree Hotels, Hilton and Embassy Suites. For more information on Cooper Hotels visit [www.cooperhotels.com](http://www.cooperhotels.com).

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