



## *AEHL Lifetime Achievement Award for Hans Wiedemann*

**ST. MORITZ, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2019 - On November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019, the Alumni Network of the Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne came together to honour some of its most distinguished members during the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual AEHL Award Ceremony, held at Chaplin's World in Vevey. Hans Wiedemann, Delegate of the Board of Badrutt's Palace Hotel, was presented with the AEHL Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing his remarkable professional path which is an inspiration and example to EHL students and the alumni over the world.**



Many alumni of the prestigious Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne (EHL) were present at the annual AEHL Award Ceremony in Vevey where Hans Wiedemann was honoured for his accomplishments. Wiedemann graduated from EHL in 1978 and has since remained a faithful ambassador. From 1998 to 2018, he served as International Advisory Board member of Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne and throughout his career he has been a motivator and supporter of many young graduates, who today hold leading positions in the international hotel industry. „ I am very humble and honored to receive this prestigious award which I would like to share with every-body who accompanied me during my career; Guests, Owners, Family, Friends, Board Members and the wonderful staff! “ says Hans Wiedemann. “This award is a result of excellent teamwork and does not only belong to me.”

As Hans Wiedemann's father used to say, “Set your goal high, it gets smaller by itself!”, and this became a driving principle for Wiedemann, making him a top hotelier, admired by guests, colleagues and industry professionals worldwide. In 2007 he was awarded “Hotelier of the Year” by the Swiss “Bilanz” magazine and in 2009 he was recognized as “Hotelier of the World” by the “Hotels” publication.

After graduating from EHL and various stints in Switzerland, Hans Wiedemann relocated to China as general manager of a 600-room hotel. Subsequently he followed his career path to Australia, where he stayed for 13 years managing five top hotels and winning the national award for “Excellence in Service”. Well known for ambition and optimism, Wiedemann returned to his home country in 1995 as director of the “Montreux Palace Hotel” where he stayed for nine years. The hotel gained new fame under the helm of the successful hotelier.

In 2004 Hansjürg Badrutt convinced Wiedemann to join him in St. Moritz as Managing Director of Badrutt's Palace Hotel. Given that service had always been Wiedemann's strongest calling, he took on the role, determined to ensure the Palace preserved its deep-rooted history, whilst continuing to shine as one of the icons of the international hotel industry.



Wiedemann's approach to service convinced Hansjürg Badrutt who decided that the Managing Director should one day take over as majority shareholder. This honour gave Wiedemann an even deeper determination to keep the "Grand Dame" of St. Moritz independent. On February 1<sup>st</sup> 2018, Wiedemann retired and handed over the operational running of the hotel but he continues to serve as Delegate of the Board.

During his career, Hans Wiedemann also served as President of Leading Hotels of the World in Switzerland and sat on the management council of the Swiss Hotel Archive. He was a board member of Swiss Deluxe Hotels and the Swiss National Delegate of EHMA (European Hotel Managers Association). He currently also serves as Vice President of the Board at the Grand Hotel Les Trois Rois, Basel.

#### *ABOUT ÉCOLE HÔTELIÈRE DE LAUSANNE (EHL)*

EHL Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne is an ambassador for traditional Swiss hospitality and has been a pioneer in hospitality education since 1893 with over 25,000 alumni worldwide and over 120 nationalities. EHL is the world's first hospitality management school that provides undergraduate and graduate programs at its campuses in Lausanne, Singapore and Chur-Passugg, as well as online learning solutions. The university of applied sciences is ranked n°1 by QS World University Rankings by subject and CEO World Magazine, and its gastronomic restaurant is the world's only educational establishment to hold a Michelin Star.

*For more information about Ecôle hôtelière de Lausanne, please visit [www.ehl.edu](http://www.ehl.edu)*

#### *ABOUT THE BADRUTT'S PALACE HOTEL*

Experience legendary service and an enchanting atmosphere in the heart of St Moritz. Unrivalled and unexpected eating and drinking meet a unique sense of belonging in a historic and iconic mountain resort. A celebration of style, sports, culinary and wellness adventures 6,000 feet up in the Swiss Alps. In winter, the Badrutt's Palace Hotel is the perfect starting point to explore one of the world's most exciting ski regions. In summer, alpine and spa activities abound in the sun-soaked Engadine Valley. The Badrutt's Palace Hotel opens its doors for the winter season 2019/20 from December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019 until March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

*For more information about Badrutt's Palace, please visit [www.badruttspalace.com](http://www.badruttspalace.com)*

#### *FOR FURTHER PRESS INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT*

Thomas Citterio

Public Relations

Badrutt's Palace Hotel

Phone +41 (0)81 837 26 57

[pr@badruttspalace.com](mailto:pr@badruttspalace.com)

[www.badruttspalace.com/presse](http://www.badruttspalace.com/presse)