



## PRESS RELEASE

### TROPICAL ISLANDS – EUROPE'S LARGEST TROPICAL HOLIDAY WORLD

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## Tropical Islands – Europe's largest Tropical Holiday World (Company profile - long version)

The concept of Europe's largest Tropical Holiday World: The tropics are located directly in Europe. The dream of a tropical island in the middle of Europe has therefore become true with Tropical Islands. Guests find a unique holiday destination, independent of the weather, in the largest self-supporting hall in the world. It has an area of 66,000 square metres - a size equal to that of eight football fields. Tropical Islands is a worldwide unique tropical holiday world in which the Asian Pacific Region, Africa and South America meet.

### I. Background

#### The investors

The investors of Tropical Islands are Tanjong public limited company, based in Malaysia and listed on the Kuala Lumpur and London stock exchanges and Au Leisure Investments Pte Ltd. from Singapore.

#### The Management

Born in Denmark, Ole Bested Hensing has guided the destiny of Tropical Islands since 01 November 2005 as the Managing Director of Tropical Island Management GmbH. As the sole Managing Director, Ole Bested Hensing reports directly to the Supervisory Board, whose members are Gerard NTN Nathan, Group Chief Financial Officer of Tanjong PLC; Shirene Lee, General Manager, Legal & Corporate Affairs of Tanjong PLC, William Buchan, and Joachim Hagemann, Managing Director of Tropical Islands Holding GmbH.

#### The Tropical Islands Resort

The objective of Tropical Islands is to become the leading European holiday resort. Together with the nearby "Spreewald" region, it would like to position itself as a Europe-wide travel destination. It aims to offer a large range of recreation, health and relaxation facilities and services, especially for holidaymakers on a short break and for families.

#### The history

The huge hall was originally built and put into service in 2000 as an airship building yard and hangar. The intention was to produce CargoLifters, enormous airships for worldwide transport of large freights to inaccessible destinations. CargoLifter AG went bankrupt before the first prototype could be built. In 2003, the Malaysian **consortium Tanjong PLC/Colin Au** purchased the site to build the Tropical Islands Resort in the hall. And Tropical Islands opened one year later, on 19.12.2004.

Since then, the tropical leisure world has been steadily extended to make it more and more attractive for guests. Germany's highest water slide tower was erected in Tropical Islands in 2006, together with a new childrens' playground. In 2007, Europe's largest tropical spa & sauna complex was added and the following year saw the opening of a new service - the Tropical Islands campground. As a highlight of 2008, the contract concerning the development of the Tropical Islands Resort was signed with the Danish Eske Group A/S and the Novasol Group.



## PRESS RELEASE

### TROPICAL ISLANDS – EUROPE'S LARGEST TROPICAL HOLIDAY WORLD

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In 2009, Europe's largest tropical holiday world once again set new standards with the addition of new lodges and a large sunbed deck and the staging of a new daytime and evening show.

## II. The Tropical World

### The Tropical Sea

With an area of 3,000 square metres, the Tropical Sea is the size of four Olympic swimming pools. Anyone entering the sea is surrounded by comfortably warm 28°C water. The atmosphere on the 200 metre long and elegantly sweeping sandy beach is unique. Numerous deckchairs are available here. The horizon is formed by a 2,240 square metre canvas screen – sky blue with cotton wool clouds. Warming UV light shines through 20,000 square metres of translucent film on the south side. This makes natural tanning possible.

### The Bali Lagoon

The Bali Lagoon has a water temperature of 32°C. A current channel, slides and whirlpools in the bays provide diverse bathing fun for guests. A grotto and a waterfall create a real jungle atmosphere where the lagoon borders the rainforest.

### The largest indoor rainforest in the world

Around 50,000 trees, bushes and ground covering plants form the tropical vegetation in the Tropical Islands rainforest. Two Ficus Thai trees, almost 100 years old and up to eight tons in weight, are conspicuous individual trees in the rainforest. Palms are up to 18 metres high, with Dendrobium nobile orchids and creepers climbing up the tree trunks. A one kilometre long path is taking visitors along to the green sights. A bridge leading across the mangrove swamp gives strollers thrilling views, for example of the red-eared turtles. Most of the 600 or so different plant varieties originate in the Asian-Pacific and South American regions. Visitors can take part in interesting guided tours through the rainforest and broaden their knowledge of the rainforest flora.

### The Tropics Rally

A tropics rally offers a variety of choices, especially for schoolchildren: they can immerse themselves in new fields of knowledge, with themes and questions appropriate for all age groups. The topics are based on standard school curricula. Tropical Islands also offers reduced admission charges for school groups.

### Water slides

The highest water slide tower in Germany – at 27 metres as high as a 9 floor building - is located in Tropical Islands. There are 4 different slides, including a turbo slide which allows users to reach a speed of up to 70 kilometres per hour. The three other slides are more leisurely to travel on, e.g. the family descent on an inner-tube down the spiral slide.

### The Tropino children's club

Children have their own play world in the Tropical Islands in the Tropino children's club. Play offers range from power paddle boats to a trampoline facility with 8 jumping mats,



## PRESS RELEASE

### TROPICAL ISLANDS – EUROPE'S LARGEST TROPICAL HOLIDAY WORLD

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a climbing frame with integrated softball arena, a climbing volcano and a kart track through to a basketball basket, a table-tennis table and table football.

The "Urmel aus dem Eis" and "Mama Wutz", a prehistoric missing link between a dinosaur and a mammal, and a female pig housekeeper respectively, are both characters from popular German children's books and ensure additional fun by greeting the Tropino children's club guests daily. During the late afternoon they dance on the Wayang stage during the children's disco. In addition, there is a tropical explorer knowledge quiz for children, a treasure hunt and changing activities such as feeding fish or children's makeup.

#### **Mini golf**

A mini-golf course is embedded in a small rocky landscape. Laid out on a green artificial lawn, there are 18 different holes. With its original layout and different levels of difficulty, it provides plenty of variety for mini-golfers.

#### **Island ballooning**

The high balloon provides great views of the tropical experience and sauna landscape. The balloon rises to a height of around 55 metres. In the seats, the guests float in the air and enjoy the views of Europe's largest tropical holiday world.

#### **Boulevard**

The Tropical Islands boulevard has numerous shops with a comprehensive range of products. There are arts and crafts, sweets and souvenirs from all over the world. There is also a hairdressing and cosmetic salon on the boulevard, ensuring a perfect look.

#### **The Tropical Village**

The tropical village consists of four typical types of houses from Thailand, Borneo, Bali and Samoa. The intricately designed buildings are original structures and each is unique in its own way. They were built exclusively for Tropical Islands by experienced architects and craftsmen in their countries of origin, they were then transported to Berlin and re-erected at Tropical Islands.

With a height of 14 metres, the **Bali Gate** is the largest gate of its type outside Bali. On the Hindu "Island of the Gods" such open gates mark the entrance to holy areas. The "split gate" symbolises a mountain of the Gods torn asunder in the middle.

From the Bali Gate, the path leads to the **Bali Pavilion**. Hexagonal, with three pagoda roofs, it corresponds to the aesthetic proportions of a Balinese temple. The roofs are covered with palm leaves. On the ground floor, sandstone reliefs depict scenes from the Ramayana. This epic tale of Prince Rama, the beautiful Sita and the Great Ape Hanuman is a classic of world literature and contains the fundamental philosophical beliefs of Hinduism.

The **Borneo Longhouse** at Tropical Islands is built in the style of the Orang Ulu. The Indians of the Orang Ulu tribe are the artists among the native inhabitants of Borneo. Their longhouses are decorated with carvings and paintings, their utensils and tools are adorned with fine pearl jewellery.



## PRESS RELEASE

### TROPICAL ISLANDS – EUROPE'S LARGEST TROPICAL HOLIDAY WORLD

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A traditional **Thai House** made of wood and bamboo is the largest and at the same time the most elegant building in the Tropical Village. It originally provided space for a large family. The ensemble consists of three smaller buildings: the building for sleeping in, the reception building and a building in which the family eats. The buildings surround the central atrium. The Thai House at Tropical Islands was designed and built by the architect Ladda Teijavnaija. In her Thai homeland, she has already worked for the royal family.

The **Samoa Fale** is a typical Polynesian village house and is called "Fale" on Samoa. Tree trunks protrude from an oval platform, and a roof covered with leaves rests on the trunks. Otherwise most of the houses are open all round, even during the night.

#### Food and drink

Starting with breakfast through to a cocktail long after midnight, a varied range of food and drink awaits the guests. The Tropical Village is home to various bars, a crêperie, the tropical barbecue and the self-service restaurant Mondial. There are also bars and a restaurant alongside the Lagoon and South Seas. The Sea Shell beach café offers light, exotic pleasures with its Indian tandoori cuisine.

### III. Europe's largest Tropical Sauna & Spa Complex

In January 2009, the Tropical Islands Sauna & Spa Complex was awarded the highest "Premium" rating (5 stars) of the German sauna association, the Deutsche Sauna-Bund e.V. A total of six wellness areas, with lavish and lovingly created settings, await the guests. The architecture is inspired by original buildings, for example, the Elephanta Temple in India. Embedded in these backdrops, the sauna, steam bath and top class, Far Eastern feel good treatments can be experienced: All this on an area the size of one and a half football fields (around 10,000 square metres). The images and inspirations are taken, for example, the temple of Angkor Wat in Cambodia, the Waiotapu geyser in New Zealand and the Alcantara Gorge in Sicily. In addition, there is a Jungle Village and an Asia Pavilion. Mud packs and Ayurveda applications as well as Thai massages round off the extensive offer. Guests can treat themselves to light Indian tandoori cuisine in the Sea Shell beach café (around 200 seats).

### IV. The Tropical Islands show programme

A varied show programme is offered to Tropical Islands' guests and is included in the admission price. The daily afternoon show takes place on the Wayang stage in the Tropical Village. In the evening, the grand gala show casts its spell over the audience on the island in the middle of the Tropical Sea.

Here the audience are right up close: Either comfortably on the beach with their feet in the sand or seated at a festively laid table. The offer ranges from a three-course candlelit dinner with Show & Dine through to a small snack.



## PRESS RELEASE

### TROPICAL ISLANDS – EUROPE'S LARGEST TROPICAL HOLIDAY WORLD

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#### V. Accommodation in and around Tropical Islands

The **Rainforest Camps** are located in the middle of densely growing tropical plants, in the immediate vicinity of the sauna landscape or children's play world. The two and four-bed tents are kept in a sand-coloured Safari style and are comfortably equipped with slatted bed frames and mattresses; they communicate the feeling of jungle and adventure.

Another, very comfortable accommodation option is provided by the **lodges** at Tropical Islands. They are situated, for example, along the Bali Lagoon or above the waterfall and are made of wood and bamboo. Each lodge is unique and each tells its own story with its name, design and the location at which it receives the visitor. The cosy 2-person lodges are furnished in a tropical style and therefore have exotic names such as the Ceylon Tea Lodge, Ta Prohm or Surinam Banana Lodge. Equipped with a corner seating unit and table, a filled mini-bar and a double bed, they provide all you need for a comfortable stay in the middle of the tropics.

Camping on the edge of the tropics – that is possible on the Tropical Islands **camp-ground**. The site fulfils state of the art standards and corresponds to a 4 star camp-ground. It is within eyeshot of Tropical Islands and a shuttle service conveniently brings the campers to the tropical climes. The site covers 6 hectares and provides space for 91 caravans and trailer caravans; in addition, there is a tent site on which tepee tents are offered for rent.

There are also **numerous offers available all year round in the vicinity** of Tropical Islands. These range from a simple bed to a luxurious suite, depending on your wishes.

Further information is available under the heading "Visitor Info" on [www.tropical-islands.de](http://www.tropical-islands.de), via the hotline: 035477 60 50 50 or, for example, through the holiday home provider Novasol. Information and booking on: [www.novasol.de](http://www.novasol.de)

#### **Accessibility**

Tropical Islands is also accessible for wheelchair users. Wide paths, wheelchair-accessible toilets and changing areas as well as ramps ensure extensive accessibility. It is also possible to explore the rainforest in a wheelchair: Paved paths and slopes of less than 6% ensure wheelchair users can travel along the routes.

#### **Opening hours**

As the tropics are not familiar with closing times, Europe's largest tropical holiday world is also open daily, around the clock on 365 days of the year. Special arrangements exist on 24 December and New Year's Eve.

#### **Admission prices:**

<b>Adults</b>	25 EUR
<b>Children aged 4-14 years</b>	19.50 EUR
<b>Toddlers up to age 3</b>	free
<b>Children Welcome offer</b>	Two adults and one child pay - up to three children are admitted free of charge.



## PRESS RELEASE

### TROPICAL ISLANDS – EUROPE'S LARGEST TROPICAL HOLIDAY WORLD

---

Use of the car park and changing cabins are included.

Guests who move from the Tropical Sauna & Spa Complex to the Tropical World pay a one-off charge of 6.50 Euro for the move. This price is also charged for a change in the other direction.

With the favourably priced Combi Ticket, guests save part of the surcharge for entry to the Tropical Sauna Complex or the Tropical World. The Combi Ticket costs:

<b>Adults</b>	28.50 EUR
<b>Children aged 4-14 years</b>	19.50 EUR
<b>Toddlers up to age 3</b>	free

#### How to get there

##### By car

Tropical Islands is situated on the A 13 motorway (Berlin-Dresden), approx. 35 km south of Berlin-Schönefeld, on the Staakow motorway exit.

##### By rail

The regional express RE 2 travels hourly from Berlin and Cottbus to Brand (Niederlausitz). The journey takes around 50 minutes only, for example from Berlin-Alexanderplatz.

The regional railway service RB 14 also travels hourly from Berlin-Ostbahnhof station via Berlin-Schönefeld and Königs Wusterhausen and from Senftenberg via Lübben to Brand.

A free bus shuttle runs from Brand railway station (Niederlausitz).

**If you have any questions, please contact:**

#### Tropical Islands

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