

Contact: Teresa Martínez, (787) 474-5091, tmartinez@prcb.org

PUERTO RICO CONVENTION BUREAU GAINS TOP RECOGNITIONS FROM READERS OF TOP MEETING PLANNER PUBLICATIONS

SAN JUAN, August 8, 2008-- The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau has received three industry awards through the votes of the readers of top meeting planning publications. The awards include *Meetings & Conventions' Gold Service Award*, *Successful Meetings's Pinnacle Award*, and *Association Meetings' Inner Circle Award*.

"We are very proud of the recognition that our team has received from the meeting planners and other professionals who have experienced our services and those of our member-suppliers during the past year to ensure the success of their meeting or convention in Puerto Rico," stated Ana María Viscasillas, president and CEO, Puerto Rico Convention Bureau. "These recognitions are a great testimonial to our efforts and there is no doubt they boost our enthusiasm to keep attracting more group business to our Island."

This is the 19th consecutive year that the Bureau has received the prestigious **Gold Service Award**, which honors Convention & Visitor Bureaus that have excelled in professionalism and dedication in their service to meeting professionals. Recipients of the Gold Service Award are selected by the readers of *Meetings & Conventions* magazine, a publication considered one of the premier meetings trade publications with a circulation of more than 70,000 readers comprised of conference planners and other meeting decision makers.

Successful Meetings has awarded the Puerto Rico Convention Bureau the **Pinnacle Award** for the 18th consecutive year, recognizing the destination for offering the finest services, meeting facilities, accommodations and attractions. The **Pinnacle Award** is regarded as one of the most credible and prestigious symbol of excellence among meeting, convention and incentive travel planners. Bureaus chosen to receive the award are selected by the magazine's readers and meeting planners.

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The **Inner Circle Award**, presented by *Association Meetings*, recognizes the Bureau's outstanding reputation among association meeting planners, who often coordinate large-scale and citywide conventions for their members. Readers of the magazine voted for the best of the best within convention and visitors bureaus for association meetings.

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EDITOR'S NOTE:

The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau (PRCB) is a non-profit organization established in 1962 to drive meetings, conventions, trade shows and incentive groups to Puerto Rico. With offices in San Juan, Chicago, New York, Miami, and Washington DC, the Bureau strengthens Puerto Rico's competitive position in the Americas and abroad by increasing awareness of the Island's outstanding meeting facilities and services, and produces approximately \$125 million to the local economy. The PRCB is the official marketing and sales agent for the new Puerto Rico Convention Center (PRCC) opened November 2005. For more information on the new Convention Center visit www.prconvention.com. The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau, representing the capital city of San Juan, is a member of BestCities, a global alliance of Bureaus that represent the highest standards of service in the meetings and convention industry. For more information, visit www.bestcities.net. The Puerto Rico Convention Bureau has also been awarded accreditation from the Destination Marketing Association International as an elite destination management organization. DMAI is the world's largest association of CVBs, representing more than 600 destination management organizations in more than 25 countries. The Bureau can be reached electronically through the Internet at info@prcb.org or at its website www.meetpuertorico.com.

