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William Margaritis Joins Hilton Worldwide as Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs

MCLEAN, Va.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [Hilton Worldwide](http://www.hilton.com) (NYSE:HLT) today announced that William Margaritis will become the company's executive vice president of Corporate Affairs starting in late August, based in the company's global headquarters in McLean, VA. Margaritis previously served for 15 years as senior vice president of Global Communications and Investor Relations at FedEx Corporation.

This Smart News Release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<http://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20150810005258/en/>

William Margaritis Joins Hilton Worldwide as Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs (Photo: Business Wire)

At Hilton, Margaritis will oversee internal and external communications, government relations and

corporate responsibility globally. He will report to Christopher J. Nassetta, president and CEO of Hilton Worldwide and will serve as a member of the company's Executive Committee.

"After an extensive and thoughtful search, Bill stood out as a highly respected and seasoned leader with a proven track record and the right combination of experience," said Nassetta. "As we continue to gain momentum and accelerate our growth around the world, finding additional ways to reach, engage and connect with our most critical stakeholders becomes even more important. Bill's breadth of experience and his broad understanding of global business and markets will help us build, strengthen and execute an integrated strategy across Hilton that will enhance our industry leadership position and our ability to differentiate ourselves in the marketplace."

Margaritis comes to Hilton with 33 years of experience, having managed various facets of corporate and marketing communications, government affairs, investor relations and employee communications. At FedEx, Margaritis led the strategic repositioning and rebranding communications programs for the company through an integrated customer and employee campaign. He was also the architect of the *Purple Promise*, an award-winning internal cultural employee engagement multimedia initiative to create a common rallying platform for 300,000 team members across multiple operating companies around the world. Margaritis implemented innovative strategic reputation programs that helped FedEx consistently earn top-tier rank in Fortune's Most Admired Companies and Great Places to Work lists.

“Hilton is one of the world’s truly great pioneering brands and is on a strong growth trajectory,” said Margaritis. “I’m honored to be joining the Hilton family and excited to play a role in growing the company, unifying the culture and telling its compelling story to stakeholders around the world.”

Prior to FedEx, he served as vice president of Public Relations & Marketing Communications for Europe, Africa, Middle East and Southwest Asia at Bechtel Corporation, based in London, UK. Previously he was the manager for State Government Affairs for Occidental Petroleum Corporation, and also served as a Special Assistant for Intergovernmental Affairs in the Office of the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Malcolm Baldrige, in the Reagan Administration. Margaritis began his career as a legislative assistant in the Michigan Senate and also served as the deputy director for the Reagan-Bush 1984 Presidential Campaign in Michigan. He holds a bachelor’s of arts degree in Business from Michigan State University and is a past chairman of the board of the Arthur W. Page Society, the professional association of chief communications officers.

About Hilton Worldwide

Hilton Worldwide (NYSE: HLT) is a leading global hospitality company, spanning the lodging sector from luxury and full-service hotels and resorts to extended-stay suites and focused-service hotels. For 96 years, Hilton Worldwide has been dedicated to continuing its tradition of providing exceptional guest experiences. The company's portfolio of twelve world-class global brands is comprised of more than 4,440 managed, franchised, owned and leased hotels and timeshare properties, with more than 730,000 rooms in 97 countries and territories, including Hilton Hotels & Resorts, Waldorf Astoria Hotels & Resorts, Conrad Hotels & Resorts, Canopy by Hilton, Curio – A Collection by Hilton, DoubleTree by Hilton, Embassy Suites by Hilton, Hilton Garden Inn, Hampton by Hilton, Homewood Suites by Hilton, Home2 Suites by Hilton and Hilton Grand Vacations. The company also manages an award-winning customer loyalty program, Hilton HHonors®. Hilton HHonors members who book directly through preferred Hilton channels have access to benefits including free standard Wi-Fi, as well as digital amenities that are available exclusively through the industry-leading Hilton HHonors app, where HHonors members can check-in, choose their room, and access their room using a Digital Key. Visit news.hiltonworldwide.com for more information and connect with Hilton Worldwide at facebook.com/hiltonworldwide, twitter.com/hiltonworldwide, youtube.com/hiltonworldwide, flickr.com/hiltonworldwide, and linkedin.com/company/hilton-worldwide.

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