

## Press Release

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2021

# WebBeds appoints James Phillips as Americas Region President.

WebBeds, the world's fastest growing B2B travel intermediary, providing accommodation and ground product distribution services to the travel industry, announces the appointment of James Phillips to the position of WebBeds' President - Americas.

WebBeds has appointed the newest member of its Senior Leadership team, underscoring its strategic focus on the Americas as a key region for travel and for the growth of its business.

WebBeds' Americas commercial region encompasses sizable markets from the United States and Canada in the northern hemisphere to Mexico, Brazil and Argentina in the south. WebBeds considers the size and scope of these markets as an important engine of growth as it seeks to expand its footprint in the region. Daryl Lee, CEO WebBeds, said: "We have great ambitions for the Americas commercial region. James and the Americas team will be continuing the already incredible strides we have made, delivering sustainable value to our partners, and driving strong commercial outcomes".

James joins WebBeds today, bringing his extensive, 25-year travel and hospitality career to the company. James' experience in the industry started with a leading tour operator. He then spent a decade working with the Starwood Hotels and Resorts and Kempinski group of hotels. Subsequently, he held leadership roles with GTA for sourcing in the EMEA and Americas regions and with Hotelbeds for Sales and Marketing. Most recently, James has been advising several companies, working with the state of Connecticut's venture capital arm on its travel portfolio.

With this appointment, Ossama Wagdi, who has been WebBeds' Acting President – Americas, will move to a Senior Advisor role for WebBeds and Chairman of Umrah Holidays International.

Ends.

## About WebBeds

Launched in 2013, WebBeds is the world's fastest growing B2B travel intermediary, or 'bedbank', providing accommodation and ground product distribution services to the travel industry. It sources content from travel suppliers, aggregates and merchandises that content in the WebBeds platform, then distributes it to its global network of travel trade clients, who sell to the travelling public.

**Clients** – online travel agencies, retail travel agents, corporate travel managers, tour operators, wholesalers, tourism boards, super apps, DMC's, group providers, airlines and more – access the company's huge global inventory of more than 368,000 hotels (comprising 30,000+ direct contracts, 70+ integrated third-party providers and 60+ major hotel chains) through market-leading, trade-only booking websites or via simple and seamless API connectivity. In addition to hotel product, clients can also book over 5,500 transfer services in 1,200 destinations along with thousands of guided excursions and tickets for attractions.

**Supplier partners** – global hotel chains, independent hotels, apartments, resorts, attractions, transfer and sightseeing companies and more – benefit from our global distribution network of over 44,000 travel companies in more than 145 source markets and are supported by a local dedicated point of contact focused on ensuring WebBeds delivers value, choice, expertise and an unrivalled level of service.

WebBeds operates globally through four geographic regions – Europe, Asia Pacific, MEA (Middle East and Africa) and Americas - with over 1,600 travel professionals working in 50 offices worldwide. WebBeds also operates specialist brands JacTravel DMC and Umrah Holidays International. JacTravel DMC provides tailor-made travel arrangements for offline FIT and groups traveling to the UK, Ireland and key mainland European destinations to the international travel trade. Umrah Holidays International is a genuine pioneer, providing online pilgrimage travel services to travel agencies worldwide.

Find out more about the WebBeds business at [www.webbeds.com](http://www.webbeds.com)

WebBeds is a division of Webjet Limited (ASX: WEB).

## About Webjet Limited

Webjet Limited (ASX: WEB) is an ASX 200 listed company operating a digital travel business spanning both wholesale (through B2B) and consumer (through B2C) markets.

The B2B travel business, WebBeds, is the world's second largest and fastest growing accommodation supplier in the wholesale travel market. It operates globally through four regional divisions - Europe, Asia Pacific, MEA (Middle East and Africa) and Americas. The B2C travel business operates Webjet, the market leading OTA brand in Australia and New Zealand, and Online Republic, which specialises in the provision of online car and motorhome bookings.

Find out more about Webjet Limited at: [www.webjetlimited.com](http://www.webjetlimited.com)