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**SEBASTIEN SILVESTRI TAPPED TO OVERSEE FOOD AND BEVERAGE
AT THE ISLAND HOTEL NEWPORT BEACH**

NEWPORT BEACH, CA (October 30, 2006) – Sebastien Silvestri has been named director of restaurants for The Island Hotel Newport Beach, a luxury 295-room property set amidst five acres of landscaped gardens in Newport Center.

According to Ray Jacobi, managing director of The Island Hotel, Silvestri moves into this critical leadership position, which includes all operational aspects of Pavilion, the hotel’s acclaimed fine dining restaurant. In addition, he will oversee Gardens Lounge and Café, as well as 24-hour in-room dining and the pool cabana.

Silvestri will work closely with the property’s award-winning Executive Chef Bill Bracken to further establish The Island Hotel as a culinary *tour de force*. “Our goal is to make the hotel a destination for food and wine aficionados, and we are thrilled to have Sebastien on board to help spearhead that effort,” Jacobi said.

Silvestri comes to The Island Hotel from Las Vegas, where he was general manager of Sensi, a popular restaurant at Bellagio. In addition to his tenure there, he finessed his food and beverage skills over the years as general manager of Allred’s restaurant at the Telluride Ski and Golf Resort in Colorado; director of food and beverage and acting hotel manager at the Bora Bora Lagoon Resort and Spa in Tahiti; and food and beverage manager of Rosewood Hotels and Resorts.

A native of France, he earned a diploma in hotel management from the Esitel School in Montpellier, France, and is fluent in Italian, French and English.

Overlooking the nearby islands of Balboa, Lido and Catalina, The Island Hotel Newport Beach was originally built in 1986 by The Irvine Company and now features: 295 recently renovated guestrooms and suites; a 4,000-square-foot spa; a 3,000-square-foot resort-style pool; two award-winning restaurants; a fitness center; two outdoor, lighted tennis courts; and over 30,000 square feet of meeting space. The hotel is across the street from the acclaimed Fashion Island shopping center, and just minutes away from Newport Harbor. For reservations and more information, please contact The Island Hotel Newport Beach, toll-free, at 1-888-321-4752; or visit the website at www.theislandhotel.com.

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