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WESTIN PEACHTREE PLAZA COMPLETES LARGEST HOTEL WINDOW
REPLACEMENT IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE
Atlanta's Iconic Hotel Replaces 6,350 Windows

ATLANTA (October 1, 2010) – [The Westin Peachtree Plaza](#) has completed the restoration of all 6,350 windows on the 73-story hotel's exterior. This was the largest hotel window replacement project in the Western Hemisphere and was completed ahead of schedule in 13 months. Following a safe construction process, which ensured minimal inconvenience to hotel guests, the building's windows were brought up to today's standards. In keeping with Starwood Hotel's sustainability initiative, the Westin was able to recycle more than 600 tons of glass and replace them with more energy efficient ones.

"We're thrilled that this process has been seamless," said Ed Walls, general manager of the Westin Peachtree Plaza. "We've worked diligently to provide our guests with the best experience possible with no interruptions. The windows are now up to current building code standards and are also more energy efficient."

The construction company Skanska USA replaced the windows at a pace of one floor per week, shutting down five floors at time so that guests were not impacted. Each hotel room has four window panels that were replaced and each window panel measures approximately four by nine feet.

Damage to the Westin Peachtree Plaza occurred Friday, March 14, 2008 when a 130 mile-per-hour tornado ripped through part of downtown Atlanta and snaked across

a six-mile long, 200-yard wide stretch of the city with the Westin in its path. The storm initially disabled 320 of the hotel's 1,068 rooms. All 2,000 guests were evacuated with no injuries reported.

Fun Facts

- If placed back-to-back, the windows that were replaced would total 58,150 feet or nearly 11 miles. They would take you back and forth to the Varsity 10 times and if you were really hungry, you could order the nearly 60,000 Varsity Naked Dogs which lined end-to-end would match the distance of the lined-up windows.
- The 600 tons of glass recycled equals the weight of 1.1 million 12-ounce Coca-Colas or about seven of Delta's Boeing 737 jets.
- Each pane of hotel room glass weighs 270 pounds, about the average weight of an Atlanta Falcons defensive lineman.
- Myth: The hotel actually moved during the tornado.
Truth: Upon impact, the hotel swayed slightly in either direction, as it was designed to do.
- Myth: The glass that was replaced is curved.
Truth: The glass is flat.
- Myth: They no longer make the glass needed for replacement.
Truth: The new glass is actually thicker, stronger, more energy efficient and produced by Harmon Glass – right here in Georgia.

About the Westin Peachtree Plaza

Designed by John Portman in 1976, the Westin Peachtree Plaza is a 73-story tower, topped by the tri-level, revolving Sun Dial Restaurant Bar & View. At 723 feet, The Westin Peachtree Plaza was Atlanta's tallest building until 1987, when it was surpassed by One Atlantic Center. Today, The Westin Peachtree Plaza is the fifth tallest building in Atlanta and remains the tallest hotel in the Western Hemisphere. For more information, visit www.westinpeachtreeplazaatlanta.com or find us on [Facebook](#).

About Skanska USA

Skanska USA is one of the largest, most financially sound construction networks in the country consisting of four business units: Skanska USA Building, which specializes in building construction; Skanska USA Civil, which is focused on building civil infrastructure; Skanska Infrastructure Development, which develops public-private partnerships; and, Skanska Commercial Development, which pursues commercial development initiatives in select U.S. markets. Headquartered in New York with 33 offices across the country, Skanska USA has approximately 7,000 employees and its 2008 revenues were \$6.3 billion, representing 27 percent of Skanska's global revenues.

About Skanska

Skanska is one of the world's leading construction groups with expertise in construction, development of commercial and residential projects and public-private partnerships. The Group currently has 55,000 employees in selected home markets in Europe, in the U.S. and Latin America. Headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden, and listed on the Stockholm Stock Exchange, Skanska's sales in 2008 totaled \$22 billion.

About Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc.

Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. is one of the leading hotel and leisure companies in the world with 1000 properties in nearly 100 countries and territories with 145,000 employees at its owned and managed properties. Starwood Hotels is a fully integrated owner, operator and franchisor of hotels, resorts and residences with the following internationally renowned brands: St. Regis®, The Luxury Collection®, W®, Westin®, Le Méridien®, Sheraton®, Four Points® by Sheraton, and the recently launched Aloft®, and ElementSM. Starwood Hotels also owns Starwood Vacation Ownership, Inc., one of the premier developers and operators of high quality vacation interval ownership resorts. For more information, please visit www.starwoodhotels.com.

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