

FTA holds its first winter evening

The first Annual Fred Tibbitts & Associates (FTA) 'A Winter Evening in New Delhi with Very Special Friends' was held at The Westin Gurgaon, New Delhi. The 54 guests included senior and area vice presidents, general managers, hotel managers, directors of food & beverage and executive chefs, the media and sponsors. The reception was hosted by Phillips Foods Asia.

The four-course gala dinner brought Fred Tibbitts to the podium, who welcomed the guests and asked that they consider "service as the highest calling". Tibbitts further explained that the primary purposes of the FTA dinners are to recognize hospitality excellence, provide scholarships in the names of those whom are honoured, and make charitable contributions to benefit those less fortunate.

Tibbitts later called for the evening's eleven "Loyalty Toasts" by some of the dinner personalities, including Sanjay Sharma, Complex General Manager, The Westin Gurgaon and Sohna; Nancy Agnihotri,



Left to right: Sanjay Sharma, Complex General Manager, The Westin Gurgaon and Sohna; Lothar Pehl, Senior Vice President Operations & Global Initiatives, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Asia Pacific; Dilip Puri, Managing Director-India & Regional Vice President – South Asia, Starwood Hotels & Resorts; Fred Tibbitts of Fred Tibbitts & Associates

Corporate Communication Manager, Pernod Ricard India for the G.H. Mumm Champagne

toast; Dilip Puri, Managing Director – India & Regional Vice President – South Asia, Starwood Hotels & Resorts; Lothar Pehl, Senior Vice President Operations & Global Initiatives, Starwood Hotels & Resorts Asia Pacific; Javed Ali, Vice President & General Manager, Radisson Blu Mahipalpur; Arindam Kunar, General Manager, Crowne Plaza, Gurgaon; Brigit Holm, General Manager, Dusit Devarana New Delhi; Jake Jacob, Regional Director – Asia, Constellation Brands; Sagun Sawhney, Country Manager, MICROS-Fidelio India Pvt. Ltd.; Uday Thakkar, Division Manager, Institutional India, Ecolab; and Soni Agnani, Director, Hotel & Travel – Asia Pacific, CNN International.

Tibbitts also announced the recipients of the 2013 FTA Hospitality Awards for Excellence during the evening.

The dinner menu was created by Executive Chef Deepak Bhatia and the wines paired and ordered by New York-famed wine educator Harriet Lembeck.