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San Francisco landmark gets a new lease on life...

A unique public/private partnership between the National Park Service and Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants has led to the rehabilitation of a National Register Building, the Haslett Warehouse into – the 252-room **Argonaut Hotel**. The hotel, which opened August 18, 2003 brings new life to San Francisco's famous waterfront. Located at Hyde and Jefferson Streets, the 1907 building, which houses the hotel, survived a dramatic fire in 2002, setting back the opening of the hotel by several months.

The ground floor of the 198,000 square-foot **Argonaut Hotel** is adjacent to the San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park's new Visitor Center, a must see starting point for visitors to the National Park and Fisherman's Wharf. Visitors to the new Center can experience the area's seafaring history and view the Park's extensive collection through interactive exhibits, lectures and educational events. Rent paid by the hotel benefits the National Park, helping to preserve its historic ships at Hyde Street Pier and structures in the Aquatic Park Historic District. The ground floor also includes an extensive display that highlights Haslett Warehouse's history as part of the Del Monte Cannery -- once the largest fruit and vegetable cannery in the world.

Perched at the edge of the Bay, the Argonaut Hotel is Kimpton Hotels & Restaurants' 39th property, adding to its collection of stylish boutique hotels. It is also the company's 17th property to open in San Francisco. The **Argonaut Hotel's** turn-of-the-century architecture, complete with red brick walls and Douglas Fir wood beams embodies the authentic nautical history and flare of the San Francisco waterfront in the early 1900s. Guestrooms, many with dramatic views of the San Francisco Bay including the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz, are decorated with white-washed furniture, porthole mirrors and rich red, blue and gold fabrics. Common areas of the **Argonaut Hotel** have wooden plank floors and portholes adding to the overall nautical atmosphere. The Argonaut Hotel also offers the largest meeting room space available at Fisherman's Wharf.

The **Argonaut Hotel's** maritime atmosphere and outstanding service create an exciting and luxurious guest experience that appeals to both leisure and business travelers. Located adjacent to the hotel is a new casual style restaurant, the **Blue Mermaid Chowder House & Bar**. The 145-seat restaurant with patio dining and a full bar features specialty chowders and a variety of Fisherman's Wharf favorites.

Enclosed is a Press Kit for your review. I will contact you soon regarding your possible interest in this exciting story.

Sincerely,

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