



HORNBLOWER GROUP NAMES KAREN DIFULGO CHIEF PEOPLE OFFICER

New York, New York (March 8, 2023) – Hornblower Group announced today Karen DiFulgo has joined the company as Chief People Officer. Ms. DiFulgo will report to Adam Peakes, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, Hornblower Group.

As Hornblower Group’s Chief People Officer, Ms. DiFulgo will be responsible for leading the strategic and operational human resources initiatives across the company’s global portfolio to help drive business efficiencies including the development and implementation of organizational structure and design, compensation and benefit planning, recruiting and retention, and workforce planning, all to ensure that the HR support is aligned with Hornblower’s strategic business initiatives. Ms. DiFulgo will provide strategic HR leadership to help drive both the business growth and the overall company culture experience for its Crew with initiatives including training and development programs, recognition incentives, performance management and developing new initiatives to effectively communicate with the Crew, in collaboration with Hornblower’s internal communications team.

“Karen’s considerable talent, leadership skills and industry experience will greatly benefit our growing organization and our global Crew, and I am proud to welcome her to the Hornblower senior leadership team,” said Adam Peakes, EVP & CFO, Hornblower Group. “With more than 30 years experience in human resources, including 20 years in global travel and hospitality, Karen has an impressive track record of developing talent and building company culture during a period of extraordinary organizational growth. We are thrilled to have her join our team and bring forward her people-first focus to the most valuable part of our organization, our Crew.”

“This is an exhilarating time for Hornblower, and I am thrilled to join this remarkable global organization as we continue to build upon the company’s promise in delivering our guests amazing experiences – which can only be made possible through our renowned Crew and expert tour guides,” said DiFulgo “There is nothing more important than the people at an organization and Hornblower benefits from having an extraordinarily talented, ambitious and hardworking Crew. I am looking forward to bringing my passion, commitment and most authentic self to Hornblower as we continue to uphold ourselves as a company where amazing experiences are made.”

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Ms. DiFulgo comes to Hornblower from Benchmark Global Hospitality, where she served as the Chief People Officer leading the company's strategy for all facets of HR, with authority over a team of 90+ direct reports, supporting over 10,000 employees across a portfolio of over 85+ properties in the United States, Caribbean and UK. Ms. DiFulgo's results-driven approach led to a record of success and achievement for the organization, which marked a series of promotions to positions of increased influence, authority and accountability. Prior to Benchmark, Ms. DiFulgo held senior roles in a variety of corporate hospitality and global organizations including Gaylord Hotels / Gaylord Resorts and National Convention Center, The Brickman Group Inc. and TNS Healthcare/Migliara-Kaplan.

Ms. DiFulgo also serves in a variety of board affiliations and memberships across the global travel and hospitality landscape including the American Hotel & Lodging Association, both sitting on the Board for HR Committee as well as Chairing the Women in Lodging Board. She is also a founding member of the Forward (Women Advancing Hospitality) Advisory Board.

Ms. DiFulgo is a graduate of The University of Baltimore with a degree in Human Resource Management. She currently resides in The Woodlands, Texas.

[CLICK HERE](#) **for Karen Di Fulgo's headshot**

About Hornblower Group

Hornblower Group is a global leader in experiences and transportation. Hornblower Group's corporate businesses are comprised of three premier experience divisions: **American Queen Voyages®**, its overnight cruising division; **City Experiences**, its land and water-based experiences as well as ferry and transportation services; and **Journey Beyond**, Australia's leading experiential travel group. Spanning a 100-year history, Hornblower Group's portfolio of international offerings includes water-based experiences (dining and sightseeing cruises), land-based experiences (walking tours, food tours and excursions), overnight experiences (cruises and railways) and ferry and transportation services. **Hornblower Marine**, a subsidiary of Hornblower Group, provides vessel outhaul and maintenance services at Bridgeport Boatworks in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Additionally, **Anchor Operating System, LLC**, a subsidiary of Hornblower Group, provides reservation, ticketing, and website integration services for clients in the transportation, tourism and entertainment industries. Today, Hornblower Group's global portfolio covers 114 countries and territories, 125 U.S. cities and serves more than 22 million guests annually. Headquartered in San Francisco, California, Hornblower Group's additional corporate offices reside in Adelaide, Australia; Boston, Massachusetts; Chicago, Illinois; Fort Lauderdale, Florida; London, United Kingdom; New Albany, Indiana; New York, New York; Dublin, Ireland; and across Ontario, Canada. For more information visit hornblowercorp.com.

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