

2008 Hospitality Professional Challenge

Organised every year by the Accor Hospitality EMEA Human Resources Department, the challenge rewards **young high-potential talents in the three flagship professions of Hotel-Food Service**: reception, kitchen and dining room service in two categories: age 17-21 and age 22-26. All the participants have been apprentices or salaried employees for less than 2 years at one of the Group's hotels.

For this year's edition, nearly **1,000 employees competed** in national Challenges organised in 20 countries (Austria, Bahrain, Belgium, Egypt, France, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Mauritius, Morocco, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom).

Six young professionals were rewarded at the prize ceremony following the sixth edition of the Accor Hospitality Europe, Middle East and Africa Professional Challenge. Emotions, passion and professionalism highlighted the event.



A report on this human adventure!

On December 17, 46 young employees of the Group from all over the world came to defend their profession and their know-how at the finals of the Accor Hotels Europe Middle East Africa Professional Challenge.

The candidates competed in real-life situations... near Paris, at the Saint Quentin en Yvelines lycée for the kitchen finals and at the Ibis Paris Berthier for the reception and dining room service finals.

The international jury, made up of Group Operations and Human Resources managers, was very impressed by their high degree of professionalism and commitment. Congratulations to all the participants!

The prize ceremony was held on December 18 at Odyssey, the Group's head office in Paris, in the presence of Gilles Pélisson, who was extremely pleased to meet the top seeds!

"Your smile, your skills and your professionalism, which keep our customers happy every day, make you the future of our Group. I am very proud to welcome you here at Odyssey", declared Gilles Pélisson, expressing his admiration for the passion and desire to achieve evidenced by these young people.



We're looking forward to the 2009 edition of the Hotels Professional Challenge!