

Gold Strike Casino Resort Reopens Today

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MGM Resorts International Welcomes Employees and Visitors Back

TUNICA, Miss., May 18, 2011 /PRNewswire/ -- Driven by an unwavering commitment to the employees, residents and visitors of the Mid-South region, MGM Resorts International's Gold Strike Casino Resort Tunica will reopen its doors for business today – just two weeks after rising Mississippi River floodwaters forced a mandatory closure of all Tunica County's nine casinos. The Mississippi River reached its crest on May 10, 2011 at 47.8 feet, the second highest reading on record, surpassed only by the 48.7-foot crest in February 1937. Gold Strike successfully prevented Mississippi River water from entering the resort and the recently-renovated facility remains like new, due in large part to the deployment of state-of-the-art technology and dedication of its 1,400 team members; 150 employees from its Biloxi sister property Beau Rivage; Mississippi Gaming Commission, Governor Barbour, local government and elected officials, and tremendous vendor partners including W.G. Yates and Sons Construction, JESCO, Gephart Electrical, Hydrological Solutions, AT&T, Reigstad and Associates, Johnson Controls, Wilson Welding, Williams Equipment, Oil Field Marine, Inland Salvage Inc., CDM, Tunica County Utility District – RiverBend of Mississippi Inc. and Entergy among others.

(Photo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20110518/LA04499>)

(Logo: <http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20100618/MGMINTLOGO>)

"We're anxious to open our doors for our customers and to get our employees back to work," said George P. Corchis, Jr., president and COO of MGM Resorts International Regional Operations. "Our initial priority was the safety of our employees and guests. Once secure, our focus turned to mitigation efforts and asset protection. Now comes the exciting part, where we get to bring our incredible employees back to reopen the property and re-ignite tourism to the region."

In addition to employing more than 1,400 team members, the reopening of the 1,200-room Gold Strike will have an immediate, positive impact on the local economy while simultaneously fueling Mississippi tourism – the second

largest industry in the state. Besides revenue generated from hotel room tax receipts, food & beverage, entertainment and retail taxes, Tunica's nine casinos average \$90 million in gross gaming revenue each May. Closing the casinos for the month could lead to a \$10 million loss in gaming tax revenue to the state and local governments, not to mention payroll taxes for 9,300 casino employees. The ripple effect impacts all businesses from gas stations to local shops that support the tourism economy.

Supporting Gold Strike employees has been the top priority for MGM Resorts. The company has a long-standing practice of supporting its employees in times of emergency and natural disaster and Gold Strike employees have been guaranteed full pay and benefits including tips, throughout the closure. For employees who live in flooded areas, MGM Resorts is helping facilitate access to company emergency relief funds and federal assistance that can help families through this difficult time. The employee health clinic, located across the levee from the resort, has remained open during the shutdown and human resource representatives are onsite seven days a week. In addition, a temporary dining facility, known as the "Levee Cafe," has been open 24/7 for employees, emergency management and other government officials, first responders, gaming industry employees and anyone else interested in a free hot meal during the resort's temporary closure. The long-standing partnership between MGM Resorts and the American Red Cross was further strengthened with the training of more than 50 Gold Strike employee volunteers in damage assessment and shelter operations for mobilization as this historic event unfolded.

MGM Resorts International used large-scale Aqua-Barrier® and Army Corps of Engineers-certified HESCO® baskets to safeguard Gold Strike from the Mississippi River. Thirty five hundred linear feet of the 8 ft. high x 100 ft. long Aqua-Barriers - each filled with 90,000 gallons of rising floodwater- were used to successfully envelop the entire circumference of the main structure and outbuildings. HESCO baskets - wire mesh nets filled with gravel and interconnected like blocks - covered 2,000 linear feet and formed an additional line of defense around the facility. More than 40,000 sandbags were filled for added protection. These technologies essentially created a mile-long manmade levee system around the 1.4 million sq. ft. resort. Four mooring columns that support the barge structure were also extended by 5 ft. in height to help support expected water level increases.

At 32-stories high, Gold Strike's iconic gold windowpane tower is the tallest building in the Mississippi Delta and a Tunica landmark. MGM Resorts has played a significant role in Tunica's tourism revitalization with its recent multimillion-dollar property transformation and is committed in its efforts to rebuild and renew the region after this historic flood. "Beyond supporting the livelihood of our employees and their families," said Gold Strike General Manager George Goldhoff, "Gaming will fuel economic development in the region, spurring tax income and capital investments to benefit the industry's employees, the local community and the entire state. Everyone at MGM Resorts is extremely optimistic about Tunica's tourism and the gaming industry. We're back and committed to play an integral role in the area's success."

ABOUT GOLD STRIKE

Gold Strike Casino Resort, MGM Resorts International's 1,200-room resort located 20 minutes south of Memphis in Tunica, Miss. recently completed the largest renovation and remodeling project in its history. The multimillion-dollar transformation included all of Gold Strike's deluxe rooms and suites, hotel lobby, casino, 30,000-square-foot conference and convention center, Atrium Cafe, Courtyard Buffet and high-limit gaming area. The resort also features the award-winning Chicago Steakhouse, a refreshing spa and salon, an 800-seat showroom and 50,000 square feet of gaming space with 53 table games and more than 1,200 slot machines. For reservations or information, call 888-24K-PLAY (7529) or visit www.goldstrike.com.

ABOUT MGM RESORTS INTERNATIONAL

MGM Resorts International (NYSE: MGM) is one of the world's leading global hospitality companies, operating a peerless portfolio of destination resort brands, including Bellagio, MGM Grand, Mandalay Bay and The Mirage. The Company has significant holdings in gaming, hospitality and entertainment, owns and operates 15 properties located in Nevada, Mississippi and Michigan, and has 50% investments in four other properties in Nevada, Illinois and Macau. One of those investments is CityCenter, an unprecedented urban resort destination on the Las Vegas Strip featuring its centerpiece ARIA Resort & Casino. Leveraging MGM Resorts' unmatched amenities, the M life loyalty program delivers one-of-a-kind experiences, insider privileges and personalized rewards for guests at the Company's renowned properties worldwide. Through its hospitality management subsidiary, the Company holds a growing number of development and management agreements for casino and non-casino resort projects around the world. MGM Resorts International supports responsible gaming and has implemented the American Gaming Association's Code of Conduct for Responsible Gaming at its gaming properties. The Company has been honored with numerous awards and recognitions for its industry-leading Diversity Initiative, its community philanthropy programs and the Company's commitment to sustainable development and operations. For more information about MGM Resorts International, visit the Company's Web site at www.mgmresorts.com.

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For further information: Mary Cracchiolo Spain, +1-228-386-7134, mspain@beaurivage.com, for MGM Resorts International