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News Release

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Thomas Cook India's Centre of Learning honoured as 2015 Top 10 Performing South Asia IATA Authorized Training Centers, for the third time

Mumbai, February 19, 2015: Thomas Cook (India) Ltd's education and training vertical, **Centre of Learning**, has been honoured as one of the 10 Top Performing South Asia IATA Authorized Training Centers in 2015, by the International Air Transport Association (IATA), for the third time. The award was presented by **Mr Victor de Barrena, Director IATA Training and Development Institute** during the **2015 South Asia Training Partner Conference** held at Goa

This IATA award is in recognition of the outstanding contribution of Thomas Cook India's Centre of Learning towards developing human capital by reaching out to the next generation of leaders in the evolving tourism industry in India. Being selected from over 440 IATA training partners, IATA's citation recognized the unstinted efforts of Centre of Learning and highlighted its achievements in:

- Number of students trained in 2013-14 and quality of training
- Exam pass rate throughout 2013-14

.Thomas Cook India's Centre of Learning has played a pioneering role in the education and training field with a focus on building a highly skilled human resource pool for the Travel & Tourism Industry. Thomas Cook India's Centre of Learning (COL) provides the industry with a unique inflow of well trained and skilled professionals, ready to be absorbed into the work force, thereby adding value to the organization through their well rounded knowledge and training, as also an infusion of fresh insights and creative ideas.

Centre of Learning **offers MBA in Tourism** through **Distance Learning**.
Centre of Learning has diversified its portfolio of educational programmes to include:

1. MBA – Tourism (Distance Learning) from Pondicherry University.
2. Travel Professional Program – a Post Graduate program in Travel and Tourism Management with MBA – Tourism from Pondicherry University.
3. Certificate Course in Travel & Tourism Management

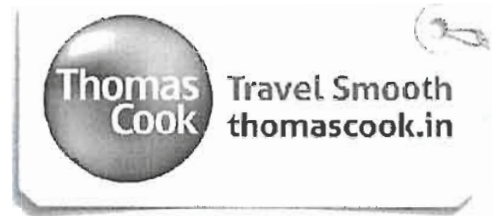
Commenting on receiving this coveted award for the third time, **Ms. Smeeta Gulvady, VP & Head – Centre of Learning, Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. said,** *"It is an honor to be awarded by IATA as one of South Asia's Top 10 Performing Authorised Training Centres for the third time. This service intensive industry relies heavily on human capital and this award reaffirms our company's dedication and focused delivery in the field of travel & tourism-centric education and training. We will continue to facilitate travel management building a dynamic work force for our industry and would strive to grow, harness and nurture the skill sets in the industry."*

Mr Victor de Barrena, Director IATA Training and Development Institute (ITDI) said, "India is expected to be the 3rd largest passenger market in 2034. Having trained professionals will be critical to support the anticipated travel demand, and IATA's training and development programmes will support the growth of India's service-sector economy. Additionally, the ITDI graduates in India are uniquely trained with transferable skills to fill critical positions in the travel industry around the world. Our partnership with Thomas Cook Centre of Learning in India is one of many efforts to address the shortage of skilled workforce by attracting and developing the next-generation leaders in the travel and tourism sector. We once again congratulate Thomas Cook India for their achievement."

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**About Centre of Learning:**

Centre of Learning is an initiative of Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. to develop talent for the organization as well as for the Industry. In the context of high growth and increasing customer expectations, talent management will be one of the important challenges to the Travel Industry. This relates to both the shortage of actual numbers and the desired capability levels from both a technical and managerial perspective. Thomas Cook - Centre of Learning has been set up with the objective of proactively facilitating the talent management in the travel industry and would strive to grow, harness and nurture the skill sets in the industry.

About Thomas Cook (India) Limited:

Thomas Cook (India) Ltd (TCIL) is the leading integrated travel and travel related financial services company in the country offering a broad spectrum of services that include Foreign Exchange, Corporate Travel, MICE, Leisure Travel, Insurance, Visa & Passport services and E-Business. The company set up its first office in India in 1881.

TCIL's footprint currently extends to over 234 locations (including 23 airport counters) in 96 cities across India, Mauritius & Sri Lanka and is supported by a strong partner network of 110 Gold Circle Partners and 112 Preferred Sales Agents in over 134 cities across India.

ICRA has assigned long term rating of 'ICRA AA-/ Stable' to Thomas Cook (India) Ltd's non convertible debenture programme. CRISIL has assigned long term rating of CRISIL AA-/ stable outlook to the non convertible debenture programme and banking facilities and short term rating of CRISIL A1+ to TCIL's banking facilities.

Thomas Cook (India) Ltd has been voted as **Best Tour Operator - Outbound** at the **CNBC AWAAZ Travel Awards 2014 & 2013** and **Best Company providing Foreign Exchange** at the **CNBC AWAAZ Travel Awards 2014**; honored as **'India's Leading Tour Operator'** for the year 2014, at the **21st Annual World Travel Awards Asia & Australasia 2014**, **Best Tour Operator at the Lonely Planet Travel Awards 2013**, **Favourite Tour Operator at the Condé Nast Traveller Readers' Travel Awards 2014, 2013, 2012 & 2011** and recognized as a **"Consumer Superbrand" 2013-14 & 2012-2013**. In addition, TCIL has been chosen as the **Best Corporate Travel Management Company by World Travel Brands 2012**. At the **National Tourism Awards 2012-2013**, TCIL was the recipient of 3 prestigious awards. Thomas Cook India's **Centre of Learning** has received **IATA accreditation** as **"Top 10 South Asia IATA Authorized Training Centers", 2013 & 2012**. For more information, please visit www.thomascook.in

Thomas Cook (India) Limited is promoted by Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited through its wholly-owned subsidiary, Fairbridge Capital (Mauritius) Limited. Fairbridge is responsible for the execution of acquisition and investment opportunities in the Indian subcontinent on behalf of the Fairfax family of companies.

About Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited:

Fairfax Financial Holdings Limited is a Toronto-based financial services holding company with a global presence in insurance and reinsurance and a portfolio of assets in excess of \$38 billion invested worldwide. The Company, founded in 1985 by the present Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Prem Watsa, has over the past 25 years, demonstrated a strong financial track record to achieve an annual appreciation in Book Value per Share of 24.7% annually. Fairfax has almost 20 general insurance subsidiaries and joint ventures globally, including ICICI Lombard (India).

Fairfax is engaged in long term investments from its own resources, with a focus on delivering long term capital appreciation through a flexible and value oriented approach. Fairfax Financial Holdings through Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. owns 73.96% on a fully diluted basis of the Quess Corp Limited (formerly IKYA Human Capital Solutions Limited), a provider of specialised Human Resource related Services and 55.07% of Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Ltd, engaged in time share and resort business and holiday activities.

About Quess Corp Limited (formerly IKYA Human Capital Solutions Limited)

Quess Corp Limited is a market leading business services entity with interests in Asset Management, IT Services and HR services. Headquartered in Bangalore, the Group has more than 80000 employees, operates in 27 cities in India, the North America, Middle East and South East Asia. The group has grown through a series of acquisitions in the last seven years and has INR 2,200 crores as revenue. Quess Corp Limited is a subsidiary of Thomas Cook (India) Ltd. For more information visit: <http://www.quesscorp.com/>

About Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Limited:

Sterling Holiday Resorts (India) Limited, a pioneer in vacation ownership and a leading leisure hospitality company in India, was incorporated in 1986 with the vision of delivering great holiday experiences to Indian families. Sterling Holidays' network includes 1634 rooms across 21 resorts in 18 scenic holiday destinations pan India. The company also has 15 additional sites where it plans to add new resorts in the coming years. For more information visit: www.sterlingholidays.com

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