

### HOTEL CHAIN WINS FURTHER 160 DOMAINS FROM RESPONDENT

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**A hotel chain that won a record 1,519 domains last year has won another 160 from the same respondent**

The complainant Six Continents Hotels, part of InterContinental Hotels Group, went after respondent Daniel Kirchof through the UDRP for the second time.

Of the 160 domains, only five contained the company's trade marks - Holiday Inn and Hotel Indigo - in their entirety.

The rest contained one or more of the words in the marks with hyphens and one or more geographic identifiers or other terms, while other domains included typosquats of the words in the trade marks.

Last year after the decision involving the transfer of a record number of domains for a UDRP, vice-president of the Inter-Continental Hotel Group, the parent of Six Continents Hotel, Franklin Moore said to *Managing Internet IP* that "we have targeted cybersquatters and will continue to do so".

Moore has been true to his word. This case is also the sixth **UDRP** Kirchof has been involved with as respondent over the past 12 months. He has lost all of them.

To deal with the volume of domains, panellist Panellist Andrew F Christie broke the type of domain name into 12 categories. The most common category comprised 92 domains. These were domains that began with "holiday-express", followed by a hyphen, followed by a geographic identifier and/or other term.

Once the categories were established, Christie was able to judge whether each contained domains that were identical or confusingly similar to the company's mark.

For the majority of categories that were not straightforward, Christie was able to find similarities with contested domains in the case involving over 1,500 domains.

After similarity with the company's marks was established, the rest of the case was simple. The complainant submitted screenshots of the home page of the websites to which the disputed domain names resolve.

Each one showed "a picture of the particular hotel and a section to check rates and availability, plus tabs for finding out more information under the headings "Hotel offers", "Hotel pictures" and "Surroundings pictures", according to the decision.

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