## <u>Hotelbeds certified carbon neutral for second consecutive</u> <u>year</u>

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- Certification follows thorough analysis of Hotelbeds' carbon footprint by independent body, Carbon Footprint Ltd.
- Hotelbeds supports a Renewable Energy Project in India to offset its carbon emissions

**Palma, 10 October 2019**. <u>Hotelbeds</u>, the world's leading bedbank, has announced today that it has been certified for the second consecutive year as a Carbon Neutral Organisation by Cabon Fooprint Ltd, an independent body that accredits carbon management measurements and best practices for businesses, by offsetting companies  $CO_2$  emissions.

This prestigious accreditation reflects Hotelbeds' commitment to reduce its environmental impact and ensure long-term sustainability by offsetting its carbon emissions generated in the past two years.

Due to business travel being one of Hotelbeds' larger carbon emissions factor, during 2018 the company created a programme whereby a small fee is charged per business flight taken by employees. This money is then used to finance the carbon neutral project and also forms part of a desire to encourage a reduction in travel and increase company and employee awareness around the importance of carbon offsetting.

In 2018 the funds raised from this programme were donated to the Portel-Pará Deforestation Project, which is located within Brazil's Amazon, the largest remaining rainforest on our planet, to prevent unplanned deforestation.

For 2019 Hotelbeds has chosen to give the funds to the Renewable Energy Project in India, that manages the installation of solar panels in the country, ensuring energy security, diversification of energy sources and sustainable development in the generation of electricity in India.

As part of the certification process, carbon emission calculations, including energy and paper consumptions, waste management, business travel and water supply, were completed by Hotelbeds, using metrics devised by Carbon Footprint Ltd, the sustainability experts.

Carbon Footprint Ltd has also successfully completed a verification of the carbon footprint assessment for Hotelbeds Group. This included spot-checking source data from across the group as well as reviewing the overall methodology.

**Teresa Laso, who leads Corporate Sustainability at Hotelbeds**, says: "We are proud to have been certified a Carbon Neutral Organisation for a second consecutive year as it underscores our sustainable business outlook.

"As part of this responsibility, an environmental policy has been developed that includes a commitment to tackle these emissions, including setting annual emissions reduction targets. We have also developed guidelines and a communication campaign to help employees implement the new environmental policy, including practical tips on how to reduce environmental consumption at work and to raise awareness of climate change and how it relates to Hotelbeds.

"As leaders in the travel industry we wanted to be at the forefront of environmental consciousness, inspiring both other companies and even individual travelers, reducing what we can and offsetting

the rest."

## **About Hotelbeds**

Hotelbeds is the world's leading Bedbank.

In a fragmented and complex travel landscape, Hotelbeds provides over 180,000 hotels across the globe with access to high-value, complementary distribution channels that significantly increase occupancy rates and optimise RevPAR – whilst not competing with the hotelier's direct distribution strategy.

Hotelbeds does this by offering hoteliers access to a network of over 60,000 hard-to-access B2B travel buyers such as tour operators, retail travel agents, airline websites, and loyalty schemes in over 140 source markets worldwide. These channels provide hotel partners with returning guests that book further in advance, cancel less, spend more in-destination and stay longer.

In addition to accommodation, Hotelbeds is also the world's largest B2B seller of travel ancillaries, offering 24,000 transfer routes and 18,000 activities, as well as attractions, tickets and car hire. Operating under the 'Beyond the

Bed' product line, it provides both hoteliers and travel distribution partners with an efficient platform and powerful tools to easily integrate and commercialise its leading portfolio of high-margin products.

The company is headquartered in Palma, Spain and employs around 5,000 employees across over 60 offices globally.

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