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## **DOUG ISENBERG OBTAINS TRANSFER OF CANADIAN DOMAIN NAME**

ATLANTA, October 19, 2005 – Attorney Doug Isenberg, founder of GigaLaw.com and The GigaLaw Firm, obtained the transfer of a Canadian domain name on behalf of his client, Six Continents Hotels, Inc. (“SCH”). The domain name – crownplaza.ca – was transferred after Isenberg filed a complaint pursuant to the Canadian Internet Registration Authority’s (“CIRA”) Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy.

The transfer is only the 35<sup>th</sup> decision under the Canadian policy. By comparison, more than 8,000 domain name disputes have been decided under the Uniform Domain Name Dispute Resolution Policy (“UDRP”), which applies to .com, .net and .org domains, among others, and for which Isenberg has obtained multiple victories for his clients.

The crownplaza.ca domain name is confusingly to SCH’s CROWNE PLAZA trademark, despite the absence of the silent letter “e,” according to the decision of three panelists appointed to decide the dispute. In addition, as required under the CIRA policy, the panelists found that the registrant of the crownplaza.ca domain name had acted in bad faith and had no legitimate interest in the domain name.

The decision is important because it is one of the relatively few reported decisions under the Canadian domain name dispute policy and because the panelists broadly interpreted the policy, Isenberg said. The panelists wrote in their decision: “The Policy is intended to prevent parties from registering domain names to which they have no legitimate interest and where the registrant intends to interfere with or frustrate those with rights in a confusingly similar mark.”

The decision, *Six Continents Hotels, Inc. v. Virgin Enterprises Limited*, CIRA Case No. DCA-850, is available at <http://www.cira.ca/en/dpr-decisions/00035-crownplaza.ca.pdf> (16-page PDF).

Isenberg, a world-renown authority on Internet law and an adjunct professor of computer and cyberspace law, has advised clients on domain name legal issues for more than nine years. In addition, he serves as a domain name panelist for the World Intellectual Property Organization (“WIPO”), the largest arbiter of domain name disputes, based in Geneva.

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