



ALYESKA RESORT
ALASKA

NEWS RELEASE

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Alyeska Resort Awarded Outstanding National Ski Patrol Honor

October 9, 2009 (Girdwood, Alaska) – Alyeska Resort recently learned that the National Ski Patrol will be awarding the Alyeska Ski Patrol the National Outstanding Large Alpine Patrol Award for 2009. This award represents Alyeska Ski Patrol's commitment to safety, teamwork and overall service to the sport of skiing and riding.

To honor the members of Alyeska's Ski Patrol, Dave Skitt, long-time Alyeska patroller, will be presenting the prestigious award to the resort's owner, John Byrne III, at a special ceremony to be held at Seven Glaciers Restaurant on October 16, 2009.

The multi-tiered application process started with a review by the Alaska Division of the National Ski Patrol who accepted the application and forwarded it onto the National Ski Patrol Review Board, comprised of a select group of patrols across the US. Ultimately, Alyeska's application made the final review where the resort competed with nine other patrols to win this year's award. Factors that contributed to Alyeska receiving the award include patrol's management of multiple Class A avalanches and extreme freeskiing events and Alpine Nationals in recent winters.

Alyeska Resort's Ski Patrol is considered a Large Alpine Patrol with more than 41 patrol members. The patrol staff is comprised of both paid and volunteer members, and provides 80% of patrol training in the Southcentral region. Alyeska has hosted National Ski Patrol volunteer training for close to four decades and a majority of Alyeska's professional patrollers are a direct result of the program.

"Alyeska's commitment to teamwork between professional patrol, volunteer patrol and snow safety is why we received the award," said Don Spencer, Alyeska Resort's National Ski Patrol Representative. "On the hill, everyone works together. Whether it's a broken leg in an out-of-bounds area or managing safety at an extreme event. Every member of patrol contributes to the process and there is arguably no better snow safety team in the country."

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In the same award cycle, members of Alyeska's patrol will also be receiving multiple individual awards in the Alaska Division of the National Ski Patrol. The official announcement of the 2009 award recipients will take place mid-November.

About Alyeska Resort (www.alyeskaresort.com)

Alyeska Resort is Alaska's premier year-round destination featuring The Hotel Alyeska, an award-winning 304 room full-service property. Located just 40 miles from Anchorage and Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, Alyeska Resort is your base camp for summer and winter excursions. The resort is within close proximity of three national parks and the Kenai Peninsula, and is home to the northernmost temperate rainforest, part of the Chugach Mountains. Alyeska Resort stands out in ski season with 750" of average snowfall annually and the longest-continuous double black diamond ski run in North America. Learn more about the resort and plan your Alaskan adventure at www.alyeskaresort.com or 800.880.3880.

About National Ski Patrol (www.nsp.org)

The National Ski Patrol is a Federally Chartered nonprofit membership association dedicated to serving the public and the mountain recreation industry. For more than 70 years, the NSP has been at the forefront of safety and emergency care education programs. The association's 27,000 members represent 96 percent of the nation's patrollers. For more information, call 303.988.1111.

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