



The Executive Team



The company's founder and CEO, Tom Pigott, is an experienced entrepreneur, venture capitalist and specialist in international business development. Tom has an innate ability to apply technology and innovation to meet market demand, and is probably most well known as the entrepreneur behind Soma.com, the world's first internet pharmacy. He grew Soma.com to 120 employees and established it as the leading online pharmacy within two years of its opening in 1997; selling it to the CVS Corporation in 1999. Tom is a LEED® AP.



Alphy Johnson, Candela's Executive Vice President of Operations is an accomplished international luxury hotelier with a career spanning over 30 years. Alphy's achievements in the luxury hotel industry are numerous and include doubling hotel revenues and profits, transitioning/re-branding hotels, capital improvement planning, building and stabilizing hotel management teams, creation and implementation of a multi-hotel butler program, restaurant concepting and operations, and the development and implementation of five-star hotel operating standards and procedures. Prior to joining Candela Hotels he was the Vice President of Operations for Rosewood Hotels. Alphy is a LEED® AP, CHA.



As Candela Hotels' Marketing Advisor, Audra Poole provides strategic direction for the Candela Hotels' Brand and its independent hotel management clients. With more than 18 years experience, Audra has successfully executed hotel brand development, launches, marketing and sales strategies, and generated thousands of media clips for hotels in target print and broadcast outlets. In addition to extensive print and broadcast marketing experience, she has also led an innovative hotel digital marketing team responsible for developing e-strategies from website design and optimization to e-commerce and social marketing. In addition to working with Candela Hotels, she has works with numerous luxury properties including several Orient-Express Hotels.



As Candela Hotels' Finance and Development Advisor, Andy Stein provides support in locating and analyzing potential hotel sites worldwide, and has 21 years of banking experience to attract equity and debt finance for these properties. Andy is the Chairman and Founder of Makopastreet Partners, which provides access to equity, mezzanine and senior debt financing for ultra-luxury and mixed-use developments, as well as infrastructure projects worldwide. Prior to joining Candela Hotels, Andy was the Managing Director in WestLB's Investment Banking Division in New York where he was responsible for all hospitality lending and advisory activities.