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Baby Dolphin Born at Dolphin Quest Hawaii at Hilton Waikoloa Village

WAIKOLOA, HI – (August, 13, 2010) – Dolphin Quest Hawaii, located at the Hilton Waikoloa Village on Hawaii's Big Island, announces the birth of a healthy new dolphin calf born on August 5, 2010, at 4:09 p.m. to Pele, a 25-year-old Atlantic bottlenose dolphin who is also mother to daughter Keo, son Makana, and son Hua.

As the first few months of a young dolphin's life are critical, Dolphin Quest's marine mammal specialists will monitor Pele and her calf on a 24-hour basis for the next several weeks.

Mother and the calf are observed from above and below the water. Nursing frequency and duration, respiration rates, and swimming patterns are recorded and monitored.

Since Dolphin Quest Hawaii opened at Hilton Waikoloa Village in 1988, 16 healthy calves have been born on site, creating the family of 11 dolphins currently residing at the Hilton Waikoloa Village location.

"We are elated to welcome Pele's calf to the family," said Michelle Campbell, director of marine animals for Dolphin Quest. "Both baby and mother are healthy and active, and the maternal bond is clearly evident."

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Dolphin Quest is an international organization well-known for its creative approach to education, commitment to ocean wildlife research, exemplary animal health care, and successful breeding programs. The innovative encounter programs featured at Dolphin Quest promote a spirit of connection to the marvels of the oceans.

Guests can come face-to-face and fingers-to-flippers at Dolphin Quest, where touching a flipper can be big fun for the young and the young at heart. Kids can enjoy meeting a dolphin on their own or with the family. Whether spending time with dolphins in during the 45-minute “Encounter Deluxe,” a the full “Trainer For A Day,” or even the “Trainer For A Week,” programs, it is always an experience to share and remember for a lifetime. For more information, visit www.dolphinquest.com.

The award-winning Hilton Waikoloa Village is a 62-acre Pacific playground and alluring destination unto itself. The resort offers island hospitality with 1,240 beautifully appointed guest rooms and beautiful vistas of Waiulua Bay. Amenities include three fresh-water swimming pools; an ocean-fed snorkeling lagoon; waterfalls and waterways; locally inspired treatments at the Kohala Spa; Dolphin Quest educational center; nine dining outlets; a Museum Walkway; Camp Menehune children's program; Legends of the Pacific Luau; an 18-hole seaside putting course and expansive tennis complex. Hilton Waikoloa Village and Waikoloa Beach Resort are gateways to cultural immersion, engaging travelers in the area's rich history through such interactive cultural entertainment as hula and ukulele lessons and historic Petroglyph tours. Adventures within Waikoloa Beach Resort range from two championship golf courses to world-class shopping and activities at Queens' Marketplace and Kings' Shops.

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