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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2007

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SECTION

Scottsdale firm to co-develop Ritz-Carlton near Tucson

By **Diana Balazs**
THE ARIZONA REPUBLIC

A Scottsdale-based company is co-developing a \$500 million Ritz-Carlton project northwest of Tucson that will be the largest and most comprehensive Ritz-Carlton of its kind in the United States.

Tim and Casey Bolinger of Greenbrier Southwest Corp. are collaborating with Cottonwood Properties of Tucson and the Ritz-Carlton Hotel Co. LLC to build the project on 850 acres within the 6,200-acre Dove Mountain master-planned community near the Tortolita Mountains.

Construction is under way. The re-

sort hotel is set to open in the fall of 2009.

It will be the second Ritz-Carlton property in Arizona. The first, the Ritz-Carlton Phoenix, 2401 E. Camelback Road, opened in the late 1980s, said Vivian Deuschl, Ritz-Carlton spokeswoman.

Deuschl said the Ritz-Carlton Dove Mountain project will be the largest in the United States.

"We have other resorts that have combinations of residential, spa and golf but nothing of this magnitude in terms of size," she said.

Deuschl said Ritz-Carlton guests



RITZ-CARLTON DOVE MOUNTAIN

The soft, muted colors of the Sonoran Desert and sleek, modern furnishings will be featured in the interiors of the Ritz-Carlton Dove Mountain, northwest of Tucson.

See **RITZ-CARLTON** Page D2

Ritz-Carlton going up near Tucson

RITZ-CARLTON

Continued from D1

have asked for such a project in the Southwest, and Arizona is considered a paradise among golfers in particular.

Deuschl said the project will bring jobs to the Tucson area, offer guests and residents luxury service in a pristine desert environment and afford the state "nice bragging rights."

"You'll be able to say you have two Ritz-Carlton hotels in the state," she said.

"It says a great deal about the vitality and the attraction of Arizona as a destination."

A third Arizona Ritz-Carlton is planned for Paradise Valley but has not been approved

by town officials.

Scottsdale-based Five Star Development wants to build the resort/residential project northwest of Lincoln Drive and Scottsdale Road.

Dove Mountain plans

The Dove Mountain project includes:

■ The Ritz-Carlton Dove Mountain, a 250-room resort hotel with a 17,000-square-foot spa.

■ The Ritz-Carlton Golf Club, with two Jack Nicklaus signature 18-hole courses and a 50,000-square-foot clubhouse.

■ The Residences at the Ritz-Carlton, 300 homes and 20 estate-home sites.

The Bolingers said they are excited to be involved with the Dove Mountain project.

"This is the largest full-scale project that the Ritz-Carlton has ever put its name on anywhere," Casey said.

"I think it's a huge benefit to the state," Casey said.

The husband-and-wife team has worked on large-scale projects before, including the 730-acre Kierland master-planned community in northeast Phoenix and the 150-acre Hidden Meadow Ranch, a lodge, residential and club project in the White Mountains.

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