



Release Date: **IMMEDIATE**

For Further Information Contact: Ken Price Public Relations Department 312-621-7326

Five tons of "Bling" to Get the Shine of its Life!

What: The 23 spectacular chandeliers that have hung at the top of the Grand Ballroom of the Palmer House since the early 20th century.

So what? Being lowered to the floor for the first time since their installation more than 80 years ago! Custom built rigging and a specially trained crew gently, one by one, bring the magnificent French works of lighting art earthbound.

Anxiously waiting their descent is a small army of decorative art restorers, crystal authorities, metal experts, and electrical engineers -- all ready for a three-month, on-site commission to return the exquisite structures to their original state of grandeur.

Why: Capping Chicago's Palmer House historic restoration and renovation project (over \$150 million) begun in 2005, is the complete restoration of the internationally famous Grand and State Ballrooms. A major part of the overall restoration is the massive undertaking of cleaning and refinishing every single part of the 23 chandeliers, each composed of over 1,000 individual parts. Each with nearly 5,000 faceted crystals.

**Total weight of all 23 chandeliers is over nearly five tons!
Ten's of thousands of Crystals!**

Each Chandelier will be completely dismantled --- over 1,000 individual parts. Each part will be entirely cleaned by hand.

- Each chandelier has over 5,000 individual hand-cut, fire polished Czechoslovakian crystals, composed of nearly 50 different shapes, all cut the way a jeweler cuts a diamond.
- Each crystal will be cleaned entirely by hand.
- Each crystal will be touched by human hands at least five times.
- Crystal work will be done every Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays.

MORE



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ADD ONE:

"This is the largest restoration project ever done by Lumenelle Inc. and Brook Electric, the firms commissioned to do the work," according to Mary Ann Cronin, Executive Vice President of Development for Thor Equities, leading the entire Palmer House Restoration.

**INCREDIBLE VISUALS!!
You are cordially invited to cover.
All media will be supplied with hard hats.**

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