



**On the job:** Battistotti takes over at E&O Hotel Penang.



**Group operations:** Saxon is the new hospitality and lifestyle director.

# New appointments for hospitality group

EASTERN & Oriental Berhad, the owner of the heritage Eastern & Oriental (E&O) Hotel and Lone Pine Hotel in Penang, announced the appointment of Michael Saxon to the group-level position of hospitality and lifestyle director and Marco G. Battistotti as general manager of E&O Hotel.

In his new position, Saxon is responsible for the overall performance of the E&O Group's hospitality and lifestyle division which encompasses the two hotels, E&O Concierge Services and E&O Customer Services.

He also heads the operations of The Delicious Group of restaurants that comprise the Delicious Cafes, Reunion and DISH.

Trained in the UK, Saxon draws on more than 30 years of experience working in top hotels around the world in both operational and managerial positions.

These include postings at the The Four Seasons Yorkville Hotel, Canada; Resorts International Hotel & Casino, Paradise Island, Bahamas; the Regal Riverside Hotel, Shatin, Hong Kong; and the Taipei Hilton Hotel, Taiwan.

He also oversaw hotel refurbishments and introduced new restaurant concepts during his stints with The Grand Plaza Parkroyal

Kuala Lumpur and The Royal Holiday Inn Crowne Plaza Singapore.

Saxon is the author of *Chef's Tales*, a book on his life as an international chef and a blog by the same name.

Marco G. Battistotti, formerly the general manager of G Hotel in Penang, received his professional training in Italy, Germany and the UK and has garnered over 25 years experience in the hospitality industry worldwide with postings in Monaco, Germany, England, Italy, Bahrain, Malta, Nigeria, Egypt and Singapore.

Throughout his career, Battistotti has held senior managerial positions with the exclusive Savoy Hotel & St. James's Club in London and several international chains including Mövenpick, The Luxury Collection, Sheraton, Le Meridien and Westin.

Battistotti is the chairman of the Malaysian Association of Hotels for Penang, Skai International Penang president and Invest Penang Service Industry Advisory Panel co-chairman.

As E&O Hotel's general manager, Battistotti will oversee all aspects of the hotel's operations and management as well as that of the newly re-opened Lone Pine Hotel at Batu Ferringhi, Penang.