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## Real Mex Restaurants Opens New El Torito Grill in Indianapolis

### Progressive Mexican Concept Expands Outside Southern California.

**Cypress, Calif. (December 11, 2006)** — El Torito Grill, boasting a fusion of traditional and innovative Mexican cuisine and hospitality, today announced the opening of its newest restaurant in Indianapolis – the ninth location for the chain and its first outside of southern California. Located at 8650 Keystone Crossing at the Fashion Mall at Keystone, El Torito Grill showcases warm, sophisticated decor that complements the creative, contemporary Mexican cuisine.

Showing the commitment of parent company Real Mex Restaurants to expanding this upscale Mexican concept nationally, Indianapolis is the El Torito Grill brand's first location outside southern California. "We are proud to bring an upscale El Torito Grill to Indianapolis and continue to grow a concept we believe has national potential," said Fred Wolfe, CEO of Real Mex Restaurants. "We are pleased to become part of the Indianapolis community and look forward to serving the local businesses and neighborhoods a heightened culinary experience."

The new El Torito Grill location combines a copper color palette, amber tones, rich woods, and ultra suede fabrics with traditional Mexican finishes, such as arched walls and wrought iron, to create a unique dining environment. Another Mexican icon, the agave, showcased in both privately commissioned paintings and custom ironwork featured in the cantina, celebrates Mexico's gift of tequila.

"Our exhibition kitchen, tortilla comal (cooktop) and signature mesquite grilling highlight El Torito Grill's commitment to freshness, quality and innovation associated with upscale dining," said Irene Martin, general manager of the new restaurant. The menu boasts cuisine that is a progressive fusion of contemporary and traditional Mexican ingredients. Real mesquite wood-burning grills impart a signature smoky flavor to steak, poultry, fresh fish and vegetables. El Torito Grill serves contemporary dishes that blend traditional Mexican ingredients, such as jalapeño and tomatillo with unique seasonings like tamarind and achiote. This combination of old and new creates bold and distinct flavors, such as jalapeño butter and tamarind barbecue sauce. El Torito Grill enhances familiar and cravable Mexican dishes, such as quesadillas and chile rellenos, by incorporating unconventional ingredients such as lobster and goat cheese. From Guacamole prepared tableside, to Lobster Tamale Cake with chipotle and jalapeno butter sauces to Tamarind Barbecue Baby Back Ribs, El Torito Grill places a sophisticated spin on Mexican classics.

(more)

El Torito Grill's local business hours are Mon.-Thurs. 11:00 AM to 10 PM, Fri. - Sat. 11:00 AM to 11:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM- 10:00 PM. Join us for Champagne Sunday Brunch every Sunday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. For more information, consumers may call the restaurant at (317) 848-5202.

#### **About El Torito Grill**

Offering a unique culinary experience, El Torito Grill is dedicated to bringing a sensory experience that is a fusion of the contemporary and native foods of Mexico. Flour tortillas are handmade, prepared fresh throughout the day and served with fresh salsas and signature honey butter. The wood-fired mesquite grill imparts a sweet smokey essence to the food in the traditional Mexican style. The house Margaritas are hand-shaken and made with Gold Tequila and Orange Curacao. El Torito Grill specializes in an abundant selection of oak-aged Reposado, Añejo and 100% Blue Agave tequilas made for sipping with citrus or alone in a snifter. El Torito Grills are located in Beverly Hills, Brea, Irvine, Newport Beach, Mission Viejo, Torrance, Sherman Oaks, Rancho Santa Margarita, and now in Indianapolis, Indiana.

#### **About Real Mex Restaurants**

Headquartered in Cypress, Calif., Real Mex Restaurants Inc. is the largest full-service, casual dining Mexican restaurant chain operator in the United States, with 162 restaurants in California and an additional 36 company-owned restaurants in 12 other states. These include 70 El Torito restaurants, 70 company-owned Chevys Fresh Mex ® restaurants, 35 Acapulco Mexican restaurants, 8 El Torito Grill restaurants, 5 company-owned Fuzio Universal Pasta restaurants, the Las Brisas restaurant in Laguna Beach, and several regional restaurant concepts such as Who-Song & Larry's, Casa Gallardo, El Paso Cantina and GuadalaHARRY'S. Real Mex Restaurants is committed to the highest standards and is dedicated to serving the freshest Mexican food with excellent service in a clean, comfortable, and friendly environment. For more information, please visit the company's Web sites at [www.realmexrestaurants.com](http://www.realmexrestaurants.com).

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