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Benihana Inc. Opens New Franchise Location in Monterey

MONTEREY, Calif. (April 30, 2009) – Benihana Inc. (NASDAQ: BNHNA; BNHN), operator of the nation's largest chain of Japanese theme and sushi restaurants, today announced the opening of its newest franchise location in Monterey, California.

The Monterey franchise restaurant, owned by Rumi & Mitsufumi Okabe, is the 16th Benihana restaurant in California. The restaurant offers a menu of tender steaks, juicy chicken and succulent shrimp prepared and served by entertaining chefs before guests seated at teppanyaki tables. Benihana Monterey also features a sushi menu with delicious innovations and a sake menu with selections typically found only in Japan.

The Monterey restaurant boasts a sushi bar, lounge seating, a full-service bar serving delicious specialty drinks and 14 teppanyaki tables. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner seven days a week. It is located at 136 Olivier St., near Fisherman's Wharf.

For more information about Benihana, please visit www.benihana.com.

About Benihana

Benihana Inc. (NASDAQ GS: BNHN and BNHNA) operates 64 Benihana teppanyaki restaurants, nine Haru restaurants, and 22 RA Sushi restaurants. Under development at present are nine restaurants: four Benihana teppanyaki restaurants and five RA Sushi restaurants. In addition, 22 franchised Benihana teppanyaki restaurants are operating in the U.S., Latin America and the Caribbean.

Monterey Restaurant Facts:

Address: 136 Olivier St.
Monterey, CA 93940

Phone: 831-644-9007

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