

# Press Release

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## **QUALIFYING BEGINS FOR THIRD ANNUAL CARNIVAL POKERPRO CHALLENGE ONBOARD ALL OF THE LINE'S "FUN SHIPS"**

*Final event awards more than \$75,000 in prizes aboard the Carnival Destiny in  
January 2011*

**Matthews, NC – May 10, 2010:** PokerTek, Inc. and Carnival Cruise Lines are pleased to announce the third annual Carnival PokerPro Challenge poker tournament. This premier event attracts poker players from around the world who compete in satellite tournaments for a chance to win a seat in the final event that is guaranteed to pay \$75,000 in cash prizes.

Players qualify by winning a satellite tournament between now and November 2010 aboard any of Carnival's 22 "Fun Ships." Players can also qualify by playing at participating land-based properties featuring PokerPro. The Final Event will be held on board the Carnival Destiny the week of January 29, 2011.

"Players have enjoyed this event each year since it began in 2008, and we are very pleased to continue the Carnival PokerPro Challenge in partnership with PokerTek," said Rodney Dofort, Senior Vice President of Casino Operations for Carnival Cruise Lines' parent company, Carnival Corporation & PLC. "Texas Hold'em on PokerPro has grown to be a very popular amenity in our casinos, and we're looking forward to offering our players a chance to participate in this large-scale tournament."

"This event has been a proven success for the last two years, and we are excited to bring this popular tournament back for 2010," said PokerTek President James Crawford. "Carnival Cruise Lines has done an excellent job facilitating this exciting event, and we expect this year to have the largest turnout yet."

Tournaments will be played on state-of-the-art PokerPro tables, the only poker tables available across Carnival's fleet. The tables clearly and quickly display players' commitments and table stakes, pot amount and community cards. PokerPro tables also identify the winners at the end of each hand and immediately add the winnings to the player's table stakes.

Players who play in the satellite event on board one of Carnival's ships will pay a \$150 entry fee. First-place winners of the satellite tournaments will win a \$750 entry to the "Grand Final Event," to be held from January 29 – February 3, 2011 on the Carnival Destiny sailing from Miami. In addition, winners will receive a cash prize or a cruise certificate.

Anyone having played in a 2008, 2009 or 2010 PokerPro satellite round on board a Carnival ship will receive a 20% discount (\$150) off the purchase of a guaranteed Grand Final entry seat. Subject to availability, Grand Final seats can also be purchased by any passenger on the cruise itself for \$750.

Players qualifying at PokerPro land-based properties will win a \$750 entry to the “Grand Final Event” and a cruise certificate. Buy-ins, payouts and additional prizes at land-based properties featuring PokerPro will vary. Check official rules at each property. The Final Event prize pool is starting at \$75,000 guaranteed with room for expansion pending player participation.

### **About PokerTek:**

PokerTek, Inc. (NASDAQ: PTEK), headquartered in Matthews, NC, develops and markets products for the gaming and amusement industries. PokerTek developed PokerPro automated poker tables to increase revenue, reduce expenses and attract new players into poker rooms by offering interactive poker that is fast, fun and mistake-free. Heads-Up Challenge is a two player table that allows bars and restaurant patrons to compete head-to-head in various games for amusement purposes, increases earnings for game operators and provides patrons unique and challenging on-site entertainment. Both products are installed worldwide. For more information, please visit the company's website at [www.PokerTek.com](http://www.PokerTek.com) or contact Tracy Egan at 704.849.0860 x106.

### **About Carnival Cruise Lines:**

Carnival is the world's largest and most popular cruise line, with 22 “Fun Ships” operating voyages of three to 15 days in length to The Bahamas, Caribbean, Mexican Riviera, Alaska, Hawaii, the Panama Canal, Canada, New England, Bermuda, and Europe. The line currently has two 130,000-ton ships scheduled for delivery - Carnival Magic, set to debut in 2011, and an as-yet-unnamed vessel slated to enter service in 2012.

*This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which are made in accordance with the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements herein include, but are not limited to, the expected adoption of the PokerPro systems by casinos and other customers and the expected acceptance of the PokerPro systems by players. Our actual results may differ materially from those implied in these forward-looking statements as a result of many factors, including, but not limited to, overall industry environment, customer acceptance of our products, delay in the introduction of new products, further approvals of regulatory authorities, adverse court rulings, production and/or quality control problems, the denial, suspension or revocation of permits or licenses by regulatory or governmental authorities, termination or non-renewal of customer contracts, competitive pressures and general economic conditions, and our financial condition. These and other risks and uncertainties are described in more detail in our most recent annual report on Form 10-K and other reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Forward-looking statements speak only as of the date they are made. We undertake no obligation to update or revise such statements to reflect new circumstances or unanticipated events as they*

*occur, except as required by applicable laws, and you are urged to review and consider disclosures that we make in the reports that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission that discuss other factors germane to our business.*