

## **POKERSTARS OBTAINS BULGARIAN ONLINE GAMING LICENSE**

ONCHAN, ISLE OF MAN – February 19, 2014 – PokerStars has received approval from the Bulgarian State Gambling Commission for an online gaming license in Bulgaria, the company announced today. In the next few weeks, the world's largest poker site will work towards finalizing the technical requirements for starting operations under the license and serving the Bulgarian online poker market under the local license.

The Gambling Commission's decision to award PokerStars a license underscores the company's commitment to be among the first companies to enter regulated markets when licenses become available.

Bulgarian regulations now permit residents to play online poker with licensed operators, but so far, no other online poker site has been given permission to operate in the country.

"Bulgaria is full of promise," said Eric Hollreiser, the Head of Corporate Communications for PokerStars. "Poker is extremely popular in the country and recently we have seen some notable results from Bulgarian players including Dimitar Danchev, who won the 2013 PokerStars Caribbean Adventure Main Event for \$1,859,000. We are delighted with today's news and we are looking forward to work with the Gambling Commission so that we can launch as soon as possible."

In addition to this new license in Bulgaria, PokerStars already holds licenses in France, Denmark, Italy, Spain, Estonia, Belgium, Germany, Malta and the Isle of Man. As an industry leader, PokerStars provides a safe and fun environment for players to compete in an array of innovative and traditional poker games and tournaments.

For further information, please contact: [press@pokerstars.com](mailto:press@pokerstars.com)

### **About PokerStars**

PokerStars operates the world's most popular online poker sites, serving a global poker community of more than 62 million registered members. Since it launched in 2001, PokerStars has become the first choice of the world's top players, with more daily tournaments than anywhere else and with the best security online. More than 110 billion hands have been dealt on PokerStars, which is more than any other site.

PokerStars.com and PokerStars.eu operate globally under licenses from the Isle of Man and Malta governments, respectively. PokerStars also holds separate government licenses in Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, France, Italy, Spain and Germany.

PokerStars is a member of The Rational Group, which operates gaming-related businesses and brands, including PokerStars, Full Tilt Poker and the European Poker Tour. Rational Group entities in the UK and Isle of Man were collectively recognized as one of the UK's best workplaces when they were awarded a top 25 position by the Great Place to Work Institute in its UK's Best Workplaces – Large category in both 2012 and 2013.