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## **KINGS OF LEON WRAP UP REHEARSAL STINT AT BOARDWALK HALL**

ATLANTIC CITY — Before launching their international tour Thursday, Kings of Leon put in a week's worth of rehearsals at Boardwalk Hall.

The rock band will travel from Maryland to California, across the pond to Germany and throughout Europe from January through July. Tour manager Ivan Kushlick said the Kings of Leon won't forget the Garden State.

"Working at Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City has been an absolute pleasure," Kushlick said in a statement. "We certainly appreciated working in such a well-run facility and with such great people who really get it when it comes to staging challenging productions of this nature."

Spectra, the group that operates venue management and food services and hospitality for Boardwalk Hall, contributed a "welcoming and accommodating" staff, Kushlick continued. Fran Rodowicz and Alex Johnson — general manager and event manager for the hall, respectively — were part of the positive experience, he added.

"Having one of the world's biggest tours rehearse in Boardwalk Hall was a coup for Spectra and our facility," said Chris Howard, executive director of the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority, which owns and funds Boardwalk Hall. "The band was able to take in the night life and enjoy some of Atlantic City's great amenities for a few days. We are pleased they had a positive experience and we look forward to hosting other top artists in the future."

Some of that experience included a meal at Atlantic City's Chef Vola's restaurant, provided by Geoff Gordon, a friend of the band and Live Nation promoter, according to a release from Spectra.

Though the tour will not stop in New Jersey, the band will perform at the Wells Fargo Center in Philadelphia on Jan. 19.