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## CONSUMER

# EasyJet founder buys more easyHotel shares

**By Henry Saker-Clark**

EasyHotel's billionaire founder, Sir Stelios Haji-ioannou, has bought £60,000 of shares in the company as he tries to prevent its privatisation.

The value hotel chain is set to be taken over by property fund manag-

er ICAMAP and real estate investor Ivanhoe Cambridge despite staunch opposition from the easyJet founder.

The bidding companies, working as a consortium under the banner of Citrus UK Bidco, have gained a majority stake in the company after buying up 52 per cent of its shares.

Earlier this month, the bidders confirmed the takeover attempt, which valued the group's shares at roughly £139m, or 95p a share.

Sir Stelios has accused the consortium of trying to buy out shareholders "on the cheap", and has vowed to continue buying up the firm's shares.

