

press release

Standard Chartered launches China Supply Chain Guide

New guide shares industry best practice

September 20 2006, Singapore – Standard Chartered today announced the launch of ‘*Standard Chartered – China: The Guide to Supply Chain Management and Logistics 2006/2007*,’ to promote best industry practices and share the Bank’s expertise in the China supply chain and logistics industry.

Standard Chartered has been in China since 1858 and currently has one of the largest foreign owned banking networks in the country. Globally, the Bank has trade customers in 39 countries with the majority of transactions being conducted cross border. With the introduction of supplier and buyer financing, supply chain deals in China have doubled from 2004 to 2005.

Karen Fawcett, Global Head of Transaction Banking, Standard Chartered said:

“For all companies investing and working in China we envisage that the Guide will be an essential reference point and companion for doing business. This Guide is a great testimonial to our Trade expertise. We are a forerunner in Supply Chain Management, especially in a key market like China, where we have a strong history and presence.”

Azeem ur Rahim, Regional Head of Transaction Banking Middle East & Pakistan, Standard Chartered added, “As a result of the growth in economy and manufacturing base, China is becoming a critical trading partner for corporates operating in Middle East & Pakistan. Given the size and depth of the economy China has become one of the major markets with excellent growth potential. More and more corporates are

sourcing from China by building strategic alliances with core suppliers. One of the key procurement drivers for companies is to look at ways to streamline process and rationalize supplier base. This guide will be an excellent source for these companies to make strategic decisions with respect to logistics, electronic procurement and financial aspects of supply chain”.

The Guide comprises 45 articles by banking supply chain financing and industry practitioners. It provides expert commentary, insight and analysis on key aspects of supply chain management and logistics for all companies and investing in China. Covering a breadth of topics the Guide’s articles include information on supply chain solutions, updates on the regulatory environment, logistics infrastructure, regional analysis, China markets, maps and case studies.

The Guide is co-sponsored by DHL, the China Supply Chain Council, Kerry Logistics and Infosys and has been published in English and Chinese.

As part of the Bank’s global transaction banking solutions to Corporates and Institutions, Transaction Banking provides Cash Management, Securities Services and Trade Services through the Bank’s network in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. The business provides a full suite of transactional products and serves as a bridge to these markets for clients from the U.S, Latin America and Europe.

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Note to Editors:

Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is ranked in the top 25 among FTSE-100 companies, by market capitalisation.

Standard Chartered has a history of over 150 years in banking and is in many of the world's fastest growing markets. It has an extensive global network of over 1,200 branches (including subsidiaries, associates and joint ventures) in 56 countries in the Asia Pacific Region, South Asia, the Middle East, Africa, the United Kingdom and the Americas. As one of the world's most international banks, Standard Chartered employs almost 44,000 people, representing 89 nationalities, worldwide.

Standard Chartered's strengths lie in its breadth, diversity and balance and is trusted across its network for its standard of governance and corporate responsibility. The Bank is committed to all its stakeholders by living its values in its approach to managing its people, exceeding expectations of its customers, making a difference in the communities that we operate in and working with its regulators.

Standard Chartered uniquely derives 95% of profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Serving both Consumer and Wholesale Banking customers, the Bank combines deep local knowledge with global capability to offer a wide range of innovative products and services as well as award winning solutions.

Some of the major awards won in 2005 by the Bank include:

1. IFR Asia's Domestic Bond House of the Year
2. Finance Asia's Best Local Currency Bond House & Best Securitisation House
3. Asia Risk's Interest Rate Derivatives House of the Year
4. Trade Finance's Best Trade Finance Bank in Sub Saharan Africa
5. Global Custodian's Best Agent Bank in Asia
6. The Asset's Best Cash Management Bank for South Asia

7. Retail Banker International's Best Retail Bank in Asia Pacific.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please log on to www.standardchartered.com

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