

press release

Standard Chartered launches Universal Adaptor - Quick and easy file format and character conversion

14 August 2013, Shanghai - Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited has recently launched an innovative online tool "Universal Adaptor" that allows the Bank's corporate clients to define their own file templates or use pre-defined ones, and send transaction messages to the Bank through Straight2Bank Access (host-to-host) and Straight2Bank Web channels.

Universal Adapter simplifies the integration between clients and the Bank, enhancing efficiency in financial process management. The online solution significantly reduces cost, time and resources while offering to corporate clients the flexibility to use the file format of their choice to integrate with the bank.

A recent case of Walsin Lihwa, a Taiwan corporation, shows how clients can benefit from Universal Adaptor through quick and easy integration supported by features such as characters conversion from Traditional Chinese to Simplified Chinese and a library of readily available formats from banks, major ERPs and industry standards.

Anthony Lin, Managing Director, Head of Transaction Banking, Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited, said, "We are very glad to see that Universal Adaptor is welcomed by our clients. As digital technology evolves, it is becoming significantly important for banks to come up with more flexible, convenient, and tailor-made solutions. Universal Adaptor is an integrated solution combining easy and flexible file mapping with automated characters conversion for the payment instructions. Standard Chartered is always in the forefront of the technology development, and will continue leading the market by offering more innovative financial products for our clients."

Live Case Sharing:

Walsin (China) Investment Co., Ltd. ("Walsin Group"), headquartered in Taiwan, has been growing rapidly over two decades and has set up more than 20 production and sales bases in China. These bases include copper, fibre optic, power cable and specialty steel manufacturing sites and sales network in the mainland China. The strong momentum for growth has resulted in very high transaction volumes.

Walsin established its ERP system in Taiwan, and faced the critical challenge that its proprietary file format and its usage of Traditional Chinese characters in payment instructions may not be accepted by the bank in mainland China. Hence, the payments instructions were processed manually, including thousands of payments from 20 entities, which added significant cost to the organisation.

In May 2013, Walsin signed up for Standard Chartered Bank's Straight2Bank Access with Universal Adaptor. The tool allowed Walsin to retain its proprietary payment format, which was in Traditional Chinese, from its ERP system, and automatically

converted Traditional Chinese into Simplified Chinese, the only language accepted by China National Automatic Payment System (“CNAPS”, a local clearing system in mainland China). With no additional cost and effort, Universal Adaptor has helped Walsin optimise its payment workflow and significantly increase the financial process and operational efficiency.

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Note to editors:

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

Standard Chartered is a leading international banking group. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years. Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong stock exchanges as well as the Bombay and National Stock Exchanges in India.

With 1,700 offices in 68 markets, the Group offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities to over 89,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. Standard Chartered's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

In China, the Bank set up its first branch in Shanghai in 1858 and has remained in operation throughout the past 155 years. Standard Chartered Bank (China) Limited is one of the first foreign banks to locally incorporate in China in April 2007. This demonstrates the Bank's commitment to the China market, and its leading position as a foreign bank in the banking industry. Standard Chartered has one of the largest foreign bank networks in China – with 23 branches, 77 sub-branches and 1 Village Bank, totally 101 outlets.

In 2012, Standard Chartered China received many awards and honors, including the “Best Practice of Social Responsibility Award” from China Banking Association, “China's Ideal Employer among Business students - Top 20” from Universum, “Best SME Services Bank” from CBRC, “Best Cash Management Award” from the Economic Observer, “Best Supply Chain Finance Award” and “Best Cross-border Trade Settlement Award” from CFO World, “2011-2012 Best Asset Management Brand” from 21 Century Business Herald, and etc.

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