

press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Standard Chartered facilitates convenient access to banking products and services at Hamriya Free Zone in Sharjah

First international bank to provide banking services at the Free Zone

UAE, May 24, 2011-Standard Chartered Bank, has inaugurated its new Electronic Banking Unit (EBU) at the Hamriya Free Zone in Sharjah. Standard Chartered is the first foreign bank to operate in the Free Zone, providing banking and finance services to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and retail clients. The bank will leverage on its global network to facilitate the increased intra-regional activities of businesses operating in the free zone.

Standard Chartered Bank's new EBU is staffed by experienced Relationship Managers who specialise in financial services for SMEs and individuals. The EBU is equipped with a Cheque and Cash Deposit Machine as well as ATMs and Internet banking facilities to ensure optimum convenience for customers in the area.

Chris de Bruin, Head of Consumer Banking, Standard Chartered UAE, said,

“Standard Chartered adopts a customer-focus strategy which aims to provide financial products and services which cater to our customer’s specific needs. The opening of the new EBU reaffirms our strong commitment to expand our presence in the UAE and enable business enterprises and individuals to take advantage of our superior banking products and services.”

Dr. Rashid Al Leem, Director General of Hamriya Free Zone, said,

"The opening of Standard Chartered Bank's new EBU will improve access to premium banking products and services, benefiting the thousands of corporate and individual clients in the Hamriya Free Zone. We commend Standard Chartered for taking the initiative to establish a presence in the rapidly-growing Free Zone and we are confident that the bank will enjoy the strong support of both corporate and individual clients."

Standard Chartered Bank's Hamriya EBU accepts applications for loans and facilities, Saadiq Islamic Banking services, and opening of an account as well as Fixed, Term and Call Deposits. It also accepts remittance instructions. The EBU is open from 8 am to 3:30 pm from Saturday to Wednesday and from 8 am to 2 pm on Thursday. The automated lobby is operational 24 hours daily.

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

Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international bank, listed on the London, Hong Kong and Mumbai stock exchanges. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns more than 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.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, Standard Chartered offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for around 85,000 staff. It is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. The Bank's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'.

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

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