

OCBC'S 3,600 STAFF NATIONWIDE "PUT ON" NATION'S COLOURFUL LEGACY TO CELEBRATE MERDEKA

Kuala Lumpur, 30 August 2007 – OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad's 3,600 staff nationwide – both frontline and backroom, from CEO to clerk – made heads turn today as they recounted the nation's colourful past today by donning T-shirts which creatively communicate the various elements of the country's progress.

According to OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad's Director & CEO Dato' Albert Yeoh, unlike similar exercises by the Bank over the past two years, this year was different.

"In previous years, our staff would come to work on Merdeka eve in specially designed batik attire or T-shirts that depicted the Merdeka theme for the year. This year, however, we chose to match the initiative with the creativity and subtlety that has become the hallmark of our nation's approach to progress.

"Like this progress, which requires a person to delve deeply into it in order to uncover and appreciate the gains that the people have enjoyed, you would also need to examine the design of the T-shirt deeply in order to uncover the message it communicates," he said.

The various elements of the T-shirt's design mesh together to create what appears to be a kaleidoscope of colours which stand for diverse themes ranging from growth to balance & harmony; city life to environmental care; careful use of natural resources to rapid industrial development; national unity to the individuality of each Malaysian; and so forth.

"In essence, the T-shirt design reflects the country's sustained and thoughtful progress since independence 50 years ago. The icons on the T-shirts represent the various cornerstones of the nation.

"Our staff look forward each year to demonstrate their nationalistic pride by donning these T-shirts to help them communicate their oneness with the country. As a corporation, we are proud to be a part of Malaysia's rich history since our origins in 1912...and we are honoured to take our place yet again among other corporate citizens in celebrating another year of independence," Dato' Yeoh added.

The T-shirts were designed by local artist and entrepreneur Peter Hoe, who began designing batik 17 years ago and currently runs the Peter Hoe lifestyle stores in Kuala Lumpur.

Photo Caption: OCBC staff, attired in the Bank's National Day T-shirts, joining in shouts of "Merdeka!" at the foyer of Menara OCBC, Kuala Lumpur.

About OCBC Bank

Singapore's longest established local bank, OCBC Bank, currently has assets of S\$164 billion and a network of over 390 branches and representative offices in 15 countries and territories including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, Vietnam, China, Hong Kong SAR, Taiwan, Brunei, Myanmar, Japan, Korea, Australia, UK and USA. This network includes more than 280 branches and offices in Indonesia operated by OCBC Bank's subsidiary, PT Bank NISP. OCBC Bank and its banking subsidiaries offer a wide range of specialist financial services, from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to global treasury and stockbroking services to meet the needs of its customers across communities.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia, in terms of assets and market share, and its asset management subsidiary, Lion Capital Management, is one of the largest asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Additional information may be found at www.ocbc.com.

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