

OCBC BANK WINS SME BANK OF THE YEAR - MALAYSIA

*OCBC Bank adjudged Malaysia's best
by Singapore-based Asian Banking & Finance*

Kuala Lumpur, 18 July 2014 – OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad (OCBC Bank) has been adjudged Malaysia's SME Bank of the Year by Singapore-based *Asian Banking & Finance*.

Speaking at the awards ceremony at the Marina Bay Sands, Singapore, Mr Tim Charlton, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief of *Asian Banking and Finance* said for 2014, OCBC Bank performed admirably both in Malaysia and across the region, bagging also the top award for Indonesia and overall Asean SME Bank of the Year title for the fourth year running.

“OCBC Bank's success lay fundamentally in how it uncovered the various lifecycle stages that require varied business solutions. This helped them develop a seamless suite of products and processes that could assist businesses in their growth along their lifecycle. The Bank's key strategies paid off when they were finally able to deepen market share from less than 3% in 2006 to almost 9% in 2013, grow its total income by 18%, become number one in loans growth, achieve a more than 100% growth in case count from 2012-2013, and reach a high level of employee satisfaction, thereby further entrenching the Bank's name in the SME scene,” he said.



L-R: Mr Tim Charlton, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief of Asian Banking and Finance presenting the award to Mr Wong Chee Seng, Head of Emerging Business, OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad.

The winners are judged on their levels of innovation, effectiveness and dynamism to react to changes in the market and take on progressive opportunities.

The selection panel comprised judges from KPMG, Deloitte Consulting, Ernst and Young Advisory LLP and Accenture.

OCBC Bank's Head of Emerging Business, Mr Wong Chee Seng, said the award represented the culmination of years of listening to and addressing the needs of SMEs in Malaysia.

"Winning a prestigious well-known Asian award like this gives us further conviction that we are on the right track in delivering innovative products and services, serving the community effectively and being dynamic when seeking to meet customers' various lifecycle needs. Living up to the OCBC business proposition of being simple, fast and convenient also means acknowledging a continuous commitment to positive changes in SME markets and regulations," he said.

Mr Wong expects the Bank progress with the SME industry to grow exponentially in time to come.

"We would like to play our part in the government's plan for SMEs as a significant contributor to the country's economic growth," he said.

About OCBC Bank

OCBC Bank is the longest established Singapore bank, formed in 1932 from the merger of three local banks, the oldest of which was founded in 1912. It is now the second largest financial services group in Southeast Asia by assets and one of the world's most highly-rated banks, with an Aa1 rating from Moody's. It was ranked by Bloomberg Markets as the world's strongest bank in 2011 and 2012.

OCBC Bank and its subsidiaries offer a broad array of specialist financial and wealth management services, ranging from consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking to treasury, insurance, asset management and stockbroking services.

OCBC Bank's key markets are Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia and Greater China. It has a network of over 460 branches and representative offices in 17 countries and territories, including more than 330 branches and offices in Indonesia that are operated by its subsidiary, Bank OCBC NISP.

OCBC Bank's insurance subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in Singapore and Malaysia by assets. Its asset management subsidiary, Lion Global Investors, is one of the largest private sector asset management companies in Southeast Asia. Private banking services are provided by subsidiary Bank of Singapore, which continued to gain industry recognition including being voted "Outstanding Private Bank in Asia Pacific" in 2013 by Private Banker International.

OCBC Bank offers Islamic banking products and services in Malaysia through its wholly-owned subsidiary, OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad.

For more information, please visit www.ocbc.com.my