

OCBC AL-AMIN ADJUDGED MALAYSIA'S ISLAMIC BANK OF THE YEAR BY *THE BANKER*

Kuala Lumpur, 2 June 2014 – OCBC Al-Amin Bank Berhad (OCBC Al-Amin), the wholly-owned Islamic banking subsidiary of OCBC Bank (Malaysia) Berhad, has been named *Islamic Bank of the Year 2014* for Malaysia by London-based *The Banker*, the world's longest running international banking title.

This marks the first time a foreign-owned Islamic bank has won the award in Malaysia.

According to the Editor of *The Banker* Mr Brian Caplen the award is testament to the strong management, sound business model, innovative strategy and prudent risk approach of OCBC Al-Amin.

“OCBC Al-Amin’s award points to the strength of the Islamic banking sector in Malaysia. In a competitive market, the Bank demonstrated an exceptional level of innovation and customer service, as well as strong overall growth, to take the top spot.”

According to OCBC Al-Amin Director & CEO Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik the award affirms the strength and growth of the Bank since its inception in 2008.



(L-R) OCBC Al-Amin Head of Consumer Financial Services Dzulkifly Aminuddin, Director & CEO of OCBC Al-Amin Syed Abdull Aziz Syed Kechik and Head of Business Banking and Bumiputera Development Luqman Zuhdi

“We are pleased with this timely recognition, especially so in the context of a country that has several strong Islamic banking players and that is establishing itself as an Islamic banking hub in the region. Alongside this honour, we continue to acknowledge the sound framework placed by the regulators that has made our success thus far possible. We will continue to perform our best for the local and international banking community as we expand further,” he said.

With a solid footing on the corporate front, OCBC Al-Amin has in recent times been growing steadily in the retail sector as well, especially with the introduction of its new *OCBC Al-Amin Xpres* branches that offer greater convenience and accessibility to young urbanites and the Bumiputra segment. With the opening of two new *OCBC Al-Amin Xpres* branches in 2013, the Bank now has 10 standalone Islamic banking branches.

OCBC Al-Amin has also expanded its foreign currency financing efforts in support of the country's global Islamic banking positioning under the Malaysia International Islamic Financial Centre (MIFC) initiative, and also enhanced its capability in Islamic Treasury with the offering of hedging and structured investment for its wholesale customers. It remains a significant player in *sukuk* issuances and investment deals, and in the SME, unsecured and mortgage businesses.

OCBC Al-Amin registered a 131% increase in pre-tax profit, from RM59 million in 2012 to RM136 million in 2013, its fifth full year of operation.

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 450 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 in 2011 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