

## **OCBC OPENS BRANCH IN PUNGGOL TO SERVE FAST-GROWING HDB ESTATE**

Singapore, 18 February 2005 – OCBC Bank announces today the official opening of its Punggol Plaza Branch. Officiating the opening of the branch this morning are Mr Charles Chong, Member of Parliament for Pasir Ris - Punggol GRC and Mr David Conner, CEO of OCBC Bank.

Mr Chong said: “I am delighted at OCBC Bank’s initiative to be the first bank to set up service in Punggol New Town. While we may be a young township, the demand for good banking service still exists and will continue to grow. As our Town expands and starts attracting other facilities, OCBC Bank will always be remembered as the first bank to heed the needs of the community in Punggol.”

OCBC Bank’s CEO, Mr Conner added: “OCBC is always looking for ways to improve the coverage of our branch network and other electronic channels to make our products and services as convenient and accessible as possible for our customers. We are very pleased that our customer oriented approach has led to OCBC being the first bank to set up a branch in the vibrant and rapidly growing Punggol New Town.”

Since the branch started operating in October 2004, it has been attracting a steady stream of customers who enjoy the convenience of banking, without having to travel to Sengkang or Hougang.

One happy customer, Mr Chong Poh Wah said: “Being a satisfied customer of OCBC Bank for over 24 years, it makes sense to continue my banking relationship with them even after moving to Punggol New Town. Before OCBC Bank opened a branch here, I had to take a 45-minute bus ride to Hougang New Town for my banking transactions. Now, it takes only 10 minutes to visit OCBC’s Punggol Plaza Branch.”

The new branch, located within Punggol Plaza, offers a wide range of products and services to meet the needs of Punggol residents. In addition to deposits and remittances, consumer customers can apply for home loans and credit cards and buy wealth management products such as bancassurance, unit trusts and structured deposits.

OCBC Punggol Plaza Branch is conveniently located within walking distance of the Coral Edge Light Rapid Transit station. A map detailing the Punggol Plaza Branch location can be found in Appendix A. Opening hours are as follows:

Banking and Personal Financial Services

Mon-Fri: 10.30am to 6pm

Sat: 10.30am to 1pm

In conjunction with its official opening, OCBC Punggol Plaza Branch is holding a lucky draw, where the Grand Prize is a 20" Sharp LCD TV. Customers qualify for the Lucky Draw when they invest a minimum of S\$20,000 in unit trust, structured deposit or single premium products.

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### **About OCBC Bank**

OCBC Bank is Singapore's longest established local bank. It has assets of S\$119 billion and a network of 112 branches and representative offices in 14 countries and territories including Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, Australia, UK and USA. OCBC Bank offers a range of specialist financial services including consumer, corporate, investment, private and transaction banking, global treasury, asset management and stock broking services to meet the needs of its customers across communities. Its subsidiary, Great Eastern Holdings, is the largest insurance group in both Singapore and Malaysia in terms of assets and market share.

In 2004, OCBC Bank was named Lafferty Group's Retail Bank of the Year in Asia-Pacific and South East Asia and Global Finance magazine's Best Bank in Singapore. Additional information may be found at [www.ocbc.com](http://www.ocbc.com).

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