

7 July 2009

HSBC IS NAMED ‘BEST FOREIGN BANK IN VIETNAM’ BY FINANCEASIA FOR THE FOURTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

FinanceAsia, Asia’s leading publication in finance and banking, has named HSBC the “Best Foreign Bank in Vietnam 2009” in this year’s Country Awards for Achievement - Best Foreign Bank category. This is the fourth year running that the Bank has received this prestigious award.

FinanceAsia selected the award winners on the basis of their financial strength and performance, value of franchise, acquisitions that help improve the franchise, number of staff, client base, major deals won during the period and testimonials from clients.

The award for Best Foreign Bank 2009 continues HSBC in Vietnam’s milestone achievements in 2009. HSBC became the first foreign bank within Vietnam’s fast-growing banking sector to begin operations as a fully locally-incorporated bank on 1 January 2009. HSBC is also the first and only wholly foreign-owned bank in Vietnam with both branches and transaction offices in place.

Mr. Thomas Tobin, Chief Executive Officer of HSBC in Vietnam, said: “As the leading foreign bank in Vietnam, we are proud to be voted the Best Foreign Bank in Vietnam 2009 for the fourth year in a row by FinanceAsia, one of the most highly respected financial publishing companies in Asia. Winning this prestigious award for four consecutive years confirms our customers’ trust in HSBC as the best place to bank, and represents a high level of recognition from independent industry leaders for our consistent innovative world-class services and commitment to excellence in banking.”

HSBC in Vietnam’s awards to date include Best Foreign Bank in Vietnam 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 by FinanceAsia; Best Bank in Vietnam 2006, 2008 by the Asset Triple A; Best Trade Finance Bank in Vietnam 2008, 2009 by Asset Triple A; Best Sub-custodian Bank in Vietnam 2008, 2009 by Global Finance; Best Sub-custodian Bank in Vietnam 2006, 2009 by the Asset Triple A.

ends/more

HSBC is named “Best Foreign Bank in Vietnam” by FinanceAsia for the fourth consecutive year / 2

Media enquiries

Ha Lam Tu Quynh

+84 8 3 5204 128

quynhltha@hsbc.com.vn

Notes for editors

HSBC in Vietnam

HSBC has been in Vietnam for 138 years - the Bank first opened an office in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in 1870. The Bank officially started to operate as HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. on 1 January 2009 and is headquartered in Ho Chi Minh City. The Bank's network includes one branch and three transactions offices in Ho Chi Minh City, one branch and three transaction offices in Ha Noi, one branch in Binh Duong and a representative office in Can Tho. HSBC is the largest foreign bank in the country in terms of investment capital, network, product range, staff and customer base.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding and a principal member of the HSBC Group which, with about 9,500 offices in 86 countries and territories and assets of US\$2,527 billion at 31 December 2008, is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation currently holds 20 per cent of the share capital of Vietnam Technological and Commercial Joint Stock Bank (Techcombank), one of the largest joint stock commercial banks in Vietnam, and 10 per cent of the share capital of BaoViet Holdings, the leading financial insurance group in Vietnam.

FinanceAsia

Established in 1996, FinanceAsia is Asia's leading financial publishing company based in Hong Kong with additional bureaus in Singapore and Sydney.

At the end of 2005, FinanceAsia was fully acquired by Haymarket Publishing, the largest privately-owned publishing company in the UK, which is owned by Lord Michael Heseltine, the former UK Deputy Prime Minister. Their products include FinanceAsia Magazine, AsianInvestor Magazine, website www.financeasia.com, Events and Conferences.

ends/all