

# press release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **Standard Chartered Bank launches Quant Academy Programme**

*Initiative designed to develop quantitative talent pool*

20 February 2008, Singapore – Standard Chartered Bank is aiming to increase its quantitative capabilities by recruiting young talent with strong quantitative skills from top universities in its markets.

In order to continue to deliver innovative solutions to its customers and stay ahead of the evolution of the financial markets, Standard Chartered Bank has created the *Quant Academy* programme in collaboration with top technical schools and universities in Singapore, China, India and Europe.

The Quant Academy programme consists of a three to six month internship for highly qualified students who are willing to start their career in the quantitative finance sector (Quantitative Research, Quantitative Development and Quantitative Trading). Each student will be mentored by a field expert (in Singapore, Dubai or London) and asked to complete a practical project and present it to the Bank's senior quantitative management team at the end of their internship. Students who display most potential can expect full-time job offers with the Bank at the end of their internship.

This programme is an innovative response to the rapid growth of the Bank's derivative business, the increasing number of structured product users and the growing complexity and sophistication of the asset classes and financial instruments involved.

"By developing a strong pipeline of young talent to support this growing and ever more complex business, Standard Chartered is anticipating client demand and recognising the importance of leading the way in this strategic segment," said Benoit-Gilles Cambier, Global Head of Risk Management Advisory and Quant Development.

In Singapore, the programme will be run in conjunction with the Risk management Institute at the National University of Singapore, and will concurrently feature in other top institutions in China, India and Europe.

Started less than six months ago the programme was extremely well received by students from top technical institutions in Asia who submitted more than 150 applications in the first four months. The first student who entered the programme in July 2007 received a full-time offer at the end of the 3-month internship and is now working as an Equity Derivative Quant in Singapore.

Welcoming this initiative, Dr Ng Kah Hwa, from the National University of Singapore said, "We are glad to take yet another step via a partnership with Standard Chartered Bank to launch the Quant Academy. Standard Chartered is one of the most international banks in the world with a long and deep footprint in the emerging markets and a long standing commitment to Singapore. We look forward to tailoring cutting edge quantitative & risk management concepts in the context of the emerging markets and play a leading role in bringing best breed in computational finance skills to these markets."

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**Brochure on Standard Chartered Quantitative Academy Program (PDF)**

**Notes to Editors**

**About Quantitative Development at Standard Chartered Bank**

Standard Chartered's Derivatives activities span across various asset classes: Rates, FX, Commodities, Equities and Credit, as well as Hybrids. To support the pricing, distribution, booking and risk management of these Derivatives products, the Quantitative Development group (QD) is developing mathematical models and systems with two key objectives in mind: flexibility, to allow innovation (with speed to market) and scale, to accommodate volumes and a growing range of pay-offs and underlying. This team of 35 models and systems experts is currently based in London and Singapore and is looking to expand in Dubai.

**About Standard Chartered Bank**

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both the London Stock Exchange and the Hong Kong Stock Exchange, ranks among the top 25 companies in the FTSE-100 by market capitalisation. The London-headquartered group has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Its income and the number of employees have more than doubled over the last five years primarily as a result of organic growth and supplemented by acquisitions.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank in its markets by being the right partner for its stakeholders and leading by example. The group now employs over 60,000 people, representing some 100 nationalities, in more than 1,400 branches located in over 50 countries. The bank generates more than 90 per cent of its profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, with balanced income derived from both Wholesale and Consumer Banking.

The group is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity.

For more information, please visit: [www.standardchartered.com](http://www.standardchartered.com)