
NEWS RELEASE

United Overseas Bank Is Named 'Bank Of The Year In Singapore' For The Second Consecutive Year By '*The Banker*'

19 September 2003, Singapore - For the second year running, *The Banker* has named United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) as 'The Bank Of The Year - Singapore' in its annual Bank Of The Year Awards 2003. UK-based *The Banker* is a leading source of global financial intelligence since 1926.

The country award acknowledges both the quantitative and qualitative achievements of UOB that incorporate not only the Bank's strong financial performance but also its focus on innovation, technology and strategy.

In *The Banker's* latest September 2003 issue, the publication lauded UOB for its "good performance in 2002 against a backdrop of economic slowdown and the challenge of integrating a big acquisition (*of Overseas Union Bank*)." Strengthened by the merger, UOB was also noted for embarking on "an ambitious expansion in the Pacific Rim and Greater China. Net profit from the Bank's overseas operations already accounts for 36.3% of total profit, bringing the Bank close to its goal of 40% by 2010."

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, UOB Group's Deputy Chairman & President, received the trophy today from Ms Karina Robinson, Senior Editor of *The Banker* in a simple presentation ceremony held at UOB's Head Office, Raffles Place. Says Mr Wee, "I am honoured that UOB has won 'The Bank Of The Year Award' for the second year in a row. This is an important and prestigious accolade from one of the most influential international financial publications. The Award is a testimony of our capabilities and strong commitment to our customers. It also spurs us to continue our focus on becoming a premier bank in the Asia-Pacific region, committed to providing quality products and excellent customer service."

This latest award follows a similar award received by UOB from *FinanceAsia* recently. In its annual look at the best banks around the region, the publication - recognised as one of the foremost sources of information on the Asian financial markets - named UOB as the 'Best Local Bank - Singapore' in its Country Awards For Achievement 2003.

For the full excerpt on UOB published in the September 2003 issue of The Banker, please refer to [Annex 1](#).

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