



UNITED OVERSEAS BANK LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Republic of Singapore)
Company Registration No. 193500026Z

JOINT VENTURE WITH STA HOLDINGS LIMITED, UK

Singapore, 19 July 2005 - United Overseas Bank Limited ("UOB") wishes to announce that it has, through its wholly-owned subsidiary UOB Bullion and Futures Limited ("UOBF"), entered into a joint venture with STA Holdings Limited, UK ("Schneider Group"). Pursuant to the joint venture, UOBF and Schneider Group hold equal shares in a Singapore-incorporated joint venture company named "UOBF Schneider Trading Private Limited" ("UOBF Schneider").

UOBF Schneider will provide global market connectivity, physical infrastructure such as space, trading terminals, telecommunication links, internet access and support for professional traders. UOBF and Schneider Group have also entered into a Master Service Agreement with UOBF Schneider for the provision of expertise, clearing services and backroom services to UOBF Schneider and its clients. Taking into account operational and business needs, UOBF Schneider will have an initial paid up capital of S\$2 million, with UOB's equity participation amounting to S\$1 million. The shareholders will be subscribing for their respective shareholding in UOBF Schneider for cash at par. UOBF Schneider will be treated as a subsidiary of UOB and its financial results will be consolidated with that of the UOB Group.

Mr Terence Ong, Senior Executive Vice President of UOB, had this to say of the joint venture, "We are delighted to have Schneider Group as our JV partner and we believe that there are tremendous synergies in this tie-up. We are confident that the JV will be able to provide our professional traders with an electronic trading facility that is fast, reliable, robust and user friendly with connectivity to all major global markets."

Mr Sonny Schneider, Chairman of Schneider Group, said "Schneider Group welcomes this opportunity to partner with the leading banking group in Singapore to provide professional trading access to the global markets 24 hours a day. With UOB as a partner, we will be able to build on our successful European model where partnership values and our core principles of professional service and speed and reliability have put us at the forefront of the professional proprietary trading market."

About UOB

Founded in 1935, United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) has charted steady growth over the years to establish itself as a leading bank in Singapore. UOB provides a wide range of financial services through its global network of 385 offices in 18 countries and territories in Asia-Pacific, Western Europe and North America. It has 61 branches in Singapore and more than 300 offices in Australia, Brunei, Canada, China, France, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, South Korea, Taiwan, Thailand, United Kingdom, USA and Vietnam.

UOB's wide range of financial services include personal financial services, private banking, trust services, commercial and corporate banking, corporate finance, capital market activities, treasury services, futures broking, asset management, venture capital management, general insurance and life assurance. It also offers stockbroking services through its associate, UOB-Kay Hian Holdings.

Through other subsidiaries and associates, UOB also has diversified interests in travel, leasing, property development and management, hotel operations and general trading.

UOB is rated among the world's top banks by Moody's Investors Service, receiving B for Bank Financial Strength, and Aa3 and Prime-1 for long-term and short-term deposits respectively.

About Schneider Group

Founded in 1999 as one of the first electronic proprietary trading houses catering to the professional trader, Schneider Group has grown to be a dominant participant in the access of trading solutions and partnership models for the global trading community.

Schneider Group has offices throughout the UK and Europe, and provides professional access to over 300 separate traders and trading entities covering all the major electronically traded cash and derivatives markets. Schneider Group's volumes have risen to approaching 100 million contracts per annum, its fund management arm has successfully incubated over ten funds to nine figures of funds under management and its dedicated market making arm provides prices to the majority of the major exchanges across many product classes.

Schneider Group's growth has been built on fast and robust low cost access, partnership values and dynamic business models. Schneider Group's suite of products range from professional training and proprietary trading to execution brokerage through investment advice to fund management.

Mrs Vivien Chan
Company Secretary