
NEWS RELEASE

UOB Xiamen Branch Celebrates 20th Anniversary & UOL Opens Sofitel Plaza Xiamen Hotel

17 October 2005, Xiamen - Sofitel Plaza Xiamen Hotel, the first internationally managed 5-star hotel in Xiamen was officially opened this morning, coinciding with UOB Xiamen Branch's 20th anniversary celebration.

The Mayor of Xiamen, Mr Zhang Changping and Xiamen Deputy Party Secretary, Mr Wu Fengzhang, joined UOB Group Chairman, Mr Wee Cho Yaw at the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony for the official opening of the Hotel and the cake cutting ceremony for the Branch's birthday bash.

Welcoming the 200 guests in the ballroom of Sofitel Plaza Xiamen, Mr Wee who is Chairman of UOB and UOL expressed strong admiration for Xiamen's economic growth and confidence in China's future development. He said that the UOB's international network of 578 offices and branches was well positioned to strengthen the business links between China and the rest of the world.

Speaking on behalf of the Xiamen Municipal Government, Mayor Mr. Zhang Changping welcomed UOB's and UOL's investments in China. He noted that UOB had chosen an auspicious date for its twin celebration – the successful return of ShenZhou 6.

UOL's 393-room Xiamen hotel is managed by Sofitel, the flagship luxury chain of the Accor group, founded in France in 1964.

Sofitel Plaza Xiamen, the first internationally managed 5-star standard hotel in the city, brings the French 'Art de Vivre' into the United Overseas Bank Building, one of Xiamen's most outstanding architectural landmarks. The living space of the building has been remodelled in an exquisite European style that blends perfectly with the local culture. Sofitel Plaza Xiamen has been honored by the visits of the Vice Premier

of Thailand, the Director General of National Tourism Bureau, NBA superstar Mr. Clyde Drexler, Taiwanese superstar Jay Chou and a number of other famous celebrities.

Beside Xiamen, UOB has branches in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Representative office in Chengdu. It is also applying for a branch licence in Shengyang.

Sofitel Plaza Xiamen
19 Hubin Bei Road

About United Overseas Bank

UOB is a leading bank in Singapore that provides a wide range of financial services through its global network of 578 branches, offices and subsidiaries in 18 countries and territories in Asia-Pacific, Western Europe and North America. It has banking subsidiaries in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and the Philippines.

UOB is focused on enhancing its leadership in the consumer market, and is today, the largest credit card-issuing bank in Singapore with a card base that has reached 1 million. The Bank also has the largest base of merchants in Singapore, both for consumer and commercial credit card acceptance. There are currently more than 20 co-brand cards in its stable, covering the retail sector, service providers and non-profit organisations.

For more information on UOB, visit www.uobgroup.com

About United Overseas Land Limited

United Overseas Land Limited (UOL) is one of Singapore's largest listed property developers with an extensive portfolio in investment properties, real estate development and hotels.

With a track record of more than 30 years, UOL strongly believes in committing excellence and providing quality in every business venture. Its impressive list of properties includes best selling residential properties, award-winning office towers, shopping centers, serviced apartments and hotels. UOL was the only Asian Winner of the FIABCI Prix d'Excellence Award 2005 – Residential Category. Known as the "Oscars" of the real estate industry, the FIABCI Prix d'Excellence Award is a global competition held by the International Real Estate Federation to recognise the best developments worldwide, and is one of the highest accolades in international real estate. UOL also received Special Mention (Leisure Category) in last year's FIABCI Awards for the Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Suzhou.

UOL, through its listed hotel subsidiary Hotel Plaza Limited, now owns and manages 13 hotels across Singapore, Australia, Vietnam, Malaysia, China and Myanmar.

The company's diversified portfolio includes furniture retailing and furniture contract works as well as high-end spa operations and restaurants.

For further information, please contact:

Ms Vivian Song
Group Communications Division
United Overseas Bank
Phone: 65 - 6539 3990
Email: Vivian.SongKY@UOBgroup.com

Ms Claire Cher
United Overseas Land Limited
Phone: 65 - 6256 3325
Email: cher.claire@uol.com.sg