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## NEWS RELEASE

### **United Overseas Bank achieves world-class recognition in employee learning**

*UOB is the only South-East Asian organisation ranked among top 30 in the  
ASTD Best Awards, which recognises organisations' efforts  
in creating innovative learning cultures*

**SINGAPORE, 22 November 2010** – United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is proud to announce that it has won in the American Society for Training & Development (ASTD) 2010 BEST Awards, making it the only South-East Asian institution to achieve a top 30 ranking.

The Bank was ranked 28<sup>th</sup> out of 104 submissions. Other organisations accorded in this year's awards are from India, Turkey and the United States. This is the second consecutive year that UOB has won the award.

The BEST Awards recognise organisations that demonstrate enterprise-wide success through employee learning and development.

Ms Jenny Wong, Global Head of Human Resources said, "The downturn in 2009 did not lessen our focus on training and development. In fact, UOB continued to emphasise employee engagement, rolling out initiatives and allocating resources for training and development. The BEST Award is certainly testament of our efforts to remain invested in people, our most important asset, regardless of the economic cycle."

"The BEST Awards are the training industry's most rigorous and coveted recognition," said Tony Bingham, ASTD's president and CEO. "These 31 organisations excel in creating innovative learning cultures that clearly align with strategic business goals. And they continue to demonstrate their commitment to workplace learning and development even during a challenging economic climate."

For the 2010 BEST Awards, organisations had to submit quantitative and qualitative information about their learning and development practices and programmes to the ASTD. Applications were assessed in a blind review by members of the BEST Awards advisory committee, a select group of experts in the learning and development field.

This is the eighth year of the ASTD BEST Awards. More information about the 2010 ASTD BEST Award winners may be found via the link at: [www.astd.org/best](http://www.astd.org/best).

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### **About United Overseas Bank**

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia. It provides a wide range of financial services through its global network of over 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America, including banking subsidiaries in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and mainland China.

In Singapore, UOB is a market leader in the credit and debit cards business, and the private residential home loan business. It is also a key player in loans to small and medium enterprises. Its fund management arm, UOB Asset Management, is one of Singapore's most awarded fund managers.

UOB is rated among the world's top banks by Moody's Investors Service, receiving B for financial strength, and Aa1 and Prime-1 for long-term and short-term bank deposits respectively.

UOB also plays an active role in the community, focusing on children, education and the arts. It has organised the prestigious Painting Of The Year Competition and Exhibition since 1982, and supports Very Special Arts Singapore which provides art programmes for the disabled. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB has been conferred the National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the sixth consecutive year. UOB has also established the annual UOB Heartbeat Run to raise funds for charity.

### **About American Society for Training & Development**

The American Society for Training & Development (ASTD) is the world's largest association dedicated to the training and development field. ASTD's members come from more than 100 countries and connect locally in 130 U.S. chapters and with 30 International Partners. For more information, visit [www.astd.org](http://www.astd.org).

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