

2008 Highlights

1 JANUARY

- DBS launches Singapore's first dedicated loan scheme to help SMEs develop talent.
- DBS advises on Capitaland's SGD 939 million privatisation of The Ascott Group, Singapore's largest privatisation exercise in 2008 in terms of deal value.

2 FEBRUARY

- In Taiwan, DBS successfully bids for the "good bank assets" of Bowa Commercial Bank, strengthening our presence in Greater China.
- DBS donates RMB 1 million in support of the local non-governmental organisations' (NGOs) relief efforts for the snow storm in Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Suzhou.
- DBS is buy-side adviser to Citi Venture Capital International's SGD 295 million acquisition of the assets and business of Seksun Corporation, which was completed in February 2008, as well as lead mandated arranger and bookrunner for its USD 140 million leveraged buy-out facility.
- As coordinating arranger and bookrunner, DBS closes Las Vegas Sand's SGD 5.442 billion syndicated loan for the development of the Marina Bay Sands integrated resort, one of Asia's top three largest syndicated loans and Singapore's largest development financing loan in 2008.

3 MARCH

- DBS launches a first-of-its-kind banking package for social enterprises in support of the growth of social entrepreneurship in Singapore.
- The Reserve Bank of India gives DBS approval to set up eight new branches.

4 APRIL

- In conjunction with the bank's 40th anniversary in 2008, DBS colleagues across the region complete 80 Corporate Social Responsibility projects in 40 days (Project 80/40), all in support of children in Asia. At the close of Project 80/40, DBS had helped 8,300 children in 11 markets.
- In addition, staff lend their voices for a specially commissioned song – "Happy Ever Asia" which expresses DBS' belief that children are the future of Asia. The song was recorded in English, Mandarin and Cantonese, and subsequently broadcast in October on national radio in Singapore.
- DBS, as mandated lead arranger and bookrunner, successfully closes the SGD 4.192 billion syndicated loan to Resorts World at Sentosa.
 - The Islamic Bank of Asia closes over 20 significant cross-border capital transactions worth over half a billion USD, and opens its first Middle Eastern representative office in Bahrain within its first year of operations.

5 MAY

- Mr Richard Stanley, a 27-year veteran banker, joins DBS as Chief Executive Officer.
- DBS China donates RMB 1 million towards relief efforts in the aftermath of the Sichuan earthquake.
- DBS launches a SGD 1.5 billion Hybrid Tier 1 issue, which was at the time of issue, the largest single tenor fixed income transaction in the Singapore dollar bond market.

6 JUNE

- DBS Vickers Securities Online transfers its business and customers to DBS Vickers Securities as part of the bank's effort to streamline operations and increase organisational efficiency.
- DBS and POSB customers donate close to SGD 3.7 million to the China earthquake and Myanmar cyclone relief efforts.
- DBS is mandated lead arranger and bookrunner for the SGD 1.996 billion financing facilities for Morganite's acquisition of Singapore's Farrer Court site, the largest residential property development loan syndicated in Singapore.
- DBS is joint lead manager and underwriter for Mapletree Logistics Trust's SGD 600 million rights issue, Singapore's largest secondary REIT fund raising as at 2008.

7 JULY

- DBS opens a representative office in Hanoi, three months after it received the banking licence from the State Bank of Vietnam.
- The Islamic Bank of Asia launches two Shariah-compliant and innovative products to help clients manage their liability risks and maximise opportunities from currency market movements.

8 AUGUST

- DBS Hong Kong joins forces with Sowers Action, a Hong Kong-based NGO, to rebuild the Ma Chuan Primary School devastated by the Sichuan earthquake in May. DBS raised over HKD 880,000.
- DBS launches a special interest-only mortgage product that gives customers the option of paying interest only on their mortgage for a period of up to 18 months, freeing up cash for investment opportunities.
- DBS is the sole mandated lead arranger and bookrunner of the largest construction financing for Orient Overseas (International) in China in 2008. The syndicated loan of RMB 1.8 billion is also the maiden syndicated loan deal for Orient Overseas (International).

9 SEPTEMBER

- DBS becomes the first bank in Singapore to offer the full suite of regional China Unionpay card products and services in markets in which it operates, including China and Indonesia.
- DBS, the first Singapore bank to make a major investment in Taiwan, officially launches an expanded 40-branch network in Taiwan.
- DBS India officially launches branches in Kolkata, Chennai, Bengaluru and Pune.

10 OCTOBER

- In conjunction with its 40th anniversary and Children's Day, DBS staff deliver educational gifts to 475 children through its collaboration with five Community Development Councils in Singapore.
- POSB launches the POSB Everyday Champions Award 2009, aimed at recognising everyday individuals and organisations that have consistently gone beyond their call of duty and responsibility, to enable others to enjoy and grow through sports.
- POSB creates "50+ Tuesdays" at all POSB branches for customers age 50 and above. Special privileges are extended during the first three hours of branch opening.

11 NOVEMBER

- DBS launches the DBS World Business Card, a premium credit card targeted at SME owners and business leaders.
- DBS partners MasterCard to launch Asia's first 24/7 real-time online money transfer service, "MasterCard MoneySend", allowing DBS customers to make remittances to participating banks in India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines and Thailand.
- DBS China opens a branch in Tianjin, and its first Beijing sub-branch, which includes a DBS Treasures priority banking centre.
- DBS Hong Kong opens its first standalone loan centre, DBS Finance, providing instant and "one-stop-shop" loan approval and disbursement services.
- DBS Asset Management and Hwang-DBS jointly launch a global Islamic investment management entity - Asian Islamic Investment Management Sdn Bhd.

12 DECEMBER

- DBS is sole mandated lead arranger and bookrunner for the SGD 2.25 billion financing for YTL Power's acquisition of Power Seraya. DBS is also involved as mandated lead arranger and bookrunner for earlier sales of Tuas Power and Senoko Power.
- DBS launches a fully-underwritten SGD 4 billion rights issue that is 118.8% subscribed when the issue closed in January 2009.