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HANG SENG AGAIN NAMED BEST DOMESTIC BANK IN HONG KONG

Hang Seng Bank has been named 'Best Domestic Bank in Hong Kong' for the second consecutive year in *Asiamoney's* Best Bank Awards.

Asiamoney commended the Bank for "side-stepping most of last year's perilous pitfalls", including the implosion of collateralised debt obligations (CDOs).

Mrs Margaret Leung, Vice-Chairman and Chief Executive of Hang Seng Bank, said: "We are delighted that Hang Seng has been named Best Domestic Bank in Hong Kong for the second year in a row. Against the backdrop of the financial tsunami, this recognition reflects the Bank's strength and the hard work of the entire Hang Seng team. We remain deeply committed to continuing to enhance our services to meet the diverse needs of our customers and support long-term growth."

As at 29 May 2009, Hang Seng is the largest Hong Kong incorporated listed bank in terms of market capitalisation and profits.

Asiamoney's selection criteria for the Awards include financial strength, under which factors such as profitability, balance sheet growth, capital adequacy ratio, non-performing loans ratio and net interest margin are assessed. Other considerations include strength of leadership, changes to business strategy, brand strength, level of business diversification, corporate governance and transparency.

Founded in 1933, Hang Seng Bank operates 220 service outlets, of which 105 are branches serving both personal and business customers. The Bank also maintains a branch in Shenzhen for foreign currency wholesale business, branches in Macau and Singapore, and representative offices in Xiamen and Taipei.

Established on 28 May 2007, wholly owned subsidiary Hang Seng Bank (China) Limited operates a mainland China network of 34 outlets in Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Shenzhen, Dongguan, Fuzhou, Nanjing, Hangzhou, Ningbo, Tianjin and Kunming.

With consolidated assets of HK\$762 billion as at the end of 2008, Hang Seng Bank reported a profit attributable to shareholders of HK\$14,099 million for 2008. Hang Seng Bank is a principal member of the HSBC Group, one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations. For further information on Hang Seng Bank, please visit the bank's website at www.hangseng.com.

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