



Tuesday 1 June, 2010

RUNNER REGISTRATIONS FOR THE 2010 STANDARD CHARTERED GREAT CITY RACE REACH CAPACITY IN RECORD TIME

Entries for this year's Standard Chartered Great City Race, the City's premier corporate team running challenge, closed today in record time as a rush for the final remaining places for the 5km run taking place in the square mile on Thursday 15 July were snapped up over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Whilst the event encourages fitness, wellbeing and team spirit in the workplace, there is sure to be a competitive edge on the day with a field of some 6,500 runners from the banking, accountancy, legal, insurance and media sectors all battling it out to return to work the next day carrying both their individual industry prize and the coveted overall trophy. With over 380 companies having registered their teams this year, it is the legal industry who is showing the clear intent to win with the most teams registered, followed by the banking sector with insurance, media & accountancy completing the line-up.

Now in its sixth year, the race invites companies to enter teams of four or more runners with their top quartet's times combining to form the overall finishing time. Companies from a variety of sectors have signed up including a team of 200 from banking giant Investec, 80 runners from financial group Mizuho and team of 63 from legal firm DLA Piper. Race sponsors, Standard Chartered, has also signed up 400 of its own employees to run on race day.

In addition to promoting fitness and teamwork, the event also plays a pivotal role in raising funds for the wider community, with £5 of each £25 entry fee donated directly to the race's 2010 community partner, Seeing is Believing (SiB) - a global initiative to help eradicate avoidable blindness. Runners are invited to fundraise for SiB and will be incentivised by Standard Chartered, who will provide the highest SiB fundraiser from the race with a trip to Tanzania to experience how fundraising through the race has been put into effect. The Bank has also pledged to match all SiB donations pound-for-pound and therefore double the impact. Last year, the race generated GBP 70,000 for SiB.



Richard Holmes, Standard Chartered, CEO Europe, added: *“The Standard Chartered Great City Race continues to grow in prominence each year. Now firmly established as one of the highlights of the City’s social calendar, participation is increasingly in high demand – as demonstrated by this year’s race entry system once again closing in record time.*

“We’re looking forward to the event’s unique sense of community spirit returning in full force on race day as the City is brought to life by the 6,500 City runners pacing the closed-off streets of the square mile and the surge of spectators expected to show their support around the race course. It’s set to be the best year yet.”

This week on Thursday 3 June, football legend Phil Thompson who captained Liverpool FC - the Premiership club that Standard Chartered will title sponsor next season – will be hosting a special one-off penalty shootout challenge event in Broadgate Arena. From 12.30pm, Thompson will be joined by members of the public to raise money for The Standard Chartered Great City Race’s official charity partner, Seeing is Believing.

Further details about the race and Seeing is Believing can be found at www.cityrace.co.uk

-Ends-

For further information please contact:

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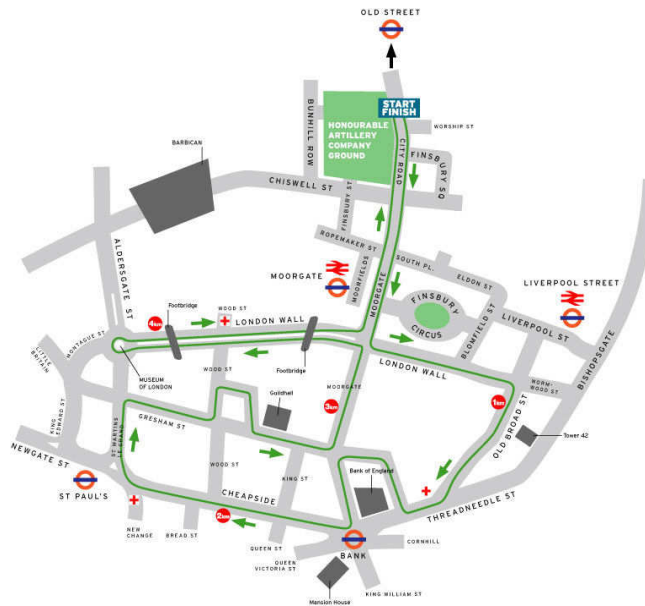
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Race Route Map:



Standard Chartered – leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, ranks among the top 20 companies in the FTSE-100 by market capitalisation. The London-headquartered Group has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets, leading the way in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. We have produced seven years of record income and profit, primarily as a result of organic growth.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Group earns around 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East, from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has 1700 branches and outlets located in 70 countries. The extraordinary growth of its markets and businesses creates exciting and challenging international career opportunities.

Leading by example to be the right partner for its stakeholders, the Group is committed to building a sustainable business over the long term and is trusted worldwide for upholding high standards of corporate governance, social responsibility, environmental protection and employee diversity. It employs around 75,000 people, nearly half of whom are women. The Group's employees are of 125 nationalities, of which about 70 are represented in the senior management.

For more information on Standard Chartered, please visit www.standardchartered.com



Seeing is Believing

About Seeing is Believing (SiB)

Seeing is Believing (SiB) is a major global public-private initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness and is a collaboration between Standard Chartered and the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) (registered charity, No. 1100559) along with its membership body of leading eye-care NGOs.

Started by Standard Chartered staff in 2003 as a way of celebrating the Bank's 150th anniversary, Seeing is Believing has raised over US\$17 million and impacted over 8 million people to date, including over 2.5 million who have benefited from sight restorations. The programme's latest commitment will invest a further US\$20 million by 2014 to provide comprehensive and sustainable eye care services to 20 million people in impoverished urban areas.

For more information, visit www.seeingisbelieving.org.uk

