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## RECORD NUMBERS OF EAGER CITY WORKERS SIGN UP FOR 2009 STANDARD CHARTERED GREAT CITY RACE

Entries for this year's Standard Chartered Great City Race, London's premier 5km team running challenge, are now closed after eager city workers snapped up the limited places in record time with over a month to go until race day on Thursday 16 July.

The legal industry leads the way again with the most teams registered out of the 385 total but they are closely followed by the banking sector with insurance, media & accountancy coming in at 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively.

Teams must have at least four runners with the top quartet's times being taken to calculate their overall finishing time. Companies from a variety of sectors have signed up including a team of 35 from global accountancy giant KPMG, 56 runners from law firm Slaughter and May and a 50 strong team from Legal and General Investment Management. These three teams all came top of their respective accountancy, legal and insurance fields in 2008 and will be gunning for similar success this year. The full percentage breakdown is as follows:

Legal Sector	31.4%
Banking Sector	25.8%
Insurance Sector	9.1%
Media Sector	5.5%
Accountancy Sector	4.1%
Other	24.1%

Over the past few years the race has grown in stature and attracted teams from a variety of companies including Sudden Financial Limited who have entered again for the fourth year in a row. **Stuart Sowter**, team captain from **Sudden** commented, *"Being our fourth straight year of competing in The Standard Chartered Great City Race, I can say there really is no better way of keeping fit whilst encouraging team work and cohesion amongst our 20 participating employees. We work in a fast paced environment so participating in races like this is the perfect way of balancing your lifestyle, enabling you to keep a level head in the boardroom."*



**Richard Holmes**, CEO Europe, **Standard Chartered Bank**, added *"Runner entries for this year's Standard Chartered Great City Race have closed earlier than ever before, demonstrating that the race has grown considerably in profile and status. Having taken part in the race last year, I can truly say that the event has a unique atmosphere, and is a sight to behold, with 6,500 runners pounding the streets of the City as others head home from work."*

The race supports the global initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness, Seeing as Believing (SiB), which receives £5 from each £25 entry fee. Runners are encouraged to fundraise for SiB with the added incentive that Standard Chartered Bank have pledged to match all donations pound-for-pound. The race takes place on Thursday 16 July and is a unique 5km team race which passes by some of London's most notable landmarks including the London Stock Exchange and St Paul's Cathedral.

Last year, the race attracted over 6,000 entries, raising over £75,000 for charity, and its popularity is set to soar even further this year as teams from the banking, accountancy, legal, insurance and media fields all battle it out to be crowned with their coveted industry prize. Further details about the race can be found at [www.cityrace.co.uk](http://www.cityrace.co.uk)

**- Ends -**

For hi-resolution photography and further information please contact:

**The Standard Chartered Great City Race – Press Office**

Rupert Hains: 020 7940 1700 / [rhains@capitalize.co.uk](mailto:rhains@capitalize.co.uk)  
Olivia Sharman: 020 7940 1700 / [osharman@capitalize.co.uk](mailto:osharman@capitalize.co.uk)

**[www.cityrace.co.uk](http://www.cityrace.co.uk)**

**Seeing is Believing – Press Office**

Ed Grattan: 020 7467 9320 / [ed.grattan@bisslancaster.com](mailto:ed.grattan@bisslancaster.com)



## **Notes to editors:**

### **About Standard Chartered:**

Standard Chartered PLC, listed on both London and Hong Kong stock exchanges, ranks among the top 25 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. Its income and profits have more than doubled over the last five years primarily as a result of organic growth and supplemented by acquisitions.

Standard Chartered aspires to be the best international bank for its customers across its markets. The Group derives more than 90 per cent of its operating income and profits from Asia, Africa and the Middle East, generated from its Wholesale and Consumer Banking businesses. The Group has over 1600 branches and outlets located in over 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 more than 70,000 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, please visit: [www.standardchartered.com](http://www.standardchartered.com)



### **Seeing is Believing (SiB)**

Seeing is Believing is delighted to be the beneficiary of the 2009 Standard Chartered Great City Race, receiving £5 from each £25 entry fee.

Seeing is Believing (SiB) is a global 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). IAPB is the leading umbrella organisation for NGOs working in the field of eye care. Together with the World Health Organisation, it launched 'Vision 2020: The Right to Sight', a global campaign to eliminate avoidable blindness by 2020.

To date, Seeing is Believing has raised over US\$ 17 million for blindness initiatives and plans to invest a further US\$ 20 million by 2014. Seeing is Believing is the single largest contributor to the development of Vision 2020 programmes through IAPB.

As part of the Seeing is Believing programme, Standard Chartered pledges to match all donations until the target of US\$ 20 million is reached. This will double the impact of all funds raised. Please visit [www.seeingisbelieving.org.uk](http://www.seeingisbelieving.org.uk)



**Hollis** WINNER  
SPONSORSHIP AWARDS: **2008**

The 2007 Standard Chartered Great City Race was the recipient of the Corporate Sponsorship Award at the 2008 Hollis Sponsorship Awards

