



MEDIA INFORMATION

Wednesday 13th July, 2011

RECORD NUMBERS OF CITY WORKERS SET TO HIT THE STREETS OF LONDON FOR THE STANDARD CHARTERED GREAT CITY RACE

With this year's Standard Chartered Great City Race now a little over 24 hours away, record numbers of London's City workers across the Square Mile are undergoing their final preparations for the 5km corporate running challenge, which starts at 19.15 at The Honourable Artillery Company (HAC) tomorrow evening.

This year's race has attracted a maximum field of 6,500 runners in record time, selling out a full two months in advance. The event, which is designed to get London's workers out from behind their desks, get fit and be active, will be raising money for Seeing is Believing, Standard Chartered's global initiative that tackles avoidable blindness.

With over 400 Standard Chartered staff running for the cause, and with £5.00 from every runner's entry being donated to the initiative, the race aims to raise enough money to improve the eyesight of 6,500 children. The impact which the race will be able to make for visually impaired children will be doubled with Standard Chartered pledging to match all donations pound-for-pound.

This year's race line-up has attracted nearly 400 companies from the banking, insurance, legal, accountancy and media sectors who will be cheered on by Seeing is Believing ambassador and race starter Sir Ranulph Fiennes OBE. Sir Ranulph will be joined by Paralympic legend and visually impaired athlete Noel Thatcher MBE who will be running alongside Standard Chartered's CEO Europe, Richard Holmes, to help raise awareness of Seeing is Believing.

Speaking ahead of tomorrow's race **Richard Holmes**, Standard Chartered Bank CEO Europe said, "With the race having once again sold out in record time it emphasises how The Standard Chartered Great City Race is firmly established as one of the highlights of the corporate sporting calendar in the City."

"Standard Chartered would like to thank everyone who is taking part this year and for having played their part in helping raise money and awareness for Seeing is Believing. We wish everyone the very best of luck for tomorrow and look forward to seeing you at the finish line."

Now in its seventh year, the race will have a first time runner in "Sir SiB" – a specially designed tortoise mascot costume which is being worn by Standard Chartered's Morris Blomthenthal, Head of Legal Europe to help further raise the profile of Seeing is Believing.

To find out more about Seeing is Believing and the race please visit www.facebook.com/standardcharteredsgrace and for further media information please visit www.cityrace.co.uk

-Ends-



For further information and hi-res visuals please contact:

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

Standard Chartered PLC is a leading international bank, listed on the London, Hong Kong and Mumbai stock exchanges. It has operated for over 150 years in some of the world's most dynamic markets and earns more than 90 per cent of its income and profits in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. This geographic focus and commitment to developing deep relationships with clients and customers has driven the Bank's growth in recent years.

With 1,700 offices in 70 markets, Standard Chartered offers exciting and challenging international career opportunities for around 85,000 staff. It 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. The Bank's heritage and values are expressed in its brand promise, 'Here for good'. For more information on Standard Chartered, please visit www.standardchartered.com

About Seeing is Believing (SiB)

Seeing is Believing (SiB) is a major global public-private initiative to help tackle avoidable blindness. It is collaboration between Standard Chartered, the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) (registered charity, No. 1100559) and leading international 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\$32 million and impacted over 23 million people to date, including over 2.78 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

Key stats:

- **285 million people worldwide are either blind or visually impaired and 90% of them live in developing countries.**
- **80% of blindness and visual impairment can be avoided or cured.**
- **Standard Chartered and its staff have been supporting this cause since 2003 and have raised over USD32 million.**
- **You can help us eliminate avoidable blindness by making a donation. A little goes a long way. Just £9 will buy a child a pair of glasses.**
- **Standard Chartered will match your donation, doubling the impact of your generosity.**

Timings:

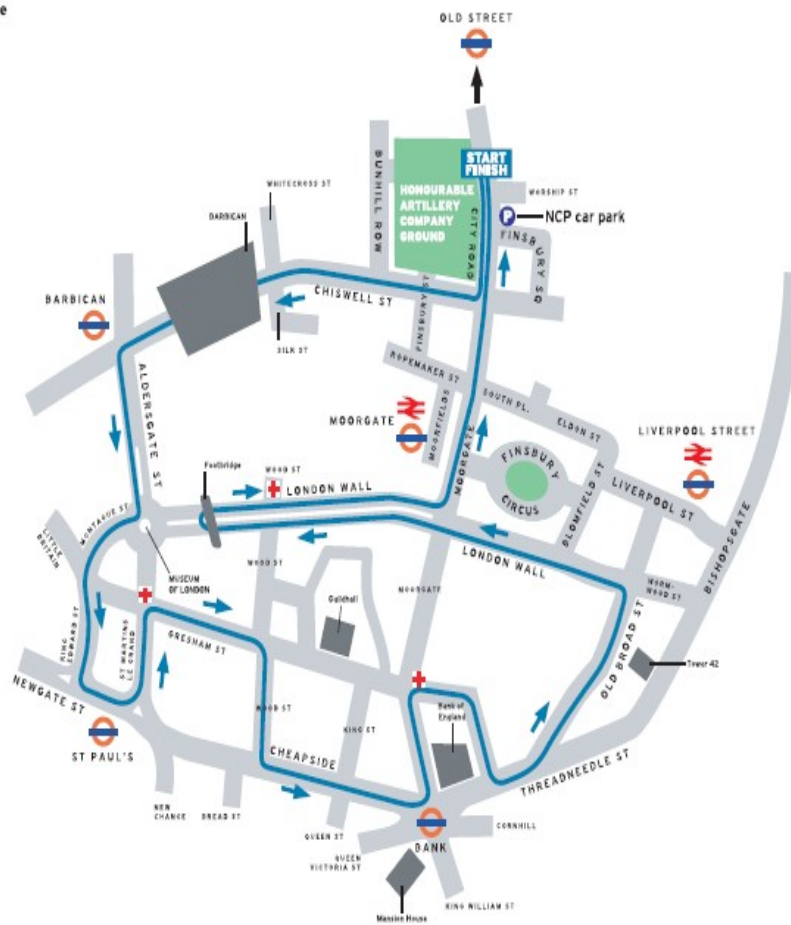
- 17:15 – 18: 30 Race Ambassadors available for media interviews at the HAC ground.
- 18:40 – Race warm up on the stage of the HAC field
- 18:50 – Race warm up finishes
- 19:00 – Runners move to the start line
- 19:10 – Pre-race speech
- 19:15 – Race starts
- 20:15 – Prize giving on the stage of the HAC field

Venue Information:

The race will start and finish at the Honorable Artillery Company (HAC) Ground.

The race route is shown below:

STANDARD CHARTERED GREAT CITY RACE 2011
Version 2 - 27th June
Subject to final measure



The address of the HAC Ground is: **City Road, London, EC1Y 2BQ**