

1st April 2009

Subject: Discontinuation of Existing Cheque Standard

The Bank of Thailand (the "BOT") is mandating a new cheque standard format and cheque clearing system called "Imaged Cheque Clearing and Archive System (ICAS System)" in 2009, for the purpose of cheque clearing and settlement in Thailand. Cheque images will be exchanged between commercial banks replacing the current physical cheque exchange arrangements for cheque clearing and settlement. The new ICAS system will be fully operational in December 2009

According to the above mandate, the BOT has instructed all commercial banks in Thailand to amend the format of current physical cheques to ensure that it will comply with the new ICAS system. Hence from May 2009 onwards, all new cheques will be printed on a new standard security paper with common watermark to enhance the security of the cheques.

We are pleased to advise that cheques with the new standard shall be available from 7th April 2009 onwards. Please note that you may still continue to use your existing cheque stock until November 2009. However from 1st December 2009 onwards, your old cheque stock may not be accepted by commercial banks in Thailand for clearing.

Should you need further information, please kindly contact us at 0-2673-7722.
For Premier customer please contact us at 0-2614-4747 or 001-800-2614-4747.

Yours faithfully
The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited