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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Manchester United S.E.A. Supporters' Club And United Overseas Bank Limited Launch Co-Brand VISA**

*Guaranteed Tickets To The Asian Tour 2001 Game In Singapore  
For Manchester United-UOB VISA Cardmembers*

**Singapore, 2 March 2001** - Manchester United South-East Asia Supporters' Club (MUSC) and United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) unite today to launch the region's first football Supporters' Club co-brand credit and debit cards. Amongst other benefits, the first 5,000 Cardmembers will be guaranteed the priority to purchase a pair of tickets to watch Manchester United play 'live' at the National Stadium on 24 July 2001. Upon purchase, they will also receive a complimentary ticket to watch the team's training session on 23 July 2001.

This game is the middle leg of Manchester United's pre-season three-city Asian Tour 2001 and Manchester United's first in Singapore since 1986.

The strategic alliance presents the co-brand Cards, called the Manchester United-UOB VISA Credit Card and the Manchester United-UOB VISA Electron Card, which uniquely confers Cardmembers with two distinct benefits:

- Official MUSC membership status and privileges
- UOB VISA Credit Card or UOB VISA Electron Card facilities and other benefits.

The first 5,000 successful applicants, who sign up for either the co-brand Credit Card or VISA Electron Card between 4 and 23 March 2001, will be guaranteed a pair of tickets to the coveted game. These new members as well as existing MUSC members will be given PRIORITY to purchase tickets between 9 and 19 April 2001, before they go on sale to the public.

Mr Nash Benjamin, Chief Executive Officer of Manchester United (S.E.A.) Pte Ltd (MUSEA) said, "We are extremely pleased to partner one of Singapore's leading banks to offer a unique product which combines Supporters' Club membership privileges and credit facilities for those who qualify and are 21 years and above. Together with UOB, we will continuously upgrade our services with additional product enhancements and features, so that eventually there will be just a single card for members."

"We are delighted that the first team will be visiting Singapore, and that our Supporters will get to see their team in action at our very own National Stadium. Existing Supporters and those who apply for the Card within the qualifying period will also be given a complimentary ticket to the training session on 23 July, the day before the actual match," he said.

He added, "We are also planning a store appearance by the players and invites will be extended to members only on a ballot basis."

Said Mr Francis Hsu, Senior Vice President of UOB Card Centre, "Soccer is one of the most popular sports in Singapore. With Manchester United South-East Asia Supporters' Club's presence in Singapore, its popularity can only grow. We are pleased to be able to launch with Manchester United South-East Asia a unique membership programme that cuts across all ages. For the first time, we are providing both a UOB VISA Credit Card and a UOB VISA Electron Card, targeting Credit Cardmembers as well as the younger Supporters at the same time."

Added Mr Hsu, "The Manchester United-UOB VISA Cards are designed with the Supporters in mind. By leveraging on both our companies' strengths, we are able to provide a distinctive card with very relevant value-added services. The benefits of holding the Manchester United-UOB VISA Card extend beyond football. Cardmembers will also enjoy a better banking relationship with UOB; they will be offered discounts on premiums for general insurance cover, Internet banking facilities, specially priced travel packages, and many other advantages."

### **Apply Now**

Credit Card applicants of the Manchester United-UOB VISA Card have a choice of either a Classic Card or a Gold Card. The annual membership fee is S\$88 for the former and S\$128 for the latter. Those interested in applying for the Manchester United-UOB VISA Card, but are below the age of 21 years, can apply for the Manchester-United UOB VISA Electron Card. To use the Card, they need to be a UOB account holder and subscribe to an annual membership fee of S\$68.

Upon approval of their application, they can look forward to receiving a welcome kit, worth over S\$100, comprising a Manchester United Polo shirt, exclusive Manchester United merchandise, a dining voucher and a retail voucher redeemable at the Manchester United Store located at Orchard Parade Hotel. All these benefits are over and above special privileges accorded to members of the Supporters' Club such as access to match tickets at Old Trafford, priority booking for limited edition items and shopping and dining privileges.

To be guaranteed the priority to purchase match tickets, applicants must sign up by 23 March 2001 (limited to the first 5,000 successful applicants).

Existing Supporters' Club members have an option to convert to the co-brand VISA Card at no additional cost. They will only be billed the relevant Card fee upon expiration of their Card.

### **How To Apply**

Those interested in applying for the Manchester United-UOB VISA Cards can do so by filling up the application forms in The Sunday Times and The Straits Times. Application forms are also available online at [www.uobgroup.com](http://www.uobgroup.com), any UOB Group branch in Singapore and the Manchester United Store or the Red Caf 鰻/P>

### **About The Game**

The Manchester United pre-season three-city Asian Tour opens in Kuala Lumpur and culminates in the game in Bangkok.

As part of the middle leg of the Asian Tour, the Red Devils will play to an expected crowd of 54,000 at the National Stadium. Tickets will be priced at S\$60, S\$90, S\$110, with concession tickets to students at S\$10. One hundred complimentary tickets will be provided for the underprivileged and their chaperons.

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