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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Demir Bank wins Best Retail Bank in Kyrgyz Republic for 2013

- **Gain of market shares in mortgages and deposits**
- **Growth of retail revenue by 33%**
- **Retail customers increased by 34.5%**

Seoul, March 22nd 2013—Demir Bank won the Best Retail bank in Kyrgyz Republic for 2013. The bank received the award at The Asian Banker's International Excellence in Retail Financial Services 2013 Awards ceremony, held in conjunction with the region's most prestigious retail banking event, the Excellence in Retail Financial Services Convention. The ceremony was held at the Westin, Chosun, Seoul, South Korea on March 22nd 2013.

Demir Bank has managed to gain market shares in two of its products last year, mortgages and deposits, due to the bank's strategy to expand its retail banking business. The bank developed the front and back offices for its retail customers, as it has for its corporate customers, thus allowing more aggressive cross-selling and product offerings to the customers.

The bank also expanded its branch network domestically last year to cater to its increasing customers base which grew by 34.5% this year.

Known to be the pioneer bank in introducing new banking products and services in Kyrgyz Republic, the bank launched Virtual Credit Card in 2012, which was the first in the country. The card aimed to provide security and convenience to the customers who shopped online and thus, helping the bank to acquire higher online customers than before. Demir Bank also grew its retail revenue by 33% in 2012. As the bank constantly tries to develop and implement new banking products and services to its customers, no doubt the bank will be more successful in the future.

About 150 senior bankers from award-winning banks in 29 countries across the Asia Pacific, the Middle East, Central Asia and Africa attended the glittering event that recognises their efforts in bringing superior products and services to their customers. The awards programme, administered by The Asian Banker and refereed by prominent global bankers, consultants and academics, is the most prestigious of its kind.

A stringent three-month evaluation process based on a balanced and transparent scorecard used to determine the winners and the positions of various retail banks in the region is attached.

About The Asian Banker

The Asian Banker is the region's most authoritative provider of strategic business intelligence to the financial services community. The Singapore-based company has offices in Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong and Shanghai as well as representatives in London, New York and San Francisco. It has a business model that revolves around three core business lines: publications, research services and forums. The company's website is www.theasianbanker.com

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Evaluation Criteria for Excellence in Retail Financial Services Programme

The Excellence in Retail Financial Services Programme was instituted in 2001 to recognise the pursuit of excellence amongst retail financial institutions in the region. The programme is also a repository of evolving best practices from which players can benchmark their own products and processes over the long term.

The Excellence in Retail Financial Services programme is predicated by the belief statement below.

Core Belief:

“We believe that a well-run retail bank is one that demonstrates a long term, sustainable, profitable franchise with the customer as its core proposition.”

As per the belief, an outstanding player in the retail financial services industry should demonstrate the following attributes:

- 1. Outstanding annual performance of the retail banking unit**
- 2. Sustainability as a franchise over a long period of time and across economic cycles**
- 3. A well-defined franchise in the chosen marketplace**
- 4. Transparency and accountability of business model**
- 5. Clear sales and execution skills at the product level**
- 6. Rigorous risk management capabilities**
- 7. Superior business and operational processes and technology**
- 8. Strong penetration and efficiency of distribution channels**
- 9. Focus on developing human resources to support the bank’s strategy**
- 10. Ethical banking**

In addition, we have developed stringent evaluation criteria for each product or process. The decision-making process we use for these prestigious awards is made as transparent as possible so that banks in the region can understand where they stand as sustainable retail franchises, as well as use the process to re-examine their own products and processes.

Further information on the programme can be found at The Asian Banker website, Awards Programme, at www.theasianbanker.com.

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