

**For Immediate Release**

## **BEA Launches Capital Guaranteed AUD/USD Double No Touch Currency Linked Deposit – Series 8 (USD) & Series 9 (HKD)**

**Hong Kong, 15<sup>th</sup> August, 2005** – The Bank of East Asia (“BEA”) today announces the launch of Capital Guaranteed AUD / USD Double No Touch Currency Linked Deposit – Series 8 (USD) & Series 9 (HKD) (the “Linked Deposit”).

The Linked Deposit provides 100% principal protection plus an opportunity to earn a maximum Potential Coupon of 10.00% p.a. (Series 8) / 8.75% p.a. (Series 9) depending on the performance of AUD/USD in the coming year. Even if no Potential Coupon is payable, a minimum Coupon equal to 1.125% p.a. (Series 8) / 1.00% p.a. (Series 9) will be guaranteed at maturity. The offering period will be from 15<sup>th</sup> August to 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2005. Investors will be awarded gift coupons for varied subscription amounts placed.

The Coupon mechanism of the Linked Deposit is straightforward. If the Spot Price of AUD / USD always trades within the First Range at all times during the 1-Year Observation Period, investors will receive a Potential Coupon as high as 10.00% p.a. (Series 8) / 8.75% p.a. (Series 9) at maturity. If the Spot Price of AUD / USD always trades within the Second Range (even if it trades outside the First Range), investors will receive a Potential Coupon of 6.75% p.a. (Series 8) / 5.75% p.a. (Series 9); and if the Spot Price of AUD / USD always trades within the Third Range (even if it trades outside the First and Second Ranges), investors will receive a Potential Coupon of 3.50% p.a. (Series 8) / 2.75% p.a. (Series 9). Under the least desirable scenario (i.e. the Spot Price of AUD / USD trades outside the Third Range during the 1-Year Observation Period), investors will still be entitled to earn a 1.125% p.a. (Series 8) / 1.00% p.a. (Series 9) Guaranteed Coupon.

The three Ranges are as follows:

<b>Range (the upper &amp; lower barriers inclusive)</b>	
The First Range	Initial Spot Price* – 0.0350 to Initial Spot Price* + 0.0350
The Second Range	Initial Spot Price* – 0.0500 to Initial Spot Price* + 0.0500
The Third Range	Initial Spot Price* – 0.0750 to Initial Spot Price* + 0.0750

\* Initial Spot Price: The exchange rate of AUD / USD (expressed in an amount of USD per AUD) as quoted at 18:00 (HK Time) on the Trade Date.

The Linked Deposit is designed for investors with a low-risk threshold and who believe that the Spot Price of AUD / USD will remain stable at all times during the 1-Year Observation Period.

Investors in the Linked Deposit do not need to pay any subscription or management fees when the Linked Deposit is placed. Overdraft facilities will also be offered at a competitive interest rate to selected investors upon request.

During the offering period from now to 29<sup>th</sup> August, 2005, investors will be entitled to receive HKD100 PARKnSHOP gift coupon for an initial subscription amount of USD20,000 (Series 8) / HKD200,000 (Series 9). An additional HKD50 PARKnSHOP gift coupon will be offered for every subsequent amount of USD10,000 (Series 8) / HKD100,000 (Series 9). The higher the subscription amount placed by investors, the more the gift coupons they will receive.

For further details, please refer to the Principal Brochure of the Capital Guaranteed AUD / USD Double No Touch Currency Linked Deposit – Series 8 (USD) & Series 9 (HKD) or visit BEA’s website at [www.hkbea.com](http://www.hkbea.com).

Details of the Linked Deposit:

Offer Period	15 <sup>th</sup> August, to 29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2005
Minimum Deposit Amount for Each Investor	USD5,000 or its multiple (Series 8) HKD50,000 or its multiple (Series 9)
Minimum Aggregate Deposit Amount for All Investors	USD10,000,000 (Series 8) HKD100,000,000 (Series 9)
Trade Date	29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2005
Settlement Date	31 <sup>st</sup> August, 2005
Determination Date & Time	29 <sup>th</sup> August, 2006 (14:00 HK Time)
Maturity Date	31 <sup>st</sup> August, 2006
Fees & Charges	No fees and charges are payable by investors. All related charges incurred by the Bank are already inherently contained in and subsumed into the calculation of the coupon rate and other variables under the Linked Deposit.

Risk Factors:

1. This Linked Deposit is not the same as nor should it be treated as a substitute for normal time deposits.
2. Investors should note that this Linked Deposit does not allow early redemption. Investors have to hold the Linked Deposit until maturity.
3. The potential risk is that if the Spot Price of AUD / USD has ever traded outside the Third Range during the 1-Year Observation Period, investors will only receive the Guaranteed Coupon.
4. Capital Guaranteed AUD / USD Double No Touch Currency Linked Deposit – Series 8 (USD) is denominated in USD. Investors who wish or intend to convert the Deposit Amount and / or any coupon into a different currency (e.g. Hong Kong Dollar) are subject to the relevant foreign exchange risk.
5. Investors should fully understand about all the risks associated with the Linked Deposit before making an investment decision.
6. Investors should seek independent legal and financial advice.

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