

**For Immediate Release**

## **BEA-USA Opens Two New Branches in Los Angeles County and South San Francisco, California**

**Hong Kong, 28<sup>th</sup> February 2008** – The Bank of East Asia (“BEA”) today announces that its wholly owned U.S. subsidiary, The Bank of East Asia (U.S.A.) N.A. (“BEA-USA”), has opened two new branches, one in San Gabriel and another in South San Francisco, California. With the opening of the two branches, BEA-USA now operates 12 branches in the U.S.

The San Gabriel Branch is located at 168 West Valley Boulevard, San Gabriel in Los Angeles County and the South San Francisco Branch is located at 235 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco. Both locations are in the main retail and commercial districts of Asian communities. The opening of the two new branches today will enable BEA-USA to extend its reach to residents and businesses in and around these vibrant communities.

BEA-USA’s San Gabriel Branch and South San Francisco Branch provide a full range of banking services, including account & deposit services, residential and commercial mortgages, commercial loans, small business loans, trade finance, and remittance services.

### **About The Bank of East Asia (U.S.A.) N.A.**

Headquartered in New York, BEA-USA is a full service, relationship-oriented community bank that provides comprehensive retail banking, commercial banking, and trade finance services in New York City and the Greater Los Angeles and San Francisco areas. BEA-USA had total assets of US\$723 million as of 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007 and currently operates 12 branches. The network includes three branches in the New York City boroughs of Manhattan, Brooklyn, and Queens; five branches in the Los Angeles County cities of Alhambra, City of Industry, Temple City, Torrance, and San Gabriel; and four branches in the San Francisco area.

Combining highly accessible, personalised service with the resources and expertise of BEA’s international operations, BEA-USA offers a wide range of products and services beyond the capabilities of most local community banks. For more information on BEA-USA, please visit its homepage at [www.hkbea-beausa.com](http://www.hkbea-beausa.com).

## About The Bank of East Asia

Incorporated in Hong Kong in 1918, BEA is dedicated to providing comprehensive retail and commercial banking services to its customers in Hong Kong, Greater China, and overseas. BEA is the largest independent local bank in Hong Kong, with total consolidated assets of HK\$394 billion (US\$50.51 billion) as of 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007. The Bank is listed on the Stock Exchange of Hong Kong and is one of the constituent stocks of the Hang Seng Index.

With more than 200 outlets worldwide, BEA operates an extensive international network covering Hong Kong and Greater China, the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, the British Virgin Islands, and Southeast Asia. For more information on BEA, please visit any BEA branch or the Bank's homepage at [www.hkbea.com](http://www.hkbea.com).

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***BEA – Serving customers through one of Hong Kong's largest banking networks, with over 130 branches and SupremeGold Centres around town***