

News Release

8 May 2012

HSBC VIETNAM LAUNCHES MANUFACTURING PURCHASING MANAGERS' INDEX™ (PMI™)

HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. – HSBC Vietnam provides the Manufacturing *Purchasing Managers' Index*™ (PMI™) in Vietnam – an early indication of manufacturing sector operating conditions in Vietnam. PMIs are among the most closely watched surveys in the world and are essential must-have data for economic analysts, financial market players and other decision makers such as central banks that require early indicators of changing market conditions when setting interest rates.

The HSBC Vietnam Manufacturing PMI™ compiled by Markit is based on data compiled from monthly replies to questionnaires sent to purchasing executives in around 400 manufacturing companies. The survey, produced by Markit on behalf of HSBC, has been conducted since April 2011 and provides an early indication of manufacturing sector operating conditions in Vietnam. The panel is stratified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) group and company size based on industry contribution to Vietnamese manufacturing GDP. Survey responses reflect the change, if any, in the current month compared to the previous month based on data collected mid-month. For each of the indicators the “Report” shows the percentage reporting each response, the net difference between the number of higher/better responses and lower/worse responses, and the “diffusion” index. The index is the sum of the positive responses plus a half of those responding “the same”. Readings above 50.0 signal an improvement in business conditions on the previous month while readings below 50.0 show deterioration.

“HSBC is delighted to launch the PMI index in Vietnam. PMI survey data in the manufacturing industries provide a timely and useful insight into producers’

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developments. This index will earn immense recognition from economists and forecasters because of the report's early and accurate portrayal of the health of the manufacturing sector of the economy. We hope this can be a useful forecasting tool in understanding Vietnam's economic activity and we believe investors will use this index to make optimal strategic decisions," said Mr. Sumit Dutta, CEO of HSBC Vietnam.

The Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI™) is a composite index based on five of the individual indexes: New Orders, Output, Employment, Suppliers' Delivery Times, Stock of Items Purchased.

Purchasing Managers' Index™ surveys are now available for 36 countries and also for key regions including Eurozone. They are the most closely-watched business surveys in the world, favoured by central banks, financial markets and business decision makers for the ability to provide up-to-date, accurate and often unique monthly indicators of economic trends.

HSBC has partnered with Markit Economics, a leading independent financial information service company to produce the PMI for 18 countries.

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Notes to Editors:

1. HSBC Vietnam

HSBC has been in Vietnam for 140 years – the Bank first opened an office in Saigon (now Ho Chi Minh City) in 1870. HSBC was the first foreign bank to launch its locally incorporated entity on 1 January 2009 as HSBC Bank (Vietnam) Ltd. The Bank's current network includes one transaction centre, one branch and five transaction offices in Ho Chi Minh City, one branch, three transaction offices and one deposit office in Hanoi, and four full-service branches in Binh Duong, Can Tho, Da Nang and Dong Nai provinces and one representative office in Hai Phong and one representative office in Vung Tau. HSBC is one of the largest foreign banks in the country in terms of investment capital, network, product range, staff and customer base.

2. The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited

The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited is the founding and a principal member of the HSBC Group which, with 7,200 offices in 85 countries and territories and assets of US\$2,556 billion at 31 December 2011, is one of the world's largest banking and financial services organisations.

3. Markit

Markit is a leading, global financial information services company with over 2,300 employees. The company provides independent data, valuations and trade processing across all asset classes in order to enhance transparency, reduce risk and improve operational efficiency. Its client base includes the most significant institutional participants in the financial market place. For more information please see www.markit.com or email economics@markit.com
