

Bank hosts Somerset celebration

(Hamilton, Bermuda, 29 April 2005) Senior Bank of Bermuda managers and Bank staff hosted a reception at the Bank's Somerset branch last evening for over 200 customers in celebration of the completion of the branch's recent extensive renovations. Since the amalgamation with HSBC in February last year the Bank's Head Office branch on Front Street and their branches in St. George's and Somerset have undergone significant transformations, to make banking more convenient for their customers.

The Bank's West End branch has been dramatically improved through renovations to the building including, wheel chair access from the parking lot to the front entrance and roofs above the ATM and door entrances to protect customers from the rain. New cedar entrance doors have been installed and the traditional Bermuda wooden windows have been restored to preserve the unique Bermudian look of the building. Internally, the branch has had new plumbing, electricals, ceilings, carpeting and furniture installed. Fresh paint on the internal and external walls adds the finishing touches.

Richard Brown, Head of Personal Financial Services was on hand at the reception to meet and greet the Bank's West End customers, "The renovations have made a tremendous difference to the overall look and feel of the branch. These improvements reflect the Bank's commitment to the Somerset community and will make banking at our Somerset Branch more enjoyable for our customers."

Somerset Branch Manager, Leslieann Henschke said that both customers and staff have expressed positive comments on the changes, "Customers are very pleased with the modernisation of the branch and with the improved décor and facilities. They have been highly complementary of the changes and

find the facilities more convenient to use. The changes have instilled a sense of pride in our staff and we are all looking forward to servicing our customers in our new, fresh environment.”

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Notes to Editors:

- Founded in 1889, Bank of Bermuda is the leading provider of fund administration, trust, custody, asset management and banking services in Bermuda. Since 2004 it has been a wholly owned indirect subsidiary of HSBC Holdings plc.
- Further information on Bank of Bermuda can be found at www.bankofbermuda.bm
- Further information on HSBC can be found at www.hsbc.com

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