

Press Release

The Circle
MAURITIUS



Mauritius, 7th August 2006: The Deutsche Bank Mauritius 100km Cycle Tour 2006 is officially launched at The Black Steer on Monday, 7th August 2006 in the presence of the Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications, the Honourable Xavier Luc Duval.

The event, which last year attracted a total of 820 riders, 167 of whom were from overseas, will take place on Sunday 8th October and starts from Le Preskil Hotel, continuing along the east coast and finishing at Mon Choisy.

Last year's winner, Nicolas White of South Africa, and fellow Microsoft team members are scheduled to return to defend their title and considerable interest is being shown by South African cyclists as the word spreads about the attraction of the Mauritius tour. SA Sports station, DSTV, is already promoting the tour and anchorman Arnie Gertz and Andrew McLean have pledged to return to Mauritius to cover the event.

The race, which has an underlying charitable objective to raise funds for local needy causes, is organised jointly by The Circle and the Federation Mauricienne de Cyclisme (FMC).

This year's race chairman, Barry Haarhoff, was the instigator of the Mauritius Tour. *"This race is based on the famous Argus which takes place annually in Johannesburg. That event started modestly with a few hundred cyclists and has now grown to 36,000. Our own event here in Mauritius attracted 800*

enthusiasts last year and this year we are hoping to top 1250. Of course, we couldn't do this without the support of our sponsors and we are delighted that our lead sponsor, Deutsche Bank has agreed to partner us again in 2006."

Javeed Ameen of Deutsche Bank commented, "We are delighted to be working with The Circle and the FMC. This event goes from strength to strength with increasing numbers of entries from both local and overseas sportsmen and women. For many of the visitors they have the opportunity to combine participating in their chosen sport with a short holiday in Mauritius."

Haarhoff agrees, "We have been talking with the airlines who are putting on some additional flights especially to enable visitors to participate in the Deutsche Bank Tour."

Entry forms are now available from local cycling outlets and supermarkets. Non-residents can enter online by going on to the website. www.cycletour.mu and click on to the Cycle Events logo and pay by credit card.

Entrants can compete on racing bikes or mountain bikes in male, female and veteran categories and there is a corporate challenge open to teams of five, none of whom may be licensed cyclists. Junior cyclists must be 13 years of age to take part and a time limit of six hours is set for the course. Last year's winner, Nicolas White, completed in 2hr 17m 29s!

Ends.

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Notes to editors

- 1 The Deutsche Bank Mauritius 100km Cycle Tour will take place on Sunday 8th October 2006, starting from Le Preskil Resort Hotel in Mahebourg, finishing at Mon Choisy Beach
- 2 Deutsche Bank (Mauritius) Limited was established in Mauritius in 1999 and is part of Deutsche Bank's Offshore group which has offices in Cayman, Guernsey and Jersey. More information is available from the Offshore Group's website: www.dboffshore.com.
- 3 The International Financing Review (IFR) awarded Deutsche Bank its coveted "Bank of the Year" award for 2005. IFR Asia also named Deutsche Bank, Bank of the Year in Asia.
- 4 The Circle was formed almost sixteen years ago and consists of forty businessmen who meet once a month for fellowship and to organize fund raising events for the benefit of charities in Mauritius.
- 5 The Cycle Tour, the brainchild of local businessman and cycling enthusiast, Barry Haarhoff, was first established in Mauritius in 1999 and is run in association with the Federation Mauricienne de Cyclisme. The idea is based on the successful South African cycle race, The Argus, which started off very modestly but has grown into a major event with 36,000 cyclists participating.
- 6 How to enter: Mauritius residents must complete the entry form and mail or deliver with cash remittance to Federation Mauricienne de Cyclisme, Royal Road, Belle Rose, Mauritius or to Cycletour, c/o Rehm Grinaker, P O Box 443, Port Louis Non-residents should click on the "Cycle Events" Tab on the home page and enter via the Supercycling website. Entry forms are available from FMC and various cycling shops in Mauritius, South Africa and France
- 7 DSTV Supercycling is screened on Tuesday nights at 21h00 for the latest in the world of cycling.
- 8 Prizes will be awarded to veterans, mountain bikers and racing bikes in both male and female categories.
- 9 More information on the Tour is available from www.cycletour.mu.