

Seeing is Believing – Tanzania Expedition over Mt. Kilimanjaro by Richard Meredith-Hardy



## **Richard Meredith-Hardy's visit to Tanzania**

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2008, Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) Tanzania hosted Richard Meredith-Hardy and his team to raise awareness on the Bank's Seeing is Believing initiative. Richard is already well known to SCB as he was one of the co-pilots who flew from London to Sydney in 2007 with Miles Hilton-Barber, the first blind Microlight pilot.

Richard's visit to Tanzania included flying over Mt. Kilimanjaro and to raise awareness on our Seeing is Believing initiative. The Bank organised a press conference attended by Richard and his party - David and Janelle Barker and Mark Jackson. Media partners from key electronic and print media houses attended the event. After the press conference, Richard arranged some test flights and two courageous media partners joined him on the flights.



Richard addresses the media at the press conference.



No strings are to be left untied – Richard does a thorough final check on the plane before the test flights.



The first Courageous media partner from the Star TV is set for the flight as David Barker, Richard's co-pilot, does a final check.



Ready to fly! Richard and our Media partner cruise off for the test flight...



An aerial view of Moshi, as taken by our media partner.

## The afternoon – A visit to Mwereni Primary School...

The Moshi Branch Manager, Gaudence Shawa, organized a visit to Mwereni Primary School. This school is located about 5 kms from our Moshi Branch. The Bank has had a long and good relationship with the School given the Moshi Staff Community activities which have in the past included the School. The school has 600 children out of which 43 are blind students – 23 boys and 20 girls. The children were delighted to listen to Richard's story and adventures on the Microlight.

The Bank also donated various items such as foodstuffs, exercise books and pens. The school head teacher thanked the Bank for the donations citing that the school had been having food shortage for its boarding students who are blind and that the donations from the Bank would feed the students for the next few weeks.

## Finally...

Moshi staff hosted Richard and his team for a dinner at the Moshi Impala Hotel.



Richard plants a memorial tree at the Mwereni Primary School



A blind student shows the use of a special computer for the Blind



Students listen keenly to Richard's story...

...And the children entertained the visitors...



The donations followed next...

Richard's visit was culminated by a record flight over Mt. Kilimanjaro. This was undertaken by his friends, Mark and Eve. They managed to climb to 24,262 ft beating the existing record of 22,556 ft! Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania Limited thanks Richard and his friends for their commitment towards creating awareness on the Seeing is Believing initiative.