



Press release

Standard Chartered offers unique API connectivity solution for PickMe payments

Solution offers added convenience for PickMe driver partners through real-time connectivity

01 June, 2021, Colombo, Sri Lanka – Standard Chartered Sri Lanka announced the enhancement of its robust payment capabilities with the implementation of the country's first ever interbank instant payment API (Application Programming Interface) connectivity solution. The interface was executed for the seamless payments of PickMe, a brand of Digital Mobility Solutions Lanka (Private) Limited.

The solution consists of routing real-time fund transfers to all banks connected to the Common Electronic Fund Transfer (CEFT) clearing system, which will allow funds to be credited to the driver partners' accounts instantaneously, regardless of who they bank with. This application interfaced solution empowers driver partners to go beyond traditional banking hours, allowing the collection of funds to their respective bank accounts on a 24/7 basis, which are then ready for withdrawal through the closest ATM.

Commenting on the API solution, Roger Norton, Head of Transaction Banking Sri Lanka, said, "At Standard Chartered, we believe that innovative banking solutions are best proven when our clients are able to leap forward in their strategic business plans. Our API-driven solution provides PickMe with a transaction platform that goes beyond the boundaries imposed by traditional banking services, encouraging the inclusion of more driver partners into the financial ecosystem. We are proud to have been able to make this breakthrough with PickMe, one of the largest and most sophisticated companies in Sri Lanka."

As a result of this implementation, PickMe's driver partners can now initiate payment requests at any time instantly with a single click through the ride-share company's mobile application. The API solution also sends real-time payment updates directly to the company's in-built payment tracking tool, allowing for a complete integration throughout the payment creation and fulfilment process.

"Our driver partners are an absolute critical part of PickMe's operations and we're grateful to Standard Chartered for creating a long-term solution that caters to their financial needs, especially given the current economic situation. In addition to our existing driver partners being able to obtain their account receivables in real-time, thanks to the availability of the CEFT transfer mechanism,

our potential driver partners can also easily come on board with PickMe, Sri Lanka's number one ride-sharing application, regardless of who they bank with," said Shifaz Riyaz, Chief Financial Officer of PickMe.

Requiring zero manual intervention from the company, this API solution merges the efficiency of routing payment requests directly through the PickMe application with the real-time transaction processing of the LankaPay instant payment mechanism (CEFT).

Commenting on the Bank's real-time seamless connectivity solution for PickMe, Devaka Wijedoru, Head of Transaction Banking Implementation, Standard Chartered Sri Lanka said, "We're delighted to be able to offer this real value addition to PickMe and their loyal driver partners. By giving PickMe the real-time connection for information flow, we are able to empower drivers to manage their own payments with a single click through the app, bridging a crucial gap in service. We would like to invite other forward-thinking organisations to also take advantage of our innovative solutions and enhance their digital business operations that will not only benefit their clients, but the local community as a whole."

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For further information, please contact:

Anuk De Silva
Head of Corporate Affairs, Brand & Marketing
Standard Chartered, Sri Lanka
anuk.desilva@sc.com

Standard Chartered Sri Lanka

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About PickMe

PickMe is a software development company that specialises in providing mobility solutions, and has brought ride hailing to your fingertips via an app that enables instant ride hailing. The company is equipped with an arsenal of freelance driver partners whose vehicle types range from and are not limited to three-wheelers, mini cars, cars, vans and luxury sedans. PickMe also launched its venture PickMe food and PickMe Market which enable the customer to order and get their food and essentials delivered in record time. The company also caters to your logistical needs through their partnership of drivers with trucks. Furthermore, all these solutions to your daily needs can be found on one app. PickMe currently services the mobility needs of passengers based in the Colombo, Gampaha, Kegalle, Kurunegala, Matale, Galle, Kalutara and Kandy districts in addition to providing corporate travelling solutions to Sri Lanka's leading businesses and organisations via its Business Portal.

Furthermore, the PickMe Board of Directors represents a multitude of shareholders and consists of Ajit Gunewardene as Founder Chairman, Conrad Dias (representing LOLC PLC.), Dinesh Rodrigo (representing Interblocks Ltd.), Ruchi Gunewardene (Managing Director - Brand Finance Lanka) and Jiffry Zulfer who is the CEO of the company, managing its day to day operations.