

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BARCLAYS CELEBRATES OFFICIAL GRAND OPENING OF COLORADO SPRINGS OPERATIONS CENTER AND ANNOUNCES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Company hosts May 4th ribbon cutting celebration with local leaders, new employees

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., (May 4, 2006) - Today Barclays PLC (Barclays) announced the official grand opening of its new 69,000-square-foot Mark Dabling Boulevard operations center. Barclays announced its entrance into the Colorado Springs market in September of 2005, bringing 450 new jobs to the area. To date, Barclays has made more than 150 new hires, and anticipates continuing to add additional employees over the coming months.

To mark the occasion, Jim Stewart, President of Barclays US credit card operations and his executive team welcomed elected officials, business leaders and new employees at an official ribbon cutting ceremony at the new operations center. Colorado Springs Councilmen Jerry Heimlicher and Randall Purvis and Board Chair of the El Paso County Commissioners, Sallie Clark, made remarks during the ceremony, offering their congratulations on the new center. Also in attendance was Colorado Springs Economic Development Corporation chairman Steve Schneider, whose organization played a key role in bringing Barclays to the state

"Today's celebration is a testament to the great business climate in Colorado Springs today," said Schneider. "We're delighted that Barclays has been so successful in recruiting a solid workforce and kicking off operations at the new facility."

Barclays representatives have spent the last six months hiring qualified candidates for positions in customer care, collections, credit and fraud operations, human resources and technology.

"We're thrilled at the number of high-quality new hires we've made over the past few months," said Kelly Weaver, site director for Barclays Colorado operations center. "We've been able to build a great team that will be a great asset to both the Barclays family and the Colorado Springs community at-large."

Stewart also used the event to announce a community partnership between the Colorado Springs operations center team and the Children's Literacy Center, a local organization that provides one-to-one tutoring for children at the first through sixth grade reading level.

"Worldwide, Barclays has a long tradition of supporting the communities we serve," said Stewart. "We're looking forward to building a long and rewarding relationship with the Children's Literacy Center, providing tutors and other services to Colorado Springs students."

For more information about Barclays employment opportunities, jobseekers may call (866) 419-1011 or visit the company's dedicated employment website at www.barclaysjobs.com.

About Barclays

Barclays PLC is major global financial services provider engaged in retail and commercial banking, credit cards, investment banking, wealth management and investment management services. We are one of the largest financial services companies in the world by market capitalization. Operating in over 60 countries and employing over 113,000 people, we move, lend, invest and protect money for over 25 million customers and clients worldwide. With over 300 years of history and expertise in banking, Barclays PLC has six major businesses.

UK Banking delivers banking products and services to over 14 million retail customers and 775,000 businesses in the UK.

Barclaycard is one of the leading credit card businesses in Europe, and has 17 million cards in issue.

Barclays Capital, the investment banking division, provides corporate, institutional and government clients with solutions to their financing and risk management needs.

Barclays Global Investors is one of the world's largest asset managers and a leading provider of investment management products and services.

Wealth Management has over 580,000 affluent and high net worth clients.

International Retail and Commercial Banking is our global retail and commercial banking operation, with over 2 million international clients, in geographies which currently include the Caribbean, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy, Africa and the Middle East.