Looking for the World's Best 'Coders'

We are on a search to find the most skilled and talented developers, designers, coders and entrepreneurs in the world. To do that, today we announced the MasterCard Masters of Code competition. The intense, 10-city series of hackathons will traverse the globe – from Sydney to Silicon Valley, all to drive the development of the next generation of commerce applications.

The 2015 series kicks off in Sydney, Australia on February 7-8, followed by events in Hong Kong (March 18-19) and Singapore (March 25-26). Additional locations include cities in Brazil, Canada, Israel, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States, among others.

Sponsored and hosted by MasterCard and organized by AngelHack, the Masters of Code series features regional weekend-long events that will bring together the world's top talent to take on the APIs supplied by MasterCard. Using these APIs, developers will have access to unsurpassed assets, data and products from MasterCard focused on powering commerce on a global scale. The participating teams will compete to create innovative prototypes that demonstrate artful coding and design skills while also articulating clear business use cases.

The winning team from each region will be flown to Silicon Valley to compete in a grand hackathon. There, a MasterCard Masters of Code Champion will be crowned and will receive $100,000 seed funding to develop their innovation, in addition to the following prizes:

- Two weeks on-site at the MasterCard Start Path accelerator location in Dublin, Ireland, or an alternate remote program;
- Six months of mentoring from a member of the MasterCard Open API executive team and the Start Path program team; and,
- Free payment processing for up to $250,000 in transactions for the first 12 months using Simplify Commerce.

While in California, all winning regional teams will also be awarded a MasterCard Priceless Experience – Northern California to take place in Napa Valley and San Francisco.
Says Mario Shiliashki, group head, Open APIs: "MasterCard is the world's most advanced payments network, and the MasterCard Developer Zone is the bridge to it for developers. We

are opening up our technology to the world for a simple reason – to enable any developer to utilize our products and platforms to build the next big thing."