Sri Lankals leading blue-chip conglomerate, Aitken Spence PLC has come onboard as a lead sponsor for the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (CA Sri Lanka) to help carry out its development activities for the year.

This is the second year in a row, Aitken Spence has reposed its confidence with the country s national body of accountants, which is among the foremost and largest professional organisations in the country with a membership of 4200 chartered accountants and over 37,000 students aspiring to be chartered accountants.

The sponsorship cheque was officially handed over to CA Sri Lanka President Mr. Sujeewa Rajapakse by Aitken Spencels Deputy Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. J M S Brito recently.

The sponsorship will assist the institute to carry out its numerous educational and professional activities for the benefit of its student s, members and even professionals from non-accounting sectors throughout the year.

Welcoming Aitken Spence onboard for the year 2012, CA Sri Lanka President Mr. Sujeewa Rajapakse commended the country<sup>1</sup> s leading blue-chip conglomerate for playing an important role in assisting the Institute to conduct its activities and help advance the accounting profession further.

 $\Box$  Aitken Spence  $\Box$  s role as a lead sponsor for a second year is also an endorsement of the institute  $\Box$  s mission to continue to serve society by promoting and developing the accountancy sector continuously,  $\Box$  he said.

Aitken Spence<sup>[]</sup> s Deputy Chairman and Managing Director, Mr. J M S Brito stated that Aitken Spence with its leadership in several strategic sectors of the Sri Lankan economy is steadfast in fulfilling its responsibilities to society as a part of its commitment to sustainable business which results in shared value creation.

As an industry leader, Aitken Spence has over the years, pioneered many new innovations and best practices across many of the sectors it operates in, which has helped raise the bar of business performance in Sri Lanka. We take our responsibility to engage and contribute positively to the economy and society as a fundamental aspect of how we do business. It is in this light that we are pleased to announce our continued support to CA Sri Lanka, which is one of Sri Lanka soldest and largest professional bodies, with the aim of strengthening the country shuman capital to drive Sri Lanka selectors a sustainable path, he added.

A chartered accountant himself, Mr. Brito noted that chartered accountants have over the years played an important role in the growth and development of Aitken Spence.

Established in 1868, Aitken Spence PLC is a leading player in Hotels, Travel, Maritime Services, Logistic

Solutions and Power Generation in Sri Lanka, while the diversified conglomerate also has significant interests in Plantations, Insurance, Financial Services, IT, Printing and Garments.

Listed in the Colombo Stock Exchange since 1983, today Aitken Spence has operations in six countries spanning South Asia, the Middle East and Africa.