



Investor Survey 2016, TPP Update, \$45,000 in Raffle Prizes for Winners

FEATURES



Congratulations to Raffle Prize Winners & Thanks to Sponsors!!!

Please pick up your prizes at the AmCham Office till **July 31, 2016**.

Your winning raffle ticket stub is requested upon receiving prize.



Investor Survey 2016 - Ministry of Planning & Investment / Foreign Investment Agency

As part of its ongoing effort to support investors, the Ministry of Planning and Investment (MPI) will carry out a survey to gain an understanding of investors' perceptions about Vietnam's business environment, and the most effective investment promotion approach. The survey will provide input for MPI and other relevant organizations to improve Vietnam's business environment for investors. **Please click this link to begin the survey.**



Laws need to be revised to comply with TPP commitments

The National Assembly, the Government and agencies have a lot of work to do to put the TPP agreement into practice, and to create a new motivation for the nation during its integration process once the agreement is ratified, stated a Government official. Speaking at a conference on the TPP and its compatibility with Vietnam's laws in Hanoi on July 5, deputy head of the NA Law Committee Le Minh Thong stressed the need to establish a legal framework that conforms to the TPP.



TPP impact on Vietnam's legal reform, with focus on labor and employment

The TPP Labor Chapter and the side agreement that Vietnam signed with the United States present several significant commitments of Vietnam to reform the employment and labor law, and as a result, impact on the nature of the relationships between employers, employees and especially trade unions.

View and download the powerpoint presentation.



Big Labor in U.S. makes peace with Hillary Clinton on trade

Under pressure in the Democratic primaries, Hillary Clinton, the presumptive nominee, announced opposition to the TPP even though she was a chief proponent while serving as U.S. secretary of state in Obama's first term. White House officials view a potential lame-duck session of Congress after the November elections as a final chance for Congress to ratify the TPP. Some analysts have said they believe Clinton would not stand in the way. Trumka disagreed.



400 businesses and associations urged Congress to approve TPP ASAP

More than 400 businesses, companies and associations in 20 states sent letters to members of Congress, urging them to pass TPP as soon as possible. The letters, which attracted the support of big-name brands like Adidas and General Electric as well as groups like the National Pork Producers Council and the National Association of Manufacturers, were personalized to each state to highlight how individual markets would benefit from trade and the TPP.



NCTF, CMAA, Customs-Business Consultations in the WTO TFA

Three pre-requisites for implementing the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement and the TPP Chapter 5, Customs Administration and Trade Facilitation are to establish the institutional framework, which includes: (1) National Committee on Trade Facilitation, (2) Customs Cooperation (Customs Mutual Assistance Agreement), and (3) Government - Business Consultations on all laws and regulations affecting imports and exports. Below are details of the commitments in the TFA and the TPP.



A Romantic Getaway to Central Vietnam for Vietnam Residents

With stunning views of the East Sea and the magnificent Truong Son mountain range in the background, the tranquil and intimate Banyan Tree Lăng Cô, Central Vietnam is the perfect destination for a romantic getaway with that special someone. Indulge in an exquisite Destination Dining experience, rejuvenate with a couple spa treatment and let love blossom.

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



Aug 6 AUV Grand Opening

We are pleased to announce the Grand Opening of The American University in Vietnam. The first 100 % privately funded, nonprofit US-style university in Vietnam, AUV enjoys affiliations with US universities (including California State and State of New York campuses, Florida Institute of Technology, University of Missouri, Kansas City). AUV offers a University Prep program, General Education and pathways to degrees in Business, Hospitality Management, Communication and Computer Science at its new sea view campus in Danang. Generous inaugural year scholarships are available.



Determining individual pay rises and overall pay reviews just got easier!

Get the most up-to-date salary information and employment trends in 2016 with the 17th edition Robert Walters Global Salary Survey. It is the most comprehensive review of global recruitment trends and salaries available - ideal for benchmarking your team and organisation's salary levels.

Order a complimentary copy today



Recruit 2,200 IT professionals and promote your brands at Tech Expo 2016

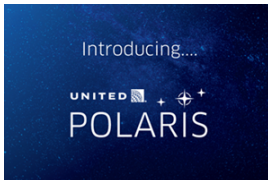
The hottest IT event of the year Tech Expo 2016 will be organized on September 17th in Hanoi and on 1st October in Ho Chi Minh City. A lot of exciting activities will be here: Job fair, Seminar, Hackathon, Technology Showcase and so much fun. Now grab your chance to present at Tech

Expo as our honored sponsors and get a lot of valuable benefits.



Attractive Early Bird Deals to U.S. from HCM City with Korean Air

Korean Air, established in 1969, is one of the world's top 20 airlines and carried more than 24 million passengers in 2012. Korean Air operates in excess of 200 flights per day to 128 cities in 45 countries on six continents with a fleet of 166 aircraft including ten A380s. With its modern airplanes and over 20,000 professional employees, Korean Air offers customers safety, convenience and comfort. Korean Air's awardwinning cuisine of Korean and Western meals and stateoftheart inflight entertainment system provide passengers ultimate satisfaction.



Introducing United Polaris, the redesigned International Business Class, en route this December

United is proud to announce our exciting and revolutionary new business class experience, redesigned from Ahh to Zzz. Named after the North Star, the brilliant point in the nighttime sky, United Polaris is the shining star of business class that flyers look to and can depend on for true comfort and a sleep experience like no other.



Summer Around The World

Planning to explore the wonders of the world? Now you can! Discover the culinary delights in Hong Kong & Japan, explore the wide open spaces and beautiful landscapes of North America or soak in the rich history & culture in the UK. Plan your dream holiday now with our July promotional fares starting from VND4M. Three easy ways to book:

- Visit: www.cathaypacific.com/vn
- Contact us: 08 3822 3203 (HCMC) | 04 3826 7298 (Hanoi) | Or your travel agent

Share life, give blood

World Blood Donor Day
Blood connects us all 14 June 2016

Jul 12-20 World Blood Donor Days 2016

The AmCham CSR Group is working with the Hospital of Hematology and Blood Transfusion and Ho Chi Minh City Humanitarian Blood Donation Center of Red Cross to organize AmCham World Blood Donor Days from July 12 to July 20 at several locations. In the last 4 years, 2,784 AmCham Donors from Ho Chi Minh City, Thu Duc and Binh Duong have donated 3,770 blood units.



AmCham welcomes New Member Companies

AmCham Vietnam - HCMC is pleased to welcome our NEW members who joined us in the last few months. We encourage you to get to know and welcome them by visiting their websites and patronizing their businesses.

Welcome New members in Jun 2016:

Ben Thanh Technology Solution Co., Ltd; iGlocal Resource JSC; Karta JSC; Li & Fung; VF Asia Limited



JOIN US: Become a Member of AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

***NEW OFFER:** Application fee will be waived for companies having a D-U-N-S® number.

Expand your business by joining us! We currently have almost 500 organizations represented by 1,000 representatives. They are multinational firms, small and medium enterprises and entrepreneurs. **Benefits include:** Networking, Information-Sharing, Advocacy and Problem Solving, visibility and Corporate Exposure.

Contact [Ms. Sam Hoang](#) for joining or additional information on membership.

Marketing Opportunities with AmCham HCMC

AmCham HCMC offers many opportunities to market your company's products and services to AmCham members, the business community and the general public. Our services include:



- Event Sponsorship
- Event Management Support
- Network (Advertise) on www.amchamvietnam.com: 646K views/yr; 275K visitors/yr (avg. 54K / 23K visitors/views per month) and **10.3K twitter followers**, 8.6K facebook fans (and 60K+ views/month) 5.5k LinkedIn followers.
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4.8k AmCham company representatives and subscribers.
AmCham Companies are offered 3 complimentary announcements a year.
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Directory
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Discount Handbook
- Advertising on AmCham Discount Online



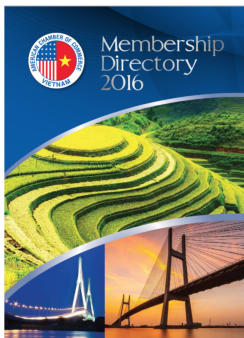
AmCham Corporate Partnership Packages

Special thanks to SUNTORY PEPSI for re-joining our 2016 Program as a Diamond Partner

The Corporate Partnership comes with a range of membership dues, event sponsorship, advertising, and exclusive benefits. One all-inclusive Corporate Partnership annual, semi-annual, or quarterly billing simplifies your businesses' sponsorship efforts. Benefits in each Partnership Package include:

- Logo on "Corporate Partners" banner on AmCham website homepage
- Logo on "Corporate Partners" banner in Weekly Update Email
- Company profile on the "Corporate Partnership" page on AmCham website
- Corporate profile on screen during cocktail reception at Members' Nights
- Special recognition/Thank You Page in Membership Directory
- Special recognition at all business events' backdrop/banner
- Special recognition in all email signatures

For full information on benefits of each package, please click [HERE](#) or contact [Cindy Tran](#).

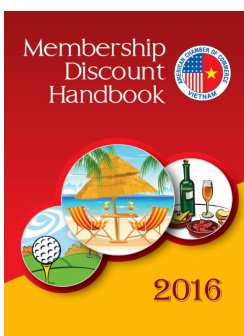


AmCham Membership Directory

The 2016 AmCham Membership Directories were distributed to all AmCham HCMC companies early May. If you have not received your copy, please kindly inform our [Membership Team](#).

Taking this chance, AmCham would like to say **Thank You** to all members who have continued to support AmCham for years, and especially to those who selected the AmCham Directory as one of your marketing channels to promote your products and services.

To help you prepare your marketing plan budget next year, please find our Advertising Rates for the **2017 Membership Directory**. This publication is scheduled to print next March/April. Again, we offer FREE advertising online for booking and payment made before December 15, 2016. Contact [Cindy Tran](#) for more details and booking.



2016 AmCham Discount Program

The AmCham Member Discounts Program is a mutually beneficial opportunity for both AmCham Members and AmCham Discount Partners. Prestigious vendors are invited to offer AmCham members special discounts on their services or products. Please contact [Ms. Sam Hoang](#)

(Members present their AmCham Membership Card to receive special, privileged discounts offered by AmCham Discount Partners. A listing of discount offers is available in the annual Membership Discount Handbook (hardcopy) and on the AmCham website at [HERE](#))

News and Issues



Conservative think-tank analyzes and supports TPP

The TPP, with its 5,500 pages of explicit rules and exemptions, is not free trade. Like all other U.S. trade agreements, the TPP is a managed trade agreement, with provisions that both liberalize and restrict trade and investment. While the Cato Institute believes comprehensive trade liberalization would be ideal, expecting the TPP to deliver complete "free trade" is unrealistic. If the TPP will deliver more trade liberalization than restriction, and realistic alternatives to more comprehensive liberalization are unavailable, why not support the TPP?

KIMBERLY-CLARK's Engineering Talent Program - 2016

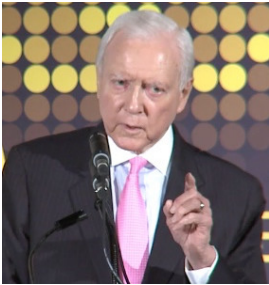


Welcome you to Kimberly-Clark where diverse people make a difference! We are looking for people who bring passion to win and a desire to make a difference. We will actively seek people from diverse backgrounds and perspectives because this will lead us to better insights, debate and solutions. People join our company to make a difference in the lives of people around the world, in their communities, in their teams and for their families.



More U.S. technical assistance for Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA)

The Senate Foreign Relations Committee approved legislation that would establish a five-year pilot program to help developing countries implement the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, which aims to cut red tape in customs and other international trade procedures. The legislation was sponsored by Chairman Bob Corker and ranking member Ben Cardin.



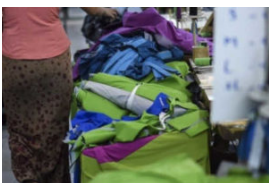
TPP: remaining issues for U.S. Congress

12 years' protection for biologics test data, financial services data flows seem to be remaining issues for U.S. Congress. Tobacco seems closed, but has cost TPP at least 13-16 votes in the House and eight or more in the Senate. In June 2015, the TPA only passed the House by 10 votes (218-208), so those lost votes will have to be made up by persuading some that voted against the TPA in June 2015.



ADB Affirms Support For Vietnam, Cautions on SOEs

The ADB anticipates growth of 6.7% in 2016 and 6.5% in 2017, but sluggish SEO reform acts as a brake on even faster expansion. ADB President Takehiko Nakao placed emphasis on Vietnam's state-owned (SEOs), many of which have turned into financial nightmares for the government. During his visit, Nakao stated that "it is particularly important to reform SEOs by reducing the state's ownership, improving corporate governance and strengthening financial performance."



2016 Fashion Industry Benchmarking Study

U.S. fashion companies are more actively seeking alternatives to "Made in China" in 2016, but China's position as the No.1 sourcing destination seems unlikely to change anytime soon. Meanwhile, sourcing from Vietnam and Bangladesh may continue to grow over the next two years, but at a slower pace.



Vietnam businesses unlikely to derive maximum TPP benefits quickly

VCCI's WTO Center said that according to an April survey 1,500 enterprises only 11.6% plan to change their production modes in the next three years to improve value added.



Starbucks opens fifth coffee shop in Hanoi

now has 20 outlets nationwide. "We look at Vietnam and we see so much potential. It's such a vibrant and exciting market," said Patricia Marques, general manager at Starbucks Vietnam at the store's opening. Starbucks' coffee is priced slightly higher than most of its local competitors. Vietnam is one of the largest coffee producers in the world, but arabica beans, which are used by Starbucks for its drinks, account for only around 3% of the country's coffee output, while robusta accounts for 97%.



Watchdog checks Uber's taxes

Authorities managed to collect Uber's share of taxes, but it was difficult to collect the drivers' share. Nguyễn Quang Tiến, director of the General Department of the Taxation's Department of Tax Reform and Modernisation, said on Tuesday that the performance of tax payment obligations by Uber's taxi drivers must now be checked first while Việt Nam needed to have policies to better tax the increasingly popular car hailing service for the income it received from its operations in Việt Nam.



"China is not a market economy" - Washington Post

After years of booming by exporting and investing, the People's Republic has begun accumulating debt and excess industrial capacity; yet the leadership in Beijing seems unwilling or unable to make the necessary transition to greater reliance on services and domestic consumption. China's bloated state-run industries, especially steel and aluminum, are desperately trying to raise cash by flooding the United States and Europe with cheap products, a global fire sale that threatens jobs in those countries, triggers retaliatory measures - and adds to geopolitical tensions already high over the maritime boundary dispute in the South China Sea.



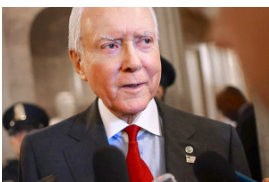
Vietnamese consumers find it hard to trust food safety management

Only 30% of consumers in Hanoi believe that foods with safety certificate are safe, according to Nguyen Thi Hong Minh, a former deputy agriculture minister. The proportion in Ho Chi Minh City is higher, at 70%.



USITC Institutes Investigation of Carbon and Alloy Steel Products

The U.S. International Trade Commission has voted to institute an investigation of certain carbon and alloy steel products from China. The complaint alleges one or more of the following unfair acts: (1) a conspiracy to fix prices and control output and export volumes, in violation of Section 1 of the Sherman Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1; (2) the misappropriation and use of U.S. Steel's trade secrets; and (3) the false designation of origin or manufacturer, in violation of the Lanham Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1125(a). The complainants request that the USITC issue a general exclusion order, a limited exclusion order, and cease and desist orders.



Finance Committee Chairman explains process of TPP ratification

The signing ceremony ... is just beginning. We'll debate the merits of each and every provision of this agreement and consider how it will impact workers and job creators in our country and how it will affect the health of our economy. I will focus on the process by which Congress will consider and debate this agreement ... it is important that people, including members of Congress, the administration, stakeholders, and the media, have a full understanding of how this is going to work. As I've said many times, the TPP is an extremely important agreement, and we need to get it done. But, given that importance, we need to focus more on getting it right than on getting it done fast.



Weekly Updates Archive 2006 - 2015

Launched in August 2006 to answer many questions about Vietnam's accession to the WTO, the Weekly Update Emails provide news updates, upcoming events, explanations of details of trade and investment agreements, developments in laws and regulations affecting the business environment in Vietnam. Click the link for to visit the archives and look back over the years. Links to more than 10,000 documents providing background on a wide variety of topics, from Vietnam's WTO Accession in 2006-2007, revision of the Labour Code in 2008-2012, to the TransPacific Partnership and WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement from 2013 and ongoing.

Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit awarded to AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

At AmCham's 20th Anniversary Celebration Dinner on September 18, 2014, Vice Chairman of HCMC People's Committee Le Thanh Liem handed the Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit to



AmCham Vietnam - HCM City and to Mr. Herb Cochran, Executive Director for their excellent performance in supporting and promoting trade and investment in Ho Chi Minh City and Vietnam.



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AmCham Vietnam | herb.cochran@amchamvietnam.com | <http://www.amchamvietnam.com>
New World Hotel Saigon #323
76 Le Lai Street, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City

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