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Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance, AmCham Supplier Day, New Housing Law

FEATURES



U.S.-backed Alliance to Facilitate Trade through Public-Private Dialogue

The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) joined the American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam and the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry to establish a new Vietnam Trade Facilitation Alliance (VTFA) through a memorandum of understanding. The private sector-led alliance will provide policy and technical assistance to the General Department of Vietnam Customs and relevant trade facilitation agencies and authorities in Vietnam to advance Vietnam's competitiveness.



AmCham Supplier Day

AmCham's Manufacturing Committee organized a "Supplier Day" to support AmCham manufacturing members' efforts to expand the list of qualified local suppliers. The event also provided an opportunity for well-qualified suppliers to meet potential AmCham customers in the manufacturing sector and to grow their business. Sponsored by Datalogic and Long Hau Industrial Park, the event attracted nearly 200 participants from both AmCham manufacturing leaders and representatives from the local supply chain. Intel Products Vietnam and Di Central Vietnam opened the event with presentations of on-line guidance for suppliers and electronic data interchange (EDI) between buyers and suppliers. In the second session, networking opportunities for both manufacturers and suppliers were offered. The key objective in the second session was to provide business conversations between AmCham manufacturers and pre-registered, screened and qualified Vietnam suppliers.

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



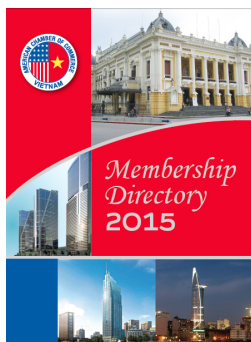
[Please click this link for List of Prize Winners and Photo Album](#)



Dec 16, The New Housing Law - Opportunities for Foreigners to Own and Invest in Residential Condominiums and Villas in Vietnam

Vietnam is preparing to take a big step forward in opening its market to foreigners wishing to buy homes, second homes or investment properties here. As of July 1, the Housing Law's new rules allowing foreign ownership of certain types of villas and condos will mark a significant advance from the past "pilot program" that offered more limited rights to foreign buyers.

This seminar aims to bring the audience up to date on the key legal and commercial aspects of foreign property ownership, its impact on the Vietnam real estate market, real estate finance, and, looking forward, even to REITs and securitization of income producing properties in real estate funds.



Renew your membership for 2015 and update your company profile in 2015 AmCham Membership Directory - published in March/April 2015

It's time to renew your membership for 2015 and continue your involvement in AmCham, with opportunities for networking, information-sharing, and marketing opportunities. By participating actively in AmCham, you can help guide and participate in communication and advocacy efforts to improve the business environment in key areas such as customs administration and trade facilitation, education and training for human capital that supports FDI, and food safety.

Renew NOW to enjoy our early bird discount on membership dues, and do not miss the opportunity to update your company profile in our 2015 Membership Directory before December 30, 2014.

Advertising spaces are available.

Please contact our [Membership Team](#) for more information on Membership Renewal/Joining and Directory.



Cathay Pacific - Exclusive for HSBC's cardholders - Special Fares to Japan

Cherry blossom season is a magical time of the year in Japan. Seas of white and pink flowers emerge from the cherry blossom trees, and sweep across the entire the country. Imagine picnicking under a blooming Sakura tree in the Land of the Rising Sun. You may lie by such a tree trying to catch glimpses of clear blue sky through gaps in the flowering canopy. Cherry blossoms will rain gently around you like magical pink precipitation from heaven. It is a once in a life time experience.

With this special promotion from Cathay Pacific, your dream holiday is just one-click away.

Moevenpick Hotel Saigon - Taste of USA Promotion with Harley Davidson

Events and decorations will be from January 6th to January 30th.

Click [HERE](#) for more information.

Moevenpick Hotel Saigon | 253 Nguyen Van Troi Street | Ho Chi Minh | Vietnam



Tel: +84 8 3844 9222 | Email: hotel.saijon@moevenpick.com



Merry Christmas from Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon

Every year, the Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon opens the Festive House - an exclusive collection of gourmet treats to celebrate Christmas and New Year. Take the smell and taste of tradition to home with our delicious delicacies offered. Indulge yourself or shop for gifts for family and friends from our range of beautiful hampers and packages.

For more information, please click [HERE](#)

AirlineRatings.com Ranks EVA 7th of World's Top-10 Airlines for 2015 Website's experts also rate EVA Best Long-Haul Airline Asia/Pacific



The website's editors also honored EVA with one of its coveted Excellence Awards, rating it as the Best Long-Haul Airline Asia/Pacific among carriers based in the region. The website, led by editors recognized worldwide for their expertise in the airline industry, released its latest ratings on 2 Dec., 2014. More about the site, its ratings and criteria are available at AirlineRatings.com. Travelers can learn more about EVA and its commitment to quality service and safety at this website.



Book early and save!

It is a time of celebration that we look forward to every year. Celebrate the festive season and share memorable moments with loved ones or work colleagues at Duxton Hotel Saigon.



GET SOCIAL AND GET HIRED - Use the power of networking to advance your career

[Lee Hecht Harrison](#) recently published a research article on the importance of social networking in job search and career management. Social networks offer a significant amount of career opportunity - no matter what your level, function, age, or career goals, you will want to use social networks to create a professional online presence, grow and manage networking contacts. Lee Hecht Harrison is a global consultancy firm focused on delivering Outplacement, Leadership Development, Employee Engagement and Change Management solutions for organizations committed to developing their best talent and becoming employers of choice.



Instant Credibility for Your Business with D-U-N-S® Registered™ Seal Program

D&B suite of D-U-N-S® Registered Solution (DRS) is created to support global business expansion by providing a D-U-N-S Number and a "trust seal" called D-U-N-S® Registered embedded with an electronic mark displayed on company website. A click on the seal displays information about your company that has been VERIFIED & VALIDATED by an independent, reliable source, Dun & Bradstreet (D&B), a name trusted by millions worldwide for over 170 years. Click [HERE](#) for more information.

AmCham Member Discounts Program

The AmCham Member Discounts Program is provided as one of our Membership Benefits. It serves as a mutually beneficial opportunity for both AmCham Members and AmCham Discount Partners. Members must 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.



Dec 17, Year-end HR Networking Event - Manage and Support Female Workforce

Strategy to manage and motivate female employees in the workplace has become a top priority in many companies. You are invited to the AmCham HR Committee event where our Panelists will share their experience and insights about working with women workforce, as well as share best practices on managing and supporting female workforce successfully. This is also the year-end networking event of the AmCham HR Committee where we look back and celebrate what has been achieved this year and prepare for a better 2015.

Networking 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 AmCham's website: plus 7.1k twitter followers, 5.5k facebook fans
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4,500+ AmCham company representatives and subscribers.

AmCham Member Companies are offered 3 complimentary announcements in 2014.

- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Directory
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Discount Handbook
- Advertising on AmCham Discount Online

News and Issues Updates



World Bank: Taking Stock; Recent Economic Developments in Vietnam, Dec 2014

The performances of foreign-invested and domestic firms remain dichotomous. The foreign-invested sector continues to be a significant source of growth, and accounts for nearly 20 percent of GDP, 22 percent of total investment, supplies two thirds of merchandise exports and provides a quarter of employment in the enterprise sector. Vietnam's manufacturing sector continues to be the main draw for foreign investors: manufacturing accounts for 70 percent of registered FDI. At the same time, a rising number of domestically-owned businesses have been closing or suspending operations.



Ted Osius: "Xin chào các bạn ... tôi là đại sứ mới của Hoa Kỳ tại Việt Nam"

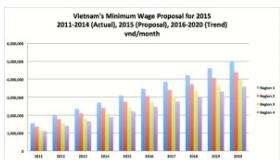
This is a dream come true for me. Early in my career I had the privilege of supporting Pete Peterson, the first U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam following normalization, as he laid the foundation for a new relationship between our two nations. I represented Vice President Al Gore on the team that prepared a bilateral trade agreement with Vietnam, and I accompanied President Bill Clinton on his historic visit in 2000.

I will strive to strengthen the ties that bind our peoples. Those linkages between people are central to the Comprehensive Partnership launched by President Obama and President Sang last year. Educational exchange is a good example; already 16,000 Vietnamese study in the United States. Trade is another key element of the relationship. Two-way trade continues to grow - from \$451 million in 1995 to nearly \$30 billion last year. The successful conclusion of the high-standard Trans-Pacific Partnership agreement will further deepen this trade and strategic relationship, bringing Vietnam into a community of nations that contributes 40% of world GDP.

New law widens foreign home ownership rights



The revised Law on Housing was the most liberal policy yet in terms of home-ownership rights for foreign individuals and organizations. One of the largest changes was that properties owned by foreigners could be sub-leased, traded, inherited and used as collateral. This marked a major change on the previous policy that restricted ownership to purely being used as habitation. ...



Vietnam's Minimum Wage Adjustment for 2015 Announced

The proposed Minimum Wage Adjustment for 2015, the second since the establishment of the National Wage Council under the revised Labour Code of 2012, is about 15.1%. It will go into effect on Jan 1, 2015. The proposed MW in Region 1 for 2015 would be 3.1 million vnd/month. If present trends continue, the minimum wage in Region 1 will be about 5 million vnd/month in 2020.



AmCham Vietnam - HCMC received Prime Minister's Certificates of Merit

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.

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