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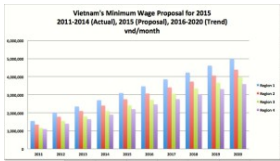
West Coast Port Dispute Continues, 2015 Minimum Wage, Governors' Ball

FEATURES



White House leaves it up to West Coast ports and workers; won't intervene

The White House is monitoring the disagreement, which so far has resulted in a work slowdown by dockworkers at ports from San Diego to the Canadian border, and doesn't plan to step in to force a resolution. Without a nudge from the White House to use a federal mediator to resolve differences as the East Coast and Gulf ports did last year, the two sides on the West Coast are unlikely to reach an agreement quickly, said Jon Gold, National Retail Federation vice president of supply chain and customs policy.



Â 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.



Â ILO: Vietnam's Wage Policy, Market Economy, Economic Integration

As Vietnam continues to integrate more deeply into the regional and global economy, wage adjustment policies and practices need to be further improved to make sure a good balance is met between promoting enterprise development and also providing workers with a fair share of enterprise productivity gains. It is also important that wage setting is based on solid empirical evidence so that decisions reflect the needs of workers and their families, the needs of enterprises and the labour market as a whole. ...



Sat, Dec 13, 19th Annual Governors' Ball - A Nutcracker Dream

The premier formal Christmas gala in Vietnam, the Governors' Ball is a unique opportunity to enjoy a festive and charitable celebration. This formal year-end holiday fête features gourmet fare, first-class musical entertainment, wonderful raffle prizes and abundance of holiday cheer, bringing together our extended American community of AmCham member executives, spouses and guests, U.S. and Vietnamese government and business leaders.



Thu, Nov 27

14th Annual AmCham Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament and Lunch

AmCham HCMC hosts a yearly Golf Tournament on Thanksgiving Day, called the "Turkey Shoot." This event is an excellent opportunity for AmCham Members and their golfing friends to join together, as well as a creative way to sponsor an event that reaches out to many people in the community. Typically, this event draws 50+ golfers.

Fri, Nov 28

AmCham Supplier Day 2014

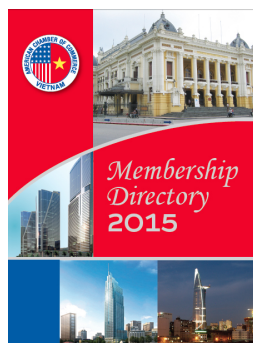
AmCham Vietnam is organizing a "Supplier Day" to support our manufacturing members to expand the list of qualified local suppliers in Vietnam. To make the Supply Day successful, we would like to know your company's requirements and qualifications procedures for local suppliers. So if you're interested in developing local sources, please kindly provide us a list of products/ services that you would like or are trying to look for in Vietnam.

Wed, Dec 03

Demystifying Demergers in Vietnam

Vietnam's legal framework for corporate restructurings is dynamic and evolving. Demergers in Vietnam are not clearly regulated and existing regulations focus on procedural issues. Against this background, this session will explore one type of restructuring, demergers and navigate the key legal issues in demerger and recent developments in Vietnam. Demergers are not yet very common in Vietnam, but may gain popularity in the future.

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



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.



Dec 10, Annual General Meeting and Members Night (Members only)

In accordance with Article IV of the AmCham Charter, the Annual General Meeting of the Ho Chi Minh City Chapter will be held at the Renaissance Riverside Hotel on Wednesday, December 10, 2014, beginning at 6:00pm, followed by a cocktail reception for the General Membership. We will conduct the following important business; (1) Report of the Chapter's Board of Governors on the Activities in 2014; (2) Report of the previous years' accounts; (3) Election to the Board of Governors (by secure online voting between on or about Nov 7 and Dec 10).



Dec 14, 2nd Annual AmCham Breakfast with Santa

Twas the morning after the AmCham Ball, and Saigon was asleep..... except at the InterContinental, beginning at 10 am...

- Buffet breakfast including pancakes, bacon, pho, congee, scrambled eggs, break, coffee, tea, and juice
 - Individual photos with Santa
 - Kids holiday disco and games
 - Special rate for hotel accommodation the night before and cash bar at the breakfast
- A portion of every adult ticket sold will help fund the cost of a child from the Thảo Đàn Social Protection Center to attend the breakfast.*

Happy Thanksgiving and Turkey On The Run from Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon

It's time to offer thanks and gather for a special holiday tradition! Our delicious dinner buffet menu features favorite classics as well as nontraditional items that are sure to impress. Especially the prime Turkey live station to ignite the festive spirit!

Let our master chefs carve the best of festive meal with a mouthwatering roast American Turkey. Treat



your family and friends to a roast Turkey dinner with your choice of 3 condiments, 2 sauces, and 1 bottle of wine.

Looking for a unique gift this festive season? Our Smoked Salmon set is a great choice, tailored to your personal taste!

Bonjour! First EVA Air 777 Hello Kitty Jet arrived Paris Themed aircraft flying from Paris to Taiwan now!



EVA Air's Hand-in-Hand Hello Kitty Jet arrived Paris today!

EVA Air offers four weekly flights from Paris to Taipei. It will operate three of its regular Hello Kitty Hand-in-Hand Jet on its regular schedule as BR88 from Paris' Charles de Gaulle(CDG) to Taiwan's Taoyuan International Airport(TPE) on Monday, Thursday and Saturday, and on the return flight as BR87 on TPE-CDG on Sunday, Wednesday and Friday. Passengers can book flights now through travel agents, EVA Air ticket offices and online at <http://www.evaair.com>, just in time to enjoy picturesque Paris in fall or, eastbound, Asia's diverse climates, cultures, foods and attractions.

GET SOCIAL AND GET HIRED - Use the power of network 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.

Updates on the Labor Law and Trade Union Law - Impacts on business operations



ITPC HCMC in cooperation with NVM GROUP hosts the seminar "LABOR LAW & TRADE UNION LAW - PRACTICAL IMPLEMENTATION 2014 AND THEIR IMPACTS TO BUSINESS ACTIVITY" addressing the needs for discussing and sharing among appropriate person in charge on implementation practices of Labor Law and Trade Union Law.

The seminar also consolidates the direct business-to-government communication channel so the Business leaders may use it for further concerns.

For registration, please download the PDF form [HERE](#).

Korean Air - Daily Flight to Houston



Korean Air, America's largest Asian airline, launched nonstop service between Houston's George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH) and Incheon International Airport in Seoul. Nonstop flights connecting the two destinations depart from the Terminal D facility at Bush Intercontinental Airport (at 10:40 am) daily. The additional daily nonstop service of Korean Air to the Americas will provide great connectivity between Southeast Asia and Houston under a convenient schedule. More on Korean Air's programs, routes, frequencies and partners is available at www.koreanair.com.

Saving up to 45% on Subscription for AmCham Membership



Mega magazine and combo sale! Subscribe today and and get Special Discount up to 45%. This offer is tailored only for AmCham membership. Click [HERE](#) to Subscribe now and Visit [our fan page](#) to see more updates and special offers. This promotion is valid up to December 5, 2014.

Spend only 01 night on the plane from Vietnam to America



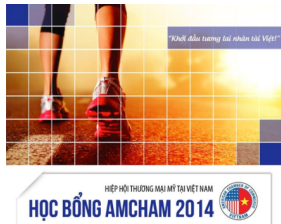
American Airlines and our partner are delighted to inform you about changed flight schedules from 26 October 2014. From now on, transit flights will be shorter and more convenient for passengers to travel to big cities such as Dallas/Fort Worth, Los Angeles, San Diego, Chicago, Boston, New York and more than 260 cities around America. Moreover, there are many other advantages of this change:

- Spending one night on the plane only to compare with two nights on previous schedules.
- Starting at 08:10 am, passengers will have more convenience for check in and also have full sleep before departing to America.
- Time for transit is more convenient and suitable for passengers to other cities.



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.



Sep - Dec AmCham Scholarship 2014

AmCham will award scholarships to 45 top students from leading universities in Ho Chi Minh City after an extensive, three-month long assessment and selection process. This flagship program offers AmCham companies an excellent framework for identifying talent, and offers students an experiential learning opportunity about how to apply to join international companies. In addition, we offer "AmCham Women in Engineering Scholarships," and "AmCham - II-VI Foundation Engineering Scholarships." All scholarship programs are managed by the HR Committee, the AmCham Scholars Alumni/ae Club, and the AmCham Executive Office. For more information about AmCham Scholarship 2014, please click [HERE](#).



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.



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

DHL Express Vietnam launched new intra-Asia network flights



Building upon its stronghold in the region, DHL also decided to increase the flight frequency of its flight between Penang, Ho Chi Minh City and Hong Kong from five to six days per week, thereby increasing capacity on the route by 20 percent. This additional weekend flight enables DHL Express to deliver shipments to customers on Saturdays.

In combination, these enhancements offer DHL more flexibility and capacity to facilitate the trade opportunities between the north and the south of Vietnam and the rest of the world.



Client Alert - Tilleke & Gibbins Adds Senior IP Lawyer

Tilleke & Gibbins is pleased to announce the addition of associate Trung Nguyen to head the firm's expanded IP enforcement team in Ho Chi Minh City.

A seasoned IP professional with more than 15 years of experience in Vietnam, Trung was previously the head of the patent team and the dispute resolution team at Rouse Legal in Vietnam. Prior to joining Rouse, Trung had been head of investigation and enforcement at Investip. Trung is a qualified lawyer and registered IP agent, and also holds a degree in mechanical engineering.

Trung can be contacted at trung.n@tilleke.com or +84 8 3936 2063.

USG Boral set to inject inspiration and innovation to Vietnam's building and construction industry



World-leader in building products business, USG Boral, formally launched in Vietnam on November 19, 2014, together with the introduction of its new brand campaign "Innovation Inspired by You". Besides technology improvements that drive major quality improvements, USG Boral in Vietnam has more than tripled its local capacity this year with the addition of a new manufacturing line near HCM. USG Boral ceiling and drywall solutions are trusted and already utilized in several iconic buildings in Vietnam such as the Vietcombank Tower, SC VivoCity mall, Binh Duong administration center, Samsung's plant in Thai Nguyen; and in Hanoi, the Lotte Center, the National Assembly House, JW Marriott hotel and Noi Bai airport Terminal Two. For more information, please visit www.USGBoral.com



Jets leave HCM City belly-full as air cargo exports boom

Exports are leading a gradual acceleration in Vietnam's economy, a counterpoint to the struggles of the banking industry and state-owned enterprises whose bad debts have damped domestic spending in recent years. The country has become the leading Southeast Asian exporter to the U.S., and shipments there may jump 19 percent to about \$29 billion this year, according to the American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam. Much of that gain is happening by air. In 2013, local airports processed 770,000 metric tons of goods, a 67 percent leap from 2010, according to data from the Civil Aviation Authority of Vietnam. Air cargo is forecast to jump as much as 23 percent in 2014, according to the transport ministry.



Mondelez to buy 80% share of Kinh Do snack business for \$370 million

Mondelez International Inc., the maker of Oreo cookies and Ritz crackers, agreed to buy a majority stake in Vietnam's Kinh Do Corp.'s snack business for \$370 million, bolstering its presence in emerging markets. The transaction gives Mondelez 80 percent of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam-based Kinh Do's snack unit and the option to buy the rest after 12 months, the companies said in a statement. ...



U.S. firms move footwear factories to Vietnam ahead of TPP

Opportunities to expand Vietnam's footwear industry will be huge after the passage of the Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement (TPP), experts said during a meeting in HCM City organized by the Vietnam Leather, Footwear and Handbag Association (LEFASO) and its US counterpart, Footwear Distributors and Retailers of America (FDRA). Footwear is Vietnam's third most-lucrative export industry in terms of revenue and generated US\$8.5 billion in 2013. Nearly 600 businesses employ more than 1.1 million workers in direct and supporting sectors to produce 800 million pairs of shoes a year.



Vietnam conglomerate signs MOU on \$80 million investment by U.S. group

Vietnamese multi-sector firm Hoang Anh Gia Lai Group (HAGL) and U.S. investment group Global Emerging Markets (GEM) signed Thursday a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on a private placement worth around US\$80 million. The New York-based equity funds group is committed to purchasing VND1.7 trillion (roughly \$80 million) worth of HAGL shares in the next three months, according to the MoU. ...



U.S. FDA to Food Facilities: Renew your facility registration before Dec 31, 2014

All facilities, domestic and foreign, that manufacture, process, pack or hold food for human or animal consumption in the U.S. must renew their FDA registration each even-numbered year between Oct. 1 and Dec. 31. FDA will consider registrations that are not renewed by this date to be expired, making it a prohibited act for that facility to distribute food in the United States. FDA will hold any food shipped from a foreign facility with an expired registration at its U.S. port of entry until the facility is properly renewed. ...



U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) Global Initiative

Global production of FDA-regulated products has quadrupled over the last decade and continues to grow. Today, FDA-regulated products originate from more than 150 countries, 130,000 importers and 300,000 foreign facilities. Fifty percent of fresh fruits, 20 percent of vegetables, and 80 percent of seafood consumed in America comes from abroad. Similarly, 40 percent of finished drugs come from overseas, and 80 percent of active ingredients manufacturers are located outside the US. Further, half of all medical devices are imported. The growth in imports has been rapid and promises to accelerate. As our world transforms and becomes increasingly globalized, it is vital that we come together as a global community - in new, unprecedented, and even unexpected ways - to build a public health safety net for consumers around the world. ...



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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New World Hotel Saigon #323
76 Le Lai Street, District 1
Ho Chi Minh City

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