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## 2016 Minimum Wage, Jabil to Increase Investment, Apparel Exports to US to top \$11 billion

### FEATURES



#### 2016 Minimum Wage Proposals

The National Wage Council will meet at the end of July to review 2016 minimum wage adjustment plans, before submitting a consolidated proposal to the Government for consideration in October, to be effective January 1, 2015. The NWC members include representatives from the Ministry of Labour, Invalids, and Social Affairs, Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) and Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL).



#### Textiles and apparel exports to the U.S. to top \$11 billion in 2015

Shipments of Vietnamese garment and textile products to the U.S., the leading export market of Vietnam, are expected to top US\$11 billion in value this year, a 12.24 percent year-on-year rise, said an official from the Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association (VITAS). The U.S. is Vietnam's top market, covering about 50 percent of the Southeast Asian country's total exports, the Hai Quan (Customs) news website quoted Dang Phuong Dung, deputy chair of VITAS, as saying last week.



#### Jabil to invest an additional \$500 million in HCMC's SHTP

U.S. electronics solutions firm Jabil signed an MOU with the HCMC Government to invest an additional \$500 million to expand its production facility at Saigon Hi-Tech Park. Jabil, which has 90 facilities in 24 countries, and 180,000 employees worldwide, supplies comprehensive services to electronics and technology companies in a broad range of industries.



#### Live for Family Fun This Year in Breathtaking Central Vietnam at Angsana Lăng Cô

Nestled in the foothills of the "Truong Son" mountains in Central Vietnam, Angsana Lăng Cô looks out over a magnificent 3 km private sandy beach on a crescent bay, creating an inviting and exhilarating location for that perfect vacation. With the Live for Family Fun offer, look forward to fun in the sun with your loved ones with an extensive list of exciting sports, cool activities and dining experiences to remember.

### Events, Meetings, Special Offers



#### July 22 AmCham Palooza Party at Park Hyatt Saigon

AmCham will continue its series of monthly informal networking events at the coolest and latest nightspots in Ho Chi Minh City. The monthly Palooza Party is a platform to develop new friendships, networking opportunities and information exchange. People from all age group are welcome to attend. Bring your business cards !



#### International Seminar: On becoming an HR Professional with Global standards

On August 1st 2015, at Sheraton Hotel, the seminar is a unique place exclusively for Business Leaders and HR Leaders in Vietnam to gather and discuss critical HR issues that are the top concerns of every organization nowadays. PACE Institute of Management, in partnership with Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), the world's largest and the most influential HR membership organization devoted to human resources management, co-organize this special event.



#### ANA and United Airlines Introduce 'Asia Joint Venture Simple' Program to Reward SME Business Travelers

On 09 Jun, 2015 - All Nippon Airways (ANA) and United Airlines launched the Joint Venture (JV) Simple program, a corporate travel program that aims to support small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) based in Vietnam when their employees travel on business. Through the JV Simple program, SMEs will enjoy discounts on air travel originating from Vietnam to destinations in North, Central and South America. The program gives SMEs in these countries access to a comprehensive trans-Pacific network through United and ANA that connects to over 227 destinations in the US as well as Central and South America, enabling SME employees to enjoy far more convenient travel. SME travelers will receive additional benefits on United such as premier status, lounge access and upgrades and, like any other customers, they can earn award miles by joining ANA's Mileage Club or United's MileagePlus frequent flyer program. Contact our local JV Sales team Hirakawa san at [hi.hirakawa@ana.co.jp](mailto:hi.hirakawa@ana.co.jp) & Alice Tu at [alice.tu@united.com](mailto:alice.tu@united.com).



## Korean Air - 3 Daily Flights from Ho Chi Minh to Seoul - Starting 01 December 2015

Korean Air, with a fleet of 159 aircraft, is one of the world's top 20 airlines, and operates more than 430 flights per day to 129 cities in 46 countries. It is a founding member of the Sky Team alliance, which together with its 19 members, offers its 612 million annual passengers a worldwide system of more than 16,320 daily flights covering 1,052 destinations in 177 countries. [www.koreanair.com](http://www.koreanair.com)



## September 18-20 AmCham Fall Weekend at Angsana Lang Co

Join other AmCham members and guests in a networking weekend, with Ambassador's Roundtable discussion of key issues in Vietnam-U.S. trade and investment, and outlook for 2016. Three days/two nights including room at special rates for AmCham group; buffet breakfasts; Fri Welcome Cocktail Reception; Sat Afternoon Roundtable with Ambassador, Consul General, and U.S. Mission Key Officers, followed by Evening Cocktails and Gala Dinner with scrumptious cuisine and fine wines, not to mention the breath-taking sunset over the bay. **REGISTER NOW** for this stimulating weekend, with optional activities including friendly golf, excursion, spa, and simple relaxation. Click here for [Sponsorship Opportunities](#)



## AmCham welcomes New Member Companies

AmCham Vietnam - HCMC is pleased to welcome our NEW members who joined us in the last six months. We encourage you to welcome them by visiting their websites and patronizing their businesses. **New members in July:** Avaya, Hellmann Worldwide Logistics, Le & Tran Attorneys At Law, Wahl Clipper.



## JOIN US: Become a Member of AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

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 [Mimi Pham](#) for joining or additional information on membership.



## AmCham Corporate Partnership Packages

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](#).



## 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](http://www.amchamvietnam.com): 450,000+ views/year, 200,000+ visitors/year plus 8.8k twitter followers, 6.3k facebook fans, 4.6k LinkedIn followers.
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4,500+ AmCham company representatives and subscribers.
- AmCham Companies are offered 3 complimentary announcements in 2015.**
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Directory
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Discount Handbook
- Advertising on AmCham Discount Online



## 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 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.

New Vendors:

Binh An Village Resort Dalat; Chanh Bistro, Chanh Services Company Limited, Chi Hoa Culture, El Gaucho, Grand Square Convention Centre & Restaurants, Hoang Yen Group, Hotel Royal Hoi An, Kokois, Le Terroir, M2C Bistro & Café, Princess D'An Nam Resort & Spa, Seventeen Saloon, Tandoor, The Earth Villa, Vietstar Resort & Spa, Phu Yen, Vinpearl Group, Vinpearl Premium Nha Trang Bay.

## News and Issues Updates



## Former President Clinton helped celebrate 20th anniversary

"Vietnam had captured our imagination and taken up so much space in our spirit," he told a crowd of Vietnamese VIPs and members of the foreign community in Vietnam. "And somehow, when our Vietnamese friends finally said they would accept us, and we said we would accept them, we were set free." Clinton singled out for thanks four distinguished veterans who as U.S. senators helped shepherd normalisation: Charles Robb, Max Cleland, John Kerry and John McCain. "They made what I was able to do as president possible."



## U.S. to host TPP Ministers meetings in Hawaii Jul 28-31

preceded by a Chief Negotiators meeting Jul 24-27. Australian Trade Minister Andrew Robb said the TPP could be concluded in the "next three to four weeks." The critical thing was for the U.S. president to get trade promotion authority.



### More Boeings for Vietnam Airlines announced in Washington DC

Boeing and Vietnam Airlines agreed in Washington DC to negotiate the sale of eight more 787-10 Dreamliners and eight 777-8X aircraft, a sign of strengthening trade ties. U.S. Transportation Secretary Anthony Fox cited ongoing efforts to facilitate direct flights between Vietnam and the United States and continued cooperation on aviation safety.



### Tinh Nghia opens office in Bentonville, AR - home of Walmart

and announced plans to assemble furniture, process coffee in Arkansas.



### TPP a strategy for rebuilding a "rules-based, next generation" trading system

"The TPP is really a strategy for rebuilding a rules-based trading system when our 'Plan A' has begun to fail in the WTO," said Professor Peter Petri, a professor of international finance at Brandeis University and co-author of a definitive study on the economic benefits of the TPP



**U.S. Customs and Border Protection**

### CBP offers new assistance program to U.S. exporters

CBP will provide technical assistance to help U.S. exporters resolve issues involving tariff classification and customs valuation treatment by other customs administrations. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) published a General Notice (FR 34924) on June 18, 2015 concerning a new program under which they will provide technical assistance by subject matter experts at CBP to resolve matters involving tariff classification and customs valuation applied by other governments to U.S. exports. CBP announced it has direct responsibility for enhancing U.S. economic competitiveness through the enforcement of the laws of the United States and the fostering of lawful international trade



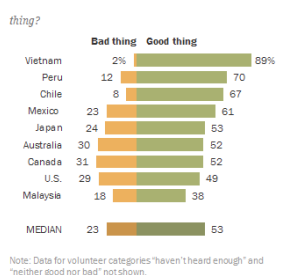
### USTR Froman seeking TPP conclusion before Fall

U.S. Trade Representative Michael Froman said at a breakfast on Wednesday, July 1 that he was aiming to conclude Trans-Pacific Partnership negotiations before fall, but emphasized that the timetable will be dictated by the substance of the talks. "We hope to go to Congress by the end of the year," he added, explaining that the trade promotion authority law required Congress to be notified 90 days before an agreement is signed and has other provisions that will effect how quickly Congress can consider a deal.



### \$1.2 billion more FDI pours into Vietnam to meet TPP yarn-forward rules

The TPP has encouraged many foreign textile and apparel firms to boost investments in Vietnam. The yarn-forward rule under the TPP requires that the yarns, fabrics and final garments to be exported within the TPP should be produced in TPP Member Countries to benefit from the Free Trade Agreement.



### 89% of public in Vietnam supports TPP: Pew Research

The 2015 Pew Research survey involved 9 of the 12 countries engaged in the TPP negotiations. The strongest support is in Vietnam, where 89% of the public backs the potential accord. The weakest support is in Malaysia (38%) and the U.S. (49%) with 31% of Malaysians and 12% of Americans volunteering they have not heard of the negotiations. The greatest outright opposition is in Canada (31%), Australia (30%) and the U.S. (29%).



### HCM City to invest \$4.5 billion in Metro Line No. 4

HCM City will invest VND97 trillion (US\$4.5 billion) for construction of the city's Metro Line No 4 (Green Line), which will run from Ben Cat Bridge in Go Vap District to Nguyen Van Linh Street in District 7. The city has begun construction of Metro Line No 1 (linking Ben Thanh Market in District 1 with Suoi Tien Tourist Park in District 9); Metro Line No 2 (connecting Ben Thanh Market with Tham Luong Bus Station in District 12) and Metro Line No 5 (linking Can Giuoc Bus Station in Binh Chanh District with Tham Luong in District 12)



### 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.

### 2015 CORPORATE PARTNERS

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