



House to consider TPA in June; India, Thailand, S Korea Plan TPP-related FDI in Vietnam

FEATURES



U.S. House of Representatives to consider TPA in June

Speaker John A. .Boehner, R-Ohio, called the bill a "no-brainer" and said he would try and pass it in the House. "The House will take up this measure and Republicans will do our part, but ultimately success will require Democrats' putting politics aside and doing what's best for the country," Boehner said. "Let's seize this opportunity to open new doors for the things Americans make and the people who make them. An unlikely coalition of conservative "Tea Party" Republicans and liberal Democrats are opposed to both TPA and TPP, and the vote is likely to be closer in the House than in the Senate.



Thailand, Vietnam to cooperate in textiles and apparel for TPP

With Thailand not included in the TPP, Thai enterprises should enhance co-operation with Vietnamese firms to produce fabric and materials in Vietnam to take advantages of benefits brought from trade agreements. To enjoy benefits of FTAs, including TPP, Vietnamese companies must meet product rules of origin, including yarn-forward regulations for apparel. The Thai Garment Manufacturers' Association Trade and Investment Promotion Committee recently visited HCM City to discuss cooperation and investment in Vietnam.



Indian firms plan \$300 million industrial park near HCM City for TPP

A new industrial park will produce textiles and fabrics to meet TPP "yarn-forward" rules-of-origin requirements. "It is the efforts of Indian companies to take the initiative of the TPP Free Trade Agreement, which will support Vietnam's garment and textile industry. Though India is not participating directly in the TPP, we have reason to invest more in Vietnam to benefit indirectly, since Vietnam already imports fabrics from India."



Vietnam looks forward to S Korean investment wave with TPP

The business expansion of large South Korean firms, such as Hyosung, Lotte, and Samsung, has attracted hundreds of supplier companies to Vietnam, supported by the Korea-Vietnam FTA and the TPP.



Enjoy a Night On Us at Banyan Tree Lang Co, Central Vietnam

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. Enjoy a Night On Us when you book a minimum of three nights at this awe-inspiring sanctuary and look forward to a time of pampering and relaxation.



We welcome and appreciate your sponsorship in cash, products, and services. Please contact our [Events Team](#) for Sponsorship details.



Korean Air - Daily flight between Seoul & Houston from May 2014

Korean Air, America's largest airline in Asia, is launching daily flights between Seoul and Houston from May 2014. More on Korean Air's programs, routes, frequencies and partners is available at www.koreanair.com



June 11 Reward Boot Camp 2015 Launch Event

Join our first time Reward Boot Camp to catch on the reward trends and practices in ASEAN and Vietnam. Stay ahead of the curve to retain your top talents. Please register your attendance by 5 Jun, 2015. 50 seats (complimentary for 1 pax/company) are available on first-come first-served basis. **Tel: 08 - 3914 1188 (Ext: 120); M: 0909 091 604; E: An.Tran@haygroup.com**



June 12 Double daily flights between Narita and Houston offered by ANA-United Joint Venture

Starting June 12, ANA will launch a new daily service between Tokyo Narita and Houston. Its service will complement United's already existing daily departure from Narita to Houston. Besides serving Houston itself, these two flights offer connections beyond to cities throughout the southern part of the United States as well as South America. HCMC customers can depart on ANA and connect to either of these flights at Narita. With these flights, customers can now enjoy greater schedule choice with attractive fares. Please visit us at www.united.com and www.anaskyweb.com for further details.



June 2 Understanding Whistle-blower Protection

In today's global marketplace, it is essential for multi-national companies to adopt strict reporting policies addressing corrupt conduct. Failing to do so may subject a company to significant sanctions under the growing reach of extra-territorial anti-corruption laws. Nevertheless, many companies based in Vietnam have difficulty implementing their reporting policies due to the significant risks faced by whistle-blowers.



June 3 AmCham's World Blood Donor Days 2015

In Vietnam, since the Government's approval of the national program for encouraging voluntary blood donation in 2000, blood donation has been steadily increased. However, the current blood donation level only meets 58% of demand. Therefore, AmCham includes this program in AmCham annual CSR Plan and appeals to volunteers to join this meaningful program. For the last 4 years, 2,784 AmCham's Donors from Ho Chi Minh City, Thu Duc and Binh Duong have donated 3,770 blood units



AMCHAM PALOOZA

June 24 AmCham Palooza Party at InterContinental Asiana 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 groups are welcome to attend - there's no age limit, you just have to be young at heart! Come and join us for a night of casual networking, meet other professionals, bring your business cards! Dress code: Business Casual



HR COMMITTEE

June 30 Corporate Social Responsibility as a Human Resource Management Strategy

Big and successful companies, with plenty of resources at their end, have recently set the trend for being committed to sustainable development by engaging their employees' skills in community activities as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Nurturing a strong corporate culture which emphasizes social impact values and competencies will not only serve as a "good cause" to benefit the community at large, but is strategically used in improving the employee retention and development as well as corporate branding.



WELCOME NEW MEMBER

AmCham welcomes New Member Companies

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



JOIN US: Become a Member of AmCham Vietnam - HCMC

Expand your business by joining our AmCham Membership! 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: 450,000+ views/year, 200,000+ visitors/year plus 8.5k twitter followers, 6.0k facebook fans, 4.1k 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.

News and Issues Updates



Senate approves TPA (62-37) on Fri, May 22

A coalition of 48 Senate Republicans and 14 Democrats voted for TPA late Friday, sending the legislation to a difficult fight in the House of Representatives, where it faces more entrenched opposition from Democrats. House Speaker John A. Boehner (R-Oio) has said that the TPA bill will come up in June, after his chamber returns from a ten-day break that began on Thursday, May 21.



Senate ends TPA debate (62-38) on May 21; final vote before May 25

The 62-38 vote ended debate on the bill, moving it toward a final vote. The May 21 cloture vote signals that debate is over, amendments done, and a final vote is pending. The TPA bill is now more likely to pass the Senate, as early as Fri, May 22, or over the weekend. The procedural vote all but assures final Senate passage of TPA, for which only a simple majority is required. But supporters still must defeat a few amendments that administration officials say would draw a veto. The measure would then head for an uncertain fate in the House.



Watch the U.S. Senate final negotiations and TPA vote on C-Span

C-SPAN televises U.S. political events, particularly live and "gavel-to-gavel" coverage of the U.S. Congress. Its coverage of political and policy events is unedited, thereby providing viewers (or listeners) with unfiltered information about politics and government



Majority Leader confident that TPA will be approved by Senate

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell confidently predicted that the Senate will pass the pending trade legislation this week. "I point out to my members who are somewhat squeamish, as you can imagine, giving the president the power on any issue, given his expansive view of his powers on so many other issues. But this is a trade promotion authority not just for President Obama, but for the next president as well. This is a six-year trade promotion authority bill that will give the next president an opportunity to enter into additional trade agreements with other countries around the world."



Senate Majority Leader McConnell sets TPA endgame

After a series of dueling objections, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell moved Tuesday evening, May 19 to limit debate on the TPA bill. By moving to invoke cloture, Majority Leader McConnell has set a key vote on the package that combines Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) and Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) for Thursday morning, May 21, but what happens then is far from certain. Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., had cautioned against truncating the debate without considering lots of amendments, though the two parties were sparring throughout the afternoon about the process.



U.S. Senate agrees (65-33) to debate TPA, Thu, May 14, 2015

WASHINGTON, May 14 - A supermajority of U.S. senators voted Thursday to begin debate on trade promotion authority. The Senate voted 65-33 to begin debate. Thirteen Democrats voted with Republicans. Two GOP senators were absent. Republicans agreed to allow two separate votes on Thursday, most notably on legislation that includes language aimed at cracking down on China's currency manipulation. The bill passed 78-20.



After delay, U.S. Senate agrees to move forward on TPA, TAA, Wed, May 13, 2015

Senate leaders announced May 13 that they reached an agreement to consider and likely approve Trade Promotion Authority (TPA), a day after an unusual filibuster by Democrats of their party's presidential agenda. Roughly 50 Republicans and at least a dozen Democrats have declared their intention to support TPA, but Tuesday's failed vote came from Democrats looking for a way to win approval for the currency manipulation language. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) and Minority Leader Harry M. Reid (D-Nev.) announced a plan that allows for a separate vote on May 14 for legislation targeting China's alleged currency manipulation. This legislation is likely to pass the Senate but its ultimate fate remains in doubt in the House, with a potential presidential veto awaiting it. Still, once that measure is taken care of, the Senate would move to considering Trade Promotion Authority. McConnell's announcement signaled that the tough currency legislation is not likely to make it into law, while the TPA will."



U.S. Senate Democrats vote to delay TPA - Tue, May 12, 2015

President Obama collided politically with his own party Tuesday when Senate Democrats stalled consideration of a trade measure that would give the administration greater authority to negotiate more freely with other countries. Administration officials and Republican leaders immediately said they would bring a measure back to the Senate floor. A procedural motion to open up debate of the fast-track legislation failed by a 52-to-45 vote, falling short of the 60 votes needed to begin consideration of the complex Pacific trade accord



Fourteen U.S. Senators write USTR about TPP Labor Standards

In a letter to USTR Froman, Senators warned that waiting to implement standards lafter TPP goes into effect could diminish labor protections in TPP countries. "If we don't improve labor standards in TPP counties in a meaningful way, we fail to give American workers the ability to compete," said Sen. Sharrod Brown. "Before we sign a trade deal affecting 40% of the world's GDP, we must put stronger worker protections in place."



Why the U.S. textile industry supports the White House on trade

The U.S. trade representative says it won't turn back on yarn-forward. "I assure you there will be no surprises" in the TPP negotiations, U.S. Trade Representative Froman told NCTO executives in March. "We will work with you hand and glove." As part of negotiations over the 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership, the U.S. is insisting on a "yarn forward" rule of origin, that only fabric produced from yarn made by a TPP country would be eligible for duty-free trade.



A Guide to U.S. Apparel and Household Textiles Compliance Requirements: NIST

This guide addresses apparel, including children's apparel, and household textiles. It does not include other textiles, such as sleeping bags, tents, sporting goods, or other non-household products that contain or are made from textile materials.



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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