



AmCham Vietnam
Ho Chi Minh City Chapter



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House may vote on TPA this week; Green Bike, Manufacturing Committee visits DataLogic

FEATURES



U.S. House of Representatives may vote on TPA this week

The White House and House Republicans are making a final push to confirm the 217 votes needed to pass Trade Promotion Authority (TPA). A controversial funding offset for the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program has emerged as an additional hurdle to the legislation's passage. If the House Republican leadership is confident they have the votes for passage, the TPP bill, TAA bill, a customs/trade facilitation and enforcement measure, and a trade preferences measure (GSP, etc.) may be on the House floor for consideration as early as this week ...



1,000+ participants join Green Bike 2015

World Wildlife Fund Vietnam "It requires an accumulation of joint efforts from various sources to conserve Vietnam's nature", said Dr. Van Ngoc Thinh, Country Director of WWF-Vietnam, "Green Bike is only a short event, but hopefully the long-term effect will come from its 1000 participants who will continue to echo further the significance of protecting Vietnam's flagship species and their habitats. Saola - a large mammal species discovered in the 20th century in Vietnam, for example, not only has tremendous values to the world and Vietnam's biodiversity, but also symbolizes our country's exquisite nature."



Manufacturing Committee benchmarking factory tour at Datalogic

Essentially, it was a standard tour, lunch, and a focused discussion on Datalogic's successful application of 1 or 2 issues facing all our companies. The emphasis during this tour was (1) HR initiatives that have enhanced Datalogic's retention in addition to competitive pay, and (2) a LEAN application that increased productivity and freed up 25% more floor space. The committee plans to do a benchmarking tour once per quarter in lieu of the monthly meeting.



Vietnam the new Asian high-tech manufacturing hotspot

Vietnam has become the sourcing location of choice for international apparel and footwear producers in recent years, and now is also attracting increasing numbers of hi-tech companies. Vietnam is now producing around \$25bn of hi-tech goods, from nothing five years ago. A lot of hi-tech production is moving into Vietnam from China and telecoms companies coming from India. The growth rate beginning to put pressure on transport capacity, particularly air freight.

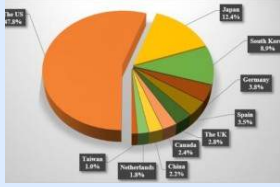


Long Hau Industrial Park commits to supporting investors

The Long Hau Industrial Park Management Board pledged to continue improving the park in order to ensure its tenants will have a stable environment for operations. Long Hau JSC, the park developer, made the commitment at a May 26 meeting between the company, the People's Committee of Long An province, as well as many government agencies, together

more than 70 companies in the Long Hau Industrial Park, the American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (AmCham) and Japanese Business Association of Ho Chi Minh City (JBAH).

Vietnam: The Next Textile And Apparel Hotspot



The U.S. is the largest market for Vietnam's textile and garment exports, and Vietnam is the second largest textile and garment exporter for the US market behind China. The EU is the second-largest importer of Vietnam's textile and garment exports, and the Vietnam Textile and Garment Association (VITAS) is optimistic that a pending FTA with the European Union will be a boost for Vietnam's industry. Other major importers include Japan and South Korea.



FDI firms account for 70% of Vietnam's exports in Jan - Apr 2015

Vietnam goods exports reached \$50.1 billion in Jan-Apr, up 8.2% over the same period in 2014. Of this amount, \$35.1 billion was from FDI firms and crude oil exports. In key export sectors such as apparel, footwear and wooden furniture, FDI firms' exports accounted for 60-70 percent of the total

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



Book your tickets **NOW**, and pick them up with nice shirt at the AmCham Office from Jun 15, 2015.

Don't miss the biggest family summer party of the year !



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.



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 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.



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



June 20 Rio at The Grand Pool Party

Rio at The Grand - Encore Performance Join us Saturday, 20 June 2015 for our final Rio party! Starts at 2PM - don't miss out! Live Latin Music all day long plus DJ performances; "Ms. Rio" swimwear contest with prizes; Special Caipirinha menu; Brazilian BBQ; Cuban Cigar station; After-Party at Club 9 with the Ho Tram Girls (NO COVER; cash bar)



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



June 26 Changes and updates in the Law of Social Insurance 2014

Direct dialogue with Mdm Thuy Nga, General Director, department of Social Insurance on changes and updates in the Law of Social Insurance 2014. Dealing with concerns and questions on the Article 60 in Law of Social Insurance 2014. Better understanding about new point for better implementation at business level.



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.



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



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.



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.



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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