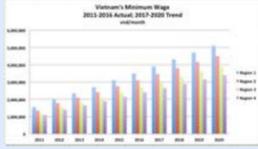




Minimum Wage, ITC Report on TPP, U.S. FDA New Rules on Food Imports

FEATURES



Vietnam's 2015 Minimum Wage Adjustment Announced

Vietnam's Minimum Wage Adjustment for 2016 is about 12.4%, and will go into effect on Jan 1, 2016. The adjustment is twice the level of forecast 2016 GDP growth (6.2%), three times CPI inflation (1.8% in 2015 and 4% in 2016), and four times average annual productivity growth (3.3%). On the other hand, it is lower than increases in the past four years: 2012 (29%), 2013 (17.5%), 2014 (15%), 2015 (15.1%). For the second year in a row, the adjustment is within 1% of our trend line estimate.



ITC Public Hearing on TPP on Jan 13; Report to be issued on May 18

Following receipt on Nov 5, 2015 of a request from the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR), the U.S. International Trade Commission has instituted an investigation: "Trans-Pacific Partnership Agreement: Likely Impact on the U.S. Economy and on Specific Industry Sectors," under section 105(c) of the Bipartisan Congressional Trade Priorities and Accountability Act of 2015, for the purpose of assessing the likely impact of the Agreement on the U.S. economy as a whole and on specific industry sectors and the interests of U.S. consumers.



FDA Announces new food safety rules for imports

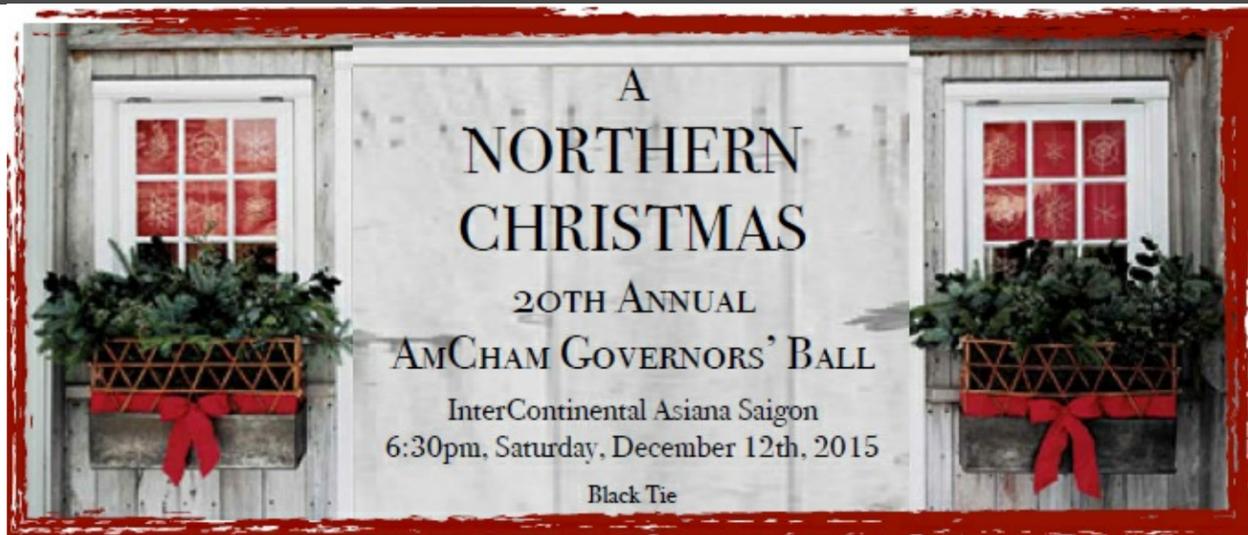
An estimated 48 million people (1 in 6 Americans) get sick each year from food-borne diseases. About 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die. Over the past few years, high-profile outbreaks related to various foods, from spinach to peanut products, have underscored the need to make continuous improvements in food safety. The U.S. FDA took major steps to prevent food-borne illness by finalizing rules implementing the bipartisan Food Safety Modernization Act that establish enforceable safety standards for produce farms and make importers accountable for verifying that imported food meets U.S. safety standards.



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

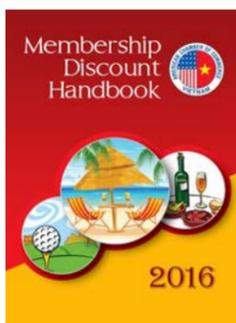
With stunning views of the East Sea and the magnificent Truong Son mountain range in the background, the tranquil and intimate Banyan Tree Lăng Cô, Central Vietnam is the perfect destination for a romantic getaway with that special someone. Enjoy a Night On Us when you book a minimum of three nights at this awe-inspiring sanctuary and look forward to a time of pampering and relaxation.

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



You are warmly invited to join us as guest and sponsor for 20th Annual AmCham Governors Ball - **A NORTHERN CHRISTMAS**

This year's holiday fête will feature unsurpassed gourmet fare, currently under creation by the InterContinental's new chef, diverse and first-class musical entertainment, great raffle grand prizes of **FOUR (4) Business Class Round Trip Tickets to USA by United Airlines & All Nippon Airways**, and, of course, the usual abundance of holiday fellowship and cheer.



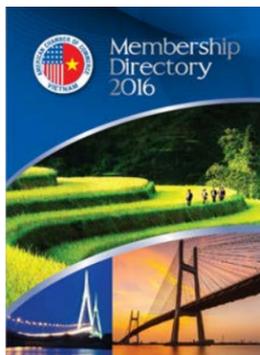
2016 AmCham Discount Program

We are now working on the **2016 AmCham Discount Program**, if you would like to promote your BRAND widely to all members, join the program by contacting **Ms. Sam Hoang**

The AmCham Member Discounts Program is a mutually beneficial opportunity for both AmCham Members and AmCham Discount Partners. Prestigious vendors are invited to offer AmCham members special discounts on their services or products.

(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 at [HERE](#))

Thank you to New Vendors: Diamond Sea Hotel Hotels & Resorts; Moc Huong Spa Beauty & Spa; Aroma Beach Resort Hotels & Resort; Cole Haan Fashion; Sorae Sushi Restaurants & Bars; Momo Paradise



RENEW your Membership & update your company profile in 2016 AmCham Membership Directory - published in April 2016

AmCham is pleased to invite you to renew your membership in 2016 and update your company profile for printing in the 2016 AmCham Membership Directory.

As you plan your marketing activities, be sure to consider our **2016 AmCham Membership Directory**. Click [HERE](#) for Publication's features and Advertising Rates.

*Free advertisement on [AmCham Website](#) will be applied for ad booked and paid before **December 15, 2015**. Do not miss this unique chance to have your brand/ products/ services posted free of charge in one of the top foreign business association websites in Vietnam.*



EVA AIR - Win a the trip of a lifetime, to USA / Canada now !

If you're crossing the Pacific, let us take you there. Win a the trip of a lifetime, to Taipei and beyond, when you plot your trip at http://www.evaair-bestlink.com/en/index.html?WT.mc_id=514009&WT.mc_t=Banner

Make your dream holiday happen. Transpacific flying on EVA Air- the best way to connect to the U.S."



Thu, Nov 26 Thanksgiving At Renaissance Saigon

Time 18:00-22:30
- Dinner Buffet: 1,100,000 ++
- Dinner buffet with beverage: 1,350,000 ++
Thursday, November 26, 2015



Thu, Nov 26 Restaurant Nineteen celebrates another year of plenty

There's something for everyone in Nineteen's fully loaded U.S Thanksgiving spread, the much-loved American holiday. Get together and enjoy unlimited serving of fresh seafood cooked to order, lobster, fine oysters and crab, plus panoply of tempting appetisers and the poultry you've been waiting for: traditional whole roasted turkey served with all the trimmings.



Thu, Dec 03 Best of Bordeaux at Caravelle Saigon

Experience an exclusive evening with legendary Bordeaux wine châteaux at Reflections Fine Dining. For the first time ever, owners of seven renowned Châteaux will grace Reflections' Grands Crus de Bordeaux Wine Dinner on 3rd December. Priced at VND 1,480,000 net, the night stars five gourmet courses paired with outstanding vintages from Haut Medoc, Margaux, Saint Emilion, Pessac Leognan, Pomerol, Sauternes and Pauillac.



Thu, Dec 3 Marketing success in a connected world

Did you know 72% of Vietnamese now own smartphones? Understanding the digital landscape is now more important than ever. Join TNS for an online webcast hosted by our Global Director Jonathan Stinton to explore the eight key trends to emerge from this year's Connected Life study.



RMIT Vietnam Postgraduate Information Night

Want to fast track your career? Learn about RMIT Vietnam's globally-recognised Master of International Business (MIB), Master of Business Administration (MBA) and Executive Master of Business Administration (EMBA) programs at our Information Night.

Hanoi: Wednesday, 3 December 2015, 6pm

HCMC: Thursday, 9 December 2015, 6pm

Register now



Festive Season On Monkey Mountain

Celebrate the festive season with laughter and warm hospitality at InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort. Each of our legendary restaurants has handpicked menus that meld time-honoured flavours with an Asian sensibility. Begin your New Year's Eve celebration with champagne cocktails and delightful canapés amidst the stunningly elegant setting of The Great Hall. Celebrations continue with music, dancing for everyone with a countdown celebration party at M Nightclub & Lounge.



Celebrate Your Holidays Under The Palm Trees On Phu Quoc - The Pearl Island Of Asia

It's time for new beginnings. May this New Year bring you pleasant surprises, memorable experiences and victorious achievements. Happy holidays! Join us to celebrate your holidays under the palm trees on Phu Quoc - the pearl island of Asia

English / Vietnamese



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



Wed, Nov 25 Update and networking around ITC business activities and regulatory developments

Technology touches everyone's lives and is becoming both can't live without as well as invasive. Hear how technology is impacting what businesses do and how they do it as well as how technology regulations are shaping up to control it all.



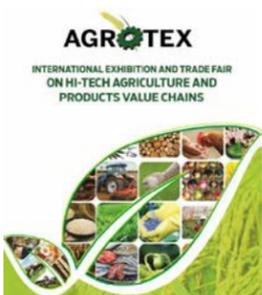
Wed, Nov 25 Vietnam HR Summit 2015

Vietnam HR Summit 2015 is a full-day event being hosted by VNHR, with an audience of about 500 at the 5th Floor, GEM Center, 8 Nguyen Binh Khiem, Dist 1, HCMC. Our goal is to bring together 500 HR leaders and CEO in Vietnam to share about the theme "VNHR Readiness for AEC - ASEAN Economic Community".



Thu, Nov 26 15th Annual AmCham Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament and Lunch

With Thanksgiving just around the corner that means it's time for our 15th Annual AmCham Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament!! This fun day of golf is open to all AmCham Members and their guests! You can sign-up individually or with others members or friends and even make your own foursome. Non-Members are welcome to join as long as they are playing with at least one AmCham Member.



Dec 2, International Exhibition and Trade Fair on Hi-Tech Agriculture and Products Value Chains

In order to enhance the application of scientific and technological advances in production, diversify products, improve the added value of agricultural products and develop Vietnam's agriculture towards modern, effective, sustainable trend that based on the country's economic and social development strategy during the period of 2011-2020, and to support businesses to exhibit their products, promote and co expand business cooperation with partners, within the framework of the project "Agro-Industrial cluster development through small and medium enterprise promotion in agricultural value chains" 2015, Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) in cooperation with Can Tho City People's Committee, Vietnam Business Association in Japan, International Exhibition and Trade Fair Center in Can Tho, Vietnam Japan Interface Advertisement Joint Stock Company and Ky Nguyen Advertising and Events Organization Joint Stock Company jointly organize the International Exhibition and Trade Fair on Hi-Tech Agriculture and Products Value Chains" Agrotex 2015.



Wed, Dec 9 21st Annual General Meeting and Members' Night

In accordance with Article IV of the AmCham Charter, the Annual General Meeting of the Ho Chi Minh City Chapter will be held on Wed, Dec 9, beginning at 6:00pm, followed by a reception for the General Membership. We will conduct the following important business: (1) Report of the Chapter's Board of Governors on Activities in 2015; (2) Report of the previous years' accounts; (3) election to the Board of Governors (by secure online voting between on or about Nov 21 and Dec 9).



Sun, Dec 13 3rd Annual AmCham Breakfast with Santa

Get ready and excited to once again to see Santa and welcome our friends from Hy Vong School for Hearing Impaired Children in HCMC at the 3rd Annual AmCham Breakfast with Santa



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 [Ms. Sam Hoang](#) for joining or additional information on membership.



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 get to know and welcome them by visiting their websites and patronizing their businesses. **New members in Oct: Viability Health Services Inc., Axon Active Vietnam Ltd.**



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: 600K+ views/year (70K+ in Oct 2015), 270K+ visitors/year (28K+ in Oct 2015) ... and 9.3K twitter followers, 7.1 K facebook fans (and 30K+ views/month) 5.0k LinkedIn followers.
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4.8k AmCham company representatives and subscribers.
- AmCham Companies are offered 3 complimentary announcements a year.**
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Directory
- Print advertising in AmCham Membership Discount Handbook
- Advertising on AmCham Discount Online

News and Issues



TPP to be submitted to U.S. Congress in first half of 2016?

"I expect that, after the American people and Congress have an opportunity for months of careful review and consultation, Congress will approve it, and I'll have the chance to sign it into law," Obama said in an op-ed posted. Administration officials have indicated they would consult closely with congressional leaders on the exact timing of a vote. But they have begun taking steps that could clear the way for action in the first half of 2016.



\$300 million to support U.S.-ASEAN agricultural trade

The U.S. Department of Agriculture announces the availability of the \$300 million credit guarantees for sales of U.S. agricultural commodities for export to Southeast Asia in 2016.



China is a non-market economy: nine steel associations

"The global steel industry is currently suffering from a crisis of overcapacity and the Chinese steel industry is the predominant global contributor to this problem. There is almost 700 million metric tons of excess steel capacity globally today. China's overwhelmingly state-owned and

state-supported steel industry has an overcapacity ranging from 336 to 425 million metric tons. This situation has resulted in record levels of steel exports from China to the rest of the world."



AmCham Supplier Day 2015

AmCham Vietnam organized the 2nd Supplier Day (November 18th, 2015) to support our manufacturing members to expand the list of qualified local suppliers in Vietnam. The event this year is even more critical for both manufacturers and local suppliers in Vietnam under the TPP where localization rate will be one of the main conditions for goods in order to receive tax benefit from TPP. Click the link above for information.



Vietnam livestock industry needs complete overhaul to cope with TPP

The Vietnamese livestock sector will be severely affected thanks to its small scale of operations, high production costs, and the failure to meet international food safety standards, the minister elaborated. Domestically produced beef may fail to compete with products from Australia and New Zealand, the world's leading exporters of the meat, whereas Vietnam's beef and poultry are also less competitive compared to those of Canada and the U.S.



TPP Text Made Public

The TPP text was made public on TPP member countries web sites. There are 1,121 pages in the English language including the preamble and the 30 chapters, but not including the market access schedules and the 58 side letters between the US and our partners. Pls click the link above for the text and the following link for [FAQ - Frequently Asked Questions](#).



Hiep Dien Doi Tax Xuyen Thai Binh Duong (TPP)

Side letters between the US and Vietnam ([Vietnamese](#)) | ([English](#))



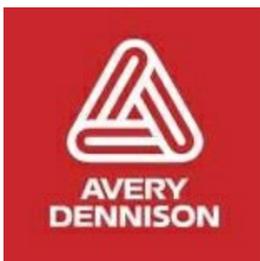
Senate Finance Committee Chairman remarks on TPP

In a speech on the Senate floor, Finance Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch said, "The United States only has one change to negotiate, consider, and implement the TPP. We have to get it right." The negotiating objectives we included in our TPA law aren't just pro forma; they aren't suggestions or mere statements of members' preferences. They represent the view of the bipartisan majority in Congress. Senator Hatch has laid out three criteria for deciding whether to support the TPP. First, he said, the agreement must be balanced and meet the U.S. negotiating objectives established under TPA. Second, the administration needs to prove to Congress that

RANK	COMPANY	REVENUE	EMPLOYEES	MARKET VALUE
1.	Johnson & Johnson	76%	76%	\$124,800
2.	Walmart	71%	71%	\$118,000
3.	Kimberly-Clark	71%	71%	\$90,000
4.	P&G	71%	71%	\$87,100
5.	The Clorox Company	82%	82%	\$80,000
6.	General Mills	71%	71%	\$74,000

The 15 Best Retail Companies to Work for in America

... many are in Vietnam, including Johnson & Johnson, Kimberly-Clark, P&G, General Mills, Avery Dennison, The J.M. Smucker Co., Nike, Colgate-Palmolive, ... click the headline link to learn more ...



You may soon see more goods labeled "Made in Vietnam"

"What took 30 years in China is taking 10 years in Vietnam to happen. That is why more and more companies are making bets on Vietnam. Avery Dennison, a Fortune 500 recent 30K square meter facility opening in Long Hau Industrial Park. is preparing for a surge in orders of garment-care tags, labels, and price tags with the implementation of TPP and the expected rapid increase of textile and apparel exports from Vietnam.



AmCham Scholarship 2015 . 15th Anniversary

AmCham Scholarship 2015 TIMELINE - Quick Summary We, 20 May Tech Info Session. Mo,17 Aug Application form opening. Sa, 05 Sep AmCham Scholarship Info Session. Sa, 26 Sep Application Deadline of Group 1. Sa, 03 Oct Application Deadline of Group 2. Sa, 17 Oct Screening Results * English Test Schedule. Sa, 24 Oct English Test. Sa, 31 Oct English Test Results * Ability Test Schedule. Sa, 07 Nov Ability Test (SHL Test). Sa, 14 Nov Results of Ability Test (SHL Test). Mo, 16 Nov Schedule for Interviews. Sa, 28 Nov Interview Day. Sa, 05 Dec Award Ceremony.



Weekly Updates Archive 2006 - 2014

Launched in August 2006 to answer many questions about Vietnam's accession to the WTO, the Weekly Update Emails provide news updates, upcoming events, explanations of details of trade and investment agreements, developments in laws and regulations affecting the business environment in Vietnam. Click the link for to visit the archives and look back over the years. Links to more than 10,000 documents providing background on a wide variety of topics, from Vietnam's WTO Accession in 2006-2007, revision of the Labour Code in 2008-2012, to the TransPacific Partnership and WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement from 2013 and ongoing.



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

DIAMOND



SILVER



BRONZE



AmCham Vietnam | herb.cochran@amchamvietnam.com | <http://www.amchamvietnam.com>

New World Hotel Saigon #323

76 Le Lai Street, District 1

Ho Chi Minh City

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