



## TPA-TPP Documents, Vietnam's TPP Ratification, Customs Instructions, Cybersecurity

### FEATURES



#### TPA and TPP - Reference Documents

Key documents explaining the Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) and TransPacific Partnership (TPP).



#### TPP: The end of the beginning

The TPP is still a promise, not yet a reality. The political deal that brought Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations to a successful conclusion on Oct 5, 2015 was a landmark achievement. But now the legislatures of 12 TPP member countries will need to review, debate, approve and implement it.



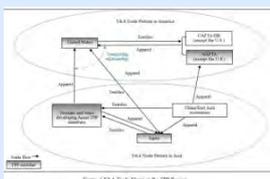
#### Vietnam's TPP ratification to take up to 2 years: lead negotiator

It will take up to two years for the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), which was reached after five years of talks by 12 countries in Atlanta on Monday, to be ratified in Vietnam, the lead Vietnamese negotiator of the trade deal said. "other [TPP] countries also pledge to provide technical assistance to Vietnam in fulfilling its commitments," he added.



#### Vietnam Customs' Official Letter of Instructions, Oct 5, 2015

To insure transparency, consistency, and regulatory coherence, the General Department of Vietnam Customs hereby requests local Departments of Vietnam Customs to strictly implement the customs laws and regulations, including special emphasis on the following matters, which the business community and associations raised during consultations in September.



#### Potential impact of TPP on the Textile & Apparel Sector

With the conclusion of the TPP negotiations on Oct 5, 2015, it is time to think about its potential impact. Specifically for the textile and apparel (T&A) industry, a number of recent studies may offer some hints.



#### U.S. Marine Corps Ball, Nov 14, 2015

Join the U.S. Marine Corps Ball at the Intercontinental Asiana Hotel. Celebrating the founding of the U.S. Marine Corps in 1775, the Ball is an annual event to showcase and celebrate the history and tradition of the U.S. Marines. It is a formal event with military dignity and pageantry. The U.S. Marines invite AmCham companies to join in the celebration.

#### Local Business, Global Vision - Vietnam Opportunities, Scottsdale AZ, Oct 28, 2015



With the TPP Agreement concluded, Vietnam offers even more business opportunities to small and medium businesses with a global vision.



### Cybersecurity in Vietnam

AmCham is supporting a research project to understand the state of internet-based attacks and defense in Vietnam. The results will be analyzed and presented in a report for senior management. **Participating in the survey will provide your company with 3 key benefits.** The survey should be completed by a senior IT manager, or IT architect.

## Events, Meetings, Special Offers



### An Absolute-ly Fabulous Escape to Central Vietnam

Daily golf rounds at the 18-hole Sir Nick Faldo Championship Golf Course, unlimited spa treatments by skilful therapists, and delicious spreads of Vietnamese, Asian, Seafood and International delights. Coupled with a stylish and relaxing room on a resort surrounded by amazing UNESCO Heritage Sites. What are you waiting for? Book this absolute-ly amazing offer\* at Angsana Lăng Cô, Central Vietnam from now until 30 March 2016 from just 5,200,000 VND++ per night.



### Vietnam Salary Survey: Local bosses underpaid relative to their MNCs peers

In 2015, the pay difference at management level between local companies and MNCs is still substantial - at 36%, according to the annual remuneration survey released this week by consulting firms Mercer and Talentnet Corporation. This is likely attributable to the fact that MNCs focus on offering higher salary to management positions to fairly compensate for their larger contribution.



### 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)



### Wed, Oct 21 Talent Acquisition, Retention & The New Role of Employer Brand

ManpowerGroup surveyed more than 200 job seekers about their current employment, job search preferences and motivators and found that there is a relation between the EMPLOYER'S BRANDING and COMPETITION FOR TODAY'S CANDIDATES.



### Thu, Oct 22 Multi-Chamber Meeting on CyberSecurity in Vietnam

Join us for an update on cybersecurity in Vietnam, followed by casual networking, meet other professionals, bring your business cards. As Vietnam continues to experience website attacks driven by regional conflicts and cybercrime, the American, European and British chambers of commerce have collaborated to support a survey of website security in Vietnam. The objective is to summarize common website security practices by local and international firms in Vietnam and compare them to website security best practices. The survey results will be analyzed by TRG International and MF8 and a report written focusing on the gap between local implementation and industry best practices.

### Fri, Oct 23 Financial Planning in the Age of FATCA



**GLOBALEYE**  
International Wealth Solutions

FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) affects the way US citizens and lawful permanent residents stay tax compliant and how they manage their financial assets. This talk will demystify FATCA and explain in simple terms the key responsibilities and filing obligations. Topics will include Form 8938, FBARs and the new IRS 2014 amnesty program. Also the presentation will discuss the challenges US citizens abroad face when trying to manage their US based assets, why US brokerage companies are closing accounts with offshore addresses and the various options available for US tax-compliant asset management and financial planning.



**AMCHAM  
PALOOZA**

### **Wed, Oct 28 AmCham Palooza Party at Hard Rock Cafe**

Join us for a night of casual networking, meet other professionals, bring your business cards. The Palooza ... AmCham's series of monthly informal networking events at the coolest and latest nightspots in Ho Chi Minh City. The Palooza Party offers a platform to develop new friendships, networking opportunities and information exchange. People from all age groups are welcome to attend.

### **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.



### **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 6 and Dec 9). With regard to Item 3, the **Nominating Committee** invites voting members to submit recommendations of prospects for nomination to [nominating@amchamvietnam.com](mailto:nominating@amchamvietnam.com). Information on the **eligibility and criteria** to serve as a member of the HCM Chapter Board of Governors is determined by the AmCham Charter and HCM City Chapter by-laws.



### **Sat, Dec 12 20th Annual AmCham Governors' Ball - A Northern Christmas**

The AmCham Board of Governors cordially invites you to the 20th Annual AmCham Governors' Ball, this year to be held on Saturday, December 12, 2015, from 6:30 pm. Our theme is A Northern Christmas. 2015 marks the 20th year of not only our Governors' Ball, but also the normalization of relations between Vietnam of U.S. and Vietnam. As such, it is indeed a special year and one worth celebrating in perhaps even greater style than years' past.



### **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](http://www.amchamvietnam.com): 500k+ views/year (68k+ in Sep 2015), 200k+ visitors/year plus 9.2k twitter followers, 6.9k facebook fans (and 20K+ views/month) 5.0k LinkedIn followers.
- Announcement in Weekly Email: 4.8k 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

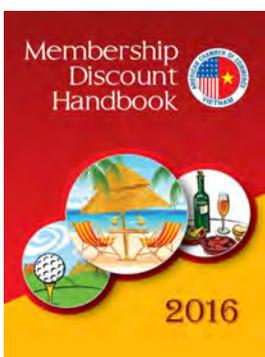
## 2016 AmCham Discount Program

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





Five defining features make the Trans-Pacific Partnership a landmark 21st century agreement, setting a new standard for global trade while taking up next-generation issues. These features include comprehensive market access, regional approach to commitments, addressing new trade challenges, inclusive trade, and platform for regional integration in the Pacific region.



## TPP Ministers' Press Conference in Atlanta, Oct 5, 2015

Watch the TPP Ministers' press conference after the successful conclusion of the marathon talks in Atlanta, Mon, Oct 5, 2015 (59:46 min.)



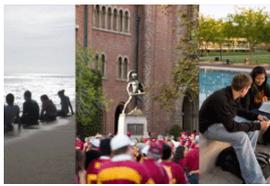
## FAQ: What is the process for ratification and entry into force of TPP?

**Question:** I have a question about the TPP going forward: now that all basic agreements are done, the TPP has to be passed by each congress/parliament/national assembly in order to go into effect. What is the process?



## TPP, other FTAs put pressure on Vietnam port expenses

"Vietnam must do more to make its cargo operations more competitive with its regional rivals." Vietnam's logistics costs, at 25% of its GDP, are higher than those of regional competitors. Most of Vietnam's international trade is conducted through the Cai Mep cluster of terminals near the southern metropolis of HCM City.



## More Vietnamese students study abroad

Increasing numbers of university-aged Vietnamese students are pursuing degrees abroad. They see high value in degrees from American, British, and Australian schools. Further, many remain in their host countries after graduation, attracted by high paying jobs matching their skill sets. Two factors can reverse this loss of talent: growth in domestically owned high-value-added industries and continued improvement of domestic universities.



## Dengue Fever: 39,000 cases, mostly in southern Vietnam; 8.9k in HCM City

But Hoang Mai District in Ha Noi has been a hot spot, with about 2,000 cases. Dong Nai province reported 5,000 cases, nearly twice last year's level. In an online discussion with leading doctors from the preventive healthcare agency and hospitals, experts said that all fatalities were severe cases and those people came to see doctors too late.



## Marathon TPP Talks in Atlanta to conclude on Sun, Oct 4

Autos and dairy seem to have been settled. Now only IP for biopharmaceuticals seems left. The U.S. has made a compromise proposal, moving from 12 years under current U.S. law to eight, more than half-way to the Australian position of five years. U.S. congressional leaders have reminded negotiators that the TPP must be approved by the U.S. Congress, along with 11 other TPP countries' legislators. TPA passed the U.S. House of Representatives with a 218-208 vote. Talks, originally scheduled to end on Oct 1, have been extended to Sun, Oct 4.



## IP Protection in the TPP

Over the past two years, members from both Parties and both Houses of the U.S. Congress, as well as Governors from 11 states, have expressed their support to the Administration for strong intellectual property protections for the biopharmaceutical industry to be included in the text of the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP). America's leading policy makers are committed, on a bipartisan basis, to extending these protections to our trading partners, through the TPP's high quality, comprehensive agreement.



## Vietnam to give U.S. citizens one-year validity, multiple-entry visas

Vietnam's government is working on a plan to extend the validity of visas for U.S. citizens from three months to one year in a bid to attract more, according to a recent report. However, the report did not indicate any timeframe. It quoted Tourism Minister Hoang Tuan Anh as saying at a meeting with the US State Department that Vietnam aims to bring the annual number of U.S. arrivals to one million by 2017.



## 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



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