



## TPP may not be entirely dead; Harvard expands co-operation

### FEATURES



#### TPP may not be entirely dead

U.S. to pursue bilateral FTAs with key TPP partners. President Trump's USTR nominee, Robert Lighthizer, told the Senate Finance Committee in questions for the record following his confirmation hearing in mid March that "The President has made it very clear that he intends to promote American leadership in the Asia-Pacific through many channels, including by pursuing bilateral FTAs with our key TPP partners. I support that approach."



#### Harvard University expands co-operation with Vietnamese universities

Harvard University President Drew Gilpin Faust yesterday met with leaders of HCM City University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH) to extend co-operation between the two schools in the upcoming time.

USSH rector Vo Van Sen said the two universities should continue their research about sustainable development in the Mekong Delta and Vietnam's reform during global integration.



#### Enfinity wind power project investor still committed to Vietnam plan

Enfinity Ninh Thuan, the investor of the \$266 million wind farm project in the central province of Ninh Thuan, met with the Ninh Thuan People's Committee once again to resolve all the pending issues to enable its delayed project to quickly make progress.



#### Ministry imposes anti-dumping duties on steel from China

The Ministry of Industry and Trade (MoIT) has issued a decree imposing temporary anti-dumping duties on H-shaped steel products imported from China.

H-shaped steel is used to make support beams at construction projects, girders for containers and trucks, steel decks and chassis.



#### WB pledges \$1.8 billion in 2017 assistance

The World Bank (WB) will earmark US\$1.8 billion for Việt Nam in 2017 to support the nation's poverty reduction, water resource management, agricultural development and urban improvement efforts.

Visiting WB CEO Kristalina Georgieva said this in Hanoi yesterday as she met with Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc and National Assembly Chairwoman Nguyen Thi Kim Ngan.



## Customs plans tighter checks on imported steel products

The General Department of Customs has just asked its officials to strengthen checks on imported steel products after a series of reports on steel firms submitting incorrect declarations about product codes.



## Understanding the VN law on cross-border web sharing

One of the government policies on the management, provision and use of internet services and online information, under Decree No 72/2013/ND-CP dated July 15, 2013, states that only information in accordance with Vietnamese laws may be transmitted to internet users within Viet Nam, even if it is cross-border transmission.



## APEC 2017: opportunities for VN's businesses

The participation of top regional economies and businesses in the business forums and meetings in the APEC Viet Nam Year 2017 creates opportunities for all sides to advertise their potentials and share management measures to effectively join the global value chain.

### Events, Meetings, Special Offers



## Advanced Purchase Promotion to North America from HCM City

Korean Air, is one of the world's top 20 airlines and carried more than 24 million passengers in 2015. Korean Air operates over 460 flights per day to 132 cities in 46 countries on six continents with a fleet of 175 aircraft including ten A380s.

The airline is a founding member of the Sky Team airline alliance, which together with its 20 members, offers its 665 million annual passengers a worldwide system of more than 17,343 daily flights covering 1,062 destinations in 177 countries.



## Amanoi unveils Spa Houses and New Wellness Immersions

This early 2017, Amanoi has unveiled two Spa Houses, the first of their kind of Aman. Situated in the 11.000m2 spa setting, each Spa House provides guests with entirely exclusive spa experience with 2 specialists and comprehensive private facilities in the convenience of their own pavilion. To coincide with the launch of the Spa Houses, Amanoi has also introduced three individual Wellness Immersions, which can be experienced in situ and are available all year around, depending on your purpose of whether weight management, detoxification or stress control.



## PJ's Coffee Vietnam Announces Finalists Of The Barista Competition For Amateurs 2017

The Barista Competition for Amateurs 2017 has completed the Semi-Final round at PJ's Coffee Sala. The top 4 competitors from the Semi-Final will compete in the Final round to win the awards of a Da Lat trip and a professional Barista training course from Saigon Coffee Academy.



## AmCham Women In Engineering Scholarship 2017 Survey

The American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (AmCham Vietnam) is going to re-activate AmCham Women in Engineering Scholarship - a scholarship for female students in Engineering majors at universities - after a pending year of 2016. However, we are wondering whether a scholarship for female students only would still match demands from companies and industries in engineering field or not. Therefore we need your opinion for better organization of the scholarship. Please kindly complete this form before April 5 2017. We commit to keep all your responses in this form confidential.

Visit [here](#) for more information about ACWES 2015. Thank you.



## Apr 12 Property market Overview Q1.2017

CBRE Property market Overview Q1.2017 is an in-depth analysis of one, or more, property sectors

in a specific geographic area during the first three months of 2017. By analyzing the current situation and evaluating the future potential within the sector, the workshop will help provide actionable intelligence to make an informed decision.



### Apr 13 Members' Night & Meet the U.S. Consulate General

AmCham invites you to attend a Members' Night, with cocktails and buffet reception. Members' spouses and guests are not only invited but also encouraged to attend with you. AmCham is 23 years old this year (founded informally in March 1994), and growing. With nearly 500 companies and 1,000 representatives, the AmCham Members Night: Networking Cocktail Reception will offer you an opportunity to get to know your fellow members, while they learn about you and your company.



### Apr 19 2017 Consumer Trends: A shift from tradition to transition

Join us and hear Mr. Ralf Matthaes, Infocus Mekong Research Founder / Managing Director giving insight into a shift in consumer trends and an annual overview of Vietnam's economy.



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

\*Application fee will be waived for companies having a D-U-N-S® number.

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.



### 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): 720K views/yr; 360K visitors/yr (avg. 60K / 30K views/visitors per month) and **11.4K twitter followers**, 9.6K facebook fans (and 60K+ views/month) 5.7k 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

### AmCham Premium Membership Packages

The AmCham Premium Membership comes with a range of membership dues, which include events, advertising, and other exclusive benefits. One all-inclusive Premium Membership annual, semi-annual, or quarterly billing simplifies your company's administration efforts. Premium Membership Benefits include:

- Logo on "Premium Membership" banner on AmCham website homepage
- Logo on "Premium Membership" banner in Weekly Update Email
- Company profile on the "Premium Membership" 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](#).







## 2017 AmCham Discount Program

The AmCham Discount Program is a mutually beneficial opportunity for both Discount Partners and AmCham Members who are representatives of companies doing business and living in Vietnam.

By offering AmCham Members special discounts on services or products, Discount Partners can enjoy marketing opportunities through listing freely and/or placing an advertisement on the [Discount Handbook](#) & [Online](#).

## News and Issues



### A new paradigm for Asia-Pacific Trade ... ?

Wendy Cutler, vice president of the Asia Society Policy Institute and a former diplomat and negotiator in the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, tells us what to expect from the meetings in Chile. As Acting Deputy U.S. Trade Representative, Cutler played a major role in forming TPP - particularly with the bilateral negotiations with Japan.



### FDI firms praise Vietnam's reform efforts

Foreign direct investment (FDI) firms operating in Vietnam highly evaluated the reform efforts the government, ministries, sectors and localities have made to create a more favourable and healthier business climate, experts have said.



### 2017 update on foreign mega investment projects in Vietnam

Trang Vu updates on all the new developments at the billion dollar projects licensed between 2006 and 2016 that were valid as of February 2016 at the time we posted [this article](#). Projects that were finished and have seen no new developments are omitted.



### Vietnamese tea firms eye US market

Representatives of tea-growing regions and tea companies in Viet Nam recently took part in a seminar in New York to seek opportunities to enter the US market.

At the conference, experts spoke about Viet Nam's long history of growing tea and the huge potential for Viet Nam's tea products in the US market. Peter Goggi, president of the US Tea Association, said the US is a potential market for Viet Nam, provided its high standards for quality and food safety can be fulfilled.



### New decree to thwart BEPS practices

2017 marks a critical turning point in transfer pricing-related practices in Vietnam.

To introduce regulatory changes challenging Base Erosion Profit Shifting practices, the government has recently issued Decree No.20/2017/ND-CP on the management of transfer pricing, applicable from May 1, 2017. KPMG in Vietnam discusses the implications of this sea-change.



### Green technology becomes focus of firms to secure a place in Vietnam's energy future

Foreign firms have shown increasing interest in supplying environmentally-friendly equipment for coal-fired power plants in Vietnam, as coal looks to retain its hold on the national power grid over the next decade.

## Food security high on agenda of SOM1's second session



The First APEC Senior Officials Meeting (SOM1) entered its second working day in the south central province of Khanh Hoa's Nha Trang city on March 3 with a series of issues high on the agenda, including food security and climate change.

## Vietnam to apply extensive area code changes in 2017



Area code changes in Ho Chi Minh City, Hanoi, Dong Nai, Binh Duong, and a number of other provinces will take place on June 17, 2017. The new area codes will be applied for 59 cities and provinces in three phases, from February 11 to June 17, with steps taken to ensure the change will not confuse the public, the Ministry of Information and Communications announced. But there are other concerns, such as the need to reprint packaging or business cards once numbers are changed, costing quite a sum.

## Weekly Updates Archive 2006 - 2016



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, opinions expressed by business and political leaders on race and investment issues, and 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.

### Diamond



Global Leader in Health & Beauty



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### Gold



### Silver



TRUONG PHAT J.V COMPANY



### Bronze



RUSSIN & VECCHI

AmCham Vietnam | [herb.cochran@amchamvietnam.com](mailto:herb.cochran@amchamvietnam.com) | <http://www.amchamvietnam.com>  
New World Hotel Saigon #323  
76 Le Lai Street, District 1  
Ho Chi Minh City