



Report on Trade Deficits in 90 days; Trump-Xi Talks

FEATURES



Executive Order re Report on Significant Trade Deficits

The Secretary of Commerce, together with the U.S. Trade Representative and other agencies will prepare a Report on Significant Trade Deficits within 90 days, by the end of June. The study will look at the countries primarily responsible for the U.S. trade deficit, including China, Japan, Germany, Mexico, Ireland, **Vietnam**, Italy, South Korea, Malaysia, India, Thailand, France, Switzerland, Taiwan, Indonesia and Canada. Surprisingly, the U.S. trade deficit with Vietnam (\$32 billion) is larger than that with South Korea (\$28 billion).



Trump, China President Xi meet to chart a way forward for the U.S. -China Relationship

A Background Briefing by Senior Administration Officials on the Visit of President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China focused on the opportunity for the two leaders to exchange views on each other's respective priorities and to chart a way forward for the U.S.-China bilateral relationship.



Trump, China's President Xi have "very candid, very positive" talks

President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping established a new framework for high-level negotiations on a range of issues and pledged to make progress on trade negotiations within the next 100 days, top US officials said. China Daily said both parties appeared "equally enthusiastic about the constructive relationship they have promised to cultivate.



Secretaries of State, Treasury, Commerce discuss Trump-Xi talks

Secretary of State Tillerson. I think what I would really want you to get a grasp of is that both the atmosphere, the chemistry between the two leaders was positive. The posture between the two really set the tone for our subsequent meetings between our high-level delegations. And I would tell you the exchanges were very frank. They were candid, they were open, and they were very positive. So I think all of us are feeling very good about the results of this summit in terms of what it did for setting a very constructive tone going



Decision on the Support mechanisms for the Development of Solar Power Projects in Vietnam

was signed by Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc on April 11, 2017. This Decision regulates the mechanisms for promoting the development of solar power projects in Vietnam.



Members' Night with Special Guests and U.S. Consulate General @ ENVY Club - Photo albums

The first AmCham Members Night event of 2017 with Special Guests including the U.S. Consulate General staff was held successfully on Thursday, April 13 at ENVY Night Club. Almost 150 people joined this special evening for networking and listening the sharing from our Panelists about how to continue advancing the US/VN trade and investment relationship and opportunities provided by Vietnam hosting APEC this year. **Almost 40 new joined companies** with their representatives were also introduced to all participants at this event.

Events, Meetings, Special Offers



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

In 2017, did you know that (1) Consumer confidence has stalled?, (2) Mobile data search is now the 2nd highest info sourcing tool?, (3) 40% of urban Vietnamese took out loans?, (4) Healthcare spend is shifting from reactive to proactive cures?

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.



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.



**MANUFACTURING
COMMITTEE**

Apr 20 Manufacturing Committee April Meeting (For Members Only)

Regular monthly meeting of the Manufacturing Committee for networking, information-sharing, and planning advocacy efforts to improve the business environment and promote trade and investment between Vietnam and the U.S.



Apr 26 AmCham Palooza Party at Hard Rock Cafe

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. Come and join us for a night of casual networking, meet other professionals, bring your business cards!

Dress code: Business Casual

The AmCham Palooza is a popular group that holds networking events and happy hours regularly to increase communication amongst membership and expats.



Apr 27 Cloud: Problem or Solution - Why the Top 10 C-Level priorities for 2017 repeatedly include Cloud?

Multiple articles looking at the Top 10 priorities for 2017 by CEO's, CFO's, CTO's, CIO's and even Sales all heavily feature Cloud. The need for speed to innovate or to cope with disruption or to address growing cyber security threats, Cloud is the common denominator. But do you know how Cloud is disrupting and innovating? Do you know whether cloud is making things more or less secure? Do you know how cloud is impacting your business? If you want to know more then join this event and learn the answers to these and many more questions around cloud. Our speakers will address these issues and reveal a whole new world of cloud.



May 9 Pensions, investments and savings planning - What Americans abroad need to know

The topic will be presented by Mr. Wayne Ellis representing the Tilney Group and Infinity Financial Solutions.

Part 1: Defining the problems and why Americans need to act.

This section will explore the background to why Americans overseas are facing difficulties effectively managing their pensions, investments and savings plans.

Part 2: How to make tax filing a piece of cake.

Part 3: Keeping your investments fully compliant.



May 10 The ABCs of Internal Labor Rules and Disciplinary Hearings

Vietnam's labor laws tend to be employee-friendly and formalistic, which can make discipline and dismissals of employees a very difficult process - even in cases of corruption or criminal conduct. As a counter-balance to this situation, it is vital for companies to have well-drafted internal labor rules and a solid understanding of employee disciplinary procedures.



May 24 Morning Briefing with Q&A: Visa Procedures for Business Travel to the U.S.

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July 1 23rd Annual AmCham U.S. Independence Day Celebration & Family Picnic

Join AmCham members, friends and family to enjoy a celebration of our traditional American holiday and cultural event that is celebrated all across the USA, in big cities and small towns. We are hoping to welcome over 1,000 people to the celebration for a great late morning/early afternoon of Fun, Food and Drinks, Live Music, Games and Great Prizes. Ticket price includes - A delicious "American Fare" Barbecue, Pizza, Cakes, Ice Cream ... and much more. ALSO included is unlimited, Beer, Wine, Pepsi & Coke Products, Coffees. PLUS...Live Bands performing throughout the afternoon and a terrific "Kids Corner" with fun activities, face painting and bouncy castles.



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: 720K views/yr; 360K visitors/yr (avg. 60K / 30K views/visitors per month) and **11.5K twitter followers**, 9.7K 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



APS Mechanical & Electrical Co., Ltd. was honored by "Top Distributor Award" at the Kohler Asia Pacific Distributor Conference 2017 - Australia.

At the conference summary, APS company was honored "TOP DISTRIBUTOR AWARD" for the achievement in the past 2016 with a great number of constructions, hotels, factories ..., have been installed KOHLER generators set with high capacity from 800kVA to 2000kVA, from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City, Phu Quoc, Ca Mau ...



CBRE Vietnam announces new Managing Director Hang Dang

CBRE is pleased to announce the appointment of Ms Hang Dang (Hang) as Managing Director, CBRE Vietnam. Hang joins CBRE on 3rd April 2017, having spent the last 23 years in various leadership positions in real estate firms. Hang spent the last two years in Vingroup, one of Vietnam's top property developers where she was Deputy Managing Director of Vincom Retail and directly responsible for growing sales revenue of the company. She began her real estate career in Richard Ellis in 1994 and handled research, consultancy and brokerage until 1998. She later took on the Managing Directorship at Cushman & Wakefield's Vietnam operations.



Blog: Does U.S. medical research subsidize other countries?

Leading U.S. business and political leaders strongly believe that without adequate IP protection important U.S. industries would be undermined, and many high-technology jobs and companies would disappear. The U.S. produced 57% of the world's new medicines between 2001 and 2010, up from less than a third in the 1970s, the Milken Institute reported in 2011.



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."



U.S., Vietnam renew trade dialogue during Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) Meetings

The United States and Vietnam met on March 27-28 under their Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA) to discuss deepening trade ties between the two nations as well as address outstanding bilateral trade issues. The United States also used the meeting as an opportunity to reaffirm the Trump Administration's commitment to expanding ties with the Asia-Pacific region, including with Vietnam. Agriculture and Food Safety and other working groups were established.



Creditors adjust growth forecasts

The survey on business trends of credit institutions conducted from February 25 to March 9 by the SBV's Statistics and Forecasting Department questioned all credit institutions and branches of foreign banks nationwide. The rate of response was 89.5 per cent.



Clean energy - much potential, but lack pricing mechanism

Electricity of Vietnam (EVN) has recently proposed putting forth a mechanism for auctions of renewable energy projects from 2020 onwards, to give impetus to the development of this industry.



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.



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.

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.



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