



**AmCham Vietnam**  
Ho Chi Minh City Chapter

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## AmCham HCMC Weekly Update - Aug 14

### FEATURES



#### APEC SOM 3 to host most events

As many as 2,600 delegates will make it to the third APEC Senior Officials' Meeting and related meetings (SOM 3) expected to open in HCM City next Friday, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) has announced.

Slated for August 18-30, SOM 3 will accommodate 75 meetings, seminars, and dialogues by four committees and 38 working groups of the Asian-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC).



#### First H&M to open on September 9 in Vietnam

Hennes & Mauritz AB (H&M) announced opening its first store on September 9, 2017 at Vincom Centre Shopping Mall in Ho Chi Minh City.

"This is the most favourable time for us to join the Vietnamese market, H&M's 68th market with great potential in the retail sector. With various diversified fashion products, we hope to meet our customers' expectations and inspire them to explore and create their own style," Fredrik Famm, H&M Southeast Asia country manager, said.



#### Sep 22-24 AmCham National Conference at JW Marriott Phu Quoc

The JW Marriott Phu Quoc Emerald Bay Resort & Spa is a 5-star luxury, quirky style and an unparalleled location. Famed Architect Bill Bensley has designed the resort to pay homage to the fictional historic Lamarck University, with a whimsical ambience that is utterly unique. All of its 244 rooms and suites are extraordinary in their individuality; most feature breathtaking views of the bay, and all offer plush bedding and free Wi-Fi.

Join AmCham members of both chapters, HCMC and Hanoi, friends and family to enjoy a two night weekend stay at JW Marriott Phu Quoc. More details and registration form will be sent to you shortly. **BOOK NOW!**

Events, Meetings, Special Offers

Maastricht **MBA**  
What's the value of

CAREER TALK



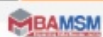
Mr. Rafael Masters, Andrago (MBA) 4001-18,  
Strategic Development Manager,  
Korea Chamber of Commerce Center



Dr. Stephanie James,  
Maastricht School of Management (M)  
The Netherlands



Mr. Ho Tuan Anh, (MBA) 401-16,  
National Sales Manager of Professional  
Products Division, Citicorp Vietnam



18:00 - 21:00, Fri. 25 Aug. 2017

Trung Nguyen Coffee - 19B Pham Ngoc Thach, Dist. 3



Registration for free  
**0904 658 211**



## ANA and United Airlines Introduce 'Asia Joint Venture Simple' Program to Reward SME Business Travelers and our flight schedule from HCMC to USA

All Nippon Airways (ANA) will start 2nd flight from Tokyo (Narita) - Los Angeles from 29 Oct 17. Customers will have opportunity to connect L.A in 2 flights in a day. For details, please check [ANA's website](#)

ANA and United Airlines is now launching the Joint Venture (JV) Simple program, a corporate travel program that aims to support small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) based in Vietnam when their employees travel on business.



## 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.



## Save up to 30% to North America

Save up to 30% discount on flights to 8 exciting destinations in North America: Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago, Boston, New York, Newark, Vancouver and Toronto and onwards to over other 200 points. Plus, Business Class passengers can now enjoy Betsy Beer\*, especially crafted to be enjoyed at 35,000ft. Business class fares start from USD2,448, Premium Economy class from USD1,158 and Economy class from USD541 (excluded tax and surcharges). Book by **31st August 2017** to enjoy our supersaver fares.

*\*applicable for flights in August*



## RMIT EMBA Networking Evening

RMIT University Vietnam is hosting a networking evening with our lecturers, alumni, current and prospective students to discover our Executive MBA program. This special occasion will give you the unique opportunity to share your questions and find the answers to navigating the challenges of taking your career to the next level and expanding your business networks. Special guest Mr. Nguyen Minh Hieu - M&A Advisory Director at KPMG Vietnam will be present to share his experience of joining the program.



## Nha Trang welcomes First Citadines Apart'hotel

Discover Nha Trang's beautiful landscape, favourite eateries, and exciting nightlife while staying at Citadines Bayfront Nha Trang, the first Citadines Apart'hotel in Vietnam.

Open for reservations from 16 July 2017, guests can choose from 310 modern rooms ranging from Studio to One-bedroom Apartments with separate living space, dining area, and fully-equipped kitchenettes.

Enjoy introductory offers from now until 20 December 2017, a Studio with ocean view only from VND 1,560,000 ++ per night.



**MANUFACTURING COMMITTEE**

## Aug 17 AmCham Manufacturing Committee 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.

At this meeting, Becamex representative will share their local and Vietnam development plans, new projects on supplier development "IPO" activities. The Committee will also update members the Supplier Day 2017 and recap of Supply Chain Development Workshop.



## Aug 23 AmCham Palooza Party (venue to be informed)

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

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!



## Aug 28 Food Safety Summit: Growing Markets for High-Quality Vietnamese Products

Special thanks to event sponsors: **CARGILL, COCA-COLA, AmCham FBSC, VinEco, Bureau Veritas, US Grain Counsel, APL, Carrier, DiCentral, CTRMS, Eurofins Sac Ky Hai Dang, SGS, and ThermoFisher.**

In 2017, Vietnam plays host to the Global Food Safety Forum's highly anticipated annual conference. Vietnam's food and seafood products play a vital role in the global supply chain; in 2016, Vietnam's seafood exports reached \$7 billion, of which \$1.4 billion of fish and shellfish exports went to the U.S., accounting for over 40% of U.S. imports of \$3.5 billion of agriculture products and food from Vietnam.

## Aug 30 "Next Steps" U.S. Alumni Career Event



IAJN and EducationUSA are excited to present "Next Steps" U.S. Alumni Career Event which will support U.S. alumni transitioning from education into a meaningful career.

- Connect with U.S. and Vietnamese employers
- Learn the skills you need to get the job you want
- Network and make new professional contacts

Don't miss this great opportunity to get a head start and meet top employers and industry leaders!

## Sep 7 AmCham Members Night and Meet the U.S. Consulate General



AmCham invites you to the Members Night event with Special Guests including the U.S. Consulate General staff. Please plan to join the networking cocktail reception at 5:45pm on September 7, 2017 at InterContinental Saigon.

This will be our special opportunity to introduce you our recently joined members. A cocktail reception will offer networking opportunities for one-on-one conversations with the Consulate General Team, AmCham Governors/Network Leaders, and fellow members.

## Sep 13 AmCham Supplier Day 2017



Following the success of Supplier Day 2014 - 2016, AmCham Vietnam and the Manufacturing Committee is organizing the 4th Annual Supplier Day on September 13, 2017, to support our manufacturing members and to expand the list of qualified local suppliers in Vietnam. The event this year expects to have 200 participations of registered manufacturers and suppliers and the support from other Chambers of Commerce, Business associations, Industrial Parks and other local organizations.

## Oct 19 AAFA Product Safety and Compliance Conference



AAFA brings together industry leaders to educate factories and suppliers in Vietnam.

Industry leaders will educate factories and suppliers in Vietnam on the critical components of manufacturing and delivering products that meet global regulations, industry compliance, and consumer demand. The conference will be presented in English with full translation.

AAFA is pleased to be working with the American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam to present this event. Please mark your calendars to attend and share this date with your providers across Vietnam.

## 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 12K twitter followers, 10K facebook fans (and 60K+ views/month) 5.9k 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

### **Special thanks to USIS to become our Bronze Corporate Partner**

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](#).

## News and Issues



### **Welcome Amanda Rasmussen as new AmCham HCMC Board Member**

Congratulations on her selection to the Board of Governors to fill a vacancy created by the resignation of Brian Smith, who relocated to the USA in July.

Amanda Rasmussen is Chief Operating Officer, ITL Corp, one of the largest logistics and supply chain companies in Vietnam. Amanda has 20 years' experience in logistics, transportation and supply chain management, having held previous roles in DHL, Maersk, Damco and running her own logistics and supply chain training and consulting company for a number of years. Her specific areas of experience include operational, commercial and general management experience in Logistics, Air freight, Ocean freight, Origin Consolidation, PO Management, Warehousing, Distribution, Supply Chain Management and Value Added Services in the Asia Pacific Region and specifically in Vietnam and South East Asia.



### **AmCham HCMC joins Export Forum 2017**

organized by the Trade and Investment Promotion Center of the City (ITPC), with the theme "Market Identification and Risk Management in Export of Vietnamese Enterprises" to promote provision of business information, market orientation and to enhance competitive advantages of local exporters in the process of integrating into the global marketplace.



## AmCham Supply Chain Development Workshop 2017 receives impressive responses from local suppliers

With almost 130 participants, the Workshop had fruitful presentations from Walmart, Social Responsibility Operations Consulting and Wahl Vietnam. Both speakers and audiences really enjoyed Q&A and round table discussion session. The speakers try to accommodate all questions to help business of local suppliers, share the knowledge and experience, especially how to engage them to supply chain.

This is very good response to move to next step for main event **Supplier Day on Sep 13, 2017**.



## Minimum wage to increase 6.5

The regional minimum wage for 2018 is expected to increase by 6.5 per cent, equal to VND180,000-230,000 (US\$8-10) a month, believed to be the lowest increase ever.

The increase was announced on Monday after the National Wage Council concluded its third discussion on the regional minimum wage for 2018, with a consensus reached between employer and labour representatives.



## Tuna export revenue surges 21%

Vietnam's tuna export turnover has risen 21 per cent year-on-year to hit US\$271 million in the first half of 2017.

Sharing export details, the Vietnam Association of Seafood Exporters and Producers (VASEP) said that tuna fillet brought in the most revenue, accounting for around 48 per cent of total tuna exports, followed by canned tuna (30 per cent) and other processed tuna (15 per cent).



## Vietnam catfish exporters worry as US applies tougher inspection procedures from Aug 2

Vietnamese catfish exporters are concerned that the door for their products to enter the U.S. will be narrowed after a new inspection rule takes effect next month.

From August 2, all Vietnamese catfish shipments to the U.S. must be transferred to official import inspection establishments specified by the U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) for re-inspection before they can be forwarded to importers and sold to American end-consumers.

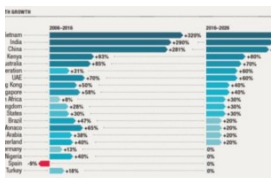


## United States littoral combat ship visits Vietnam

A United States Navy littoral combat ship has docked at an international seaport in the south-central Vietnamese province of Khanh Hoa, commencing a series of exchanges between the two nations' naval forces

The Independence-class vessel USS Coronado (LCS-4) arrived at the Cam Ranh International Port, located in the namesake city in Khanh Hoa, on Wednesday morning.

Captained by Alexis T. Walker, commander of the Destroyer Squadron 7, the ship and its crew of 130 naval officers are scheduled to visit Vietnam from July 6 to 11.



## Vietnam's growing demand for US property

Vietnamese people's demand for foreign property, especially in the US, has been increasing in recent years. Experts say this increase can be attributed to Vietnam's fast growing economy and Vietnamese people's belief that the US is a good place to live and work.

A report by the US National Association of Realtors (NAR) showed that between April 2016 and March 2017, Vietnamese buyers purchased approximately 5,689 residential properties in the US, roughly double of the previous 12-months period.



## Hard Rock interested in developing casino at Laguna Lang Co

US-based casino operator and hospitality business Hard Rock International Inc. has confirmed its interest in developing a casino at Laguna Lang Co integrated resort complex in the central province of Thua Thien-Hue, according to newswire GGRAsia.



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.



## Corporate Partnership Sponsors

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