



## AmCham HCMC Weekly Update - Sep 18

### FEATURES



#### Sep 22-24 AmCham National Conference 2017 at JW Marriott Phu Quoc

##### *Special Thanks to our two Gold Sponsors: COCA-COLA and SUN GROUP*

We can't wait till this Friday for a great networking event - **AmCham National Conference 2017** - at JW Marriott Emerald Bay, a superb new resort in Phu Quoc.

If you have not signed up yet, please call us at (028) 3824 3562 or email [wendy.nguyen@amchamvietnam.com](mailto:wendy.nguyen@amchamvietnam.com) for reservation. Only 3 rooms left.

Click [HERE](#) for latest list of registered participants. **You should not miss it!!!**



#### FDI inflow into HCM City shoot up

HCM City has attracted US\$3.23 billion in foreign direct investment (FDI) in the first eight months of 2017, reported the municipal Department of Planning and Investment.

This is 1.57 times higher than the figure in the same period last year.

One of the biggest FDI projects currently in HCM City is the Saigon Silicon City Project, a research and development project and home to many of the world's biggest high-tech corporations and technology start-up companies.



#### APEC should help SMEs access tech, says PM

Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc has called on APEC member economies to accelerate efforts to enable small- and medium-sized enterprises to capitalise on new trade opportunities created by digital advances.

Speaking at the opening of the 24th APEC Small and Medium Enterprises Ministerial Meeting in HCM City on Friday, he said SMEs, the engines of growth and innovation in APEC economies, account for over 97 per cent of all companies and employ 60 per cent of the workforce.



#### PM suggests APEC fund to support SMEs development

An APEC fund should be set up to support and encourage small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in APEC economies to enhance partnership with multi-national corporations in the global value chain.

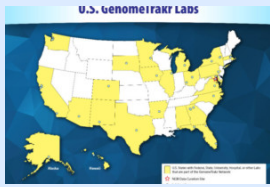
PM Nguyen Xuan Phuc made the above suggestion at the 24th APEC ministerial meeting on SMEs in Ho Chi Minh City on September 15.



#### PM Phuc places SME innovation in focus

Improving competitiveness and innovative capacity are some of the key points small and medium enterprises must focus on, said Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc at the 24th APEC SMEs Ministerial Meeting held today in Ho Chi Minh City.

Hosted by the Ministry of Planning and Investment, the 24th APEC SMEs Ministerial Meeting was attended by representatives of 21 APEC economies and is one of the most important meetings of APEC.



## FDA plans to use WGS (whole genome sequencing) to protect consumers worldwide from food borne illnesses

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that as many as 600 million people in the world fall ill every year after eating contaminated food and 420,000 of these people die. U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC) estimates for those numbers in the U.S. are 48 million people (1 in 6 Americans) get sick, 128,000 are hospitalized, and 3,000 die each year from foodborne diseases. This is a significant public health burden that is largely preventable.

### Events, Meetings, Special Offers



## AMCHAM PALOOZA

### Sep 20 AmCham Palooza Party at Belgo

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.



### 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.



### 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.



### 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. **Business** class fares start from **USD2,427**, **Premium Economy** class from **USD1,137** and **Economy** class from **USD520** (excluded tax and surcharges). Book by **31st October 2017** to enjoy our supersaver fares.



Good Food, Good Life

### The Nestlé Creating Shared Value Prize

The Nestlé Creating Shared Value (CSV) Prize is awarded by the Nestlé CSV Council every two years. The competition helps scale up or replicate business-oriented initiatives that address challenges in nutrition, water or rural development; open to social and private enterprises, as well as NGOs. We look for innovative projects, programmes or businesses that have already been tested either as a pilot study or at a small scale; that demonstrate positive social and environmental impact; and that need support to become commercially viable. We invest financial and technical resources in the winning initiatives, to help them expand and achieve financial sustainability. 2018 Prize package values at CHF 500'000.



## Sep 25 - 27 Training Course for FSCPA-PCQI Preventive Controls Qualified Individual (in Vietnamese)

This is the FDA-recognized standardized curriculum to become a PCQI, as established by the Preventive Controls Rule of the FSMA. Thank you for joining us at the Aug 28 Food Safety Summit. Following up on the summit, VTFA/AmCham cooperates with Vietnamese High-Quality Product Business Association and Bureau Veritas to organize the FSMA - PCQI training course, in Vietnamese, for Vietnamese exporters to meet the international requirements.



Logistics & Supply Chain Committee

## Sep 27 Logistics & Supply Chain Committee Launch Networking Night

Join us at the re-launch of the AmCham HCMC Logistics and Supply Chain Committee. Our focus is to provide networking opportunities as well as a platform to address and discuss current industry issues.



## 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.



## Dec 02 The 242nd Annual Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Join the 242nd U.S. Marine Corps Ball at The Reverie Saigon 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.

The Marine Security Detachment, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam would like to invite you to attend our celebration. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you at this year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball!



## Dec 09 22nd Annual AmCham Governors' Ball - MERRY MIAMI

The AmCham Board of Governors cordially invites you to the 22nd Annual AmCham Governors' Ball, this year to be held on Saturday, December 9, 2017, from 6:30 pm. Our theme this year is MERRY MIAMI.

This year's holiday fête will feature unsurpassed gourmet fare, currently under creation by the InterContinental's Chef, diverse and first-class musical entertainment, and, of course, the usual abundance of holiday fellowship and cheer. More details will be provided soon.



## Dec 10 5th Annual Breakfast with Santa - SAVE THE DATE

Get ready and excited once again to see Santa and welcome our friends from an Orphanage Organization or Open House (name to be provided) at the 5th 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.



## 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):
- Announcement in Weekly Email
- E-Blast Advertising

**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 Premium Member - Bronze level**

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



### APEC delegates discuss hurdles to supply chain finance

Providing micro, small and medium enterprises with access to financial services as a means of promoting inclusive and sustainable economic growth and employment is very important since they still find it difficult to get the financing they need to grow and create jobs, the APEC SME Finance Forum heard in HCM City yesterday.



### APEC forum agrees to foster small and medium-sized firms

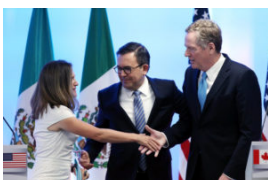
The digital economy is driving growth nowadays, and it is getting hard for business owners to do cross-border trading or access the global market if they do not embrace digital transformation, the 2017 APEC Online-to-Offline (O2O) Initiative Forum heard in HCM City on Sunday.



### Simplifying business conditions: an urgent need

Nguyen Dinh Cung, head of Central Institute for Economic Management, scrutinises recent efforts from authorised management agencies to improve the local business environment through simplifying procedures.

At the government meeting last month, the prime minister asked authorised management agencies to review and abolish irrational business conditions that hinder firms' business and production activities. Has there been any progress so far?



### Nafta Talks Lurch Ahead Without Signs of Major Progress

The renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement sputtered forward on Tuesday as officials from the United States, Canada and Mexico concluded their second round of talks with plenty of pleasantries but little major progress to announce.



## VN's value chain integration praised by WB

According to the World Bank (WB), Việt Nam has integrated into the global value chain and improved national economic progress and productivity through creative policy making for the transportation, service, border control and regional co-operation sectors.



## USDA, USTR Announce that Vietnam Reopens Market to U.S. DDGS Exports

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative (USTR) today announced that the government of Vietnam has notified the U.S. that it will resume imports of American distillers dried grains (DDGS). In December 2016, Vietnam suspended imports of U.S. DDGS after reported detections of quarantine pests in U.S. shipments. Prior to the suspension, Vietnam was the third-largest market for U.S. DDGS, with exports valued at more than \$230 million in 2016. The resolution of this issue also opens the way for corn and wheat shipments, which were restricted due to previous treatment requirements.

## 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.



## AmCham Premium Members

### Diamond



### Gold



### Silver



TRUONG PHAT J.V COMPANY

### Bronze



RUSSIN & VECCHI

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