



**AmCham Vietnam**  
Ho Chi Minh City Chapter



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## AmCham HCMC Weekly Update - 17th Week of 2018

### FEATURES



#### Technology transfer to HCMC remains insignificant

HCMC - Technology transfers from foreign firms to domestic partners have been as scant as ever, said Nguyen Thanh Phong, chairman of HCMC, at a meeting with foreign firms on April 21. In 1995, foreign-invested companies contributed around 11% to gross domestic product (GDP) in the city, and the figure has now risen to 17%. Their exports account for a staggering 55.9% of the city's total. They have created direct jobs for about 270,000 workers and millions of indirect jobs.



#### Volunteers clean up nation on Earth Day

A community clean-up event to mark Earth Day brought together more than 2,000 volunteers from associations, organisations and universities besides local residents, who picked up garbage at 12 locations in HCM City yesterday morning.



#### Ministries speed up streamlining of regulations

Ministries have continued accelerating administrative reforms to aid businesses in their operations.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD) said they were reviewing and proposing to cut 241 business conditions out of 345, accounting for 70 per cent of the total in the area.



#### City urges IT, telecom sector to take part in smart-city development

Secretary of the HCM Party Committee Nguyen Thien Nhan has called on the IT and telecommunications sectors to work closely with local agencies in smart-city development.



#### G.E. Makes a Sharp 'Pivot' on Digital

No old-line company embraced the digital wave with more gusto than General Electric. The industrial giant spent billions, hired thousands of software engineers and even created image-morphing television ads to recast itself as "a digital-industrial company."



## Vietnam must work on growth quality

In the midst of the country's rapid economic growth and its great demand for capital, Vietnam is in dire need of better policies to mobilise financial resources for further investment into the economy.



## May 5 AmCham's Cinco de Mayo Party at District Federal, D2

Cross the border (no walls) for AmCham's first Cinco de Mayo party at District Federal, an authentic Mexican woodfired grill & bar in Thao Dien, District 2, to celebrate this Mexican/American cultural event in HCMC on Saturday, May 5 starting at 7:00pm. You will enjoy great Mexican food, drinks and music!

**A special prize will be presented to the person who wears the best Latin outfit at this night.**



## Jun 30 24th Annual AmCham US 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. This year's event will celebrate 242 years of American Independence. Don't miss this fun-filled day of an American Holiday tradition with live music, amazing food, drinks, and entertainment for ALL. AMCHAM's Independence Day Celebration and Family Picnic is guaranteed to be a great day for the whole family.

***We are seeking sponsorship in the form of cash, products, and raffle prizes. Please contact us if you interest in becoming a sponsor of this special celebration.***



## AmCham ICT Committee Survey

The AmCham ICT Committee 2018 Planning Workshop held in March 2018 decided upon a 2018 overarching event theme of Smart Cities.

We attach a quick 3-question survey to gain your input of which events you'd be interested to attend, arrange or speak at.

We'll use the survey results to help select the topics for the 2018 events.

Thank you very much your feedback by **May 25, 2018.**

## Sponsored News



## VNHRA 2018 Is Officially Back With Breakthrough Initiatives

First held by Talentnet in 2014, Vietnam HR Awards is proud to be back with new breakthrough features to honor and recognize enterprises with the best HR Strategy.

Ha Noi, on 18 Apr, 2018 - Vietnam HR Awards 2018 was officially launched by The Labor and Social Affairs newspaper - the organ of the Ministry of Labor, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) - and Talentnet Corporation.



## Mongolian Culinary and Cultural Fair at Windsor Plaza Hotel

At Café Central An Dong from 20 to 29 April guests will be treated to two different buffets of traditional Mongolian fare presented as part of the Windsor Plaza Hotel's Mongolian Culinary and Cultural Fair.

Available to Friday for 468,000++ per person at lunch, and at dinner for 698,000++ per person. Both include free flow of German beer and house red and white wine.

On the weekend, you can enjoy lunch for 518,000++ per person and dinner for 798,000++ per person, including a free flow of sparkling wine, house red and white wine and German beer.



## Advanced Purchase Promotion to North America from HCM City

Korean Air is one of the world's top 20 airlines and carried more than 26 million passengers in 2016. Korean Air operates over 460 flights per day to 123 cities in 43 countries on six continents with a fleet of 169 aircraft. With its modern aircraft and over 20,000 professional employees, Korean Air offers customers convenience and comfort. Korean Air's award-winning offerings of Korean and international meals and state-of-the-art inflight entertainment system provide passengers with a memorable inflight experience. The airline is a founding member of the Sky Team airline alliance, which together with its 20 members, offers its 612 million annual passengers a worldwide system of more than 16,320 daily flights covering 1,052 destinations in 177 countries. More on Korean Air's programs, routes, frequencies and partners is available at [www.koreanair.com](http://www.koreanair.com)



### Wed, May 2 Pont des Arts at Social Club Restaurant

A gourmet 5-course set menu paired with an exclusive, limited collection of fine wines and spirits from Pont des Arts right at out iconic Social Club Restaurant. This time, Pont des Arts collaborate with the Chinese Artist Yue Minjun whose exciting and cheerful artworks were used as each bottle labels. Immerse yourself with once-in-a-lifetime experience with Pont des Arts - the first international high-end brand of French wines, building a bridge between Art and Wines, Bordeaux and Burgundy, East and West as well as collectors and newcomers alike.

Wednesday, 2nd May 2018 | From 7:00pm - 10:00pm  
Social Club Restaurant, 23rd Floor  
VND 2,488,000++ per person

## Upcoming Events & Meetings, Special Offers



### ENERGY COMMITTEE

#### Apr 24 AmCham Energy Committee Meeting

Meeting agenda:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Preparation for VBF and Meeting with MoT in May:
3. Energy Security in 2019. Is power supply reliable in dry season 2019 and 2020?
4. Other discussion - update on Hanoi energy group activities



#### Apr 24 AmCham Palooza Party at The Reverie's Poolside

Please join us the next AmCham Palooza Party on Wed, April 24 at the Poolside of The Reverie on the 6th Floor. This monthly Palooza Party is a platform to develop new friendships, networking opportunities and information exchange. People from all age groups are welcome to attend. Do not forget to bring many of your business cards for mingle and networking with other AmCham members and guests.



#### May 7 Air Quality & Impact on Health and Economy

Vietnam is ranked in the bottom ten globally for its air quality on the Environmental Performance Index. Since the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi and U.S. Consulate General in HCMC began operating rooftop air quality monitors three years ago, public awareness about air quality and corresponding health impacts has grown significantly. The U.S. Mission has invited Dr. George Conway to speak in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi as part of the Mission's Air Quality Awareness Week (May 7 - 11) efforts to educate concerned parents, citizens, and government officials about the causes and health impacts of deteriorating air quality in Vietnam's two largest cities.



#### May 16 Foreign Investment in Distribution and Retail Industry - Updates on Decree 09/2018

Recently, the Vietnamese Government has decided to replace Decree 23 with Decree 09/2018/ND-CP which has brought significant changes, especially eliminating a number



of restrictions previously contained in Decree 23. In consideration of many benefits for foreign investors who want to invest and do business in Vietnam from 2018, our leading lawyers/partners would like to give a speech on the updates from Decree 09/2018 and offer a complete guide for foreign investors/businesses to invest in Vietnam, especially in Distribution and Retail industry. Our instruction and information will surely bring such huge benefits for AmCham corporate members.



### **May 22 2018 Market Outlook: Public Private Partnerships in Vietnam Infrastructure**

The presentation will examine fundamental project finance/bankability issues under the prevailing Vietnam PPP legal regime, including project structuring, mechanics of private sector bids, risk allocation and management between sponsors and an authorised State body (ASB), payment structures and viability gap funding (VGF), termination payments, land mortgage and onshore security package, lenders' step-in rights and direct agreements, limited sponsor support, loan syndication and funding documentation, scope of the Ministry of Justice (MOJ) legal opinion, investment protection and tiered dispute resolution, and legal and practical issues associated with enforcement of Government guarantees (GGU) in Vietnam.



### **May 24 Manufacturing Committee May Meeting (For AmCham's Members)**

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.



### **AmCham HCMC would like to express a warm welcome to 36 new company members that have joined us during the first quarter of 2018**

500 Startups Vietnam | Alpha King Real Estate Development JSC | American Tax for Expats | Anh Khoa's Brother Corporation | APL Vietnam | BHMA - Bespoke Hospitality Management Asia | Cetana Psb Intellis International College LLC | Crystal Steel Fabricators Philippines Inc | Daewon Cable Co., Ltd | DAI | Emergent Cold Vietnam Ltd | Four Points by Sheraton Danang | Fulbright University Vietnam | GMG Auto JSC (DCAR) | Goodman Asia Consulting | GRAB | Hello 5 Coffee Corporation | Hoffman Iron and Steel LLC | Hoozing Company Ltd | Hung Dong Limited Company | Industrialfloor Products Co.,Ltd | Intes Co., Ltd | IVY Construction Company Limited | JE Austin Associates | Lotte Legend Hotel Saigon | Odyssey Hospitality Management JSC | Shopee Company Limited | Sonadezi Chau Duc Shareholding Company | Terrapinn Pte Ltd | Terumo BCT Vietnam Co. Ltd | The Veranda Resort Joint Venture | Thuan Phuong Embroideries Garments Co., Ltd | UPC Renewables Asia I Limited | URC Vietnam Company Limited | Vestas Wind Technology Vietnam LLC | WHA Hemaraj Management Services Company.



### **DO YOU KNOW.....?**

#### **Benefits when you are AmCham Members**

We love our AmCham members! What we want to know is do you know all the benefits you get with your membership? It's possible that you only remember the ones you've used recently, but there are many ways even our basic level memberships benefit at AmCham. Click [HERE](#) for details.

### **Opportunities to join AMCHAM PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP 2018**

The AmCham Premium Membership 2018 offers companies who want to commit demonstrate their leadership and support for AmCham mission and programs. With the strong support of these fine businesses, AmCham is able to achieve its mission at a much higher level.

Our Premium Membership comes with a range of exclusive benefits. One all-inclusive Premium Membership's annual billing simplifies your businesses' sponsorship efforts. Click [HERE](#) for Premium Members' benefits.

## OUR PREMIUM MEMBERS



### Diamond



### Silver



### Bronze



RUSSIN & VECCHI



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