

# AmCham HCMC Weekly Update - 41st Week of 2018

# **FEATURES**



Call for Recommendations - Election of Governors in connection with Annual General Meeting 2018

AmCham HCMC will hold its annual election for members of the Board of Governors in connection with the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday, December 4, 2018. There are nine seats up for election. If you are interested, or if you know a friend that is interested, in being considered by the Nominating Committee as a possible candidate for election to the Board of Governors, and willing to serve from Jan 2019 to Dec 2020, please fill out the **Recommendation Form** (and send it to the Nominating Committee, email: amcham.nominating@amchamvietnam.com by **6:00pm on Oct. 15.** 



### Vietnam supports foreign investors

Vietnam will maintain its policy of encouraging foreign investment and continue to improve its investment environment to facilitate investors, said Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc. In a speech delivered at a conference reviewing 30 years of attracting foreign direct investment (FDI) held in Hanoi on Thursday, Phuc said after three decades of economic reform, the FDI sector remained an indispensable part of Vietnam's economy.



### Domestic reforms propel Vietnam's robust economic growth: WB

Vietnam's economy continues to perform well, propelled by the sustained global recovery and continued domestic reforms, according to a new World Bank (WB) report. The report, titled "Navigating Uncertainty", is the October 2018 edition of the World Bank East and Pacific Economies Update. Released on Thursday, it says that Vietnam's medium-term outlook has improved further.



# 2018 Nobel Prize in Medicine Awarded to 2 Cancer Immunotherapy Researchers

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded on Monday to James P. Allison of the United States and Tasuku Honjo of Japan for their work on unleashing the body's immune system to attack cancer, a breakthrough that has led to an entirely new class of drugs and brought lasting remissions to many patients who had run out of options.



#### What comes after the U.S., Mexico, Canada Agreement?

The real significance of the revised trade agreement with Canada and Mexico is what comes next ... dealing with China.

The trade deal reached Sunday alters the North American Free Trade Agreement in ways that hand out benefits to both labor and business. Labor gets steeper local-content rules and high-wage input requirements for autos. Pharmaceutical companies get protection for their intellectual property that is even better than they would have won in TPP. American banks and financial institutions get rules protecting them from having to host data on servers in local markets, something they wanted in TPP but couldn't secure.



# Oct 18 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.

# Our Warm Welcome to New Joined Members - September 2018

**Corporate Members:** Amaryllis Company., Ltd. | Berjaya Corporation Berhad | Phoenix Revolution Inc. | Costa Farm | European International Education Services | Hinrich Foundation | Logivan Technologies Pte. | Individual Members: Mrs. Jocelyn Tran | Mr. Mika Rantala |

Click HERE for full list of our new joined members with their company profiles



New Chamber Members

### Seeking prizes for lucky draws of AmCham Annual Events 2018

AmCham HCMC is seeking prizes for lucky draws at its three annual event of 2018: Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament on Nov. 22, Annual General Meeting & Members Night on Dec. 4 and Governors Ball on Dec. 8, 2018 Prizes can be vouchers for dining, weekend stay hotel, spa treatments, products & services, gift coupons,.... Your logo and details of prizes are announced and displayed before and during events on website and other printed event materials. If you are intersted in sponsoring, please contact Ms. Lily by email or tel (28) 3824 3562.

### **Sponsored News**



# Celebrate the week of passion at Park Hyatt Saigon

For the first time, Passion Week will gather internationally well-known artists and Michelin Star chefs throughout a series of activities from 14-17 November, 2018. The event will host exclusive workshops with international masters in art, food and wine. Passion Week will also introduce four gala wine dinners created by Michelin Star Chefs. Guests are invited to a cocktail reception to get to know the chefs, watch them create exquisite dishes through an open kitchen and share stories during dinner.



# Spa Indulgence Package at Intercontinental Nha Trang

Awaken all your senses at Spa InterContinental with your choice of two spa treatments per stay and unlimited access to our wellness center.

- \* Luxurious accommodation for two persons
- Two spa treatments per stay
- \* Unlimited access to our wellness center
- \* International buffet breakfast at Cookbook Cafe
- \* Wifi internet access throughout the hotel
- \* Late check out until 2 pm
- \*Terms and conditions apply

For more information, please view via http://nhatrang.intercontinental.com/specialoffers or call +84 258 388 7777 or email reservation.icnt@ihg.com



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# TÜV Rheinland Vietnam Hardlines extends environmental testing capabilities for products

TÜV Rheinland is supporting manufacturers, and exporters of Hardlines products (e.g.: Furniture or Household goods) for more than 11 years in Vietnam. With the extension of environmental product testing capabilities, TÜV Rheinland Vietnam Hardlines Laboratory, located in District 12, Ho Chi Minh City will continue helping its clients to meet increasing safety & quality requirements for their products.

# Legal Updates September 2018

Welcome to our Legal Updates September, 2018 with the main contents: Law Enforcement: 04 new inspectorate conclusions in labor and 03 new decisions on sanctioning the administrative violations of regulations on standards, measurement and products quality; Legal documents: 11 new legal documents in Tax - Fee, Food Safety, Labor, Commerce and Investment - Enterprise; Documents for guidance and management: 03 new official letters in Customs; Legal drafts: 16 new drafts in Commerce, Tax - Fee, Labor, Food Safety, Criminal, Customs and Standards, Measurement and Products Quality. Should you have any question, please feel free to let us know via info@letranlaw.com

# 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

### Upcoming Events & Meetings, Special Offers



### AmCham Tax Committee would like to hear from you

Dear members,

As part of our continuous efforts and commitments to provide the supports to your business in Vietnam, we have set up a tax committee, of which the core team members comprise of both in-house tax experts and professional tax advisors to build up t h e necessary and diversified knowledges and experiences. Your contributions, sharings and questions should be sent to tax@amchamvietnam.com and please be reassured that your information will be handled with proper care.



# Oct 9 Legal and VBF Liaison Committee Monthly Meeting - October

Regular monthly meeting of the committee to review upcoming events, discuss and prepare positions on key issues, laws and regulations relating to trade and investment between Vietnam and the United States.



# Oct 17 Logistics and Supply Chain Committee October Meeting (For AmCham's Members)

Regular monthly meeting of the Logistics and Supply Chain 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.

#### Russin & Vecchi

### Oct 17 The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act - What You Need To Know

The Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) is an important statute that helps reduce corruption and reinforce public and investor confidence in markets throughout the world. The primary aim of Congress in enacting the FCPA was to prohibit US companies from paying or offering bribes to foreign government officials for the purpose of obtaining or retaining business advantages. Justice Department officials say strong enforcement of the law helps create a level playing field in business transactions by eliminating corruption from the equation. There is, however, substantial confusion over what is legal and what isn't - especially in the murky area of business dealings with managers and employees of state-owned enterprises.



# Oct 24 AmCham Palooza Party co-hosted by BBGV at Windsor Plaza Saigon

Join members of AmCham and BBGV the last AmCham Palooza Party of 2018 at the Windsor Plaza Saigon's Top of The Town Bar. You will enjoy spectacular 360-degree views over Vietnam's most cosmopolitan city while networking and mingling. Free admission for AmCham & BBGV Members. Happy Hour Drinks with Complimentary Canapes.



### Oct 25 HR Committee Morning Briefing: Redefining Leadership

We would like to invite you to a breakfast seminar hosted by the HR Committee of AmCham on "Redefining Leadership". The seminar will feature Samie Al-Achrafi, CEO of Marmalade Fish, as the keynote speaker and other business leaders in the panel discussion. With trust in leadership at an all time low, Samie will explore the need to think long-term about how to meaningfully align values at every level of the organisation.



# Oct 26 Manufacturing Committee October Meeting (For AmCham's Members)

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



### Oct 31 Construction Ligitation

Construction is one of the leading growth industries in Vietnam. This industry has brought many great opportunities and prospects for foreign investments. However, the rapid growth of this industry also leads to the increase in disputes during the business operation. Those disputes have not only negatively influenced many projects but in some cases, also led to the project failure. Understanding how to effectively navigate construction disputes is critical for keeping your investments in the construction industry stable and successful.

By joining our seminar, you will understand: - The characteristics of construction disputes; - Claims relating to delay in construction; - Variation claims; - Claims arising from the termination; - Issues surrounding performance bonds



#### Nov 16 The 243rd Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Join the 243rd 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 Marine Security Detachment, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam would like to invite AmCham companies to attend this celebration. We look forward to seeing each and every one of you at this year's Marine Corps Birthday Ball!



# *Nov* 22 AmCham Thanksgiving Turkey Shoot Golf Tournament and Lunch

This Thanksgiving Day golf event will kick off at Vietnam Golf & Country Club with an 8:00am Shotgun. There lots of prizes for all to win, a commemorative golf cap just for each participant. Products of Coca-Cola, Pepsi, and Budweiser beer will be served throughout the day and our awards ceremony will feature a bountiful Roast Turkey spread for everyone to enjoy have a fun day out on the course!!

Don't miss out on this Annual golfing event and sign up today!!!



# Dec 4 AmCham Annual General Meeting & Members Night

Come to enjoy a report on our activities and successes of the past year, and meet with the new 2019 AmCham Board of Governors. Following the Annual General Meeting will be the Members' Night networking cocktail reception. Free of charge for Members and their spouses. Free flow of wine, beer, and soft drinks, and hearty hors d'oeuvres hosted by AmCham Vietnam in HCMC, and our sponsors.



### Dec 8 AmCham Governors Ball - LET IT SNOW!

This year's Governors' Ball, themed Let It Snow, will transport guests to a winter wonderland in tropical Saigon for the holidays complete with atmosphere and decorations exuding Christmas charm.

The Governors' Ball brings together over 400+ members of both our extended AmCham community and Vietnamese business and government leaders and network. As such, it provides a unique opportunity for companies to promote themselves to a large and influential audience, in a festive and charitable setting. We hope that you will consider becoming an official part of this special evening as a sponsor.

We are seeking sponsorship in cash and in-kind for prizes of silent auction and lucky draw.



# Dec 9 Breakfast with Santa - SAVE THE DATE

Get ready and excited once again to see Santa and welcome our friends from an orphans association at the 6th Annual AmCham Breakfast with Santa. Limited Tickets Available, so please book early and purchase tickets in advance. No sales

at door. Tables of 10 or 12 should be reserved in advance. More details will come soon!



# AmCham Scholarship 2018

2018 marks the eighteenth year of The AmCham Scholarship Program. During the last 18 years, the program has been devoting to improving the business environment in Vietnam in general, and the HCM City area in particular, by helping develop high quality human resources for member companies, as well as helping students develop essential professional working skills. Since launched in 2001, AmCham Scholarship Program has continually been growing. To 2017, the program has totally awarded 815 scholarships to students from 15 leading universities in Ho Chi Minh City. The number of participating universities increased to 18 this year.



# 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 <u>HERE</u> for details.

### **Opportunities to join AMCHAM PREMIUM MEMBERSHIP 2018-2019**

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.

