



AmCham Vietnam Weekly Update - 26th Week of 2020 - June 27, 2020

Join AmCham Vietnam Today

Executive Director Update

Colleagues, we hope you are continuing to enjoy our unique almost-normal environment and freedoms. Vietnam continues to receive global recognition for its effective management of the COVID-19 pandemic- now over 70 days without community spread! And Vietnam's most critically ill patient is now fully conscious, able to stand with help, and doctors expect will be able to walk normally in a couple of weeks. We hope you are now getting your regular healthcare checks, as well as getting out and supporting your local restaurants, and local shops, enjoying a staycation at a nearby hotel -- or visiting some of the other beautiful resorts and destinations in Vietnam! Crowds are returning to airports and tourist destinations, so remember your masks and take appropriate safety precautions. I now travel everywhere with hand sanitizer, antibacterial wipes, and a small bottle of alcohol (not the drinking kind:). And, as many of you have noticed, try to avoid shaking hands. After getting a bit of a cold over the weekend, I am trying to stick to a no handshake policy!

This week, we were honored to have Ambassador Kritenbrink join AmCham Vietnam-HCMC to share his perspective on the U.S.-Vietnam bilateral relationship on the eve of the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations. Ambassador Kritenbrink has been a great friend, and partner with, the U.S. business community in Vietnam. We look forward to continuing to partner to strengthen U.S. -Vietnam trade and investment ties.



We also hosted a special "Rediscover Vietnam" AmCham Connect & Cocktails to promote domestic travel and tourism and provided members a chance to learn how to make the most of Vietnam's domestic travel opportunities from the experts. The event was honored to receive MC Extraordinaire and Board Member Walter Blocker and AmCham Vietnam-Da Nang

Vice Chair and Co-Chair of Tourism and Hospitality Committee Chris Vanloon to attend. Many thanks to our Lucky Draw sponsors: EXO Travel Vietnam, InterContinental Saigon, Soul Story, Streets Restaurant Café Hoi An, Terraverde Travel, TMG, and Vespa Adventures! More photos at [link!](#) Please check links to participating travel agencies for special packages and personalized travel plans.

Terraverde



iVIVU



EXO



Luxperia

The AmCham Independence Day Celebration and Community Picnic is on Saturday, July 4. Don't miss this wonderful community events - buy tickets NOW for yourselves, your teams, your families, and invited guests.

<https://www.amchamvietnam.com/events/26th-annual-amcham-us-independence-day-celebration/>

Meanwhile, AmCham Vietnam-HCMC continues to support you as Vietnam continues its economic recovery. We welcome your feedback at team@amchamvietnam.com to let us know how we can serve you better, including what topics you would like to see covered in upcoming events. A summary of recent actions is below:

1. Policy Recommendations. AmCham Vietnam-HCMC continues to make an impact. Thanks to your feedback and recommendations, and expert advisers in our COVID19 Policy Task Force (Baker & McKenzie's Fred Burke, Nguyen Thuy Hang, Chung Yee, and Nguyen Thanh Vinh; AIM's Mark Gillin; Mayer Brown's Ursula Szotyory-Grove; and Vriens & Co's Sam Pursch) - as well as often Chair of AmCham Hanoi VBF and Legal Committee Nguyen Thanh Hai, we are providing timely, constructive recommendations to the Vietnamese government on both COVID-related and general trade and investment policies. This week, we also will share some recommendations with the Ministry of Planning and Investment to improve the business environment.

2. Contributions of Goods and Financial Contributions by AmCham and our Member Companies to Support the Vietnamese Government's Response. AmCham Vietnam-HCMC commends the effectiveness of actions taken by Vietnamese Government leaders in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is proud of the contributions toward this response made by our member companies. We are delighted to see Vietnam's response finally getting global recognition.

We are now working with Vietnam Fatherland Front and HCMC Center for Disease Control (HCDC) to schedule the Delivery Ceremony of a Realtime PCR analyzer in the 2nd week of July to donate to the HCDC in managing its response to COVID-19 and other infectious diseases. We very much appreciate the generous contributions from First Solar, Diag Labs, MSD, Cargill, Russin & Vecchi, and UPC Renewables.

We also are happy to highlight any COVID-related contributions from our member companies on our social media and with the U.S. Mission. Please email details to **Cindy Tran**.

3. Identifying companies that want to manufacture Personal Protective Equipment for export to the United States. The U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) has asked AmCham for assistance in identifying companies that may want to manufacture PPE for export to the United States. USAID is coordinating this initiative through the LinkSME program. If your company has interest/capability in manufacturing and exporting PPE, please contact Frank Weiland at fweiland@linksme.org for more information.

4. Supporting Local Business. We at AmCham want to support local businesses which contribute so much to our quality of life in Vietnam by inviting them to join our 2020 AmCham Discount Partnership Program. Please consider joining for your company or refer a favorite local business by sending their email address or a copy of their business card to Membership Manager **Sam Hoang**. To our members, please make sure you support our Discount Partners, many of which also offer online shopping or delivery services. Click **HERE** for our Discount Partners information.

5. Supporting Vietnam's Front-Line Workers. To continuously support the Vietnamese Government in the COVID-19 fight, AmCham Vietnam-HCMC would like to call for your contribution of less perishable food items to some of the front-line workers in Vietnam's hospitals and public quarantine areas. We are working with the Vietnam Fatherland Front of HCMC for this campaign. Contact Office Manager **Cindy Tran**, who can ensure contributions are still welcomed and coordinate delivery. This effort will continue to be important, as Vietnam opens up to more international arrivals.

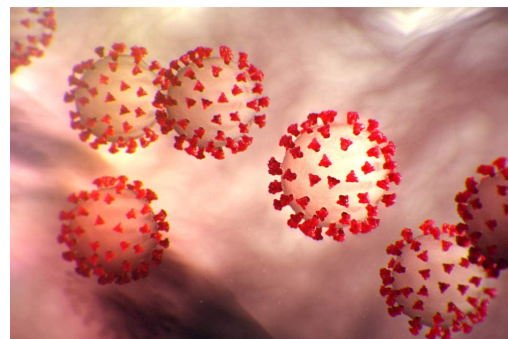
Please stay well, be safe, stay dry, and enjoy our new normal environment! And feel virtuous supporting local businesses by eating out or taking a vacation. Many of our member companies' wonderful hotels and resorts are offering special deals!!

Mary Tarnowka, Executive Director

Stay Informed- Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) Outbreak

AmCham Vietnam wants to provide a safe environment for events and business networking. We recognize that there is always a risk of a second outbreak, particularly if measures liberalize with respect to international arrivals. We also know that we all have different comfort levels with respect to the changing situation. [\[LINK\]](#)

In response, AmCham has begun a rating system for all of our events, explained below. We hope this is useful to you in making your own decisions about which events in which you would like to participate. As always, we welcome your feedback at team@amchamvietnam.com.



EVENT LEVEL RATING



EVENT LEVEL RATING

LEVEL I: In-person event. No maximum group size



Wearing Mask (optional)
Hand Sanitizer (provided upon entry to event)
Temperature Check: (mandatory upon entry to event)
 Hand sanitizers available at event
 Host staff properly trained and intermittently wipes tables

Handshaking discouraged



LEVEL II: Hybrid event: in-person/virtual OR physical only Maximum group size: 120



Wearing Mask (optional, by discretion of participant)
Hand Sanitizer (mandatory upon entry to event)
Temperature Check (mandatory upon entry to event)
 Host staff properly trained and intermittently wipes tables
 Hand sanitizers liberally available during event

Handshaking discouraged

1-meter distance encouraged but not mandatory



LEVEL III: Hybrid event: in-person/virtual. Maximum group size: 25



Wearing Mask (mandatory)
Hand Sanitizer (mandatory upon entry to event)
Temperature Check (mandatory upon entry to event)
 Hand sanitizers liberally available during event

Handshaking strongly discouraged



LEVEL IV: 100% Virtual event. No limit on participation

Stay informed of the latest updates on COVID-19 at <https://www.amchamvietnam.com>

Some additional tips below from Dr. Mason Cobb, Vice-Chair, and Dr. Andy Meadows, of AmCham Healthcare Committee's Medical Providers Subcommittee:

The global battle against the COVID-19 pandemic rages on with some regions and countries showing little sign of progress, and others displaying signs of a second wave. The situation remains calm in Vietnam, now 10 weeks without domestic community transmission. A successful response in any infectious disease outbreak requires the Public Health and Healthcare systems to integrate and collaborate. A strong response is required from both.

In the United States, at least 465 front-line healthcare workers lost their lives due to COVID-19 as of this week, more than the 412 first responders who lost their lives in the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Another 84,000 have tested positive for the disease. These are likely only a fraction of the total, as employment type is not recorded in all cases. And the pandemic in the United States is continuing with several states' healthcare facilities over-stressed. So, the numbers of healthcare workers affected is likely to increase, with perhaps more deaths. These numbers demonstrate the ever-present risk of healthcare workers sacrificing themselves to serve those among us who become ill.

No deaths have occurred in Vietnam among healthcare workers or military personnel in quarantine camps, but a cluster of cases did happen at a prominent healthcare facility. As with the general public, Vietnam healthcare workers have been

Cases did happen at a prominent healthcare facility. As with the general public, Vietnam healthcare workers have been fortunate and extremely effective.

Of course, the list of essential front-line workers goes beyond just those associated with the delivery of healthcare, directly or indirectly. Supermarket and convenience store clerks, city services employees, public safety officers, cleaners, caretakers, delivery drivers – anyone who kept serving people so the rest of us could stay home. The risks braved by these workers helped us all manage the lockdown and social distancing period more safely, successfully, and comfortably.

As life in Vietnam returns increasingly to normal and these sacrifices become less directly obvious, take a moment to remember and appreciate those who risked their health and lives for us. We salute them!

Upcoming Events

Monday, June 29

Hybrid Virtual AmCham 101 - New Member Orientation (For AmCham Members Only)

4:00-5:00pm, AmCham Vietnam - HCMC, Suite 323, New World Saigon Hotel, 76 Le Lai Street, Dist. 1

Event Level Rating: II

We would like to invite you to join **Hybrid Virtual AmCham 101 – New Member Orientation**. At this new members event, you will learn more from our Executive Director, Mary Tarnowka, about AmCham Vietnam benefits, our mission, and programs to help new members achieve success, and how to get involved in and maximize your investment in AmCham membership. It is also a way to meet other new AmCham Vietnam HCMC members. While this event is designed for new members, we welcome other members on a space available basis. **If you can not join this meeting physically, you can still register to join virtually via Zoom.** Contact **Ms. Sam Hoang** if you have any questions.



[Register Online](#)

26th Annual AmCham U.S. Independence Day Celebration & Community Picnic

Saturday, July 4th, 2020

11:30am-5:30pm

Riverside Apartments, An Phu, District 2

Event Level Rating: I

Join AmCham Vietnam-HCMC's annual Independence Day Celebration and Community Picnic, on the actual holiday, Saturday, July 4. This year will celebrate 244 years of American Independence - and the 25th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the United States and Vietnam.

Feel like you are back in the USA with a variety of traditional American food and beverage options, including: hot dogs, hamburgers, BBQ ribs, tacos, chill con carne, fried chicken, macaroni and cheese, pizza, popcorn, cupcakes, whoopie pies, cotton candy, and ice cream; soft drinks, beer and wine, along with international and local cuisine.

The official ceremony will include brief remarks by U.S. Consul General Marie Damour and presentation of colors by the U.S. Consulate's Marine Security Guards, as well a live performance of the national anthem by Stacy McCandless.

Enjoy live music all day featuring renowned saxophonist Tran Manh Tuan and his daughter An Tran, and Davis Zunk's No Jive Jazz Band and Zunkbomb's American rock/funk. Children will enjoy a terrific kids corner with many fun activities including face painting and a bouncy castle.

With more of us here in Saigon this summer than ever, we expect this year's AmCham's Independence Day and Community Picnic to sell out quickly. Please purchase now!



[Register Online](#)

Monday, July 6

Virtual AmCham Education Committee Event: Skills Gap Webinar

8:00-9:00am, Please register to get the link for virtual attendance.

Event Level Rating: II

Fulbright University Vietnam (Fulbright) and the AmCham Education Committee will conduct a Skills Gap Webinar on July 6th to present the results of the Skills Gap Survey. AmCham members and education institutions will have the opportunity to discuss the implications of the report and explore potential initiatives to improve the skill sets of the future workforce. The webinar will kick-off a long running skills gap project by identifying initiatives which allow partners to work together in addressing these gaps.

The Skills Gap Survey was conducted by Fulbright University Vietnam (Fulbright) and the AmCham Education Committee to provide insight on whether companies are able to hire individuals with the most needed talents and skills. The Skills Gap Report identified several areas where collaboration between employers and universities would be helpful in eliminating skills gaps. You can access the report **HERE**.

The AmCham Education Committee and Fulbright are asking companies and schools to join the webinar and offer your suggestions on building this important link between industry and educators. Please register for the webinar to be held 8:00 to 9:00am on Monday July 6.

[Register Online](#)

Thursday, July 10

Employment Dispute Resolution

8:30-10:30am, The Reverie Saigon, 22-36 Nguyen Hue Boulevard,
Dist. 1

Event Level Rating: II

Our seminar will help you to activate your understanding on:

- What are the conditions and critical issues concerning employment disputes?
- What are the common disputes related to salaries and bonuses?
- How are training expenses settled in case of termination?
- Are confidential information and non-disclosure agreements enforceable in Vietnam and which remedies can be applied in case of breach?



LE & TRAN
TRIAL LAWYERS

Employment Dispute Resolution



Stephen Le Hoang Chuong
Founder, Le & Tran

9
JULY

08:30 AM - 10:30 AM
@The Reverie Saigon

[Register Online](#)

Sponsored News



03 reasons for losing a unilateral termination of labor contract lawsuit due to restructuring

Lay-offs due to restructuring are very common in today's business climate. However, this can also result in many lawsuits filed by the employees against the company by claiming that the restructuring was unlawful and the company had illegally unilaterally terminated the labor contracts. Here are 03 mistakes that companies often make during the restructuring process which will often result in losing a lawsuit at Court.



Thai Street Food Festival at Windsor Plaza Hotel

Windsor Plaza Hotel is presenting the best street food Thailand has to offer from 3 - 31 July at its Café Central An Dong's dinner buffet. Available Monday to

Friday for VND 798,000++ per person including free flow German draught beer, juices and soft drinks, and on Saturday and Sunday for VND 898,000++ including free flow of sparkling wine, German draught beer, juices and soft drinks.



Summer Happiness - Exclusive Summer Offer at Mövenpick Resort Waverly Phu Quoc

Book now and choose your stay until 31st October
 Enjoy the best of tropical paradise at Mövenpick Resort Waverly Phu Quoc - the first international 5-star resort on Ong Lang Beach, Phu Quoc island.
BOOK NOW to get VND 1,000,000 Daily credit* for any booking from VND 2,500,000+/-/night
 Extra benefit with 02 complimentary spa vouchers for any booking on Deluxe, Suite or Villa.
 (*) Daily credit is applied for F&B and Spa service at the hotel

AZERAI

Book between 1st and 14th July 2020 for stays until 20th December 2020 to benefit from exclusive rate of Azerai Resident Getaway

Discover the natural beauty of the Mekong Delta in style or Explore the UNESCO heritage sites in Hue with AzeraiResorts. In addition to specific rate, USD 25 credit can be used at our award-winning Spa or one of our Gourmet facilities. Access to all our facilities is also included in the exclusive rate of VND 5,865,000 net. Check our website www.azerai.com for more information and contact us at: corp mice@azerai.com for reservations. This offer is reserved to AmCham Members.

Committee Meetings & Activities (For AmCham Members Only)

Wednesday, July 1

Virtual Education Committee Meeting

8:30-10:00am, Please register to get the link for virtual attendance.

Event Level Rating: II

- Update on Skills Gap Webinar (6 July, 8-9am)
- Update on weekly virtual coffee hour
- Update on Student Well-being plans
- Education Development Initiative – Volunteers?
- Opportunities for advocacy input – Volunteers?
- Open discussion



EDUCATION COMMITTEE

[Register Here](#)

Monday, July 6

Virtual Capital Markets and Financial Services Committee (CMFSC) Meeting

4:00-5:00pm, Please register to get the link for virtual attendance.

Event Level Rating: II

- Introduction of CMFSC to new members
- CIC's updates and initiatives around State equitization and the latest divestment opportunities.
- Q&A
- CMFS Committee Updates
- Others



CAPITAL MARKETS & FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, July 7

Tuesday, July 14

Tuesday, July 14

Hybrid Virtual Tourism & Hospitality Committee Meeting

9:00-10:00am, AmCham Vietnam
HCMC, Suite 323, New World
Saigon Hotel, 76 Le Lai Street,
District 1



**TOURISM & HOSPITALITY
COMMITTEE**

Event Level Rating: II

You can join us virtually or physically. For physical attendees, please register in advance to reserve your seat. For virtual attendees, please register to receive the Zoom link.

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, July 14

Virtual Energy Committee Meeting

9:00-10:30am, Please register to
get the link for virtual attendance.



ENERGY COMMITTEE

Event Level Rating: II

Monthly meeting to discuss 2020
priorities.

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, July 14

Legal & VBF Liaison Committee Monthly Meeting

5:00-6:15pm, Baker & McKenzie
(Vietnam) Ltd, 12th Floor, Saigon
Tower, 29 Le Duan Street, Dist. 1



**LEGAL & VBF LIAISON
COMMITTEE**

Event Level Rating: II

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.

[Register Here](#)

Tuesday, July 21

Virtual Digital Economy Committee Meeting

9:00-10:00am, Please register to
get the link for virtual attendance.



**DIGITAL ECONOMY
COMMITTEE**

Event Level Rating: II

Monthly meeting to discuss 2020
priorities.

[Register Here](#)

Do You Know?



WELCOME TO OUR NEW DISCOUNT PARTNERS



WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS!



Let's support local businesses - many now operating online or delivery/takeout only to promote social distancing. If you have any questions regarding our program, please contact Membership Manager Sam Hoang at sam.hoang@amchamvietnam.com

AmCham Premium Membership

The AmCham Premium Membership 2020 is a leadership-level membership for companies contributing strategic support for AmCham's mission and programs. Our Premium Membership comes with a range of exclusive benefits. One all-inclusive Premium Membership's annual billing simplifies your businesses' sponsorship efforts.

[Premium Membership Packages](#)

Benefits of AmCham Membership

We love our AmCham members! Do you know all the benefits you get with your membership? Maybe you only remember the ones you've used recently, but there are many ways even our basic level members benefit at AmCham.



[Email Sam Hoang](#)

In the News

- Patient 91: How Vietnam saved a British pilot and kept a clean Covid-19 sheet
- Vietnam not ready to reopen doors to foreign tourists: PM
- Ho Chi Minh City courts U.S. investment in new 'Eastern City'
- Ambassador highlights trust in Vietnam-US relations
- Vietnam a good example of COVID-19 response: WB country director
- Major businesses undergo slow recovery after Covid-19

AMCHAM PREMIUM MEMBERS



Diamond



Gold



Silver



Bronze



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Contact AmCham Vietnam

