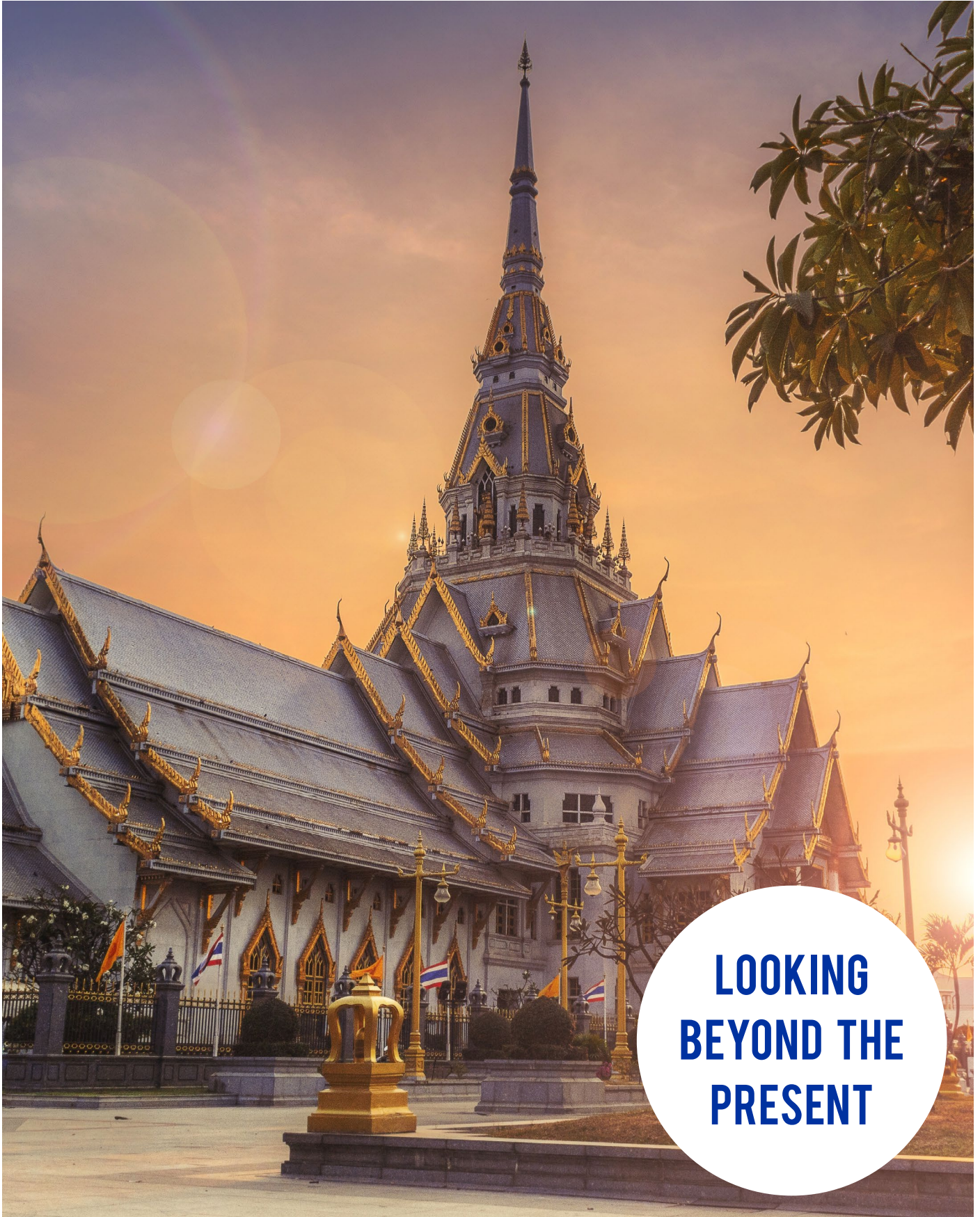


**ISSUE**  
April - June 2018

# INFORMA



The Business Magazine of the Thai - Italian  
Chamber of Commerce



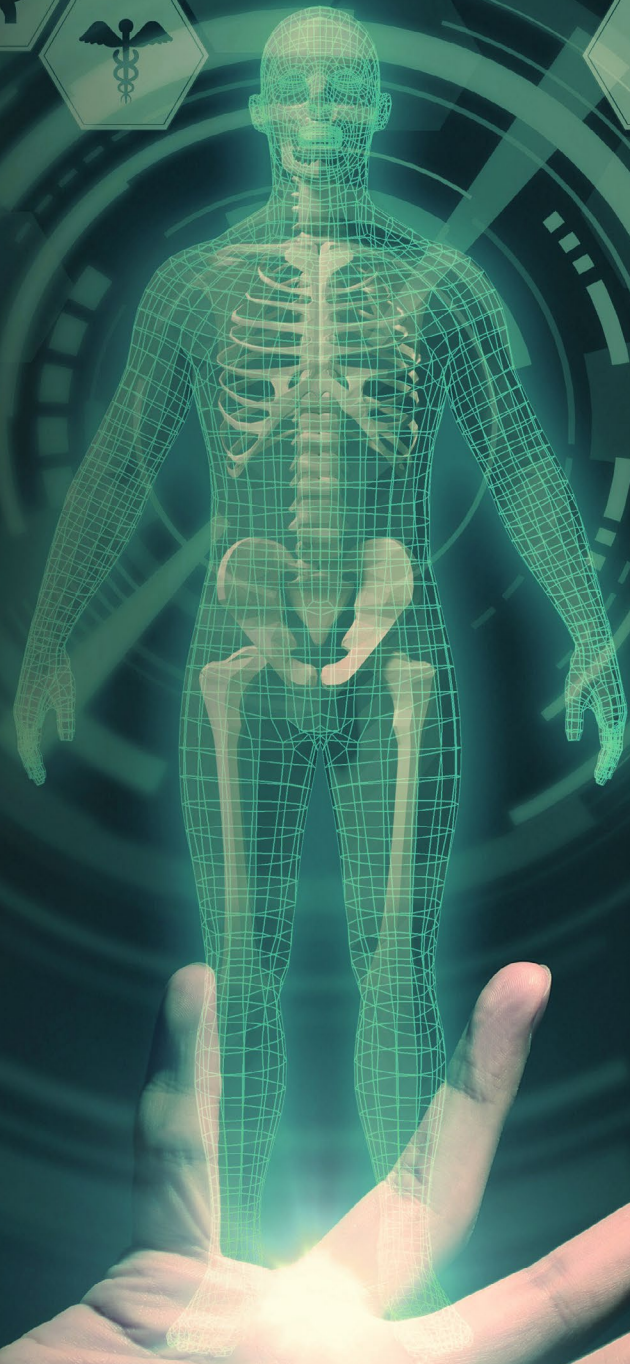
**LOOKING  
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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**Federico Cardini**  
President



Dear TICC Members and Friends,

I am very pleased to present the second issue of *INFORMA* for the year 2018 to you. The readers will find invaluable tips on how to encounter cultural differences that challenge expats. Furthermore, the readers can find answers on how to open a restaurant of their dreams in Thailand. The readers will also be able to find ASEAN Economic Community News with detailed updates on Thailand's banking, legal, commercial and exporting segments.

In addition, the current issue of *INFORMA* gives in-depth outlook with regard to ASEAN region and its fostering economic opportunities. While giving brief outlook on foreign direct investments made by both Thailand and India, the growing importance of India as one of the main traders in ASEAN region is also highlighted in this issue. Taking into consideration the ascension of the Trans-Pacific Partnership, APEC and ASEAN appear to have gained more power all over the world.

March 2018 was full of interesting and exciting events for the TICC. On the 6th of March, Cirio event "Culinary Trends in Italian and Western Cuisine" was successfully organized through new partnership between Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce and Conserve Italia. During the event, audience was given a chance to contemplate unforgettable cooking performance led by Master Chef Massimo Esposito and Chef Roberto Parentela.

One of the most important events of the year is undoubtedly Annual General Meeting 2018 which was held on March 19 with more than 90 attendees.

TICC is strongly supporting the jewelry segment. It held Gem & Jewelry Committee Meeting at its office on the 26th of March bringing together 29 companies to communicate and discuss current trends within the sector. Moreover, the Chamber works in cooperation with the Gem and Jewelry Institute of Thailand (GIT), the public organization that researches information and provides resources on quality assessment systems of gemstones which play significant role in consumer confidence. On a different note, the Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce organized the first exclusive ASEAN Public-Private Partnership Summit and welcomed the representatives of Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Energy, and Board of Investment of Thailand all in one occasion at Dusit Thani Bangkok Hotel on the 4th of April.

Lastly, with the urgent global issues such as climate change and global warming, Thailand is now focusing on the latest renewable energy programs, trends and development, including green energy. TICC invites you to attend the 14th South East Asia's Renewable Energy Technology Exhibition and Conference, ASEAN Sustainable Energy Week, which will be held starting from the 6th until the 9th of June. The Exhibition and Conference will be highlighting on the most modern systems and programs used or to be used in the energy sector.

Once again, we continually strive for devised and focused initiatives and welcome member participation in order to assist us in defining the needs of our members so that we could be in a better position to deliver what our business community seeks.

Thank you and we wish all of you great accomplishments this year.

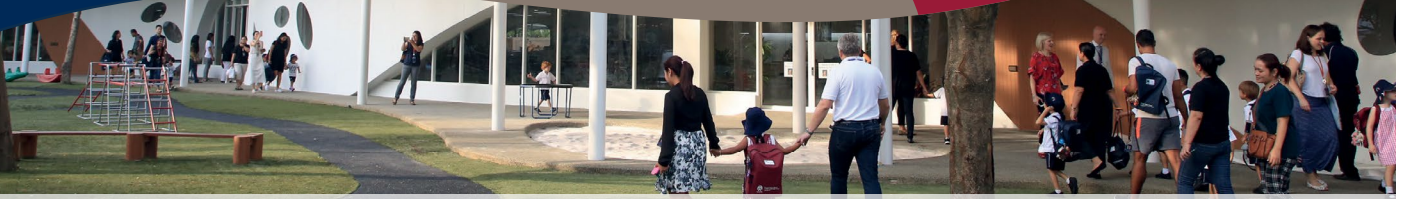
Arrivederci,

Federico Cardini

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# CIRIO EVENT

## "CULINARY TRENDS IN ITALIAN AND WESTERN CUISINE"

At The Sukhothai Hotel, Bangkok – March 6, 2018

The TICC has partnered with **Conserve Italia** (New Member 2018), East West Trading Agencies Co., Ltd. and Mr. **Francesco Cioffi**, GM of Red Moon Co., Ltd. in order to organize an astonishing Cooking Class focused on "Culinary Trends in Italian and Western Cuisine" in the heart of Bangkok, one of the most renowned foodies' destination.

The aim of the project was to promote "Made in Italy" products and of course, Cirio's Brand, one of the most ancient Fruit and Vegetables Canned Manufacturer in Italy (founded in 1856).

Before the start of the Cooking Event, Mr. **Federico Cardini**, TICC President, has welcomed the audience of around 80 people in the Ballroom of the Sukhothai Hotel. After the brief commercial presentation on Italian Products' Import and Export wisely held by Mr. **Fabio De Cillis**, Trade Commissioner of the Italian Trade Agency, Mr. Diego Pariotti, Head of Export of Conserve Italia, went on the stage to give an introductory speech about Conserve Italia and CIRIO. After that, Mr. Giuseppe Altigieri, Export Manager of Conserve Italia has coordinated the Show with the 2 Chefs by explaining the dishes preparation paired with Cirio's products.

The cooking performance was led by Master Chef, **Massimo Esposito**, Chairman of the Federation of Italian

Chefs (China Delegation) and Chef **Roberto Parentela**, Italian Chef at Spasso Restaurant in Grand Hyatt Erawan.



The Thai Italian Chamber of Commerce was honored to be part of this project, for this reason, we would like to thank our partners who have helped us to realize such incredible event:

- **Conserve Italia and Cirio;**
- **East West Trading Agencies Co., Ltd** – CIRIO's sole distributor in Thailand;
- **Red Moon Co., Ltd** and Mr. **Francesco Cioffi** for event coordination;
- **The Sukhothai Hotel** for venue and event coordination;
- **The Grand Hyatt Erawan Hotel** for supporting the event with Chef Roberto Parentela, Italian Chef at Spasso Restaurant;
- **The Bosch Siemens Home Appliance (BSH)** for the professional cooking station on stage;
- **Wiseginox Co., Ltd** for the kitchen items;
- **Classic Fine Foods** and Mr. **Lino Farinelli** for the professional oven.



Scan this QR Code for more pictures

# LOOKING BEYOND THE PRESENT: ASEAN AND THE GEOECONOMICS OF THE PACIFIC RIM

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Over the past 30 years the evolution of the Asia Pacific has been extraordinary. Established in 1967, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations has built a framework of a regional community for its member states. Today, it finds itself inextricably linked to the same central hub of economic activity in the Asia-Pacific, whether it be China or the United States. Despite all the media attention given to the geoeconomic rivalry between Beijing and Washington, the key pillars for an integrated and sustainable Pacific Rim community continue to be ASEAN and APEC.

## A. ASEAN CENTRALITY

Regional integration in East Asia and the Asia-Pacific are seen through several mechanisms such as the ASEAN+3 Summit, East Asia Summit, ASEAN Regional Forum, and Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation forum (APEC). At the 4th East Asia Summit in October 2009 in Thailand, Australia put forward the idea of an Asia Pacific Community with ASEAN as the core of this newly-proposed regional architecture. Indeed, ASEAN is fundamental to any initiative involving regional integration in East Asia or the Asia Pacific.

However, an official definition of the term “ASEAN centrality” and a clear-cut approach on how to promote it are missing. According to ASEAN’s Political and Security Community Blueprint, in order to strengthen the centrality of the organization in regional cooperation and community building, ASEAN must fulfill certain criteria. These include the following: “... initiate, host, chair and/ or co-chair activities and meetings with Dialogue Partners within the context of ASEAN+3, EAS, and the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF); initiate and implement concrete cooperation activities; advance ARF towards Preventive Diplomacy; and enhance coordination in ASEAN’s external relations and regional and multilateral fora.

Additionally, in April 2010 ASEAN leaders at the 16th ASEAN Summit in Hanoi agreed to adopt a “two-prong approach” for maintaining ASEAN centrality through the acceleration of ASEAN integration and the intensification of ASEAN’s external relations with major powers, such the United States, China, Japan, and India.

Nonetheless, ASEAN’s ability to manage its relations with these Asia Pacific powers seems to be limited. Also, ASEAN’s prosperity depends on a positive relationship existing with the aforementioned four powers.

Consequently, it becomes an imperative for ASEAN to push forward greater economic interconnectivity across the Asia-Pacific through the advocacy of multilateral free trade arrangements. For instance, ASEAN has free trade agreements with six partners namely China (ACFTA), South Korea (AKFTA), Japan (AJCEP), India (AIFTA) as well as Australia and New Zealand (AANZFTA).

Yet, what can ASEAN do to elevate its centrality?

## B. PIVOT TO APEC

APEC was created in 1989 in response to the need for a regional structure that would bridge the Pacific, avoiding the possibility that regionalism would devolve into geographic cliques — namely, a proposed East Asian Caucus (an Asia-only structure tabled by then Malaysian prime minister, Mahathir Mohamad) and the North American Free Trade Agreement. APEC’s agenda has been overwhelmingly focused on economic coordination and facilitation, not security, and APEC is an important and useful structure that links key countries across the Pacific.



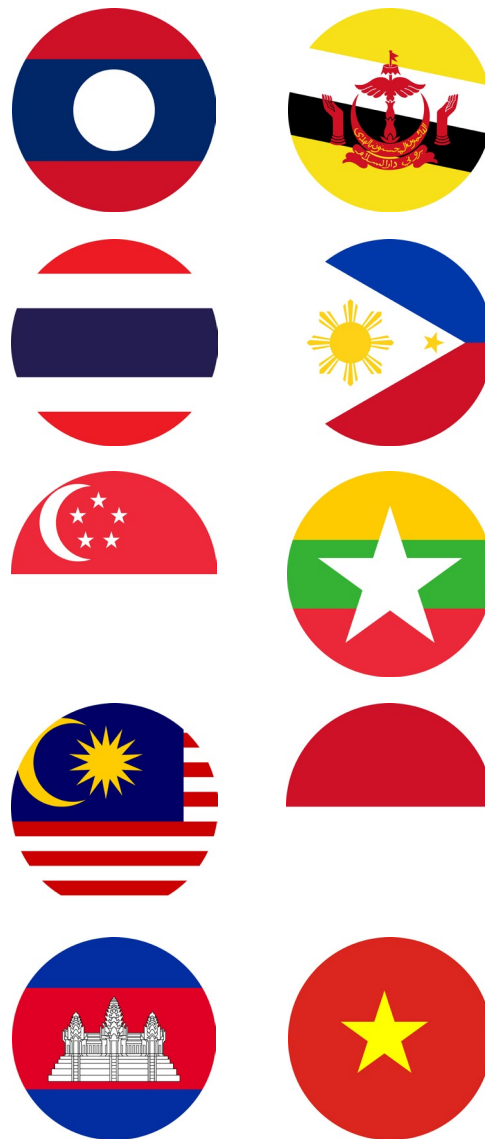
While APEC already includes 21 economies, it does not embrace all of the ASEAN countries, nor does it contain key Latin American countries seeking to join the trans-Pacific dialogue, such as Colombia.

Historically speaking, APEC has been visionary but nowadays it appears that it has lost much of its relevance. For instance, its much vaunted concept of Open Regionalism has not been adopted officially by any national government in the Asia Pacific, even though it is tied inextricably to the process of trade liberalization.

Still, APEC continues to serve a necessary function in that it is a forum of inclusiveness, bringing together economies of all sizes and levels of development. And perhaps it is this permanent feature that makes the organization so valuable for the future of the Asia Pacific as a whole. APEC can serve as a bridge for an emerging trans-Pacific community and its Free Trade Area of the Asia Pacific (FTAAP) blueprint can narrow the gap between the conflicting visions of China and the US.

## C. RISE OF THE PACIFIC RIM

The ascension of the Trans-Pacific Partnership and of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership is a clear example that there exists an acknowledgement amongst many political and business leaders that the Asia Pacific requires the establishment of a more open and inclusive marketplace. Trade and commerce between the countries of the Asia-Pacific are fueling much of the region's development and wealth. Despite the policy dissimilarities, a framework for greater interconnectivity exists with the FTAAP. If ASEAN gravitates towards APEC it would be the most appropriate forum for the organization to demonstrate leadership regarding economic integration and maximize its centrality.





# BUY WITH CONFIDENCE WITH GIT

Thanong Leelawatanasuk, GIT

When someone wants to buy a piece of gemstone or jewelry, first questions that appear on any consumer's mind could be;

- Is it a genuine stone?
- If yes, what about its quality?
- Is it undergone any treatment on its quality?
- Is the price worth buying?

Proper answers to such questions are crucial to warrant the consumer's confidence. Prices of gem or jewelry product do not always dictate the quality and standard of the merchandise, and their pricing levels depend on the satisfaction of both buyer and seller. Moreover, with the advancement of science and technology today anything can be produced, as such, the number of the synthetic/imitation/artificial products is now getting more sophisticate and harder to be determined. Furthermore, the inconsistent of quality evaluation also plays a major part on the consumer confidence.

For this reason, the Gem and Jewelry Institute of Thailand (Public Organization) aka GIT which has been established since 1998 with missions to support the country's gem and jewelry industry by uphold the gem and jewelry testing and quality standardization to give an assurance to the whole supplied chain through the end-consumer with non-bias,

international standard and highly ethical gem and precious metal testing services. Meanwhile, through decades, the Institute has conducted many in-depth types of research on the various fields related gem and jewelry in both scientific topics such as treatment detection, geographical origin, characterization of gem material and quality standard as well as strategic/marketing topics to support industrial and government policy.

Treatments of Ruby and Sapphire are the most important key success that drives Thailand to become the world number one trading center of this kind of gemstone. In particular,

heat treatment, the techniques have been continually innovating and improving by gem burners based in Chanthaburi, the gem town in the east of Thailand. For more than three decades, these knowledge and wisdom have been secretly improving and transferred from generation to generation. There is numerous trial and error experiments were conduct until one can succeed. Due to the lack of high-quality gem found in the mining area but growth in demand for this gemstone in the world market result to the heat treated or heat-enhanced ruby and sapphire with a permanent change in color and clarity become widely accepted in the gem market nowadays.



However, one of the institute highly success project is the quality grading systems of the ruby, blue sapphire and sapphires which are the most important strength of Thais gem industry. The objective in creating these standards is to have an accurate, reliable measure for colored stones' quality evaluation; in particular to assess the communication between traders and consumers on "Color quality" of ruby and sapphire for their trading and price structure.

For a decade, the quality assessment systems for such gem have been developed and continually refined through opinions and inputs from gem traders and gemologists worldwide. Finally, the GIT has established colored stone master standards on ruby, blue sapphire, padparadscha and other fancy color sapphire, especially, for exquisite quality of the legendary colors of Pigeon's Blood ruby and Royal Blue Sapphire, are the two most famous names used to in trade refer to the pinnacle of desirable colors available to ruby and blue sapphire, respectively.

Finally, for celebrating the institute's 20th anniversary in 2018, GIT and our allied organization have been launched the campaign "Buy with Confidence with GIT" aims to raise awareness and lift up the country image to reach the goal to become the world's gem and jewelry hub in 2020. Many activities in both academic marketing and PR have been set for this year. For more information please visit GIT electronic and social media such as website ([www.git.or.th](http://www.git.or.th)), Facebook (GIT) line:GITOfficial





# IS THAILAND'S AGING POPULATION AN OPPORTUNITY FOR MEDICAL CARE SECTOR?

Countries all around the world are experiencing rapid changes in their demographics and Thailand is not an exception. The age structure among Thais is shifting from younger to elder, thus, creating 'population aging'. By 2050 27% of country's population will be represented by people older than 60<sup>1</sup>. While currently the median age is 37.8 (statista.com). Such phenomenon can be explained by low fertility rate and higher life expectancy. According to the World Bank (figure 1), Thailand's birth rate has been decreasing drastically since 1960s showcasing new trends in modern society where more women obtain high education and job position, thus having less time on building families.

On one hand, the aging population phenomenon might demonstrate great success of health care institutions that make contribution towards longer life expectancy. However, on the other hand, Thailand might face obstacles and emergent issues with regards to health care demand and rising costs, unstable social security programs and shortage of labor workforce. All these matters have direct impact on economic, political and social aspects of the country that should be balanced to achieve welfare nation-state. The main question is whether Thailand is ready to meet demands among increasing number of aging society?

The government has been showcasing certain initiatives to recognize and respect elder society through establishing National Committee of Senior Citizens and adjusting domestic policy by implementing Second National Plan for Older Person (2002-2021). This program promotes positive attitude towards senior society, proper health care and social security.

In order to provide for rapidly increasing elder population, the government will need to spend more on healthcare and public pensions, thus, it should plan ahead for fiscal burdens. Currently Thailand is granting universal health coverage for the whole population with health expenditure of 4.1%<sup>2</sup>. The main concern appears to be within governmental budget where full funding of 164bn THB for universal health care was not accomplished. Instead, the allowance per person for a year was reduced by estimated 650 THB. Consequently, it is unluckily that the system will be able to cover rising demand with such limited budget.

It is important to notice the increasing significance of elder society which tends to need more frequent health care. Representing large portion of the population in the nearest future, seniors will be looking for stable social security program that needs governmental funding. Yet, the challenge appears to be regarding the efficient labor force that

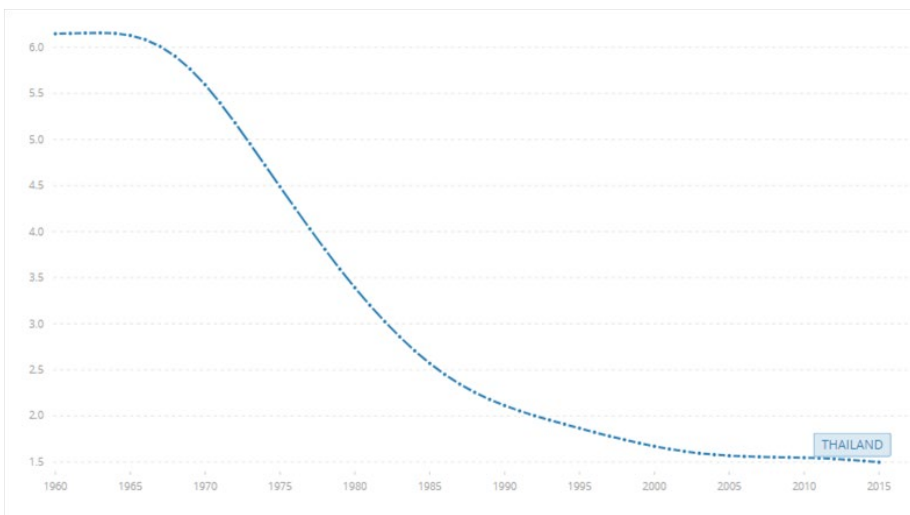
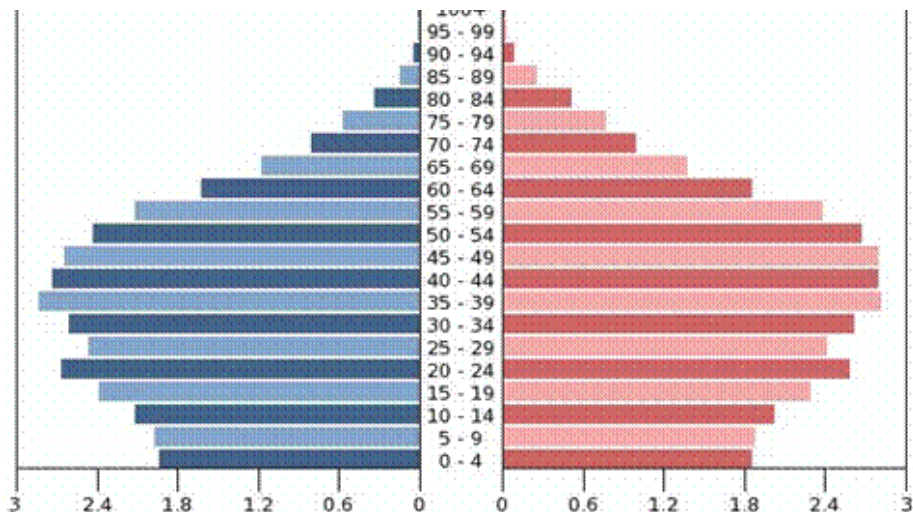


Figure 1. The World Bank  
<https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.DYN.TFRT.IN?locations=TH>



reached 3 million in February 2018. Medical tourism appears to be one of the most significant economic contributors. Just in 2015 Thailand earned 63.49 bn THB from health and wellness tourism while medical tourists tend to spend more rather than leisure ones (Oxford Business Group, 2017). Additionally, the sector gained governmental support through new campaign "Visit Thailand, Enhance Your Healthy Life" where 70 hospitals are expected to participate. Therefore, Thailand is demonstrating favorable environment for the development of medical health care sector targeting locals as well as foreigners.

contributes to the taxation. Currently legal retirement age in Thailand is 60, meaning that 60 and above society is relying heavily on pension, free health care and younger relatives. Thus, the burden of raised tax rates as well as care for elder members might fall onto the young generation. Trends such as low fertility rate and changing lifestyle where having a child is a personal choice, are creating risks of living alone for those retirees who do not have children.

Thailand is currently having 2.7 million people living alone which increased by 8% since 1987 while more women than men are single where most of them are represented by working class. Thus, with rising taxes and changing trends in Thai society, young family members that work hard to provide for their living are having less time for taking care of elderly, thus, creating an opportunity for elderly care business to grow in Thailand despite the fact that traditionally children must take care of their parents.

Eldercare can be categorized as short-term (represented by day treatments in the hospital as well as outside) and long-term care with provision of housing, usually for those elderly that live alone. Currently Thailand has more than 400 medical businesses while Ministry is supporting the sector through promoting and encouraging foreign investments. With Thai 'population aging' phenomenon, the demand for health care is going to increase, thus, urging the government to invest in supplying proper facilities such as transportation and assistance for elderly. Yet, the long-term care might be quite new experience for Thailand which gives chance for foreign businesses to compete within this sector.

Moreover, there is a great potential for Thai elderly care market when it comes to foreign retirees as well. The country is one of the main tourist destinations in the world while having relatively low living costs comparing to European countries. According to tradingeconomics.com tourist arrivals

<sup>1</sup> Population Division, DESA, United Nations. Retrieved from <http://www.un.org/esa/population/publications/worldageing19502050/pdf/195thail.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> WHO (2014). Retrieved from <http://www.who.int/countries/tha/en/>

Other sources: <http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/Thailand-can-be-centre-for-elderly-care-30290874.html>

[https://thailand.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/State%20of%20Thailand%20Population%20report%202015-Thai%20Family\\_en.pdf](https://thailand.unfpa.org/sites/default/files/pub-pdf/State%20of%20Thailand%20Population%20report%202015-Thai%20Family_en.pdf)

<https://tradingeconomics.com/thailand/tourist-arrivals>



# CROSS-CULTURAL TRAINING: THE SOLUTION TO RELOCATION DIFFICULTIES



**JOHN KNIPFING**

John Knipfing is a Bangkok based cultural intelligence consultant. He has lived in Thailand for 20 years. He has helped dozens of leaders and specialist of Fortune 500 companies along with their spouses, to adapt to life in Thailand and other countries. His participants have hailed from six continents and several industries.

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(or scan the embedded QR code)

When a business person relocates to Thailand, the new position, colleagues and work environment are not his or her only professional challenges. Leaders here are tested again and again by cultural differences, some of which are easy to identify, but many of which are obscure. Often, it is not obvious that a problem is cultural. Often, issues are not recognized beyond an undefinable discomfort or another's personal behavior.

With technology making the world increasingly smaller, many are convinced that cultural differences are disappearing. There is also a belief that if we are able to speak the same language, understanding each other is easy. On the surface, these assumptions may appear to be true, but culture goes much deeper and even intercultural communication itself has more to do with each culture's communication style than language.

Renowned interculturalist, Geert Hofstede defines culture as:

“... the collective programming of the mind that distinguishes one group or category of people from another.”

In other words, our behavior and reflexive reactions to various situations are often determined by the thought patterns, values and beliefs of our society and/or other groups that we belong to.

This programming drives both expatriates and Thai associates. As our programming from culture to culture can differ, often to an extreme, our behavior and reactions to each other can startle or offend. Our value systems tell us what kind of behavior to expect, what is acceptable, and what is not.

## Expatriate Challenges:

Over the years, assignees have confided to me many of the difficulties that they have encountered in working and doing business with Thais. Some of these problems are specific to the personalities involved, but the majority are clearly the result of the unexpected behaviors and expectations of the Thais with whom they interact. Seasoned international businesspeople, for the most part, recognize the root of their issues and seek appropriate solutions. First-time expats are more likely to try what worked well back home.

Some of the thought patterns, values and beliefs that affect interactions between Thais and expatriates include perceptions of time, individuality, hierarchy, communication styles and task/relationship priority. The graphic below illustrates some of the feelings and issues expats have shared with me.



Without preparation, the challenges of living and working abroad can quickly begin to overshadow the positives

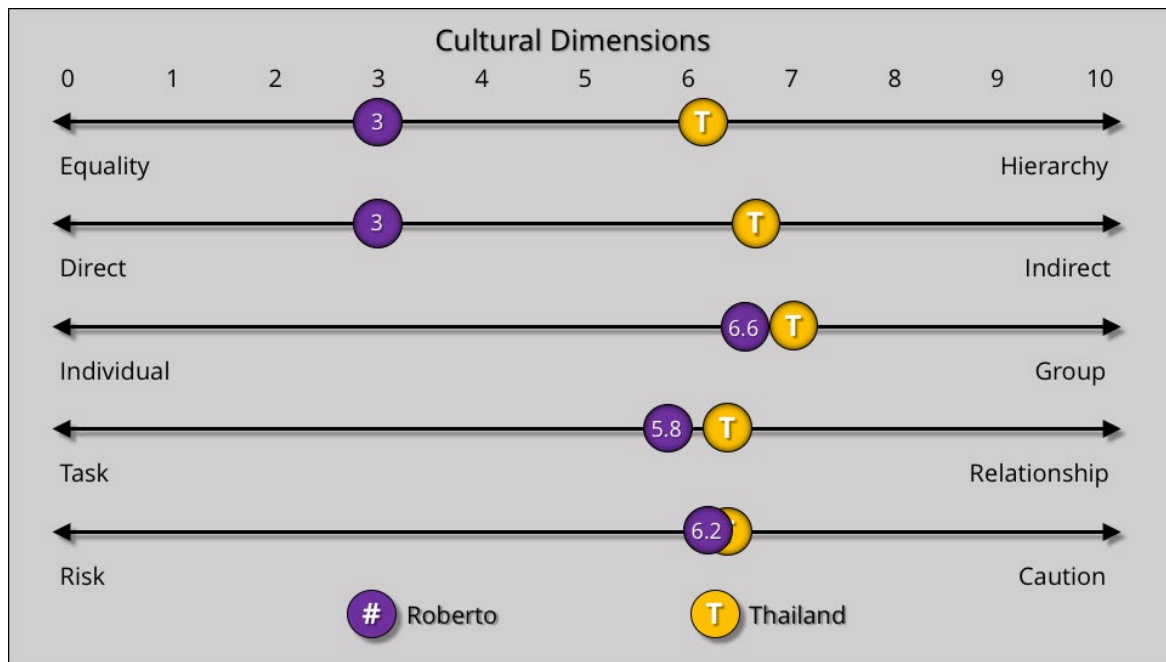
## Solutions:

Although formidable obstacles to a successful transition exist, it is possible for relocating expats to thrive in their assignments and enjoy happy family or individual lives in Thailand. Positive outcomes do require a focused understanding of:

- Cultural & Behavior
- Cultural preferences
  - Our own, of the Thais
- ...and the gaps between them.
- How Thais interact
- ..and how expats can interact with them
- Foundations of Thai Culture
  - History and Geography



As Hofstede asserted, our cultural programming is integral and deeply influences our behavior. To contradict this programming takes a conscious effort. To resist our programming on a regular basis requires a lot of practice. The first step though, is to understand how and when this programming is causing us, and the Thais we interact with, to behave or react in a certain way. This is an important attribute of Cultural Intelligence (CQ).



## Cultural Intelligence:

According to Brooks Peterson, the author of Cultural Intelligence, A Guide to Working with People from Other Cultures:

“Cultural intelligence is the ability to engage in a set of behaviors that uses skills (i.e. language or interpersonal skills) and qualities (i.e. tolerance for ambiguity, flexibility) that are tuned appropriately to the culture-based values and attitudes of the people with whom one interacts.”  
Developing CQ should be a goal of anyone in any organization that works internationally or has interactions with organizations or individuals from other cultures. For those who are relocating, developing one's CQ is essential.

## Cross-cultural Training:

Cross-cultural training is designed to develop one's CQ, for a specific culture, like Thailand. Ideally, participants complete a pre-training assessment to determine their cultural preferences, which are recorded in the form of scores on several spectrums known as dimensions.

By understanding the opposing ends of each dimension, participants are able to understand their own programming and that of the target culture. They can start to identify how these preferences influence behavior, and find ways to adapt.

Participants in cross-cultural training programs are suddenly able to attribute reasonable explanations to the behavior of their Thai colleagues. They also begin to understand how they themselves can create or contribute to a more cooperative and effective work environment. Outside of work, participants' interactions with Thais become friendlier, and relationships are able to develop.

# BOILEX AND PUMPS & VALVES ASIA 2018

Featuring Innovations and Smart Technologies



Thai manufacturers are transitioning to Industry 4.0 and Smart Factory. As a result of the above there is now high demand for quality performance, environmental friendliness, energy efficiency, 'smart' industrial boilers, and pumps and valves. All of which improves production performance while reducing costs.

Industrial factories in Thailand are steadily developing and upgrading their production. SMART Boilers are growing more reliable with real-time monitoring systems for multiple boilers with database usage of Monitoring systems for safety, energy and exhaust emissions. All are compatible with modern and innovative production processes. Entrepreneurs in areas such as industrial and commercial expansion, chemicals, construction, water & wastewater, food processing and agro-based industries, such as oil & gas are now also looking for quality pumps and valves. All the latest technologies and innovations mentioned will be showcased by some of the world's leading companies in the business at Boilex and Pumps & Valves Asia 2018!

**BOILEX ASIA 2018 (BX)** – The International Exhibition on Boiler and Pressure Vessel Technology Exhibition and Conference; this special biennial event will be showcasing innovative smart technology in steam boilers, electric boilers, fire-tube boilers, water-tube boilers and more. It's all the very latest technology you can't afford to miss.

**PUMPS & VALVES ASIA 2018 (PV)** – ASEAN's Largest and Most Comprehensive International Exhibition of Pumps, Valves, Fittings and Hardware System; this leading trade show focuses on the technology and innovations taking

place in industrial pumps, valves, seals and other major processing components. All are being featured along with a wide variety of fluid metering equipment plus pipes, valves, fittings, joints and pressure regulators.

#### A MUST-ATTEND EVENT OF THE YEAR!

- The only specialized event of its kind in Thailand and ASEAN.
- More than 1,000 pieces of technology from 1,500 top brands and 45 countries.
- International Pavilions from Germany, Singapore, Japan, China, Taiwan and Korea.
- Seminars and Workshops on 'smart boilers' presented by global experts.
- Business Matching Opportunities

**BX and PV 2018** are co-located with **ASEAN Sustainable Energy Week (ASE) 2018** – ASEAN's Largest and Most Comprehensive International Exhibition & Conference on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Environmental and Electric Vehicles Technology – all feature technologies and equipment that are closely inter-connected.

The show is expected to host more than 27,000 trade visitors and buyers from 45 countries hailing from a wide variety of industries.

The event is scheduled to run from 6-9 June 2018 at BITEC Bangkok, Thailand. If you are in any way connected to these industries make sure you attend this major exhibition!

**To avoid long queues pre-register online now at: [www.boilex-asia.com](http://www.boilex-asia.com) and [www.pumpsandvalves-asia.com](http://www.pumpsandvalves-asia.com)**





# 28 YEARS OF ENERGY EXCELLENCE...

## ASEAN SUSTAINABLE ENERGY WEEK 2018

Regional Leader in Delivering the Future of ASEAN EnergyTransition Solutions



Thailand's non hydro-power renewables industry has grown rapidly over the last five years, driven by the government's implementation of a supportive environment for renewables which includes a feed-in-tariff, bidding programs for renewable capacity and tax incentives. The rationale behind the creation of this favorable investment for renewables is the government's desire to diversify the country's power mix.

This exciting energy prospect will make **RENEWABLE ENERGY ASIA – ASEAN'S 14th largest and most comprehensive Renewable Energy Technology Exhibition and Conference in the region** - a must exhibit event. The show will present many unique and outstanding opportunities for companies in renewable energy to showcase their latest technology and products to buyers across the Asian region.

**"ASEAN Sustainable Energy Week 2018** will feature the latest innovative energy sources along with cutting-edge machinery and equipment that enhances overall business competitiveness and performance. It includes solar generating panels, wind technology, biomass, biogas, waste-to-energy, energy storage, energy management, lighting, data-centers, air pollution control, solid & waste-water treatment, water purification, smart grid, EV charging equipment, energy traction, motor & drive system components and more."

### ASEAN Sustainable Energy Week 2018 features...

- Mega Show Exhibit - over 1,500 major brands from 35 countries
- Large Pavilions - Major National Pavilions from China, Germany, Japan, Korea, Netherland, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, and USA.
- Quality Visitors - Attended by more than 27,000 Trade visitors from 45 countries.
- Regional International Conferences:
  - o REA Conference 2018 - International Renewable Energy Asia Conference #14 on "The Future of ASEAN'S Energy Journey E-mobility – Smart Grid – Smart City" covering topics such as smart-cities and how technology contributes to advancing the future of ASEAN Energy
  - o IEVTEC 2018 - International Electric Vehicle Technology Conference #3 - Attended by EV researchers and policy-makers who will share their collective know-how to move forward in the industry.

o Knowledge Enhancement – 80 special Seminars & Workshops related to Environmental technology, Water & Wastewater and featuring the latest Boiler technology.

Renewable Energy Asia 2018 is a part of the ASEAN Sustainable Energy Week (ASE) 2018, ASEAN's Largest and Most Comprehensive International Exhibition & Conference on Renewable Energy, Energy Efficiency, Electric Vehicle and Environmental Technology. The show is a significant benefit to exhibitors in terms of expanding business and visitor profiles in all relevant areas.

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major brands from **35** countries



**12** Major  
International Pavilions



**International Renewable  
Energy Asia Conference**

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# “ Asean-India Trade Cooperation

India on its part, has emerged as one of the fastest growing economies of the world with a growth rate of 7.1% in 2016-17 and an average pace of over 7.5% for the last three years. It is today considered one of the most attractive FDI destinations of the world as a result of continued reform policies. In terms of FDI inflow, India called \$60 billion over 2016-17, the highest ever for the country. Other macroeconomic indicators such as fiscal deficit, current account deficit and inflation are within reasonable targets.

The Asean-India trade and investment relations have continued to advance. Total bilateral trade increased more than threefold from US\$21 billion in 2005-06 to over US\$70 billion in 2016-17. With Asean India free trade agreement-FTA in place and elimination of tariffs on vast number of product lines in India on its part, has emerged as one of the fastest growing economies of the world with a growth rate of 7.1% in 2016-17 and an average pace of over 7.5% for the last three years. It is today considered

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new perspective of regional cooperation for the world at large.

Investment by Indian and Thai companies into each other's countries has been growing in recent times. Investment from Thailand in India has also increased in the recent years. Thai investments are mainly in infrastructure, real estate, food processing sectors, chemicals, hotel and hospitality sector. There are, at present over 40 Indian companies with investments of over US\$2 billion in Thailand. There are around 30 Thai companies operating in India. There is potential for an additional US\$3 billion investment by Thai companies in green and brown field projects in India. The implementation of the goods and service tax-GST by India in July 2017 which made India's taxation system transparent, introduce efficiency, control corruption and improve ease of doing business had received tremendous appreciation from the business community.

**By Anil Kumar Upadhyaya**  
Email: [au03976@gmail.com](mailto:au03976@gmail.com)

7.1%

2016-2017

**ECONOMIES  
GROWTH  
RATE**

7.5%

the last three years

### ASEAN Economic Community News



#### Transforming SMEs

A regional multinational bank and a global business analytics company released a report on ASEAN small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) transforming for the future. The report obtained information from 1,235 SMEs in Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Vietnam. The survey found that the trend for ASEAN SMEs is to focus on technology investments rather than conventional fixed asset spending. For those SMEs interested in tech investment, 78% were more interested in software and services - website improvement and mobile apps - than hardware and infrastructure. The report states that SMEs supply 50% of ASEAN countries' gross domestic product and drive 30% of exports.



#### Projected E-Commerce Growth

The ASEAN Cultural Heritage Digital Archive (ACHDA) project was launched this month. Now, digital archives of ASEAN's cultural heritage will be available to the public through one website. The archives will consolidate existing digital archives including ASEAN museum collections. The ACHDA will also expand its existing archives by continuing to digitize ASEAN cultural heritage objects.

#### Indonesia Update

##### ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services

Indonesia's government announced that it plans to swiftly ratify the Sixth Package of Commitments on Financial Services under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS). This will allow Indonesian banks to more easily expand their business into other ASEAN countries as it gives them the same banking access as banks from other ASEAN member states. Indonesia is the only ASEAN member state that has not ratified the sixth package of commitments.

### Vietnam News

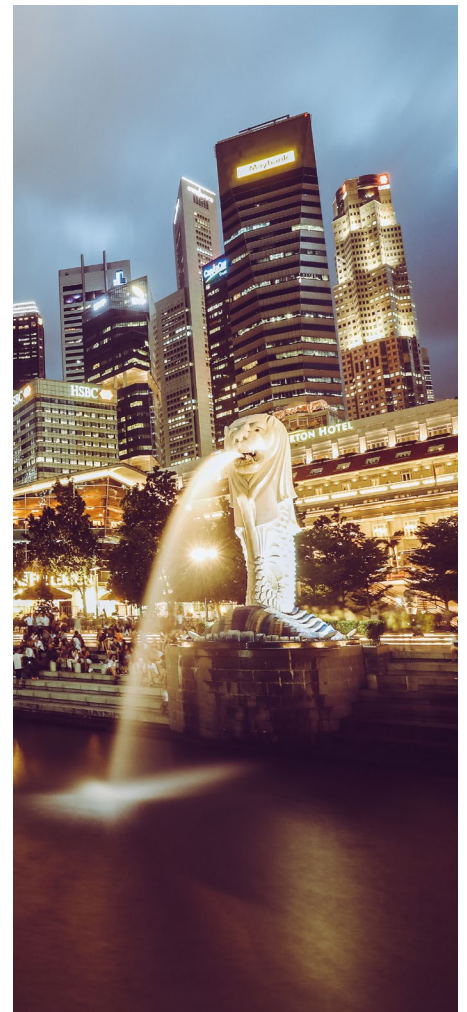
#### New IP Regulations

Amended implementing regulations for Vietnam's Intellectual Property Law, Circular No. 16, came into force and now supersede the previously amended implementing regulations from Circular No. 1 (2007). In total, 49 of Circular No. 1's 67 points have been modified in Circular No. 16. The amended implementing regulations will help improve intellectual property practices in Vietnam and bring the country's IP laws and regulations closer to international standards. Important amendments and supplements regarding intellectual property registration procedures include changes to the time frame for responses to office actions, new defenses for missing deadlines, an alternative for overcoming decisions on refusal, settlement of third-party oppositions, and appeal and termination of a granted protection titles. Circular No. 16 also includes specific changes to trademark and patent and utility solution implementing regulations.

#### Malaysia Watch

##### Foreign Ownership Cap

International insurance companies in Malaysia now have until the end of June 2018 to comply with the 70% foreign ownership cap first imposed by the government in 2009. Foreign owned insurance companies must now offload 30% of their domestic business to local partners via share stakes sales or list the stakes on the Malaysian Stock Exchange.



### Singapore Bulletin

#### Tax News

Singapore announced that it will raise its Goods and Services Tax (GST) by two percent, from 7% to 9%, sometime in 2021-25. The increase will be progressive and the government expects a boost in revenue from the GST rate hike. The Buyers' Stamp Duty (BSD) rate for residential properties has been raised to 4% effective immediately for residential properties valued over SD1 million.



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# THAILAND UPDATE

## Commerce

### Flat Rate Fees

The Thai Cabinet has resolved to draft a new Ministerial Regulation regarding the fees for company and partnership registration and fees for requests for document examination and certified copies and other relevant fees. Currently, fee rates are progressively calculated. However, the Ministry of Commerce has recommended a move to flat rate fees to be in line with the World Bank's advice on business facilitation procedures. For example, company registration fees run from 1000-5000 baht at present, but would only be 1000 baht under the flat rate with a 30% discount if registered electronically.

## Internet

### Top Rankings

According to a social media management platform and a global agency, Thailand is now the global leader in time spent daily on the internet and mobile internet. Thailand ranks 10th in social media penetration and 4th in time spent on social media. While Thailand ranks 8th for Facebook users, Bangkok tops the world's list as the city with the most active Facebook accounts – 22 million.

## Taxation

### Refunds

The Revenue Department expects to pay tax refunds to 4 million individual tax payers in 2017, up 25% from the 2016 tax year. More standard deductions and allowances and the widened income band for the 30% and top rate are cited for the jump. The Revenue Department paid out THB40 billion in tax refunds for 2016.

## Recycling

### New R&D Center

The Ministry of Industry plans to open Thailand's first R&D center for recycling technology in 2018. This is part of the 20-year digital economy roadmap to turn Thailand into a zero-waste society. The government hopes the technology developed by the center will encourage the industrial sector to adopt innovative schemes and create secondary raw materials for their operations.

## Real Estate

### New Residential Landlord Laws

New laws governing the conduct of residential property landlords in Thailand become effective on May 1, 2018. Under the new laws, landlords can no longer ask for more than one month rent and one month security deposit up front, tenants can terminate their contracts at any time with 30-days' notice, and landlords can no longer add extra charges to the actual costs of utility bills. However, the new laws only apply to landlords who own, lease, or sublease five or more properties.

### New Building Energy Code

The Energy Policy Administration Committee approved the new building energy code (BEC) which will come into force in mid-2018. Nine types of newly built buildings with an area greater than 10,000 sq.m, including hotels, offices, and condominiums, will have to comply with the new BEC regulations. New buildings with an area between 5-10,000 sq.m will have to comply in 2019 and buildings of 2-5,000 sq.m in 2020.

## Banking

### SME Loans

For small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that follow through with the government's directive to adopt a single financial account, Thailand's five largest banks will offer a fixed interest rate of 5% for special loans for two years. The special loans will roll out on January 1, 2019; the same date new Bank of Thailand regulations come into force requiring banks to give greater consideration to SME loans.

### Non-Bank Institutions

The Finance Ministry wants to set up an autonomous body to regulate non-bank institutions not supervised by the Bank of Thailand in order to protect consumers.

## Exports

### Gem and Jewelry Sector

Gem and jewelry exports are expected to grow 2-3% in 2018 to THB233 billion. The sector had 2.3% growth in 2017, but it was the first growth in exports since 2014. Experts attribute the increased exports to the global economic recovery and unique Thai designs.

## THAILAND LEGAL REVIEW

### Personal Income Tax

A taxpayer who received income in the 2017 tax year (from January 1 to December 31, 2017) is liable to file their Personal Income Tax Return (PIT 90 or PIT 91) and pay tax by April 2, 2018.

The tax return is available for download at www.rd.go.th and the taxpayer may file it by postal mail or in person at their Area Revenue Branch Office. Alternatively, the taxpayer can file the tax return electronically at www.rd.go.th and receive an eight-day automatic deadline extension.

Please note that if tax payable is not paid by April 2, 2018, a surcharge of 1.5% per month (a fraction of a month will equal a month) of the total tax due will be charged. A criminal fine of up to Baht 2,000 may also be charged.

### Annual Filing

All Thai limited companies and partnerships including foreign juristic companies that are conducting business in the Kingdom and whose fiscal year ended on December 31, 2017, must prepare and have their audited financial statements be approved by their shareholders within 4 months from the fiscal year ending (i.e. April 30, 2018) and submit the audited financial statements to the authorities as follows:

- 1) Department of Business Development (DBD): Related official forms (SBC 3 and SBC 3/1 Forms) and the list of shareholders as at the shareholders meeting date including the audited financial statements must be submitted via DBD's e-filing system within one (1) month from the shareholders meeting date.
- 2) Revenue Department (RD): Related Corporate Income Tax Return and audited financial statement and tax payment must be submitted and paid within 150 days from the fiscal year end (i.e. May 30, 2018) to the RD or via the RD's e-filing system.

### Penalties:

DBD: Any company that fails to comply with such requirement may be subject to a fine not exceeding Baht 50,000. RD: A fine of 2,000 Baht for late filing. In addition, a surcharge of 1.5%

per month will be imposed on the amount of tax to be made (if any).

### Tax Exemption

There is now a tax exemption for receivers of income derived from money paid by the government in accordance with the E-Commerce Education and Support Program under the National Electronic Transaction Foundation Development Plan. When calculating withholding tax in accordance with Section 50 (5) of the Revenue Code and no tax or less than 5% of the income is withheld, the receiver shall have the right to have such income exempted from being added into the income tax calculation in accordance with Section 48 (1) and (2) of the Revenue Code if the receiver of such reward agrees for the payer of such reward to withhold 5% percent of the income. This provision shall be effective for assessable income received from June 1, 2017 onwards.

### Amended Bankruptcy Act

The new Bankruptcy Act B.E. 2561 (2018) contains modifications or additions for up to 17 sections of the Bankruptcy Act to increase protections for the debtor, creditor, and related parties and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of bankruptcy proceedings. The previous Act was amended because it contained provisions that caused problems for debtors applying for business reorganization due to their financial status. If a debtor was not insolvent at the time of their petition for business reorganization, the debtor could not file the petition. The new Act also allows the debtor better opportunity for timely business reorganization and puts in place mechanisms to monitor, manage, and gather the property of the debtor more effectively. The definition of Secured Creditor was also changed. In the new Act, Secured Creditor is defined as a creditor who has rights over the properties of the debtor whether that be through pledge, mortgage, or right of retention, or a preferential creditor whose rights are enforceable likewise to a pledgee's. This definition also includes creditors that other laws deem as secured creditors.



# HOW TO START A RESTAURANT BUSINESS IN THAILAND?

Mr. Giacomo Iobizzi, TICC Trade Manager and Analyst,  
Mr. Manlio Cusano, Italian Lawyer

Email: [trade@thaitch.org](mailto:trade@thaitch.org)

Thailand annually registers over 40million Tourist Arrivals (source: [tradingeconomics.com](http://tradingeconomics.com)), it is world-widely recognized as a touristic destination for its astonishing places and food (both street and fine dining) delicacies.

As many expats dream about extending their stay in the Kingdom and start their own business, we used to collect many requests about: "How to start a restaurant business in Thailand?"

Here you are the answer:

## WHAT TO KNOW ?

First of all, you need to identify the desired location in Thailand of your future restaurant (or eventually, to take over an existing one). With the business company address, you are finally entitled to enter the second and not-so-easy step: Register the Business Company with the Ministry of Commerce.

The registration usually takes only 2 weeks, please ensure you have all the correct documents, so be sure you have firmly chosen the structure of your company, by deciding the roles of the shareholders and by appointing the Director. Although Thai Law allows foreign directors, you have to keep in mind that at least 51% of the company shares must be held by Thais (individuals or companies). However, it is possible for foreigners to adopt legal strategies that guarantee the control of the company – ask us for more information.

Once achieved the second step, before starting to sell any item on your menu, you should be VAT registered under the Revenue Department, this procedure (will be completed in just 2 days) is very important because it will also entitle your company to register the local employees to the Social Security System and then apply for your Work permit.

In order to legally stay and work in Thailand you must obtain a Non-Immigrant Business Visa for which you need: (no. 1) Copy of Business Registration, (no.1) Copy of local government permit, (no. 3) pictures 5\*6cm and other documents (if required).

All the above steps are mandatory in order to apply for a Work Permit at the Labor Department. The conditions are the following: for each foreigner your company is required to have a minimum registered capital of 2 million baht and employ Thai staff (at least 4 people but some exceptions are possible).

Now your company has almost completed the path to be legally ready to start the business but the essential licenses are still missing. You can submit the application for Food License (serving and handling food are required to follow safety standards) and Entertainment (if intended to have TV screens, live music, etc) at the Municipality or District office, and apply for Alcohol and Cigarette Licenses (if intended to serve any) directly to the Excise Department Office.

Finally, your dream of having a restaurant is ready to come true.

## Further information:

### Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Website: <http://www.mfa.go.th/main/>

### Immigration Bureau

Website: <https://www.immigration.go.th/index>



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# ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018

The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce had organized the "Annual General Meeting 2018" on March 19, 2018 at Banyan Tree Bangkok.

The event was started by the opening remark by Mr. Federico Cardini, TICC President, after that we had a pleasure from H.E. Mr. Francesco Saverio Nisio, the Ambassador of Italy in Bangkok for great welcoming speech and then Mr. Fabio De Cillis from Italian Trade Agency gave the speech to the audience respectively.

During the event, Mr. Michele Tomea, Secretary General of TICC was presenting the Financial statement, Activities 2017 and the goal for Chamber to reach in the future. Beside that, our members who attended the event was approved for the Financial Statement 2017 and appointed Mr. Viroj Chalermratana to be the Auditor for TICC in 2018.

Thank you to all over 90 members and non-members that attended our important event and last but not least to our kindly sponsors;

- Banyan Tree Bangkok for exclusive venue and well-organized
- G Four International, Pacific B&B and Italiasia for beverage
- Peppina, Appia, KCG Corporation and Urbani Truffle Bar & Restaurant for finger food provided at the foyer
- Del Casaro and Anticaluna for cheese
- Ampersand for Italian gelato
- AIGS – Asian Institute of Gemological Sciences for lucky draw prizes



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The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce organized the "ASEAN PPP Summit: Public-Private Partnership" on April 4 at Dusit Thani Bangkok, in partnership with Franco-Thai Chamber of Commerce, Thai-European Business Association, Mahanakorn Partners Group and other leading Chambers of Commerce in Thailand.

It was a great honor to welcome Mr. Arkhom Termpittayapaisith, Ministry of Transport who gave the opening speech on behalf of the Prime Minister of Thailand. After that Mr. Luca Bernardinetti, Chairman of the Mahanakorn Partners Group introduced an overview of the Public-Private Partnership to the audience.

The event was very beneficial with the presentation of Ministry of Transport, which had given the information regarding Thailand's Transport Infrastructure Development, Action plan and Project under PPP Fast Track.

After a short break, Ms. Duangjai Asawachintachit, Secretary General of the Board of investment of Thailand, explained the audience current Investment Promotion Policies and Scheme related to PPP project. Marc D. Wagman, Managing Director of Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., continued by presenting ASEAN market overview regarding FDI and risk mitigation.

The Summit became even more unforgettable due to the presence of Mr. Wattanapong Kurowat, Deputy Director-General Energy Policy and

Planning Office of Ministry of Energy.

Among the key-note speakers: Mr. Jerome Le Borgne, South East Asia Project Director of SUEZ Mr. John Leber, IFC's Investment Officer for East Asia & Pacific Mr. Abhinav Bhushan, ICC Regional Director in Singapore

In addition, we would like to extend our thanks to the rest of the sponsors and co-organizations who drove the event to ensure that it was the success that it was;

- Mahanakorn Partners Group: for leading the project
- Italasia: for keeping everyone hydrated with Italian mineral water
- AROMA: for the fantastic coffee served to all of our audience
- Creatus: for the intelligence machine displayed in the ballroom
- Oxford Business Group: for the presentation and complimentary business magazine to all of our audience

ASEAN PPP Summit reached the audience of more than 90 attendees making the day very productive while providing invaluable information, that will support business to tackle the available opportunities.



SCAN THIS QR CODE TO SEE FULL GALLERY





# PAST EVENTS



## 2018 WELCOMING GET TOGETHER

Bangkok, Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2018, Calderazzo on 31

On January 30, TICC had organized the get together event to welcoming our members and non-members to 2018.

During the event, we had welcome more than 50 people to spend their time with us for exchanged business information and enjoyed with Italian cuisine from our sponsors; Calderazzo on 31, Classic Fine Food and Italiasa.

## THAILAND ECONOMIC OUTLOOK 2018

Bangkok, Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2018, Bangkok Marriott Marquis Queen's Park

On February 22, TICC in partnership with GTCC and other leading Chambers of Commerce in Thailand, successfully organizes "Joint Chambers Thailand Economic Outlook 2018".

The event was given an overview of global and regional challenges, dynamic panel discussion on Thailand's economic trends and key industrial insights through over 140 participants.



## ASIA WAREHOUSING SHOW 2018

Bangkok, 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> March 2018, BITEC Bangna

On March 7-9, 2018, Manich Exhibitions (TICC member) had organized the "Asia Warehousing Show 2018" at BITEC Bangna.

During the opening day, Mr. Michele Tomea and Mr. Giacomo Iobizzi, TICC's representatives had presented to important moment and gave the best wishes to the fair organizer. Also, System Logistics Asia Co., Ltd., one of our members had presented there during the fair.

## 4-YEAR SMART VISA: MOVING TOWARDS INNOVATIVE

Bangkok, Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018, The 195 Lounge

On March 27, TICC in partnership with Rödl&Partner had organized the afternoon tea presentation "4-Year Smart Visa: moving towards innovative" at The 195 Lounge, Empire Tower 3.

During the presentation, Mr. Olarn from Rödl&Partner had gave the information of how to apply the Smart Visa which just launched on February 2018 to our audiences.





### Juslaws & Consult Co., Ltd.

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**Fax:** +66 2 653 0419

**Website:** <https://juslaws.com>

Juslaws & Consult is an Thailand law firm holding two offices, our head office in Bangkok and a second office in Phuket. In our current legal expertise, Juslaws & Consult deal almost exclusively with foreign clients seeking legal advice in the Kingdom of Thailand. Our firm has structured his activity under two legal departments including a Litigation Department and a Corporate Department specialized in business and corporate law, civil & criminal law, property law & acquisition in Thailand. In particular, we are specialized in setting up companies under BOI in Thailand. Our team is composed of more than 40 lawyers including Thai, French, German, Russian, American and Chinese Lawyers.



### Luxellence Center

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**Tel:** +66 (2) 648 2940-2

**Email:** [luxellence@luxellencecenter.com](mailto:luxellence@luxellencecenter.com)

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## NEW MEMBERS



### Cirio brand of Conserve Italia s.c.a. group

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**Website:** [www.cirio1856.com](http://www.cirio1856.com)  
[www.conserveitalia.it/en/](http://www.conserveitalia.it/en/)

Cirio is a brand from Conserve Italia, which is a Cooperative of 14,500 farmers, who believe in sustainable agriculture. Conserve Italia is the Italian market leader of processed fruit and vegetable, with production facilities and sales offices both in Italy and abroad. The history of Conserve Italia is deeply linked to the evolution of the co-operative movement in the Emilia-Romagna region and the unique feature of Conserve Italia is that it is controlled directly by its member agricultural Cooperatives, creating a strong link with the territory, which is always an advantage in management of the agricultural supply chain. Today the co-operative system, of which Conserve Italia is part, is made up of a series of complex and articulated links. These go from the farming cycle (seeding, planning and harvesting), to the raw material processing cycle, to logistics, right through to the sales activities, with the sales of the Groups' branded products as well as private label products.

Our produce is grown 100% in Italy and processed in 24 hours with no additives to preserve the best freshness and taste.

Conserve Italia uses eco-friendly farming methods to grow safe vegetables and fruits, guaranteed from seed to fork. The values are the people, the nature and its gifts: that's why the company respects the environment by minimizing additives and CO2 emissions and using only wind energy to process our products. Join Conserve Italia's values and enjoy its foods!



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### D.B. Group (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

14<sup>th</sup> Floor, Thanapoom Tower, 1550 New Petchburi Rd., Makkasan, Rajdhevee, Bangkok 10400 Thailand

**Tel:** +66 2 109 7300

**Fax:** +66 2 109 7302

**Email:** [dbgroup.bkk@dbgroup.net](mailto:dbgroup.bkk@dbgroup.net)

**Website:** [www.dbgroup.net](http://www.dbgroup.net)

D.B. Group was established in the 1980s, when the brothers Valter and Vittorino De Bortoli teamed up to provide international forwarding services. Knowing the importance of the global dimension of goods exchanges, they positioned themselves as partners who support their clients in managing all issues of the geographical limitations and distances.



### Asian Institute of Gemological Sciences

919/539 Jewellery Trade Center (Head Office) 48<sup>th</sup> Fl. Silom Rd., Silom, Bangrak, Bangkok 10500

**Tel:** +66 2 267 4315

**Fax:** +66 2 267 4320

**Website:** <http://www.aigsthailand.com/Home-EN>

AIGS is one of the most reliable gem laboratories in the world. The school was founded in order to provide professional training for those who were looking to expand their opportunities within the gem and jewelry industry, as well as increase the general public's knowledge and appreciation of gemstones. Today, AIGS has become a world recognized international gemological school, where many students from all over the world come together to learn and forge relationships that will last throughout their careers.



### SMG Restaurants (Thailand) Co. Ltd.

1091/151-152, S Group Building,  
Floor 3, No. 301, Soi Petchaburi 33,  
New Petchaburi Road, Makkasan,  
Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

**Tel:** +66 2 044 9906

**Fax:** +66 2 044 9906

**E-mail:** info@smgthai.com

**Website:** www.sicilia-mia.com  
www.io-osteria.com

Newly established in 2017 and affiliated with SMG in Singapore, the philosophy of SMG Restaurants (Thailand) is to introduce original Italian concepts, while maintaining the authenticity and quality of the food and service.

The restaurants under SMG are among the few Italian restaurants in the world which are proudly awarded the Ospitalita' Italiana Gold Seal Award. It is a certification awarded to recognized Italian restaurants located all over the world by the Italian Government, Italian Embassies and Italian Chambers of Commerce worldwide. The Gold Seal Award guarantees authentic and high-quality Italian food and service provided to customers in each distinguished restaurant.



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& RESTAURANT

BANGKOK

**Urbani Truffle Bar and  
Restaurant Co., Ltd.**

Sathorn Square, 39 floor, Building, 98  
North, S Sathorn Rd, Silom, Bang Rak,  
Bangkok 10500

**Tel:** +66 (2) 2331990/1

**Email:** info@urbanithailand.com

**Website:** http://www.urbanithailand.com/



### WL (Thailand) Limited

518/5 , Maneeya Center Building,  
16<sup>th</sup> floor, Ploenchit Road, Lumpinee,  
Pathumwan, Bangkok 10330

**Tel:** +662 237 6200

**Fax:** +662 237 6215

**Website:** www.wl-logistic.com

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### Thailand Arbitration Center

26th Bhiraaj Tower, 689, Sukhumvit  
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Bangkok, Thailand 10110

**Tel:** +66 2 0181 615

**Fax:** +66 2 0181 632

**Website:** www.thac.or.th

Thailand Arbitration Center ("THAC") is an international arbitral institution based in Bangkok, Thailand. It is established under the Act of Arbitration Center B.E. 2550 (2007) and has been in operation since late 2015. The purposes of THAC are to support and promote Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") in Thailand and to provide world class case administration services to the users.

THAC is governed by the Board of Committee which consists of well-respected individuals in the legal industry. The Board is responsible for overseeing THAC's operations, business strategy and development, as well as corporate governance matters. THAC is strategically situated within Southeast Asia and more importantly Bangkok is a well-connected city and economic powerhouse being part of the Asean Economic Community, Belt and Road Initiative and Greater Mekong Economic corridor. Undoubtedly, the location and connectivity of Bangkok provides a convenient venue for dispute resolution.

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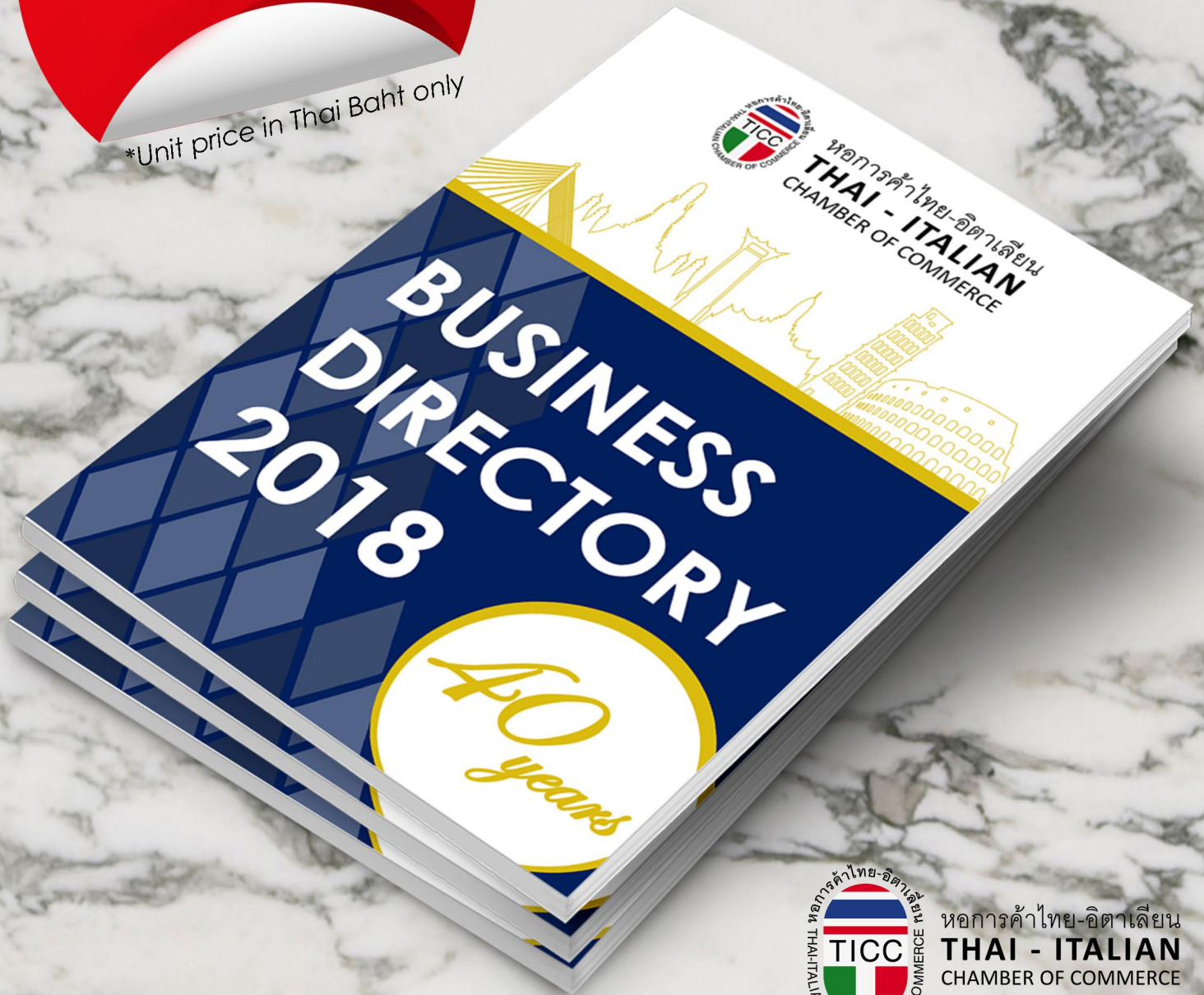
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# UPCOMING FAIRS AND EVENTS



## CALL FOR EXHIBITORS!

### *Ice Breaker Networking: Innovation & Lifestyle Night*

Date: June 7, 2018  
Time: 6.30 PM. - 9.30 PM.  
Venue: SO Sofitel Bangkok

Following our previous success and growing interest from our business communities, the next Ice Breaker Networking will be featuring again the Innovation & Lifestyle Night where the latest innovative and lifestyle products of chambers' member companies can be showcased to participating guests at the networking event.

The Thai-Italian Chamber of Commerce is looking for exhibitors to showcase products and/or services during the Innovation & Lifestyle Night.

Interested to reserve your space, contact us at  
Email: [pr@thaitch.org](mailto:pr@thaitch.org)  
Tel: +66 2 255 8695 ext. 105



## CALL FOR SPONSORS!

### **OSPITALITA' ITALIANA AWARD CEREMONY**

**Date: Early July 2018**

Ospitalita' Italiana is a worldwide project, involving more than 40 Countries and 65 Chambers of Commerce, which aims to certify authentic Italian restaurants abroad that follow the strict requirements set by the Italian Institute for Research in Tourism (ISNART) in Italian quality.

TICC is looking for sponsors to organize the ceremony and build up your brand awareness among this event, please contact us to reserve your space and more information at;

Email: [oi@thaitch.org](mailto:oi@thaitch.org) / [trade@thaitch.org](mailto:trade@thaitch.org)  
Tel: +66 2 255 8695



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CONVENTION CENTRE**

1 Raffles Boulevard, Suntec City  
Singapore 039395

## ITALIAN FOOD & BEVERAGE SINGAPORE

The 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of Italian Food & Beverage in Singapore is a regional platform where Italian companies in the agri-food sector will meet importers and distributors coming from: Singapore; Myanmar; Malaysia; Hong Kong; Indonesia; Vietnam; Thailand; Japan; India; South Korea; China.

**Date: June 20-21, 2018**

**Venue: Suntec City Convention Center, Singapore**

For more information, please contact us at;

Email: [trade@thaitch.org](mailto:trade@thaitch.org)  
Tel: +66 2 255 8695



**PROCESSING & PACKAGING  
IPACK-IMA 2018**

IPACK-IMA is the exhibition specializing in food and non-food processing and packaging.

The 24th edition features a new, more functional visit experience structured according to the target markets of exhibiting companies and meeting the experiences of both visitors and exhibitors.

**Date: May 29 - June 1, 2018**

**Venue: Fiera Milano, Milan, Italy**

For more information, please contact us at;  
Email: [info@thaitch.org](mailto:info@thaitch.org) / [trade@thaitch.org](mailto:trade@thaitch.org)  
Tel: +66 2 255 8695



**BELT & ROAD INTERNATIONAL FOOD EXPO**

The First Belt and Road International Food Expo (Hong Kong) (BRIFE), which will be held on 27-29 June 2018 at AsiaWorld-Expo in Hong Kong, to share with your distinguished country members as buyers and exhibitors, to explore the best fruitful expertise, investment and business opportunities.

BRIFE installs 5 spotlight halls covering 30 major food categories and professional service with unique positioning including Food Trade Hall, Snack Food Hall, Halal Food Hall, Investment Hall, and Professional Service Hall.

**Date: June 27-29, 2018**

**Venue: AsiaWorld-Expo, Hong Kong**

For more information, please contact us at;  
Email: [info@thaitch.org](mailto:info@thaitch.org) / [trade@thaitch.org](mailto:trade@thaitch.org)



**LAST MILE ASIAN**

Last Mile ASEAN is a platform to give voice to intricate matters of Delivery and Fulfillment Logistics covering supply Chain, operations, e-commerce, logistics, post and parcel for multichannel retail industry. The event will focus on how retailers and pure-players can transform their e-commerce operations to respond to the market growth and reach their customers as quickly and cost-efficiently as possible. It also aims at creating better understanding of the last mile fragment's opportunities & challenges in running cross border last mile delivery business.

**Date: September 20-21, 2018**

**Venue: BITEC Bangna, Bangkok**

For more information, please contact us at;  
Email: [trade@thaitch.org](mailto:trade@thaitch.org)  
Tel: +66 2 255 8695



**ASIA COLD CHANCE**

Asia Cold Chain Show (ACCS) has been in motion as an annual event for the past three years serving as a platform for cold storage infrastructure, refrigeration, reefer transport, temperature controlling, IT solutions and data storage solution industry. ACCS aims to bring thousands of cold chain innovators and experts together under one roof.

**Date: November 28-30, 2018**

**Venue: BITEC Bangna, Bangkok**

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