



Dear Member,

Please find below the DutchCham e-Newsletter of Monday, 1st February 2010.

## DutchCham news

### Welcome to our new Marketing Communication Manager: Faith Fung

In December our Marketing Communication Manager Saskia van der Staay resigned and moved back to The Netherlands. Her successor is Faith Fung. Faith, born and raised in the Netherlands with a Hong Kong origin, really looks forward to this new challenge. Her HK adventure started in November 2008. After the graduation of her Master's degree in Science of Economics and Business, she moved to HK to live with her partner. Faith has been working as a Trainee at the Marketing department of KPMG which gave her a first insight of the business environment in HK. She sees her new challenge at DutchCham as a unique combination of getting in touch with the Dutch business community while living in one of Asia's most capitalistic cities. You will all get the chance to meet her in person at one of our events!

### Welcome to our new intern: Zafer Aggunduz

In January our trainee Suzan Cheung fulfilled her internship at the Dutch Chamber. She wrote a report about the expansion opportunities of the online business directory. A new trainee from The Netherlands, Zafer Aggunduz, will start in February.

### Advertising opportunities 2010

The following advertising opportunities are available:

DutchCham Magazine	DutchCham e-newsletter	DutchCham website
Our bi-monthly magazine has a circulation of 1.000 copies amongst members and third parties. It provides interesting, business-oriented and informative stories on Hong Kong, China and The Netherlands.	Our monthly e-Newsletter is sent to approximately 1.000 recipients. It provides news about Hong Kong, China and The Netherlands including upcoming events of the Dutch Chamber.	Our website has over 80.000 hits per month. It provides space for rotating banners (dynamic and clickable)
<b>Prices are in HK\$ and per month</b>		
Full page from 5.220,- ½ page from 2.610,- ¼ page from 1.305,-	Clickable logo from 1.500,-	Clickable banner from 2.250,- Non-clickable banner from 2.025,-

If you are interested, please contact the DutchCham office via: [info@dutchchamber.hk](mailto:info@dutchchamber.hk) or telephone 2815 2801.

## DutchCham Upcoming Events

### Joint Seminar with the Belgium-Luxembourg Chamber: 'Designing Hong Kong – What's happening with our city?'

**Tuesday 9 February, 12.30-2pm, 57/F Cheung Kong Center**

The aspirations of people in Hong Kong are changing: Since 1997, Chinese people are no longer leaving in droves; since SARS in 2003 people are more conscious about their environment; people started to enjoy leisure time since the government introduced the 5-day work week in 2006; by 2030 one in four people will be aged 65 or over, up from one in eight today. Paul Zimmerman, urban activist, will review how these changes impact the planning of Hong Kong, and ongoing developments from Kai Tak to West Kowloon, from the express rail to the new bridge to Macao, from the Central Police Station to the waterfront. For more information, please find the flyer attached. Price: members HK\$ 150, - / non-members HK\$ 180, - (incl. lunch)

### MUNCH

**Thursday 11 February, 12.30-2pm, Unlimited Innovation**

After many well-attended, fun and useful Munches - Mingle and Lunch - in 2009, the SME committee decided to take Munch to the next level. The monthly Munch, previously held at Frites in Central, will now be hosted by a Dutch SME in Hong Kong. Unlimited Innovation Ltd will kick off the first Munch. Unlimited Innovation Ltd, located on Hollywood Road in Sheung Wan is a strategic product design and development company. Do you want to get to know this company and/or other SMEs, better sign up now! Limited seats available. The lunch is sponsored by Unlimited Innovation Ltd.

### InterCham YP Cocktail

**Wednesday 24 February, 6.30-9.30pm, Prive, Central**

More information will follow shortly.

### INTERCHAM EVENT - International Business Community Luncheon with the Financial Secretary, Mr John Tsang

**Friday 12 March, 12.30-2pm, Convention Hall, Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre**

The Financial Secretary, the Honourable John Tsang, will deliver the 2010-2011 Budget speech at the Legislative Council on Wednesday, 24 February 2010. We are deeply honoured that Mr Tsang has accepted our invitation to talk to the Hong Kong business community on **12 March**. It will be an excellent opportunity to learn directly from Mr Tsang his further elaboration on this year's budget and how he would lead us for sustaining the solid economic foundation for future growth of Hong Kong. Price members: HK\$ 510 including lunch.

For registration or more information, please send an email to [info@dutchchamber.hk](mailto:info@dutchchamber.hk)

## News

### CHINA

#### China steps up restrictions on media, IFJ report says

China has intensified efforts over the past year to control what the media can say, a report by the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) says. It says hundreds of regulations have been introduced since the Beijing Olympics in 2008 to restrict reporters writing on social unrest or scandals. (<http://news.bbc.co.uk>; 31/01/2010)

[Read more >](#)

#### China faces growing gender imbalance

More than 24 million Chinese men of marrying age could find themselves without spouses by 2020, says the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. The gender

imbalance among newborns is the most serious demographic problem for the country's population of 1.3 billion, says the academy. (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/11/01/2010>) [Read more >](#)

### **Davos2010: China says domestic demand 'key'**

China's vice-premier, Li Keqiang, has told a forum at the World Economic Forum in Davos that domestic demand is key for China's economic growth. Reflecting international concerns, he said China had been "excessively reliant on investment and export". Mr Li pointed out that domestic spending improved in 2009, with sales of consumer goods up 15.5% last year. (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/28/01/2010>) [Read more>](#)

## **HONG KONG**

### **CE urges consensus on constitutional reform**

Chief Executive Donald Tsang has called for a consensus on constitutional reform, adding that it is the critical moment for discussion and participation to foster political development in Hong Kong. Mr Tsang told reporters today that constitutional reform was difficult for Hong Kong, yet it was not hopeless. (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/31/01/2010>) [Read more>](#)

### **Assistance set for building collapse victims**

Financial assistance and temporary accommodation arrangements have been made for people affected by the fatal To Kwa Wan building collapse on Friday. Secretary for Labour & Welfare Matthew Cheung today told reporters each affected household has got \$1,000 financial assistance from the General Chinese Charities Fund and \$5,000 from the Lok Sin Tong Benevolent Society. [Read more>](#)

### **Registered new firms hit record high**

A record high of 109,424 new local companies were registered with the Companies Registry last year, up 10.93% on 2008. The registry's annual statistics released today showed the number of companies incorporated surged to 20,251 in March and 12,594 in August, compared to the average monthly figure of about 9,000 for 2009. This was probably due to the business-registration fee waiver for new firms. By the end of 2009 the number of live local companies registered under the Companies Ordinance was 772,253, up 61,487 on 2008. ([www.news.gov.hk](http://www.news.gov.hk); 28/01/2010) [Read more>](#)

## **EUROPEAN UNION**

### **Davos 2010: Greece denies a bail-out is needed**

Greece's PM George Papandreou: "The European Union is not going to bail us out" Greece's Prime Minister George Papandreou has denied speculation that it will have to be bailed out by the European Union (EU). Reports have suggested that the EU will pump money to help Greece - whose public finances are in ruins. "Nobody's going to be leaving the euro," Spain's Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero said. ([www.news.bbc.co.uk/28/01/2010](http://www.news.bbc.co.uk/28/01/2010)) [Read more>](#)

### **Toyota car recall hits US, Europe and China**

Toyota has announced the recall of vehicles in the US, Europe and China over concerns about accelerator pedals getting stuck on floor mats. The firm has announced plans to recall 1.1 million more cars in the US a day after saying it was suspending sales of eight popular US models. According to an application to China's quality control office, it wants to recall 75,552 RAV4 vehicles there. ([www.news.bbc.co.uk/28/01/2010](http://www.news.bbc.co.uk/28/01/2010)) [Read more>](#)

### **Dutch unlikely to live below poverty line**

Just 11% of the Dutch live below the official poverty line, according to new figures from the European statistics office Eurostat. The number of people considered officially poor is only lower in the Czech Republic, where 9% live in poverty, Eurostat said. ([www.dutchnews.nl](http://www.dutchnews.nl); 18/01/2010) [Read more>](#)

## **THE NETHERLANDS**

### **TNT and unions reach pay deal**

Postal delivery unions and TNT management have finally reached agreement on a 2% pay rise, which the unions accept will be coupled to significant job losses, news agency Dow Jones reported on Friday. Some 3,500 people will lose their jobs and 'a good social plan has been agreed for them,' Dow Jones quoted union negotiator Peter Wiechemann as saying. In particular, workers aged over 50 will get a better deal, the TNT statement shows. ([www.dutchnews.nl](http://www.dutchnews.nl); 29/01/2010) [Read more>](#)

### **ING and Dutch state appeal EU bail-out measures**

The Dutch state and financial services group ING are appealing a European Commission calculation of the company's state aid, they announced in separate statements on Thursday. Two cases will be brought before the General Court of the European Union in Luxembourg with the intention of letting ING keep some of its subsidiaries and smoothing the further repayment of bail-out money from the Dutch finance ministry. ([www.nrc.nl](http://www.nrc.nl); 28/01/2010) [Read more>](#)

### **Dutch police try to develop x-ray vision**

The Dutch police are trying to develop a portable device that can see through people's clothing to check for concealed weapons. Their goal is to have a prototype operational in three years. It might be the wet dream of every police agent. The price of x-ray vision: 0.5 mln euros. ([www.nrc.nl](http://www.nrc.nl); 08/01/2010) [Read more>](#)