



## TOP NEWS

- Deutsche Bank:** Little Upside
- DFDL:** Thailand's Digital Economy Proposal
- Interview:** Ambassador Ivo Sieber
- Chamber News:** MRT Tunnel Excursion
- School News:** Ambassadors Visit School

## SUPPORTED BY



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

# DEAR FRIENDS AND MEMBERS OF THE STCC



**PRESIDENT BRUNO G. ODERMATT**

*The biggest news since the last issue of our newsletter was the rejection of the National Reform Council (NRC) of the proposed charter. The drafted charter, written by the Constitution Drafting Committee, was shot down by the NRC implying that the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) will remain in power for at least another 20 months. The new formula now talks about a so-called 6-4-6-4 roadmap, which essentially sets the time frame of 6 months for charter drafting, 4 months for referendum preparation, 6 months for drafting the new constitution's organic laws, and 4 months for the preparation of new elections.*

Business leaders have expressed minor concerns over the delay of a new general election. Supant Mongkolsuthree, chairman of the Federation of Thai Industries, mentioned that the delay in the constitution is unlikely to affect the economy as political tensions have eased. Isara Wongkusolkij, the respected chairman of the Thai Chamber of Commerce and Board of Trade, stated that as long as the country was peaceful, trade and investment would flourish further (source Bangkok Post). It is good to see those optimistic statements from the business sector and, if the government uses this delay to speed up construction work in the public infrastructure, then it might be a great opportunity to the newly installed economic team to regain the trust from foreign investors.

On other encouraging news, the cabinet approved an amendment, which specifies a definite deadline for a new car delivery of the former govern-

## SERVICE

### STCC CALENDAR

**Thursday, 8th Oct 2015:**

STCC Stamm at Amari Boulevard Hotel, 18:00

**Tuesday, 20th Oct 2015:**

SSB Hoeck at Grottino Restaurant, 18:00

**Thursday, 12th Nov 2015:**

STCC Stamm at Amari Boulevard Hotel, 18:00

**Tuesday, 17th Nov 2015:**

SSB Hoeck at Grottino Restaurant, 18:00

**Wednesday, 25th Nov 2015:**

The Prime Minister's Luncheon address to the foreign chambers, at Shangri-La Hotel, 11:30 (tentatively)

**Thursday, 17th Dec 2015:**

STCC Stamm at Amari Boulevard Hotel, 18:00

*More details for above events please wait for the invitation-mail or get it from [www.swissthai.com](http://www.swissthai.com), click on "events".*



# Swiss Thai



OCTOBER 2015 | SWISS-THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | E-NEWSLETTER #63

## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ment's failed "first-time car buyer scheme", to be set for 30 September, as the last day for delivery of cars. The move is aimed at closing out this ill conceived scheme and is another positive step forward for the current government in the right direction.

The highlight of September was the exclusive STCC invitation to visit the construction site of the MRT Blue Line Extension project in Thonburi, initiated by one of our members. It was a one of a kind underground tunnel tour and a most impressive event. It shows the many talents we have within our Swiss-Thai business community and we intend to use this visit as a template for future STCC events. If you have within your organisation or business circle any entrepreneurial or innovative showcases to be shared with other STCC members, then please let us know. You can also find some great pictures in the new issue of the newsletter.

With great pleasure, I announce that our new Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency Ivo Sieber, joined the STCC Board of Directors as Honorary President. He is already playing an active part in the Swiss business community, though having only been here for a couple of weeks, by joining events and board meetings. We are pleased to continue the great team

work with the Swiss Embassy to promote business and commerce between Thailand and Switzerland.

With that in mind I wish you a successful 4th business quarter and look forward to seeing you at our next business event.

*With my best regards*

*Bruno G. Odermatt  
President*

\*\*\*

*Contact the President:  
Bruno G. Odermatt  
President STCC  
president@swissthai.com  
Tel: +66 2 652 1911*

## SUPPORTED BY



## SERVICE

### MEMBER DETAIL UPDATES

Do you have changes among your delegates or changes to your e-mail, mobile, telephone, or fax numbers?

Please send all updates to [secretary@swissthai.com](mailto:secretary@swissthai.com)



## ECONOMY REPORT BY DEUTSCHE BANK

# LITTLE UPSIDE

### • Economic outlook:

*There has been hardly any respite for the economy, be it on domestic consumption or investment. Exports show no upside, while political uncertainty persists. Growth outlook for the remainder of the year and 2016 is characterized by considerable downside risks.*

### • Main risks:

*EM selloff has tested Thailand's asset markets lately, and further pain could be in store if global market volatility remains high. Deflationary pressure could intensify if weak commodity and non-commodity prices, combined with sluggish demand, cause expectations to worsen.*

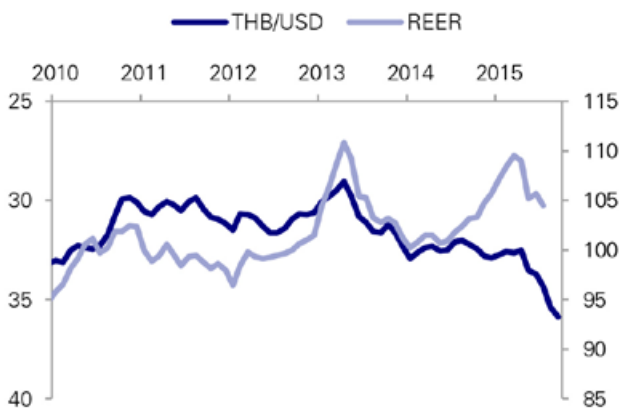
Having defied the pull from the global markets for a while, Thailand has capitulated in recent months. Both the currency and equity market has joined the regional selloff, although the risk of a disorderly adjustment to the economy from the correction does not seem particularly high to us. But at the same time we see little upside to the economy, with hardly any engines of growth firing or expected to fire anytime soon.

With inflation in negative territory and weak growth one would expect the central bank to maintain a dovish stance. But the BoT's policy board, while leaving rates unchanged in its mid-September meeting, was unanimously focused on core inflation remaining posi-

tive and saw little risk to the inflation target. We disagree with their assessment as we think there is scope to reduce high real interest rates in the economy, but appreciate the difficulties associated with cutting rates when the zero bound is so proximate and also the fact that few EM economies can afford to be divergent with Fed policy. Clearly the most the BoT would do in the near term is to remain on the sideline.

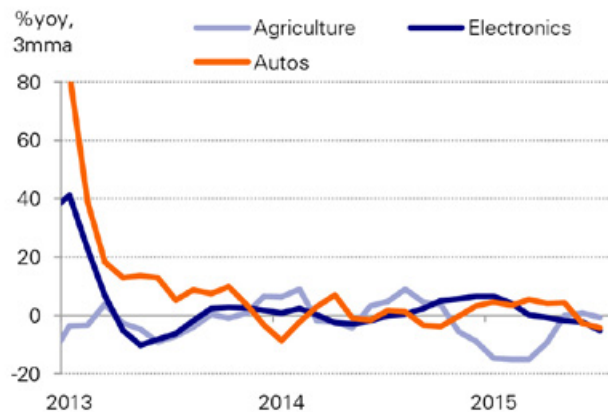
The monetary authority has also allowed gradual weakening of the bath lately, which we see as a welcome development. The competitiveness of the Thai economy has been a question-mark for us for a long time, but in the absence of major structural reforms, the least

A welcome correction in the exchange rate



Source: CEIC < Deutsche Bank

Key export components have remained in growth doldrums for two years



Source: CEIC, Deutsche Bank



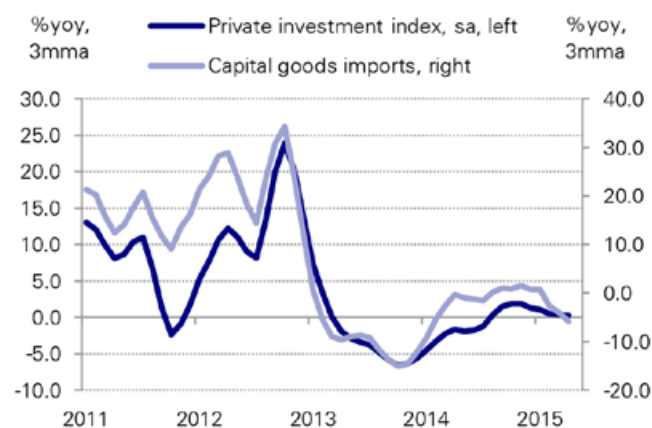
## ECONOMY REPORT BY DEUTSCHE BANK

the policy makers can do is prevent real exchange rate appreciation. As the following chart illustrates, the unwelcome rise in the REER has at last been reversed. Further weakening of the currency could well be on the cards, and we don't see BoT resisting that, especially as inflation remains at bay and the regional push is so strong. Our forecast however sees only modest further depreciation this year as we see the trade surplus to remain robust which would keep the flow environment amenable to a flat currency.

While we don't think a weaker baht will necessarily revive across-the-board weakness in exports (see chart below), it can't certainly help to have a strong currency at this juncture. Also, modest weakness of the baht should defray some of the deflationary pressures that have been percolating through the economy.

But what the authorities urgently need to do is revive investment sentiment, which has continued to weaken despite numerous efforts that have impressed on paper but fallen short of delivery. Beyond providing economic incentives, we think the key in this area would be to resolve the political uncertainty darkening the mood of investors.

### Investment momentum has faltered this year



Source: CEIC, Deutsche Bank

### Thailand: Deutsche Bank Forecasts

	2013	2014	2015F	2016F
<b>National Income</b>				
Nominal GDP (USDbn)	399.1	399.8	371.2	365.6
Population (m)	64.8	65.1	65.4	65.8
GDP per capita (USD)	6,161	6,141	5,673	5,560
<b>Real GDP (yoy %)</b>				
Private consumption	0.8	0.6	1.5	3.0
Government consumption	4.7	1.7	4.1	6.5
Gross fixed investment	-0.8	-2.6	3.6	4.5
Exports	2.8	0.0	-0.8	3.0
Imports	1.4	-5.4	1.0	3.4
<b>Prices, Money and Banking</b>				
CPI (yoy %) eop	1.7	0.6	-0.3	1.4
CPI (yoy %) ann avg	2.2	1.9	-0.8	1.1
Core CPI (yoy %) ann avg	1.0	1.6	1.0	1.2
Broad money	7.3	4.6	5.0	6.0
Bank credit <sup>1</sup> (yoy %)	9.4	4.3	4.5	6.0
<b>Fiscal Accounts<sup>2</sup> (% of GDP)</b>				
Central government surplus	-2.0	-2.8	-2.5	-2.0
Government revenue	19.0	18.5	19.0	19.0
Government expenditure	21.0	21.3	21.5	21.0
Primary surplus	-0.7	-1.5	-1.2	-0.7
<b>External Accounts (USDbn)</b>				
Merchandise exports	225.4	224.8	225.9	232.7
Merchandise imports	218.7	200.2	198.2	208.1
Trade balance	6.7	24.6	27.7	24.6
% of GDP	1.7	6.1	7.2	6.2
Current account balance	-3.9	13.4	14.0	10.0
% of GDP	-1.0	3.4	3.7	2.5
FDI (net)	14.4	12.8	12.0	14.0
FX reserves (USDbn)	167.3	157.1	165.0	175.0
FX rate (eop) THB/USD	32.9	32.9	36.0	37.5
<b>Debt Indicators (% of GDP)</b>				
Government debt <sup>2,3</sup>	45.3	46.6	46.7	46.7
Domestic	43.4	45.6	45.7	45.8
External	1.9	1.0	1.0	0.9
Total external debt	36.7	38.3	40.2	41.0
in USDbn	135.0	140.0	145.0	150
Short-term (% of total)	45.0	45.0	45.5	45.8
<b>General</b>				
Industrial production (yoy %)	2.6	1.0	5.0	5.0
Unemployment (%)	0.8	0.9	1.0	1.1
<b>Financial Markets</b>				
	Current	15Q4	16Q1	16Q3
BoT o/n repo rate	1.50	1.50	1.50	1.50
3-month Bibor	1.63	1.75	1.85	1.95
10-year yield (%)	2.96	2.80	3.15	3.50
THB/USD (onshore)	35.5	36.0	36.6	37.5

Source: CEIC, Deutsche Bank Global Markets Research, National Sources  
 Note: (1) Credit to the private sector & SOEs. (2) Consolidated central government accounts; fiscal year ending September. (3) excludes unguaranteed SOE debt





## ECONOMY REPORT BY DEUTSCHE BANK

We remain skeptical in this area though, as delays in the election timetable, lack of clarity about draft charter and associated referendum have complicated the picture in recent months, unfortunately.

### Some fiscal support in the pipeline

With so much pervasive economic weakness and political uncertainty in place, and monetary policy with little leftover room, the only major tool for the authorities is fiscal, and finally they seem engaged in that area. Following its recent revamp, the Thai Cabinet approved a THB-136bn stimulus package in early September, aimed at supporting

rural consumption. The package comprises: of THB60bn for seven-year loans disbursed through the government's village funds program with two-year grace periods; THB36bn for construction and repair work in sub-districts) for construction and repair work; and THB40bn to support small projects. We estimate that given the state of the cycle, these expenditures could add close to 1% of GDP worth of impulse to the economy. The question however is how expeditiously the spending would be disbursed, and if they would be targeted effectively.

We are cautiously optimistic that fiscal spending will help shore up demand in Q4 and

next year. The Thai authorities have the track record of delivering even larger stimulus in the past, and looking at the public spending trend so far this year, there is clearly more vigor and urgency in disbursing funds. With most cylinders misfiring, the importance of fiscal support is critical at this juncture.

*Taimur Baig, Singapore,*  
+65 6423 8681



599 THB NET per person



# EL BRUNCH

**Mexican brunch buffet every Saturday**  
**\*\*\*AUTHENTICITY AT ITS FINEST\*\*\***  
**KITCHEN THEATRICALS + Bloody Mary Bar**  
**+ Live Mariachi Music +**  
**SPECIAL FOOD STATIONS & A PINATA FOR THE KIDS**

TELEPHONE : 022617100  
LOCATION : Señor Pico





NEWS BY DFDL

## NAVIGATING THAILAND'S DIGITAL ECONOMY PROPOSAL

*Over the last few months the Thai government released its plans to transform Thailand into a "Digital Economy". Our article looks to provide an update on the status of the digital economy initiative and analyzes how the digital economy will affect businesses in Thailand.*

A digital economy refers to an economy that is based on digital technologies and the internet with the aim of creating smarter cities. In recent times, due to the high penetration technology has on our lives, the distinction between a "normal" economy and a "digital" economy has become blurred.

Despite high levels of mobile broadband penetration, Thailand is poised to be remodeled as a digital economy and the government is jumping at the opportunity of a technologically capable economy with a slew of legislation. The forging of Thailand's digital economy implies the passing of ten new bills. The relevant legislation package includes, among others, the National Digital Committee for Economy and Society Bill, Ministry of Digital for Economy and Society Bill, Electronic Transaction Bill (amendment), Computer-related Crime

Bill (amendment), Cybersecurity Bill, Personal Data Protection Bill and the Broadcasting and Telecommunication Regulator Bill (amendment).

The proposed Thai digital economy platform is characteristic of digital economy plans around the world in its focus on economic growth, innovation and a desire to bolster private company investment with government support to ensure mutual benefits for both business and citizenry.



Lessons learned from successfully implemented digital economies show that the success of a digital economy is dependent on two critical factors, being: (a) the efficient deployment of broadband networks and having an appropriate structure for the telecommunication sector (which is considered to be the foundation of any digital economy); and (b) an effectively governed and trusted internet to

harvest innovative potential and secure usage of new services.

The initial digital economy package had been subject to much criticism from the public. The main concern was that the package predominantly addressed cyber security and was open to an abuse of power by granting enormous leeway to government officials to access private information of businesses and the public without their knowledge or permission.

The initial package was drafted by the Electronic Transactions Development Agency, which has recently reconsidered its position and revised the package to address public concerns. Kroekrai Chiraphaet, the head of the committee proposing the digital economy agenda, explained that the existing digital economy proposal will be remodeled to rely on digital connectivity where every sector of the population makes use of the internet.

The revised proposal has not yet made it into the public realm but as of September 2015 the revised digital economy package is now expected to be lodged to the National Legislative Assembly for its consideration and is expected to be in effect early next year.



## NEWS BY DFDL

As a digital economy is comprised of technology which connects entrepreneurs, fosters innovation, and increases the connectivity throughout the entire Kingdom, the plan bodes well for businesses interested in launching digital platforms for consumer services or accessing reliable integrated networks to connect with suppliers.

To achieve these plans, the government has launched the following initiatives under the digital economy plan: (i) creation of a Digital Economy Master Plan (2016 – 2020) to replace the current ICT Ministry plan; (ii) abolish the Ministry of Information and Communications Technology and create the new Ministry of Digital Economy and Society; (iii) basing the Digital Economy Master Plan on five platforms; (iv) creating a national broadband system; (v) creating the biggest data center in ASEAN; and (vi) allowing distant learning through online portals.

The proposed Ministry of Information and Communication Technology Reform Bill will set up the Digital Economy Ministry and abolish the Information and Communications Technology Ministry. The Digital Economy Ministry will oversee the planning, promotion and development of the digital economy in accordance with the Digital Economy Master Plan.

In the creation of Digital Economy Master Plan, a five-platform approach has been utilized to drive the economic sectors of the Digital Economy. The five platforms focus on the governments' relationship with the private sector and educating Thais to leverage the increased access to reliable internet service.

The five platforms used as a basis for the creation of the Digital Economy Master Plan are:

### (a) Hard Infrastructure

Focusing on the government's

cooperation with the private sector to provide suitable information-technology infrastructure to support a digital economy, such as high-capacity broadband Internet, various data centers, and digital gateways.

### (b) Soft Infrastructure

Focusing on boosting business owners' and consumer confidence regarding online transactions such as verification systems to identify individuals online and cybersecurity in order to encourage e-commerce activities in Thailand.

### (c) Service Infrastructure

The Service Infrastructure platform will be propelled by the Electronic Transactions Development Agency's plan to introduce e-documents in the hopes government-run offices offer more efficient services to the public, including digitized document search. Laws will be

www.venturyasia.com

- M&E WORKS
- ENGINEERING
- CLEAN ROOMS
- FILTRATION PLANT
- AIR CONDITIONING
- TURNKEY FACTORY
- ACOUSTIC CONTROL
- EVAPORATIVE COOLING
- ODOUR/SMELL REMOVAL
- ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
- TEXTILE AIR CONDITIONING
- DUST COLLECTION SYSTEM
- DEHUMIDIFICATION SYSTEM
- INDUSTRIAL AIR TREATMENTS
- BUILDING AUTOMATION SYSTEM

**VENTURY**  
YOUR TURKEY FACTORY

**ELBARON**  
ELECTROSTATIC AIR CLEANER FOR OIL MIST

**((P)) Premier International Co.,Ltd.**

We fabricate P.T.F.E. Coated Glass Fabric Material into different kind of belts for many Industries

We produce textile dryer belts, packanging belts, processing belts, backing sheets, silicone sheets and tapes according to customer specification

Contact us: Tel.0-2935-9023 to 5 Fax. 0-2539-1743, 0-2935-9023 E-mail: premier\_admin@csloxinfo.com  
Website: www.premier-beltting.com, www.premier-belts.com





# Swiss Thai



OCTOBER 2015 | SWISS-THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | E-NEWSLETTER #63

## NEWS BY DFDL

pushed to create connectivity among offices. The plans involve the establishment of a centralized "ICT Law Center" to provide better information to every party involved in online businesses and transactions.

### (d) Promotion and Innovation

The sector focus of Digital Economy Promotion has the government sights set to develop the digital skills of entrepreneurs to improve their efficiency. It will utilize digital tools to support the business growth in sectors such as banking, services and manufacturing.

### (e) Society and Knowledge

Finally, the Digital Society and Knowledge Resource sector will provide universal access to online channels, ensuring everyone can access the internet at an affordable price. The govern-

ment has promised to establish internet connectivity for over 1,500 schools in Thailand by the completion of the Digital Economy Master Plan in 2020.

While we can comment on how the digital economy will affect Thailand we cannot at this stage comment on how effectively the legislation will be implemented in practice. One thing is clear given the publicly available information in regard to the inception of the digital economy; if implemented efficiently, the beneficial effects on the Thai economy will be significant. The targets set by the government seem, on their face, achievable. Only time will tell how the new legislative instruments impact specific sectors of the economy, it is recommended that businesses operating in Thailand closely follow the implementation of the digital economy.

#### Authors:

*Audray Souche, Partner;  
Deputy Managing Director Thailand  
audray.souche@dfdl.com*

*Kraisorn Rueangkul,  
Senior Legal Adviser  
kraisorn@dfdl.com*

*Kunal Sachdev, Legal Adviser  
kunal@dfdl.com*

*Kyla Moore  
thailand@dfdl.com*



**Premium Swiss Chocolate**  
Made from 100% pure Swiss milk from happy and healthy cows.

- Chocolate Creamy Black
- Milk Chocolate with Hazelnut
- Milk Chocolate
- Milk Chocolate with Muesli

**Premium Swiss Cheese**  
Prepared by dedicated Swiss cheesemakers for your delicious meals!

- Emmentaler AOP
- Soft Processed Cheese Emmentaler AOP
- Raclette Slices
- Cheese Fondue Traditional

contact us at: [support@swissmooh.co.th](mailto:support@swissmooh.co.th)  
[www.swissmooh.co.th](http://www.swissmooh.co.th)

Switzerland  
100% pure milk





## INTERVIEW

# AMBASSADOR IVO SIEBER

*Ambassador Sieber, welcome back to Thailand in the name of the Swiss Thai Chamber of Commerce, newsletter team. It is a coming back for you, describe your feelings not as an ambassador but as a Swiss citizen returning to Thailand.*

Thank you for the nice welcome. It's very good to be back after a break of almost two decades. And it's wonderful to meet up with so many friends again, both Swiss and Thai. Having spent four very gratifying years – both professionally and personally – here in Bangkok in the mid 90es, I was excited to return to Thailand. Then as now, Thailand continues to be a dynamic place, offering many opportunities and where everyone is made to feel welcome. The country's reputation as Amazing Thailand and the Land of Smiles still very much holds true.

*Thailand has gone through tumultuous years. How did you see these past events (coups, flooding, demonstrations etc.) from the outside of Thailand and how do you prepare yourself for similar events in the future?*



Spending the past five years as Swiss ambassador in the Philippines, I was privileged to follow and experience the developments in the region from a vantage po-

sition. Despite the 2010 floodings and the political turbulences of the recent past, Thailand continues to be a key member of ASEAN, even if some of the oth-

er countries in Southeast Asia have also taken advantage of the opportunities that globalization and an increasingly dynamic regional cooperation offers.



## INTERVIEW

Having spent my last assignment in a country, which is frequently affected by natural disasters, my team and I spent a considerable amount of time and efforts to be prepared for such eventualities. It is one of the key tasks of any Swiss embassy to continuously assess the risk potential in its area of responsibility and to be prepared to assist the Swiss community in cases of emergency. Taking on my new function, I will naturally also focus on disaster preparedness and our crisis management capacities here in Thailand. Indeed, I quickly realized that the Swiss Embassy team is well prepared and ready to deal with emergency situations.

*Many Swiss abroad are concerned about the recent developments in the Swiss finance industry. One example: it is difficult to keep a bank account in Switzerland. How do you address these concerns in general and the bank account issue in particular?*

I am closely following the changes in the international finance system and the impact of the tightened compliance requirements on bank clients and on the many Swiss living all over the world. As a Swiss abroad myself, I am also very directly affected by these developments. This said, the government as well as the broader public has recognized the problems back home. The political debate in Switzerland is launched with the Council for the Swiss Abroad (ASO) playing a key role. A parliamentary proposal recently introduced by National Councilor Roland Rino Büchel requests the Swiss government to assure that all Swiss abroad will be able to open and maintain accounts with Swiss banks at appropriate cost, and that respective provisions will be put into law. I am confident that arrangements can be found which reconcile the finance sector's obligations to meet more stringent compliance standards with the banking needs of the Swiss abroad.

*The previous Ambassador, Christine Schraner, has done a marvelous job connecting Switzerland and Thailand by going out and see people, Swiss and Thai. What will be your recipe to bring the two countries closer together?*

I couldn't agree more with your assessment of Ambassador Schraner outstanding job in reaching out to the Swiss community and our Thai hosts. Her success in bringing people together is truly a motivation for me and my team at the Swiss Embassy. As you know, the traditionally excellent Swiss-Thai relations are well established and have multifold dimensions with the people-to-people contacts as their bedrock. Building on these strong ties is the key. I want to consolidate the Embassy's position as a venue where people can come together, exchange ideas and – if necessary and possible – also get assistance. And this will, of course, be done by highlighting the many facets of the Swiss expe-

บริษัท โนวาเท็ค จำกัด  
**NOVATECH**

[www.novatech.co.th](http://www.novatech.co.th)

## DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT BUSINESS TOOLS?

- Website Development
- Internet-Based Business Solutions
- SEM, Digital & Traditional Marketing Solutions
- Web & Print Design



**bitsiren**  
Bespoke IT and Marketing Solutions

Tel: +66 76 319 179 | [www.bitsiren.com](http://www.bitsiren.com)



# Swiss Thai



OCTOBER 2015 | SWISS-THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | E-NEWSLETTER #63

## INTERVIEW

rience as a dynamic, multi-cultural, open, democratic and successful country. Personally, I was excited to pay a visit to the Swiss school in Bangkok and to re-establish the cooperation with STCC in my first two weeks back to Thailand. I am very much looking forward to reach out to and to meet with as many Swiss and Thais as possible.

*Ivo Sieber, the private person: May we have a look behind the curtains of your living room?*

As a matter of fact, the living room in the Swiss residence doesn't have its curtains drawn and is there to extend Swiss hospitality to all its visitors. Seriously, my wife Gracita and I will continue my predecessor's tradition to offer the Swiss residence as a place where Swiss and Thais can meet, where ideas can be shared and friendships developed. We look forward to welcome as many guests as possible.

**GLOBAL HD TV**

Weltweit europäisches Fernsehen über das Internet empfangen!

Mehr als 50 deutschsprachige und **NEU** die 4 französisch- und italienischsprachigen schweizer Sender! Integrierte digitale Fernsehzeitschrift und Aufnahmemöglichkeit. Alle Sendungen bis zu 14 Tage zurück abrufbar!

**www.globaltv.to Hotline Thailand 080 643 3640 werktags von 9 - 15 Uhr**

บริษัท โนวาเท็ค จำกัด  
**NOVATECH**

[www.novatech.co.th](http://www.novatech.co.th)

**DO YOU HAVE THE RIGHT BUSINESS TOOLS?**

- Website Development
- Internet-Based Business Solutions
- SEM, Digital & Traditional Marketing Solutions
- Web & Print Design

**bitsiren**  
Bespoke IT and Marketing Solutions

Tel: +66 76 319 179 | [www.bitsiren.com](http://www.bitsiren.com)





## CHAMBER NEWS

# MRT TUNNEL EXCURSION



*On Thursday 17 September our STCC member Andre Graber had kindly organized for us a very exclusive invitation to visit the construction site of the new underground BLUE LINE in Thonburi.*

A total of 21 members participated in this special event and were all highly impressed by the modern machinery used for this major undertaking, as well as by the quality of the finished tunnel which leads at a depth of 30 m under the Chaophaya River from Thonburi to Bangkok.



We had the honor to welcome the new Swiss Ambassador Ivo Sieber who also joined this outing. A big THANK YOU is due to organizer Andre Graber!

We would very much welcome future offers by other STCC members for similar inspection trips to factories, business offices etc.







## CHAMBER NEWS

# RETIREMENT PLANNING SEMINAR

*On 10th September prior to the Stamm at 17:00, Mr. Max Jucker of SwissLife enlightened us with his presentation (in German) about the latest topics that make a difference in life after retiring.*

24 members and interested parties, mainly Swiss Nationals living / working in Thailand, joined the event and got input for thought in order to plan their financials for a decent life after retiring. AHV, 2nd and 3rd

pillar of the social system in Switzerland were summarized, and sample calculations showed most of us that we have to think ahead!

In short: due to the high life expectancy the capital needed for 30 years retirement has to be saved in 45 years working. With the nearly 0% interest rate this time ... and the risks of accident and sickness... start saving early!

Thanks to the sponsored vouchers towards the Stamm entry and the excellent food prepared by Amari Boulevard hotel the worrying figures were sweetened somehow.

*For details of the presentation or personal consulting you might contact Mr Jucker at [auslandschweizer@swisslife.ch](mailto:auslandschweizer@swisslife.ch)*





## INTERN

# WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS:

### Corporate Members:

#### **Moevenpick Hotel Sukhumvit Soi 15**

47 Sukhumvit Road Soi 15  
Klongtoey Nua, Wattana  
10110 Bangkok

Tel: 02 119 3100

Fax: 02 119 3119

simon.rindlisbacher@

moevenpick.com

www.moevenpick-hotels.com/  
bangkoksukhumvit

#### Representatives:

Mr. Simon Rindlisbacher,  
General Manager, Swiss

#### Activity:

Five-star hotel in Bangkok, Sukhumvit 15 Bangkok, for visiting Bangkok either for business, pleasure or to settle into a place that relaxes you and puts you at ease right away.

With stylish, tech-savvy rooms and suites and complimentary amenities including Wi-Fi connection and 24-hour tuk-tuk shuttle service, you are sure to enjoy a peaceful stay at Mövenpick on Sukhumvit Road. Offers 297 comfortably appointed hotel rooms and suites, with both garden courtyard and city views; amenities such as complimentary Wi-Fi access throughout the room, large 46" LED TV's, Rain Showers and customized 12' mattresses in each room.

Discover a relaxed stay with rejuvenating experiences and enticing dining opportunities at Mövenpick Hotel Sukhumvit 15 Bangkok with our special offers for business and leisure stays.

#### **Euro Design Furniture Co. Ltd.**

78/5 Moo 3 Nongplalai  
Banglamung

20150 Chonburi

Tel: 038 373 910

Mobile: 092 272 8200

Fax: 038 938 283

admin@euro-design-furniture.com

www.euro-design-furniture.com

#### Representatives:

Mr. Luc Marcel Parietti,  
Managing Director, Swiss;  
and Mr. Jaques Lefebre,  
Canadian, Factory Director

#### Activity:

In 1999, Euro Design Furniture Company, Ltd opened its doors led by Mr. Heinz Pichler and Mr. Luc Parietti. What started as a furniture manufacturing business has since grown into a full service and vertically integrated Interior Design Company.

We produce a wide array of free-standing and built-in furniture as well as custom interior solutions. Our products come in a startling variety of sizes, finishes, colors and fabrics. We design creative and practical solutions as well as executing

them. Vertical integration is the key to our success. At Euro Design, you can follow the process from the desk of our Creative Director to the hands of our expert installation teams. All our products and services are guaranteed for 2 years! Big international developers with large commercial and residential projects and small and medium size companies realize their goals. Attention to detail and personalized service makes us the favorite of individuals who want their homes to be just right.

### Associate Member:

#### **Mister Loo AG**

Wehntalerstrasse 20

8157 Dielsdorf, Switzerland

Mobile Thailand:

+66 92 790 2599

contact@misterloo.com

www.misterloo.com

#### Representatives:

Andreas Wanner, Swiss,  
and Dominik Schuler, Swiss,  
both Directors

#### Activity:

Mister Loo is a Swiss based holding company offering an innovative toilet concept with movable clean restrooms and state of the art refreshing facilities. Currently establishing in Thailand.





RIS SWISS SECTION DEUTSCHSPRACHIGE SCHULE BANGKOK

## VISIT OF THE NEW SWISS AND GERMAN AMBASSADORS

*On Wednesday, 23.09.2015, the new ambassador of Switzerland, his Excellency Mr. Ivo Sieber, and the new ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, His Excellency Mr. Peter Prügel, visited RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok in Minburi. The Excellencies were accompanied by Mr. Simon Kürsener, Third Secretary of the Embassy of Switzerland and Jan Blezinger, the German Counselor of Press and Cultural Affairs.*

Led by the Senior Management Team and two students from grade 12, the visitors enjoyed a tour through the school campus and showed great interest in the children and the current activities in the school.

The guests were then received in the inner school yard by the students, teachers and other members of the school community. Students Ines Vänskä und Hanna Lorenzini presented them flower garlands. The school's Principal Mr. Simon Dörig expressed the desire that both Excellencies will also act as ambassadors of RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok.

During this part both ambassadors highlighted that they had various contacts with German and Swiss Schools abroad during their former appointments. The Swiss ambassador was even a member of the Matura commission at RIS Swiss Section –

Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok some twenty years ago.

Both encouraged all members of the school community to maintain their great work and gave their full support for the upcoming challenges.

Following the reception in the inner school yard, the guests enjoyed an apéro and had the chance to welcome the new ambassadors in Bangkok.

RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok was delighted to welcome the ambassadors at such an early stage of their new appointments.



The Senior Management Team is welcoming the ambassadors  
Left to right: Mr. Simon Kürsener, Mr. Jens Eggert, H.E. Mr. Ivo Sieber, Mr. Simon Dörig, H.E. Mr. Peter Prügel, Mrs. Johanna Vänskä, Mrs. Uraiwan Setakul, Mr. Jan Blezinger



RIS SWISS SECTION DEUTSCHSPRACHIGE SCHULE BANGKOK

## CAMBRIDGE CERTIFICATES FOR OUR MATURA STUDENTS

*On Friday, 21 August 2015, our vice principal, Mr. Jens Eggert, awarded our students in Grade 12 with the Cambridge Certificates. During his speech he pointed out the truly international character of our school:*

Our students, for instance, complete language proficiency tests in Spanish, French, English and German. This allows them to follow the content of their further studies in the particular language of many countries.

Mr. Eggert thanked the students for their hard work and interest in foreign languages as well as the teachers for their commitment, which contributed significantly to this great success.

## INTERNATIONAL COMPUTER DRIVING LICENSE (ICDL)

*The International Computer Driving License (ICDL), aka European Computer Driving License (ECDL), is a computer literacy certification program provided by the ECDL Foundation and is globally recognized.*

International Computer Driving License (ICDL) in Thailand. In November 2014 our school received recertification, and since then, we also offer the "new ICDL". This brings us up to date with the new developments. At our school ECDL / ICDL is a part of the curriculum from the 9th Grade onwards. Felix Gumpel

was the first student to meet the "new ICDL" requirements and received his certificate by the ECDL/ ICDL Center Master Stefan Nyffenegger.

In 2007, RIS Swiss Section was certified as a test center for the

 **asian trails**

Let us guide you throughout Asia

COME EXPLORE WITH US.

CAMBODIA · [res@asiantrails.com.kh](mailto:res@asiantrails.com.kh)  
 CHINA · [res@asiantrailschina.com](mailto:res@asiantrailschina.com)  
 INDONESIA · [res@asiantrails.co.id](mailto:res@asiantrails.co.id)  
 LAOS · [res@asiantrails.com](mailto:res@asiantrails.com)  
 MALAYSIA · [res@asiantrails.com.my](mailto:res@asiantrails.com.my)  
 MYANMAR · [res@asiantrails.com.mm](mailto:res@asiantrails.com.mm)  
 THAILAND · [res@asiantrails.org](mailto:res@asiantrails.org)  
 VIETNAM · [vietnam@asiantrails.com.vn](mailto:vietnam@asiantrails.com.vn)

[WWW.ASIANTRAILS.TRAVEL](http://WWW.ASIANTRAILS.TRAVEL)







RIS SWISS SECTION DEUTSCHSPRACHIGE SCHULE BANGKOK

## A JOURNEY INTO SPACE

*Our Kindergarten students built, painted and created all about their current study theme of "A journey into space".*

The study theme accompanied the students since the beginning of this school year in August. Here are some impressions

from the wonderfully decorated classroom of Kindergarten B.



### Important events in the second semester of the school year:

- 15.10.2015 Annual General Meeting of SEA
- 11.11.2015 Open House Day (7.30 – 14.40 Uhr)
- 13.11.2015 Lantern Parade (KG - Grade 3 - evening)
- 25.11.2015 Loy Krathong – Day
- 08.12.2015 St. Nicolas`visit
- 10.12.2015 Sports Day (7:30 – 12:00)
- 16.12.2015 Christmas Party (from 13:00)

*Please visit [www.ris-swiss-section.org](http://www.ris-swiss-section.org) and get more information about our upcoming events.*

**TRINA**  
INTERNATIONAL

ONE STOP

Your reliable Partner  
in Thailand

+ Swiss Management +  
Since 1996

#### Business Consulting

Start up – Business Registrations – Visa & Work permits

#### Recruiting

#### Accounting Services

including VAT, Tax, year-end closings, reportings

#### Insurance Solutions

Medical Insurances (individual and staff / groups)  
Car-, Bike- & Property Insurance  
Life Insurances

#### TRINA Management (Thailand) Co. Ltd.

18<sup>th</sup> Floor, Unit 1802; Bangkok Business Center Building  
#29, Sukhumvit 63 Road, Wattana, Bangkok 10110  
Tel: 02 714 4177; Fax: 02 714 4179  
trina@loxinfo.co.th www.trina-thai.com

Member of the Swiss & German Chamber of Commerce

### + Adhesive & Sealant Technologies +



**ergo**<sup>®</sup>

MS Hybrid Polymer  
**best performing**  
window, door  
and facade  
**sealant.**

Southeast Asia Link Co., Ltd.  
[www.seal-ast.com](http://www.seal-ast.com)  
T: 0 2732 2092





# Swiss Thai



OCTOBER 2015 | SWISS-THAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE | E-NEWSLETTER #63



The ambassadors with the students, teachers, management and staff of RIS Swiss Section – Deutschsprachige Schule Bangkok in Minburi



**Evangelische Gemeinde  
Deutscher Sprache  
in Thailand**

Pastorin Annegret Helmer  
Pastor Ulrich Holste-Helmer

Mobil: +66 (0) 8 1815 9140  
E-Mail: [ev.kirche.th@gmail.com](mailto:ev.kirche.th@gmail.com)  
Internet: [www.die-bruecke.net](http://www.die-bruecke.net)

**Deutschsprachige  
Katholische Gemeinde  
in Thailand**



Pfarrer Jörg Dunsbach

Mobil: +66 (0) 8 11 58 98 12  
Email: [post@gemeinde-bangkok.com](mailto:post@gemeinde-bangkok.com)  
Home: [www.gemeinde-bangkok.com](http://www.gemeinde-bangkok.com)

## Herzlich willkommen!

### Regelmäßige Gottesdienste:

am ersten und dritten Sonntag im Monat  
um 11 Uhr im Gemeindehaus Bangkok  
125/1 Soi Sitthi Prasat, Rama IV (Nähe MRT Lumpini)

am zweiten und letzten Sonntag im Monat  
um 11 Uhr im Begegnungszentrum Pattaya  
Naklua Road, zwischen Soi 11 und Soi 13

### Regelmäßige Gottesdienste:

sonntags um 10.30 Uhr  
in der Kapelle des St.Louis Hospitals Bangkok,  
Sathon Road (Nähe BTS Surasak)

am ersten Samstag im Monat um 11 Uhr  
im Redemptoristenzentrum Pattaya  
Kapelle neben der Lobby, Sukhumvit Road





ทุกหยด...คือคุณภาพที่ทุกคนรอไว้ใจ

น้ำดื่มแบรนด์ระดับโลก พร้อมส่งตรงถึงบ้าน และสำนักงาน

โทร. **02-789-9090**

บริการส่งในเขตกรุงเทพฯ และปริมณฑล

พบนวัตกรรมใหม่ ฟาปิดอัจฉริยะ SMART CAP ไร้ทุกครั้งที่เปลี่ยนหลอด  
ไม่จำเป็นต้องใช้มือสองข้างเพื่อขันน้ำทาลงขณะกดทุกหลอด



เปลี่ยนไส้กรองน้ำ



กดน้ำดื่มตามชอบ



ห้ามดื่ม น้ำดื่มที่ อยู่นอก



ขนาด 18.9 ลิตร

