



**2<sup>nd</sup> Thai International Plastics and Rubber Exhibition for the Indochina Region**

**23 – 26 September 2009**

**Bangkok International Trade & Exhibition Centre (BITEC)**

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## **PRESS RELEASE # 1**

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### **TIPREX to Return to Thailand Amid Strong Industrial Growth**

TIPREX, the Thai International Plastics and Rubber Exhibition for the Indochina Region, returns to Bangkok, Thailand in September 2009 after its successful debut in 2006 and at a time when the Thai economy, industrial sector and business environment are performing strongly.

TIPREX 2009 will be co-located with a second show of relevance to the industry - PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2009. This event brings together exhibitors and attendees from the printing and packaging sectors, including many that employ rigid and flexible plastic packaging machinery and plastic substrate printing solutions in their day-to-day business. Both TIPREX and PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL are co-organized by their respective industry associations and Messe Düsseldorf Asia.

In 2006, TIPREX attracted 192 exhibiting companies from 19 countries, and 7,573 trade visitors from 50 countries. In 2007, PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL played host to 285 exhibiting companies from 25 countries and 18,000 visitors from 60 countries.

The co-located events will complement each other. Both TIPREX and PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL's role is clearer than ever – to introduce the latest in cutting-edge solutions, technologies and products to Thailand and Southeast Asia's plastic, rubber, packaging and printing sectors that are playing significant roles in driving the manufacturing sector to greater heights. Both events will be tailored to reflect the market's evolutionary path driven by new needs, competition, technology, channels and other developments.

#### **More reasons to exhibit**

Thailand's ranking in the 2008 IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook, which is acknowledged as a benchmark in ranking global competitiveness of nations, improved six slots to 27th in 2008. This comes on the back of Thailand moving up the rankings in the 2008 World Bank Ease of Doing Business Survey to 15th from its previous position of 18th a year ago. Moreover, the Thai Government is working towards lifting the country's competitiveness ranking to 20th out of 55 countries over the next four years. These statistical trends underline just why many suppliers of

plastics and rubber processing machinery consider a presence at **TIPREX** indispensable and 2009 will be no different.

Thailand rates particularly highly for economic performance, government efficiency, and business efficiency. This noteworthy performance harbours well for continued investment and strong performance in the manufacturing sector.

Thailand is also benefiting from free trade agreements. The export value of plastic products increased by 15.52% in 2007 compared with the previous year, with film and related product exports growing an impressive 30.4%. Exports to the Australian market have been improving and should continue to do so due to the reduction of import taxes to zero in 2008 under the terms of the Australian-Thai Free Trade Agreement. Exports of food products are also growing strongly, generating increased demand for world-class packaging solutions.

### **Investment continues**

Thailand is recognized as a global hub for automobile production, and it continues to attract high levels of investment. In April 2008, Three automakers — Toyota, Mitsubishi and Tata — have announced independent plans to build eco-cars in Thailand starting between 2010 and 2012 for both export and local markets, with total investment valued at US\$679 million. This follows on from earlier announcements from Suzuki and Nissan that they would also start production of eco-cars in 2010. This will have positive follow-through effects for suppliers of plastic components, who will be looking to invest in processing machinery in the lead-up to production kicking off in 2010.

The Thai Government has also rolled out additional measures to maintain and enhance the attractiveness of the Kingdom as an investment destination. These include further fostering currently competitive sectors such as the automotive industry, electrical and electronics product, agro-industry and other high value creation industries, promoting industries of the future including alternative energy, and promoting investment in infrastructure and industrial zoning in the Southern Seaboard and other appropriate areas.

### **About TIPREX 2009**

TIPREX 2009 is jointly organized by The Thai Plastic Industries Association, The Federation of Thai Industries – Plastic Industry Club and Messe Düsseldorf Asia. It is supported by K, the World's No. 1 International Trade Fair for Plastics + Rubber and the Thailand Convention & Exhibition Bureau.

More information on TIPREX 2009 can be found at [www.tiprex.com](http://www.tiprex.com) or please contact:

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