

Welcome Speech  
**Dr. Wannarat Channukul**  
Minister of Industry

**PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2011**  
**TIPREX 2011**

31 August 2011 at BITEC, Bangkok

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- Khun Payungsak Chartsutipol, Chairman, the Federation of Thai Industries
- Mr. Kashem Yaemvathithong, President, Thai Packaging Association
- Mr. Pornchai Rattanachaikanont, President, Thai Printing Association
- Mr. Veerasak Kositpaisal, Chairman, Federation of Thai Industries – Plastic Industry Club
- Mr. Krianglit Sukcharoensin, President, Thai Plastic Industries Association
- Mr. Pravit Sribanditmongkol, Board of Director, Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau and President of Thai Exhibition Association
- Mr. Gernot Ringling, Managing Director, Messe Düsseldorf Asia

Distinguished Guests  
Members of the Press  
Ladies and Gentlemen

Ladies and gentlemen, the contributions of plastics, rubber, printing and packaging in business and industry are truly significant. A range of statistics has already been presented showing very clearly the importance of these industries, which I wish not to repeat them anymore.

I will say however that those statistics on plastics, rubber, printing and packaging show only parts of the whole picture. The value added components of these products and materials in Thailand's manufactured products and exports are the other parts of the whole picture.

The Bank of Thailand's 2010 figures showed exports amounted to 5.7 trillion baht. Undeniably some of their added values were accounted for by plastics, rubber, printing and packaging.

For instance Thailand exported over 490,000 automobiles units during the first seven months of 2011, and they use a variety of plastics and rubber components.

Meanwhile, Thailand in the first quarter of 2011, exported 8.4 million tonnes of food products worth 222 billion baht or 7.4 billion US dollar, again they use significant amount of printed packaging and plastic materials as well.

So far I have presented just two examples of particular products lines to show the robust performance of Thailand's exports which in turn form the underpinning in the growth of plastics, rubber, printing and packaging products.

Indeed export is an excellent measure of the Thai markets potentials in supporting the growth of the plastics, rubber, printing and packaging materials, and the machines that convert and manufacture them into finished and semi-finished products.

Another important measure of Thailand's market potential is the volume of local consumption of these materials as end products, and ladies and gentlemen, I can say local consumption will increase.

Recently the World Bank revised upward Thailand's income rating to upper-middle-income economies based on gross national income.

This is good news for Thailand's population of 67.4 million who can now enjoy a better quality of life.

It is equally good news for Thailand's over 457,000 businesses and industries, including those in plastics, rubber, printing and packaging industries.

Ladies and gentlemen, on that good news I would like to officially open the PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2011 and TIPREX 2011, also the third International packaging and printing exhibition for Asia and TIPREX, the third international plastics and rubber exhibition.

Thank you.