

Welcome Speech  
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**PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2011**  
**TIPREX 2011**  
31 August 2011 at BITEC, Bangkok, Thailand

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Good morning

- Distinguished Guest-of-Honour, His Excellency Khun Wannarat Channukul, Minister of Industry
- Khun Payungsak Chartsutipol, Chairman, Federation of Thai Industries
- Khun Kashem Yaemvathithong, President, The Thai Packaging Association
- Khun Pornchai Rattanachaikanont, President, Thai Printing Industry Association
- Khun Veerasak Kositpaisal, Chairman, Plastic Industry Club - Federation of Thai Industries
- Khun Krianglit Sukcharoensin, President, Thai Plastic Industries Association
- Khun Pravit Sribunditmongkol, Board of Director, Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau

Members of the media, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen.

A very warm welcome to the joint opening of the third edition of PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL and TIPREX. It is indeed a pleasure for me to be here in Bangkok and to see so many of you present here today. Thank you for taking time off your busy schedule to join us for this occasion.

I would especially like to extend my sincere appreciation to our guest of honour, His Excellency Khun Wannarat for gracing the opening of these two very important industry exhibitions. Co-located, the two exhibitions will bring together the synergistic industries of packaging, printing, plastics and rubber under one roof to introduce the latest in cutting-edge solutions, technologies, machinery, equipment and innovative products to Thailand and Southeast Asia's printing, packaging, plastic and rubber industries. These industries in Thailand and the region are playing significant roles in driving the regional manufacturing sector to greater heights.

With the theme 'better business beyond borders' PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2011 promises to do exactly that. To provide an international platform for enhanced business opportunities by showcasing new technologies and innovations from some of the best packaging and printing players in the world.

As demands on the printing industry change and demand for individualised print products on

the rise, featuring strongly at PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL 2011 are highly automated and productive printing press technologies and solutions that have made huge strides in recent years in terms of speed, quality and economics.

For the print industry, the total export value for the first six months of this year reached 14.6% growth due to positive contributing factors such as industrial export.

For the plastics and rubber sectors, the outlook is equally promising. In fact, the future for plastics and rubber looks very bright, particularly in Asia which is the largest processor of plastics and rubber, generating 43% of total global production.

At the same time, Thailand is one of the world's largest exporters of plastic products, with film sheets and packaging material being the largest plastic export categories.

PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL and TIPREX are the only platforms in Southeast Asia that are driven by the industry for the industry. Both exhibitions serve as valuable forums to facilitate the exchange of expertise and know-how on production to processing. Thailand provides the ideal location for these world-class exhibitions with its quality, variety and internationality of exhibitors and visitors.

And it is for all these reasons that both events are the biggest in their field in Southeast Asia. Therefore they serve as a great attraction also for the industry players in the region.

Over the next four days, the exhibition floor will come alive with activities and numerous product and machinery demonstrations. Alongside the exhibitions are also several value-add industry seminars and conferences that have been organized by our partner associations and exhibiting companies.

I am pleased to share that both PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL and TIPREX 2011 have attracted a combined participation of some 400 exhibiting companies from over 20 countries including several national groups and pavilions, and visiting delegations from all over Asia.

This year's exhibitions will also be the largest edition yet, having grown by nearly 25% compared to the last show in 2009. This year, visitors will see more machinery on display, a greater internationality of exhibitors from the packaging, printing, plastics and rubber sectors, as well as increased participation from Thai companies.

On the visitor's side, I am happy to note that the pre-registration figures have doubled for both exhibitions compared to 2009. Therefore, I am convinced that PACK PRINT INTERNATIONAL and TIPREX 2011 are well timed, and both exhibitions will reflect the needs of the industries. The success of this year's shows proves that this international partnership between the Messe Düsseldorf Group and the national associations in Thailand is working for the better of the regional industries.

Last but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank:

- our valued partners; the Thai Packaging Association, Thai Printing Industry Association, Thai Plastic Industries Association and the Plastic Industry Club, for the fruitful cooperation and

- the stellar support we have received from all the supporting associations, and visiting delegations

- the excellent co-operation from the Thailand Convention and Exhibition Bureau

- and certainly the staunch support from all exhibiting companies and coordinators of the national pavilions and groups.

I wish each and every one of you a successful and rewarding experience over the next four days here in Bangkok.