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**American Businesses Upbeat and Positive about Vietnam**

**(Hanoi)** The US-ASEAN Business Council is bringing a delegation of US businesses on a two day mission to Hanoi May 2-4, with a strong signal of confidence and support in the country. The mission consisted of 33 representatives from 18 companies and is led by the Council’s Counselor Frances Zwenig.

"This large delegation of 18 major US corporations -- the first since Permanent Normal Trade Relations were established between the US and Vietnam -- is living proof of the strong economic potential of Vietnam. We are here to explore new investment opportunities and to deepen already existing trade and investment relationships", said Frances Zwenig.

During the two day mission, delegates will meet with Prime Minister Nguyen Van Dung, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Foreign Affairs Pham Gia Khiem, Minister of Trade Truong Dinh Tuyen, Minister of Finance Vu Van Ninh, Minister of Planning & Investment Vo Hong Phuc, Minister of Transportation Ho Nghia Dung, Minister of Post & Telematics Do Trung Ta, Minister of Science & Technology Hong Van Phong, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Le Bang, Minister of Internal Affairs Do Quang Trung, members of the National Assembly and US Ambassador Michael Marine.

Companies represented in the delegation are Abbott International, Agilent Technologies, Alcoa, Apco Worldwide, The Boeing Company, Chevron, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil, Ford Motor Company, General Electric, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, JHPIEGO, Raytheon International Inc, TimeWarner, Universal Telecom Services Inc, UPS, and Vietnam Partners LLC.

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The US-ASEAN Business Council and affiliates are dedicated to strengthening bilateral and US ASEAN relations and building strong economic and commercial ties. Members of the Council include Fortune 1000 companies in support of promoting trade, investment, and technology cooperation, advancing US ASEAN relations through strong participation in public-private partnerships, and committing to development and corporate social responsibility. The Council's members are represented in diverse industries, including aerospace, agribusiness, automobiles, computers and information technology, consumer goods, energy exploration and development, express delivery services, financial services, health care and pharmaceuticals, media & entertainment, mining, software, and telecommunications.

For information on the US-ASEAN Business Council or general information visit [www.us-asean.org](http://www.us-asean.org)