

BUSINESS TIANJIN

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Celebrating Tianjin's Female Business Leaders



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Protecting your children's health and well-being is the number one priority on every parent's list. Childhood immunization is one weapon that helps prevent our children from getting devastating diseases like meningitis, pneumonia and polio. However, navigating the immunization process while living in another country or moving between countries can seem like a daunting process. Which childhood immunization schedule should you follow? What are the differences between the schedules? What about special immunizations tailored to life in China?

Many countries have generally agreed which childhood immunizations are essential; however, there may be minor differences from country to country. Parents will often choose to follow the schedule of their home country and supplement it with other immunizations recommended by organizations like the World Health Organization (WHO) or the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in the US.

It's fair to say that most countries include tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough (also known as pertussis), haemophilus influenza B (one cause of meningitis) and hepatitis B in their immunization schedules. This may sound like a lot of needles, but fortunately new combination vaccines (like the 5-in-1 vaccine) are available. Other standard immunizations cover polio, meningococcal, pneumococcal, measles, mumps and rubella (also known as German measles).

Additional vaccines found on some countries' schedules include BCG (to protect against tuberculosis), chicken pox (varicella) and rotavirus (which causes serious gastroenteritis in young children). Older kids and teenagers are also included in the vaccination schedule. Having booster shots at the right time is essential for them to stay protected as they get older. There are also several vaccines specially geared towards teens, such as the human papilloma virus (HPV) and meningococcal (meningitis) vaccines. The HPV vaccine is recommended for girls around the ages of 12-13 to help protect against cervical cancer in later life. The meningitis vaccine is recommended for teenagers going off to university – especially for those who will be living in dorms.

In addition to the standard childhood vaccinations, there are other vaccinations to consider for living and traveling in China. These include hepatitis A, typhoid, rabies, and Japanese encephalitis. Hepatitis A and typhoid fever are serious infections usually transmitted by contaminated food or water, while Japanese encephalitis is carried by mosquitoes. Any mammal – including cats, dogs, monkeys and bats – potentially carries rabies, a deadly disease. Since China has many strays, the rabies vaccine is particularly recommended for children and those traveling in rural areas of China. Last but not least, all children and adults should get the Influenza vaccination every year.

A word about the anti-vaccination movement. In 1998, a paper was published in a UK medical journal suggesting a possible link between the combined measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccine and autism. Although the research was flawed and the findings have now been completely disproven by larger, better quality studies, the media reaction to the story led to confidence in vaccines falling drastically. Years later, some people are still distrustful of vaccines in general, despite there being no evidence that they cause significant harm. The result has been that in recent years many countries have seen regular outbreaks of serious diseases which had been very rare indeed, such as whooping cough, measles and polio – even more reason to ensure that your child is up to date with their jabs.

Finally, many people have concerns about the quality of vaccines available in China, especially as most of the vaccines manufactured here have yet to be awarded "pre-qualification" status by the World Health Organisation, a guarantee of safety and efficacy. It's therefore important to discuss what is available and plan your child's vaccination schedule carefully with your doctor well in advance.



Dr. Xavier Roux – Chief Medical Officer and Family Doctor, International SOS Tianjin and Tianjin TEDA Clinics

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▲ Running The Ritz-Carlton An Interview with General Manager Vincent Billiard

For some time now this city has been an attractive location for the big players in the luxury hospitality sector, and it was only a matter of time before the infamous Ritz-Carlton hotel group came to Tianjin. See P22



◀ China's Population Problems

The ending of the One Child Policy is seen as a major step in solving what experts are calling "China's great looming problem". On 18 January, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) announced that China's working age population (ages 15-59) had declined in 2012 by 3.45 million, or 0.6 percent, marking the first decline in working population for some time. See P26



◀ Set It & Forget It!

Who doesn't want to retire rich? The majority of people still believe that working hard and contributing to their 401K or retirement scheme will leave them with plenty of cash in their old age. The problem is that demographics and other fundamental economic factors are working against young people today. In fact, in many countries around the world it's only a matter of time before there simply aren't enough young people to prop up the pension pot Ponzi scheme. See P28



◀ China's Auto Market

China's auto market, much like the Chinese economy as a whole, has been growing at an incredible rate over the past several decades. The ever growing demand for passenger vehicles in China has altered not only China's economy and infrastructure, but also worldwide markets from oil to steel. City streets that were once jam packed with bicycles and motorbikes are now teeming with cars and gridlocked traffic. See P35



◀ Open-Source Operating Systems

Computer systems have infiltrated every aspect of the modern world. From the way we communicate, learn, and entertain ourselves to the security, infrastructure and economics of our nations. Behind every computer system is an operating-system (OS). These are programs which provide a way for users to interact with the computer system, manage the system's hardware resources and provide mutually relied upon resources for all other applications on a computer. See P52

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Dear Readers,

We can all bear witness to the astonishing economic developments that are taking place right before our eyes at such breakneck speed. However, when it comes to social change, 21st century China is one of the most dynamic places on earth. In honour of International Women's Day, which is celebrated on 8 March, this month's edition of Business Tianjin is dedicated to a very special section of society: female business leaders. We are excited to be sharing some insights from the women who are leading the way in Tianjin's thriving business sector. Read our Cover Story to find out more about the challenges of being a female business leader and their take on the rapidly changing economic and social landscape.

This month's Feature Story highlights another very important social issue for China. In years to come, this country, like many others around the world, will have to deal with a number of unprecedented problems related to its population imbalance. These include a declining birth rate, an aging population and severe disparities between the number of males and females. The recent adjustments to the One Child Policy are certainly a step in the right direction for China, but tackling these very real and very serious population problems will require more bold decisions to be taken by the authorities going forward. Our article highlights some of the key issues and looks at some of the ways in which China could address these problems in order to secure a stable society and build a sustainable economic future.

As our magazine has shown in previous issues, Tianjin's luxury hospitality sector is booming. This is exemplified by the recent opening of the city's first Ritz Carlton Hotel. The world famous brand is expanding rapidly into new parts of the world, and this thriving coastal city is as good a location as any when it comes to operating a service business. General Manager, Mr. Vincent Billiard tells us more about this prestigious hotel and the extraordinary services they offer to guests.

And as always, be sure to check out all of our monthly columns which give you the very best expert information on issues related to the business sector. For more information about our magazine, please visit our website: www.businesstianjin.com.

Yours sincerely

Josh Cooper

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TIANJIN NEWS

Senior Managers of Tangla Hotel Tianjin Visit Tianjin Children Welfare Institute on the Occasion of Spring Festival

Business Tianjin 8 February



With the Spring Festival fast approaching, the Department Heads and Managers of Tangla Hotel Tianjin visited the Tianjin Children's Welfare Institute to bring good wishes for the coming year of the Horse and distribute New Year presents to all. The children warmly greeted the Hotel Delegation and both children and Hotel group bonded quickly in the spirit of the season. The children happily shared their delight and excitement regarding the upcoming festival, and the Hotel leaders who in turn wished them much happiness, good health and fortune in the coming year of the Horse. Under the guidance of the Institution staff, the children performed their carefully rehearsed New Year show for the hotel leaders, and their enthusiasm, efforts and passion greatly impressed the Hotel delegation.

Tianjin Community to Get New Year Facelift

China Daily, 5 February

Having celebrated the Lunar New Year for half a century in Tianjin's impoverished Xiyuzhuang community, this year's Spring Festival was especially significant for Duan Yunhai. Although plans to rebuild the area have been on the drawing board for a decade, work never commenced as property developers were hesitant to pay the large amount of compensation for the resettlement of the community. Liu Zili, head of the Tianjin Bureau of Land Resources and Housing Administration, said the city will start building 60,000 low-cost and affordable apartments this year. More than 75,000 such apartments will be completed in Tianjin by the end of this year, and they will be allocated on the basis of residents' incomes, he added. The State Council has pledged to improve living conditions for people on low incomes and to accelerate urbanization by further promoting the redevelopment of these areas.

The Astor Hotel wins The Best Boutique Hotels of China Award

Business Tianjin 11 February

The 1st China Best Hotel & Resort Awards ceremony of My Vacation Magazine was successfully held in Wuxi. The Astor Hotel received its 20th media award - The Best Boutique Hotels of China at the end of 2013. The Astor Hotel, was established in 1863, and has 151 years of legendary history. Throughout its proud history as a "Diplomatic Hotel", The Astor Hotel has hosted many global leaders and landmark events. Several international treaties - including the Sino - Denmark and the Sino - Holland treaty - were signed here. Reflecting its extraordinary heritage, The Astor Hotel is the First luxury hotel in China classified by the National Important Historical Relics Protection Unit.



China's Major Cities Report Booming Holiday Tourism

Xinhua, 7 February



China's major cities have reported significant rises in tourism income during the week-long Spring Festival holiday from last Friday through Thursday, local authorities said. In the first week of the Chinese Lunar New Year, the capital city earned CNY 4.384b (USD 723m) of tourism income, up 13 percent from the same period of last year. Tianjin municipality reported CNY 3.584b of tourism revenue during the week-long holiday, an all-time high, according to figures released by the city's statistical bureau Thursday. Tianjin hosted an estimated 4.3m sightseers over the past week, of whom 1.4m were travelers from other parts of the country or international tourists.

Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Convention Centre Hotel Brings Warm Wishes to TEDA Retirement Home

Business Tianjin, 19 February



Respect for the elderly is a traditional virtue of Chinese culture. Recently, the Renaissance Tianjin TEDA hotel management and staff paid a visit to Tianjin TEDA Retirement Home with the greeting, gifts, colourful performance, singing, dancing etc.. Hotel General Manager, Mr. Nicholas Emery, expressed the season's greetings and sent slices of cake to every elderly attendee, "Renaissance Tianjin TEDA hotel has always taken care of the community. In the coming months the hotel also will continue to organize volunteers to chat with senior citizens." TEDA Retirement Home expressed heartfelt thanks to the hotel, hotel will continue to work with the community to pay close attention to social charity and public welfare undertakings!

Xi's Sochi Visit to Deepen Sino-Russian Ties

Xinhua, 2 February

Russia, for the second time, will be Chinese President Xi Jinping's first foreign destination of the new year. In March 2013, Xi took a state visit to Russia a few days after he took office as Chinese President. China and Russia signed an agreement that Russia's biggest oil company Rosneft would supply an additional 10 million tonnes of crude oil to China each year in the coming decade, a deal worth USD 85b. A joint-venture oil refinery will be built in Tianjin, with a capacity to process 16 million tonnes of crude oil each year. China National Petroleum Corporation, the country's largest oil and gas producer and supplier, will hold a 49 percent stake and Rosneft 51 percent. China imported 24.33 million tonnes of crude oil from Russia in 2012 and has been negotiating on the import of natural gas with Russia.

FINANCE

PMI Points to Weaker Service Conditions

China Daily, 8 February

HSBC Holdings Plc released the Purchasing Managers' Index for services, which eased to 50.7 in January from 50.9 in December. The official PMI for the service sector - calculated by the China



Federation of Logistics and Purchasing and National Bureau of Statistics - was at a five-month low of 53.4 in January, down from 54.6 a month earlier. For both PMIs, a reading above 50 indicates expansion. The manufacturing PMI, released earlier by the NBS and CFLP, slid to 50.5 in January - the lowest level since August - compared with 51 in December and 51.4 in November. The HSBC manufacturing PMI for January cooled to a six-month low of 49.5, a level indicating contraction, from 50.5 in December and 50.8 in November. It was the first time since August that the reading dropped below 50.

Chinese Equities Low Enough to Make Them a Buy: Expert

China Daily, 10 February

The Chinese economy has been rising strongly, stimulated by easy money and high-level fixed-asset investment but now the Chinese authorities want to move away from this strategy and regulate the level of fixed-asset investment. According to a report, the non-performing loan balance of 16 listed Chinese banks totaled 440b CNY in 2013, increasing 40b CNY compared with that at the end of 2012. Emerging markets including China still possess outstanding potential based on demographics and low starting points. Chinese economic reforms including those in the financial sector are positive, so Marks has a positive view on the nation's economy in the long run. Credit asset securitization is one of the financial reforms.

China's Customs Data Uses Both Yuan & Dollar Denominations

Xinhua, 12 February



Wednesday's data release by the General Administration of Customs (GAC) broke the mould in its use of the yuan denomination. While the figures made headlines in indicating stronger-than-expected

foreign trade growth, the release also marked a new policy by the GAC to release two versions of the customs data -- one using Chinese currency the yuan and another using the U.S. dollar denomination. The data release showed that China's foreign trade volume climbed 10.3 percent year on year in January to 382.4 billion U.S. dollars, marking a strong start to the year. Meanwhile, in the yuan-denominated version, last month's foreign trade volume was 2.34 trillion yuan. That disparity represents a remarkable appreciation of the yuan in 2013, while the central parity rate of the Chinese currency against the U.S. dollar appreciated by 3.09 percent, central bank data showed.

Alibaba Aims to Open Doors in US with 'Handpicked' List of Vendors

China Daily, 13 February

Alibaba Group Holding Ltd is planning an e-commerce push into the United States with a new website as the country's largest electronic vendor prioritizes a potential listing in overseas capital markets. It did not specify whether the site will follow the example of alibaba.com that targets intra-entrepreneur businesses, or feature a Tmall-like business-to-customer site. Both software providers enable small and medium-sized enterprises to sell inventory across online channels as well as mobile devices. Alibaba's Tmall sold products worth 35 billion yuan (\$5.77 billion) in the Nov 11 promotional gala. It also rolled out a direct procurement platform, known as AliSourcePro for small-scale buyers and sellers overseas, said Qi Junsheng, business director of the international department of the company's business-to-business unit.

China Sees Surplus in Inflow of Capital

Shanghai Daily, 13 February

China yesterday reported a surplus in both its current and capital accounts last year as the country attracted foreign capital amid global economic uncertainties. The country posted a surplus of 188.6b USD in its current account which measures foreign trade. In 2012, China had a surplus of 193.1b USD in the current account. Under the capital and financial account, which measures net inflows of investment funds, China had a surplus of 242.7b USD. In the fourth quarter of last year, China's foreign exchange reserves rose by 131b USD, or 2.2b USD a day, to 3.82t USD by the year-end.

Chinese Vice Premier Meets Samsung & IBM Executives

Xinhua, 13 February



Chinese Vice Premier Wang Yang met with Vice Chairman of Samsung Electronics Lee Jae-yong and President and CEO of IBM Corporation Ginni Rometty in Beijing on Thursday. In his meeting with Lee, Wang said China and the Republic of Korea (ROK) are important partners in trade and expressed his hope that Samsung, while expanding its business in China, would exert its influence and contribute more to stronger China-ROK ties. While meeting with Rometty, Wang said China would stick to reform and opening-up, and promised to offer an open, transparent and equal competition environment for foreign investors. Lee and Rometty are visiting China as guests of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, and the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, respectively.

China Auto Sales at New High

Xinhua, 13 February



China's auto sales logged a new monthly record in January in a sign of robust demand in the world's biggest auto market, new data showed on Thursday. Some 2.16 million cars were bought in China last month, a year-on-year rise of 5.99 percent, while output increased 4.44 percent to 2.05 million units according to the CAAM. Passenger vehicle sales rose 7.03 percent year on year to 1.85 million units, driven mainly by demand for foreign cars as the market share of local brands dropped significantly. Last month, sales of Chinese-brand passenger cars accounted for merely 38.41 percent of the total volume, down 4.35 percentage points from the share seen a month earlier, according to the CAAM.

Boom Expected in China's Car Rental Sector

Xinhua, 16 February



China's car rental sector is set to boom with potential for rapid development, according to a recent survey conducted by a Chinese consulting firm. Zero Power Intelligence predicted that market needs for rental cars in China would flourish over the next five years, spurred by stricter rules on official car use and the growing popularity of driving licenses. According to the survey, the sector's growth was mainly attributed to China's urbanization, which has led to necessary infrastructure and surging car ownership levels to nurture a large base of prospective customers. The survey also showed the metropolises of Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou and Shenzhen still appear to be major car rental markets, taking 59 percent of the national market. Xiao forecast the sector to maintain the growth impetus, projecting an annual growth rate of 20 percent to 25 percent and the market size to hit 50 billion yuan by the end of 2018.

China's Listed Firms Bullish on 2013 Results

Xinhua, 17 February

A majority of listed firms that have released preliminary reports expect to perform better in 2013, the Shanghai Securities News reported Friday. Among the 1,734 companies to release forecasts for last year, 1,000 expect better results: 821 anticipate rising profits and 179 reversals of previous losses. Altogether 398 firms predicted increases of over 100 percent in net profits, led by special treatment (ST) shares such as Shenzhen International Enterprise Co., Ltd and Yihua Real Estate. Firms marked as ST have had two consecutive years of net losses, which makes de-listing a high possibility. Thanks to restructuring and asset transfers, most ST firms have reversed losses in 2013, the report said. China's key stock index, the Shanghai Composite Index, lost over 6 percent in 2013.

FTZ Helps Shanghai's Trade Expand 16.5%

Shanghai Daily, 19 February

Shanghai's trade expanded 16.5 percent from a year earlier in January, better than the national average of 10.3 percent, due to the pilot free trade zone, the Shanghai Statistics Bureau said yesterday. Exports rose 9.8 percent to USD 19.6 billion last month, compared with a 2.5 percent rise a month earlier. Imports jumped 22.9 percent to USD22.8 billion, compared with December's 13.8 percent. At the annual session of the Shanghai People's Congress last month, Mayor Yang Xiong said the city would focus on reform and opening-up this year, with the China (Shanghai) Pilot Free Trade Zone as one of its priorities. Shanghai's gross domestic product grew 7.7 percent last year, equaling the national level and above 7.5 percent in 2012. The city's Consumer Price Index, the main gauge of inflation, rose 3 percent in January, compared with 2.4 percent a month earlier.

Chinese Construction Firm Makes Impact in Northern Ghana

Xinhua, 18 February



The China Jiangxi International Corporation for Economic and Technical Cooperation (CJIC) has completed the Buipe-Tamale road project, which is expected to trigger domestic and regional trade. Tamale, the Northern Regional capital, is located 658 km north of Accra, the national capital. The 104-kilometer road, which is the only link road connecting Accra to three regions in the north, also facilitates trade activities with neighboring Burkina Faso. Averagely, more than 1,000 vehicles comprising cargo trucks and buses from Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) ply the road. Biao said before the project was constructed, the unmemorable nature of the road made travelling very difficult due to the many potholes, which often resulted in fatal accidents. The government of Ghana contracted CJIC to build the road after securing funding from the World Bank in 2011.

China Probe Finds EU, US Dumping Perchloroethylene

Xinhua, 18 February

China's Ministry of Commerce announced Monday in a preliminary ruling that the European Union and the United States have dumped perchloroethylene on the Chinese market. The ruling said perchloroethylene imports from the two regions have caused substantial damage to the domestic industry. Importers of the product must place deposits with Chinese customs starting on Tuesday, depending on the dumping margin as determined by the ministry. Perchloroethylene is a chlorinated solvent and used extensively by dry cleaning plants. Other applications include vapor degreasing and use as a chemical intermediate and processing solvent.

HSBC Flash PMI Sinks to a 7-month Low

China Daily, 21 February



China's manufacturing activities are likely to contract for a second consecutive month in February, reaching their lowest point since July, British bank HSBC Holdings Plc said on Thursday. The flash reading of the HSBC manufacturing PMI in February may have reflected renewed destocking activities as new orders and production contracted, said Qu Hongbin, chief economist in China and co-head of Asian Economic Research at the bank. In January, new loans increased to 1.32 trillion yuan (\$218 billion), compared with 482.5 billion yuan in December, and total social financing rose to 2.58 trillion yuan from 1.23 trillion yuan in December, data from the People's Bank of China, the country's central bank, showed. The growth rates of both readings were higher than expected. The central bank highlighted the facts that the economy's dependence on investment and debt financing continues to rise and that potential risks in the financial sector are the key concerns.

LAW & POLICY

China Vows to Maintain Appropriate Liquidity

Xinhua, 11 February



China's central bank said on Saturday that it will apply monetary policy instruments in the coming months to keep liquidity at an appropriate level and achieve reasonable growth in credit and social financing. In a quarterly monetary policy report, the People's Bank of China said instruments including open market operations, changing the reserve requirement ratio, relending, and rediscounting will be adopted to manage liquidity in the banking system. The central bank will also strengthen communication with the market and the public to stabilize expectations and ensure stable performance of the interest rate, according to the report. China will continue to implement sound monetary policy in 2014 with a focus on making it more forward-looking, targeted and coordinated while carrying out policy fine-tuning in a timely and appropriate manner, according to the report.

China to Allow Private Investors to Establish Rural Commercial Banks

Xinhua, 16 February

China will allow private investors to establish rural commercial banks to inject more funds into the countryside and boost rural development, according to the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC). Private investors have long been shareholders in rural commercial banks, but they have not been allowed to start them. The CBRC said China is committed to financial innovation in rural areas to better serve agricultural development. China had a variety of small and medium-sized financial institutions in rural areas by the end of 2013, including 468 rural commercial banks, 1,803 rural credit cooperatives and 1,071 village or town-level banks. Experts said the move will also boost competition in the financial sector and deepen China's financial reform.

LOGISTICS

First Direct Flight Touched Down in NZ

Xinhua, 13 February



The China Southern Airlines charter flight from Guangzhou was also the first commercial flight of a Boeing 787 Dreamliner into Christchurch Airport. The New Zealand Tourism Industry Association chief executive Martin Snedden said in a statement Monday that the number of visitors coming from China, New Zealand's second biggest visitor market after Australia, would continue to grow as it became easier for them to reach New Zealand. Chinese visitors to New Zealand were up 16.2 percent to 228,928 last year, although the monthly numbers towards the end of 2013 were down from the previous year, following the introduction on Oct 1 of a new Chinese tourism law in China placing restrictions on low-cost shopping tours.

Weak Air Cargo Remains Biggest Worry

Reuters, 19 February



Weakness in air cargo markets remains the biggest worry for airlines despite some evidence of recovery in 2013, the head of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said Sunday. "Latest numbers in cargo show that although globally cargo improved a bit, it didn't really improve in this region (Asia). It's usually been very strong in this region," IATA director general Tony Tyler told a news conference. Air cargo is seen as a barometer for the economy. Experts estimate some 40 percent of world trade by value goes by air.

TELECOM

WeChat Cash Gifts Become Virtual Reality

Xinhua, 13 February

The Spring Festival holiday not only saw a peak travel rush but probably a peak cash rush as the tradition of red envelopes moved into the virtual world. The popularity of WeChat, China's mobile chat app with more than 600 million users, means that the tradition of giving cash gifts, or "red envelopes" has taken on a strong online dimension. WeChat launched a new feature allowing users to swap virtual red envelopes. This means users can direct money transfers to individuals, or more interestingly, to put cash up for grabs in a designated chat group. The sender can then decide how much to give in total - with a ceiling of 200 CNY (33 USD) per transaction - and to how many people, but leaves it up to the app to allocate the money randomly. The first two days of Spring Festival saw more than 5 million people nationwide taking part in online red envelope activities, with more than 20 million red envelopes being handed out.

Chinese Tech Giant Huawei Enters Nepalese Market

Xinhua, 15 February



Huawei, a Chinese global information and communications technology (ICT) solutions provider, has officially entered into Nepal's market, on February 4, 2014. Smartphones are increasingly popular in the Himalayan nation, as consumers demand internet access everywhere. Established vendors will battle to maintain their large Nepalese market share as Huawei provides similar products at a lower cost. Huawei products and solutions have been deployed in over 140 countries, serving more than one third of the world's population. The country office of Huawei Nepal currently employs 200 staff, out of which 70 percent are Nepalese.

China Allows More Private Capital in Telecoms

Xinhua, 11 February



China's Industry and Information Technology Ministry (MIIT) on Wednesday granted a second batch of licenses to eight private enterprises for resale of certain mobile services. The move enables the firms, including e-commerce retail giants Gome and Suning, to partner and compete with backbone operators through the resale of mobile services, further opening the largely monopolized sector. The certified firms have to improve their pricing and customer services before starting resales, said Zhang Feng, chief engineer of MIIT. The ministry granted the first batch of licenses to 11 private firms in late December last year. As the pilot scheme moves on, it will grant more licenses to qualified private businesses.

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Alipay Claims to Be World's No.1 Mobile Payment Company
Xinhua, 10 February



Alipay, a leading Chinese third-party payment platform, announced Saturday it has become the largest mobile payment provider in the world. The company claims the title based on number of users and transaction volume. At the end of 2013, the company, a subsidiary of Internet firm Alibaba Group, had nearly 300 million registered users, including over 100 million who access services via mobile phones, according to statistics released by Alipay. The data shows that during last year, the company's mobile users made 2.78 billion transactions, with volume reaching 900b CNY (148b USD). By the end of 2013, 500 million Chinese people were accessing the Internet via mobile phones, accounting for 81 percent of the country's netizen population, according to the China Internet Network Information Center.

China's Xinjiang Sizzles with Green Energy
Xinhua, 3 February



Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, a major power supplier in China, has accelerated the development of green energy as it recorded higher installed capacity in 2013. Statistics with the Xinjiang branch of the State Grid Corporation of China (SGCC) showed that by 2013, the combined installed capacity of wind power, hydropower and solar power stations exceeded 1,368 million KW, accounting for about one third of all installed capacity in Xinjiang. The installed capacity of wind power stations reached 500 million KW, nine times of that in 2009, while the figure of solar power stations increased to 277.1 million KW from zero in 2010. Total installed capacity is expected to reach 6,048 million KW by the end of 2014, and that of green power will exceed 2,200 million KW.

Faulty Chinese Part Forces Major Aston Martin Recall
Xinhua, 7 February



Aston Martin is recalling sports car models built since late 2007 after discovering a Chinese parts supplier was using a counterfeit plastic material in a part supplied to the luxury carmaker. The British luxury carmaker is recalling 17,590 cars, including all of its left-hand-drive models built since November 2007 and all right-hand-drive models built since May 2012, affecting about 75 percent of all vehicles built in that period. Aston Martin found that Shenzhen Kexiang Mould Tool Co, a subcontractor in Shenzhen, Guangdong province, was using a counterfeit plastic material in making accelerator pedal arms for the sports carmaker. The General Administration of Quality Supervision, Inspection and Quarantine, China's quality watchdog and top authority for vehicle recalls, had not commented on the recall by press time on Thursday.

China-US Auditing Disputes Near Resolution
China Daily, 8 February



Shares of Chinese companies listed on the US market generally rallied on Thursday with eight stocks rising by more than 5 percent, led by online marketplace 58.com, which rocketed nearly 15 percent. But these firms PricewaterhouseCoopers, KPMG, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Ltd and Ernst & Young — among other accounting firms have refused to share any paperwork, citing Chinese secrecy laws. The disputes escalated in January when a judge with the US Securities and Exchange Commission decided to suspend the Chinese units of the Big Four from operating in the United States for six months, before the accounting firms issued a joint statement saying they intended to appeal against the ruling.

China-Africa Trade Moves up
China Daily, 10 February



As what China buys from Africa continues to center on energy products and resources, its exports to the continent are shifting toward high-end products. Between January and October last year, bilateral trade between China and Africa was worth 172.83b USD, up 5.5 percent from a year earlier. High value-added and high-tech products accounted for nearly half of China's exports to Africa. China became Africa's largest trading partner in 2009. Africa is China's leading import source, second-largest market of overseas project contracting and fourth-largest outward investment destination. Trade between China and Africa was worth 198.5b USD in 2012, 19 percent more than in 2011, and accounted for about 5 percent of China's total trade and about 16 percent of Africa's overall trade. More than 2,000 Chinese businesses had invested more than 20b USD in African non-financial sectors by the end of 2012.

Chinese Business Visitors to be Offered Multiple Entry Visas to Australia
Xinhua, 8 February



Chinese business visitors will benefit from increased flexibility offered by new three-year multiple entry visitor visas. The changes follow the government's decision to grant increased seating capacity to Chinese airlines to help cater for increased demand during the busy Chinese New Year period in Australia. In the first quarter of 2013-14, China overtook the UK as the top source country for visitor subclass 600 applications, representing a significant opportunity to capitalize on this interest by making the process easier.

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GENERAL

China's New Year Market Booms, Luxury Gift Sales Down
Xinhua, 5 February



China's consumer market boomed during the first days of the Lunar New Year holiday despite falling luxury gift sales, according to the Ministry of Commerce (MOC) on Wednesday. Without giving nationwide figures, the MOC said consumer market sales in the cities of Beijing and Chengdu had risen by 9.2 percent and 13 percent year on year respectively. According to the MOC, sales in Shaanxi, Anhui and Henan provinces grew by 14.3 percent, 11.2 percent and 10.4 percent respectively. China's consumer market has boomed in spite of falling sales of luxury goods purchased as New Year gifts, according to the MOC.

China to Unify Rural & Urban Pension Systems
Xinhua, 7 February



China will integrate the basic old-age insurance systems for rural and urban residents to allow people to have equal access to the pension scheme, according to an executive meeting of the State Council on Friday. China's separate systems for rural residents and retired company employees in urban areas have basically included everyone in the country. China will integrate the two systems and build a unified pension system covering both urban and rural residents. The meeting, presided over by Premier Li Keqiang, said the move will facilitate population movement and build stable expectations for livelihood improvement.

CHINA IN THE WORLD

Chinese Prefer Buying German & British Firms
China Daily, 1 February

Germany and Britain are by far the most popular investment destinations of Chinese investors, a study showed on Friday. Chinese investors have made 25 acquisitions in 2013 in Germany and Britain respectively. Overall, buyers from the Chinese mainland and Hong Kong have taken over 120 companies and shareholdings in Europe in the past year. The interest of Chinese companies in Europe has increased significantly over the past 10 years. In 2004, only 34 investments from China in Europe were counted, whereas, the number with 119 acquisitions in 2012 is almost as high as in 2013. They also made investments in the areas like real estate industry with 10 percent and 8 percent in energy supply, 7 percent in trade and technology, 6 percent in financial industry and 5 percent in metal processing as well as transport and logistics



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Numbers

800 Million

The deep oil exploration technology developed by Shaanxi Yanchang Petroleum Group has helped discover 831 million metric tons in new oil reserves in Shaanxi province's Yanchang oilfield. The technology helped discover new oil reserves in an oilfield that has been mined for more than 100 years. With the newly discovered oil reserves, the group expects 2.1 million tons of oil output annually.



300

A total of 300 polluting factories in Beijing will be shut down in 2014 to improve the city's air. A clean production audit will be carried out in over 200 factories and at least 50 clean production projects will be promoted citywide. Beijing ranked 39th among 40 cities in terms of living environment.

4000

A 4,000-year-old clay tablet from ancient Mesopotamia revealing details of Noah's ark was on display Thursday at the British Museum in London. According to the language on the tablet, the boat was a round vessel, and the surface area would have been 3,600 square meters, with walls six meters high.

664 Million

French food company Danone Group has agreed to invest 664 million U.S. dollars in Mengniu Dairy Co. Ltd, becoming the second-biggest shareholder of the leading Chinese milk producer. The deal will increase Danone's stake in Mengniu to 9.9 percent from 4 percent.

265 Million

Lenovo Group Ltd, posted a net profit of 265 million USD for its third fiscal quarter ending on Dec 31, a year-on-year increase of 30 percent. Lenovo said its quarterly revenue reached USD 10.8 billion, a 15 percent year-on-year increase, passing the USD 10 billion milestone for the first time ever.

7.6%

Last year, combined exports and imports rose 7.6 percent to USD 4.16 trillion, the General Administration of Customs says. Exports were worth USD 2.21 trillion, 7.9 percent higher than the year before. Imports were worth USD 1.95 trillion, 7.3 percent higher than the previous year, giving China a trade surplus of USD 259.7 billion.



350 Million

Chinese property company New Development Group (NDG) has announced the construction of a 52-level, 209-meter-high skyscraper in the heart of Auckland's central business district, at a cost of 350 million NZ dollars (291.13 million USD) on the site that had been used as a car park since the 1980s. Auckland Council city had granted resource consent for the construction, which will only be dwarfed by the 328-meter Sky Tower sightseeing platform.

37.7%

Fireworks sales in Beijing have slumped 37.7 percent this Spring Festival holiday season. During the six days from Lunar New Year Eve to Feb. 4, 108 people were injured while setting off fireworks, down 34.5 percent from the same period a year ago.



5.8%

Land supply in 2013 increased by 5.8 percent year-on-year with sales revenue reaching a record high. Data collected from 150 major cities revealed a consistent up trend in land prices last year. The average residential land price rose 9 percent year-on-year to 5,033 CNY per square metre with overall supply increasing 26.8 percent to 200,000 hectares in 2013.



Economy Report

By John Doyle



According to some analysts, China's economy is not slowing down but in fact is growing strongly and will sustain this growth over the next ten to fifteen years. Curiously, one would be confused from such a variant degree of opinions. On one side you have analysts and economist stating that China is now moving into a period of decline or slowdown. On the other you have those who state that in fact China will not only sustain its economic growth levels, but will also increase growth to 8%. How so?

Lin Yifu is the former Chief Economist and Senior Vice President of the World Bank. He argues that China's problems are not China-specific, but are global. Apparently, China is actually on course to achieving 8 percent annual GDP growth for the next 10 to 15 years or longer. The sweeping economic reform agenda announced at the recent plenum was designed to

further propel this growth and cover potential downside risks, not to save the economy from impending catastrophe.

The growth rate has certainly been slowing significantly in recent months. Since the first quarter of 2010, growth has been decelerating for 13 straight quarters, from near double digits to 7.5 percent in the second quarter of 2013. This has been the most sustained period of deceleration in growth since the start of economic reforms in 1979. However, the underlying causes for this slowdown are global, not China-specific.

A survey of emerging economies around the world could help clarify the picture. Brazil saw its growth rate drop from 7.5 percent in 2010 to 2.7 percent in 2011 and 0.9 percent in 2012. During the same period, India's growth rate went from 10.5 percent to 6.3 percent and 2.2 percent; South Korea from 6.3 percent to 3.7 percent

and 2.0 percent; Taiwan from 10.7 percent to 4.1 percent and 1.3 percent; and Singapore from 10.8 percent to 5.0 percent and 1.3 percent. Pressured by the same global downward forces, China actually did not fare as badly, its growth rate dropping from 10.4 percent to 9.3 percent and 7.8 percent. No country can sustain a double-digit growth rate indefinitely. China has done so for the past two decades a very long stretch by any standards. There are strong reasons to believe that the Chinese economy, on its current course, can still deliver a high single-digit growth rate for another generation.

As a developing country, China has sufficient room to continue to use its gap with developed countries to drive its economic growth in the foreseeable future.

As a general rule, developing economies can take advantage of mature technologies and industrial practices in rich nations to generate

high growth at lower costs and risks compared to developed economies. Post World War II, 13 such economies achieved higher than a 7 percent annual growth rate for longer than 25 years, of which China is no doubt the largest. Some say that China has already exhausted the potential of this model of development. But such an assessment is incorrect.

The gap in technology and industrial value-add can be measured by average labour productivity, which is in turn best reflected in average income per capita. According to data compiled by economist Angus Madison, in 2008, China's per capita income measured by purchasing power parity (PPT) was only 21 percent that of the United States'. This gap was equivalent to that between the U.S. and Japan in 1951, Singapore in 1967, Taiwan in 1975, and South Korea in 1977. Driven by this gap, all of these countries grew by high single-digit growth for more than two decades.

The first phase of China's catch-up game took the country from income per capita of USD 154 in 1978, only one third of an average African country at that time, to U.S. USD 6,100 in 2012 -- a higher middle-income country. But it is still at the level of the likes of Japan and South Korea decades ago. China can continue to take advantage of this gap to grow at an approximately 8 percent annual rate for one to two decades.

The country's relatively healthy fiscal conditions provide further assurances. Many media reports of late have sounded dire warnings about over leverage, particularly by local governments. No doubt, problems exist, but such concerns are often overstated.

Chinese central government debt is at 14.9 percent of GDP. Local government debts total 10 trillion CNY, 19.2 percent of GDP. Even the most pessimistic estimates put local government debts at a total of 17 trillion CNY. So, combined government debts are at 34.7 percent to 47.6 percent of GDP.

By comparison, Japan is at 240

percent. Most developed countries' debts are above 100 percent of GDP. Furthermore, most nations' debts are used largely to finance consumption and are, in other words, real borrowings. A vast majority of China's government debts are used to finance investments in infrastructure. The two are qualitatively different.

There are strong reasons to believe that the Chinese economy, on its current course, can still deliver a high single-digit growth rate for another generation.

On top of that, the government also has 3.7 trillion U.S. dollars in its foreign reserve coffers. In addition to the government's strong fiscal position, China's personal savings rate is over 50 percent of GDP, among the highest in the world. With this balance sheet, China's ability to implement counter cyclical measures in times of need is exceptionally strong.

The Third Plenum announced aggressive economic reform initiatives. The market will continue to increase its role in resource allocations. The private sector will be given more room to grow and compete. The financial sector will be liberalized.

This growth enabled by these reforms will be substantially higher than the 6.8 percent required to reach the government's goal of doubling income per capita by 2020, leading China to join the ranks of high-income nations.

Post World War II, only two economies, South Korea and Taiwan, have managed to leap from low-income to high-income status. Since China is many times bigger, that would be an extraordinary accomplishment indeed.

However, whilst the longer term outlook remains positive, recent reports on the Chinese economy suggest that growth is heading downwards.

Purchasing managers' indexes released by the Chinese government and HSBC showed that both manufacturing and services lost momentum in early in the year. HSBC's, manufacturing PMI, slipped into contraction territory for the first time since July, and the government's equivalent index was only slightly stronger.

The weakness came in a month when markets around the world tumbled, upset by the U.S. Federal Reserve's moves to pare back its monetary easing, as well as weak data from both China and the U.S. Currency devaluation in Argentina and a political crackdown in Turkey also helped to spoil investors' appetite for emerging market currencies and stocks.

The median forecast of 11 economists surveyed by The Wall Street Journal is for year-over-year export growth of just 0.1%, after a 4.3% rise in December. Imports are also expected to notch up a measly 3% growth, down from 8.3% a month before, leaving China's hefty trade surplus intact.

Food prices climbed as usual over the holiday period, but the effect was mild. The Agricultural Wholesale Price Index for January 2014 came in 1.2% below its level a year earlier.

Banks have very likely got off to a cracking start to the year, with new lending quotas setting off the traditional January credit binge. They probably made a net 1.1 trillion CNY (USD 180 billion) of new local currency loans over the month, according to the Journal's survey. But while that is way ahead of December's 481 billion CNY figure, it is a very modest rise compared to the 1.07 trillion CNY in January 2013. **E**

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Celebrating Tianjin's Female Business Leaders

By Josh Cooper

This thriving epicentre of economic activity in which we live owes a great deal of gratitude to the extremely hardworking individuals who have contributed so much to Tianjin's development. As the world celebrates International Women's Day on 8 March, Business Tianjin would like to mark this occasion by sharing some insights from the city's female business leaders. We spoke to a number of local women whose hard work and drive to succeed in the business world serve as a source of inspiration for women everywhere.

How would you describe the common perception of female leaders in China?

I would say they are seen as a batch of "pretty women" who are not only successful in their careers, but also in their personal life. They are perceived to be optimistic, dynamic, and pursue a better quality of life. Successful Chinese women are seen to have a great deal of wisdom when it comes to handling their job skilfully and intelligently, but also in terms of their interpersonal skills and in overcoming challenges and difficulties.

There are different kinds of female leaders in our society, but one thing they have in common is that they all have very strong and unique characters.

Ritz Carlton: Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Maggie Chen



Zheng Changyun
Deputy General Manager
TEDA Development CO., Ltd



Tracy Zou
Director of Sales & Marketing
The Westin Tianjin



Yuki Dong
Director of Sales & Marketing
Wanda Vista Tianjin

What are the key factors to succeeding as a female business leader in the 21st century?

As a female business leader it's not about where you came from or your position in the company, it's about the way you analyse the things you see and the situations you have to deal with. One should have the right attitude whereby life is enjoyed instead of being complained about. Patience is also an essential virtue for female managers. We need patience to better interact with people. It also helps to achieve a healthy balance between work and family life.

Wanda Vista: Tianjin Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Yuki Dong

Well, I think I have learned to be more clear and declarative about how I operate and what I am interested in. I have learned that perseverance is an important element when you are doing anything. The fact is that you have to be willing to take risks and push yourself beyond your comfort zone. I believe a good leader, male or female, should focus on the direction, development and cohesion of the team around them.

Hotel Indigo Tianjin Haihe: Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Tristan Zhang

I think the most important thing is having passion for completing projects and developing your career. In my career I've facilitated projects all the way through, from laying the foundations to opening and occupancy. Every time it's a brand new experience for me, with which my horizons get broadened and my working experience is increased.

Another important element of success is paying close attention to wider developments within the industry as a whole and trying to draw some lessons from industrial counterparts. Staying informed is vital to enhancing and refreshing your corporate outlook.

TEDA Development: Deputy General Manager Ms. Zheng Changyun

How do female leaders differ from their male counterparts in China?

I think there are some key attributes which most female leaders tend to have but are less common amongst their male counterparts. Women have a tendency to be more caring, open minded and have better listening skills. We have to listen to others and be listened. Furthermore, an organization that is run by women is likely to be less hierarchical.

Hotel Indigo Tianjin Haihe: Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Tristan Zhang

Do you think it is becoming easier for women to succeed in the Chinese business sector?

In China, as in the rest of the world, the business sector is still largely male dominated. That is related to the whole society's cultural traits. But this doesn't mean that there will always be gender imbalances in the business world. Nowadays there are more opportunities for women and they can elevate themselves to a higher social platform by having more access to good education and opportunities.

Kerry Real Estate: Senior Manager of Sales & Marketing Ms. Phoebe Chung

Although the proportion of women in middle management positions is increasing, there is still the reality that the number of women promoted to senior management positions is still very small. In most enterprises, because of the traditional perspective on how an organisation's leadership should look, appointment decisions will be biased in favour of men. It can be said that today we still live in a male-dominated world, and only when we see more women become political and business leaders can we really see social perceptions change.

The Executive Centre: General Manager Dannie Mu

Today women in China arguably have a better chance of success in their career than their counterparts in the west. The strong extended family network here provides a lot of support - particularly in helping with the upbringing of children, thus making it possible to balance work and life much more easily. I have some female friends in the UK who have to take a five-year career break in order to have two children. In China, with the support of parents and grandparents, it's possible to keep on working even during the first few years of motherhood.

Wellington College: Chair of the Governors Ms. Joy Qiao

There will definitely be plenty more female business leaders in China going forward. The traditional conceptions of women's roles are changing and the increasing support of our families and the society is very important in allowing us to enhance our economic position.

Westin Hotel: Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Tracy Zou

Have certain cultural issues affected your work life? For instance, have traditional gender expectations and social pressures hindered your progression at any point in your career?

There are certainly some issues which arise as a result of contrasting views between different generations in China. I think I am quite lucky because although my parents were born in the 1940s, they did not try to instil all sorts of traditional and feudal ideas in me. I got a great deal of support, both in terms of work and lifestyle choices from them. It has to be said that social pressures also apply to men and we should do what we can to change people's views on gender roles in every sense.

Astor Hotel: Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Linda Qu

What obstacles do women face in the business world?

I think striking a good balance between work and family is the biggest problem we have. Since ancient times women in China have been expected to be subservient and settle into a housekeeping role. Due to our biology we need to stay out of work for certain periods, and it is not always easy for women to find opportunities after they have taken time off to build their family. The main difficulty we face is consistently developing a career or building a company whilst also fulfilling our roles as mothers and care givers.

Kerry Real Estate: Senior Manager of Sales & Marketing Ms. Phoebe Chung



*Joy Qiao
Chair of the Governors
Wellington College International Tianjin*



*Linda Qu
Director of Sales & Marketing
The Astor Hotel*



*Maggie Chen
Director of Sales & Marketing
The Ritz-Carlton Tianjin*



*Phoebe Chung
Senior Manager of Sales & Marketing
Tianjin Kerry Real Estate Development Co., Ltd*



*Dannie Mu
Head of Tianjin
The Executive Centre*



*Tracy Zhang
Director of Sales & Marketing
Hotel Indigo Tianjin Haihe*

How can the authorities and Chinese society as a whole do more to encourage women to aim higher with regards to their careers?

By setting more powerful examples, providing more communication platforms and introducing more supportive policies for women.


The Executive Centre: General Manager Dannie Mu

I think the impediments on women mainly come from the society, the family and themselves. It's undeniable that the contemporary society is filled with doubt when it comes to the abilities of women. For instance, I always hear some people say that "you've done more than enough as a woman", or "you're a woman, what else do you want"?

As for family, I believe every woman with her career has experienced this dilemma in some way. And when it comes to our own self-inflicted barriers to success, the important thing is to fight off our personal laziness and narrow-mindedness.

TEDA Development: Deputy General Manager Ms. Zheng Changyun

Finally, do you think China will see more women taking leadership roles within the business sector in years to come?

I do believe that in the future China will see more women leading the way in all sectors of the economy and society. More than ever before women have the opportunities and ambition to fulfil their dreams. We want to live fully and experience everything that men do. This ambition will definitely drive more and more women to become successful and take leading roles in the business sector. 

Ritz Carlton: Director of Sales & Marketing Ms. Maggie Chen

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Running The Ritz-Carlton

An Interview with General Manager Vincent Billiard

By Tracy Hall



For some time now this city has been an attractive location for the big players in the luxury hospitality sector, and it was only a matter of time before the famous Ritz-Carlton hotel group came to Tianjin.

Their stunning new venue is located on Dagubei Lu, right in the heart of the city's culturally and commercially significant Heping district. As one would expect from such a prestigious hotel brand, the service and ambiance of The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin is second to none. It is well worth a visit, if only to admire the décor and enjoy an afternoon tea.

To find out more about this exciting new location, as well as the day to day operational aspects of the hotel, we spoke to General Manager, Mr. Vincent Billiard.

First of all, tell us a bit about yourself and your career in the hospitality industry.

I was born in Paris, where I lived until I was 18 years old. I was lucky enough to have the opportunity to study at the highly acclaimed École Hôtelière de Lausanne, Switzerland's leading hospitality management school. During this time I got (the) chance to do an internship with

The Ritz-Carlton over in the USA. I immediately fell in love with The Ritz-Carlton brand and its corporate culture. In fact, during the final phase of my studies I was dreaming of going back to work for this company.

Since I graduated in 2002 I have been working for The Ritz-Carlton. My original specialism (specialty) was Food and Beverage, but the company has helped me to grow and develop my skills in the operational and leadership aspects of the industry. In recent years I have worked in The Ritz-Carlton hotels all over the world and it is great to have this opportunity to work here in Tianjin.

This venue is truly incredible. Tell us a bit about the work that has gone into it prior to opening for business.

The building used to be the administrative centre for the British concession, so it has plenty of history. However, it has had to be completely renovated for our hotel. As you can see it is a very grand building which has been beautifully designed by the Tianjin Academy of Urban Design and Planning. The interior design work was done by specialist renowned luxury French designer Pierre-Yves Rochon. The lounge, restaurant, bar and all the other communal areas are focused very much on providing a comfortable setting which blends 1930s-style interior design and contemporary décor together. Whilst visiting the hotel you will definitely get a sense of that opulent, even somewhat royal feel which is characteristic of most Ritz-Carlton Hotels.

What is it like to be leading a team in a brand new hotel?

I have been a part of more than six Ritz-Carlton hotel openings all around the world and I have to say

that it is a very exciting experience. It is challenging, of course, because you have so many things to do and so many different elements to consider before opening to the public. The best part about it is that you get to put your own print on the development of the hotel. You get to build things the way you want, be involved with recruiting people for your team and outline the venue's service plans. Creating something new in this way is very special and it gives you a great sense of accomplishment as a manager.

It is especially exciting to have been doing this in China, where everything is developing so dynamically and the wider hospitality industry is evolving extremely quickly as well.

So what are your thoughts about China and how would you describe your experience of working in the hospitality sector here in Tianjin?

This was not my first time visiting China, but it is my first time working here. I have been pleasantly surprised by how the ladies and gentlemen at the hotel

are eager to learn new things. I also really admire the openness of Chinese people. It seems to me that people here generally have a very positive outlook, which makes for a wonderful working environment.

In terms of the country as a whole, I think it is definitely the place to be right now given the incredible growth rate of its economy and the social changes that are happening. This is especially true of cities like Tianjin where there is so much potential for companies like Ritz-Carlton to flourish.

Tell our readers about The Ritz-Carlton brand and what kind of service guests can expect at this hotel.

Well first of all, The Ritz-Carlton is an American company- although it has European roots courtesy of the influence from Cesar Ritz in the late 1800s. We operate more than 85 hotels worldwide and we are one of the fastest growing hotel chains in the world. The company's development has reflected the globalising nature of the hospitality industry. In our earlier stages of development we focused almost all of our operational efforts

on the U.S. market. Now we actually have more venues in other countries than we do in America, so we have a very international corporate mindset. Ritz-Carlton is synonymous with luxury accommodation and hospitality services. We pride ourselves on providing the best service in the high-end luxury sector. Our mission is to deliver luxury service in a way which gives our guests lifelong memories. This ethic is what has made us famous around the world.

Tianjin is a very competitive market for hotel firms. How does The Ritz-Carlton distinguish itself from other venues in the city? Do you think the brand is very important in this regard?

I should point out that although we know there is strong competition here in Tianjin, we see the fact that more and more luxury hotels are opening up here as a good thing because it shows that there is plenty of growth potential for businesses in this city.

Of course having this kind of brand recognition is helpful, but we can't just rely on our name to be successful in this very competitive environment. We distinguish ourselves in many ways. As I said earlier, we have a very beautiful hotel here that has been extremely well designed to create a special feel for our guests. But the service side of the hotel is where we really strive to stand out from the rest. We specialise in giving our visitors the unique, personalised experiences that they want from a stay in a luxury hotel. Our service is all about proactively meeting the needs of our guests, and I think this is where most of our strength as a brand comes from.

And of course, an important aspect of your hotel is its dining facilities. Tell us a bit about the food and beverage options here.

Indeed, this is a very important area which we have, and continue to



focus a lot of effort into constantly evolving our services. This hotel has a lot of variety when it comes to food and beverage. Our all day dining restaurant, which is called Zest, is based primarily on a buffet format, but also offers a superb range of a la carte choices. We focus on three main types of cuisine: Chinese, Japanese and Italian with a French patisserie. There is also our Lobby Lounge, which offers a great setting for dining, and our bar and restaurant Flair that has a cocktail mixologist and a resident DJ.

Our special offers, such as our Sunday brunch and our afternoon tea promotions, have been very successful. I would like to point out to your readers that dining at our hotel is actually very affordable and we invite everybody to come and try out our exceptional menus.

Beyond accommodation and dining, is the hotel also suitable for corporate events and other social functions?

Absolutely! We have terrific facilities in this regard. Our Grand Ballroom, which has 1,050 square metres of floor space, is perfect for big conferences, parties, weddings and any other city-wide and social events. It has a 5.5 meter ceiling, wonderful lighting and stunning decorations.

We also have special meeting spaces that can be utilised by the business community. There is a lot of flexibility at our venues for anybody looking to hold a meeting or celebration.

Lastly, tell us what the future holds for yourself and for The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin.

Our key axiom for 2014 will be 'relentless renewal'. We are still a new hotel, having only opened a few months ago, so things are changing and we are still working on providing new services for our customers. We will continue to develop and consolidate our reputation and position within the market by re-inventing ourselves and consistently looking for new ways to improve our guest's experiences. There will be plenty of new promotions, themes, products and special events being rolled out over the course of the year.

As a company we want to be positioned as the best luxury hotel in Tianjin, and eventually across China. I am confident that with this venue and the team we have here in Tianjin we can achieve all of our corporate and personal objectives. **E**

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China's Population Problems

By John Doyle



The ending of the One Child Policy is seen as a major step in solving what experts are calling “China’s great looming problem”.

On 18 January, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) announced that China’s working age population (ages 15-59) had declined in 2012 by 3.45 million, or 0.6 percent, marking the first decline in working population for some time.

The head of NBS, Ma Jiantang, admitted: “I can’t deny that I’m worried about this problem”. Indeed, the problem is perhaps more serious than originally thought. HSBC’s co-head of economics, Frederic Neumann commented in the Financial Times

that, “Most projections . . . estimated that the decline in the working age population would start around the middle of this decade...but the numbers show it has already happened, which suggests the decline over the next few decades will be faster than expected.” UN figures have showed that China’s total population will start declining after 2030, a number that senior Communist Party officials are now revising to 2020- by which point the China Development Research Foundation estimates that the working age population will decrease by another 29 million.

This means the end of the demographic dividend, which is a

productive advantage brought about by a large labour force and a low dependency ratio resulting from lower numbers of those not in the labour force vs. those in the labour force. China has already begun to see the consequences of a smaller labour force and the end of the demographic dividend. A number of provinces, especially those on the coast, have experienced labour shortages. A smaller labour force could push even more manufacturing jobs to move to countries like Myanmar, Vietnam, the Philippines and Indonesia, and a change in the dependency ratio poses a significant burden to a country in terms of health care costs.

China is certainly aging quickly. In 1982, the 60 and over population was 8 percent of the total number. That has grown to 14.3 percent. It is estimated that China’s elderly population will hit 360 million by 2030, from about 200 million in 2013.

The decline of the working age population and the end of the demographic dividend are largely due to the One Child Policy, introduced in 1979 and responsible for anywhere from 100 to 400 million less births. It should be noted that it is not a “one child” policy across the board: second children are allowed for ethnic minorities, rural families whose first child is a girl, and for parents who are both only children.

The One Child Policy has also led to a dramatic gender discrepancy. Compared to the global average of 103-107 boys for every 100 girls, China’s figures are 118 boys for every 100 girls. The amount of unmarried men in this country could cause a whole host of social problems ranging from increasing unrest to an increase in people trafficking from neighbouring countries.

Even when the one child policy is changed, it will not be a silver bullet. On the most basic level, a change

today would bear fruit in 15 years, when today’s babies join the labour force. Additionally, there are a number of societal factors that would suppress the birth rate even when the policy

More short term solutions are needed, solutions that would focus on adapting the economy to the new reality of slowing population growth.

is lifted, especially in urban areas. For instance, the cost of education can be significant in China, as can medical expenses, which are largely not covered by the state. Children are expensive, and with elderly parents to take care of, less Chinese are willing to leverage their futures for bigger families. In cities there is also the issue of expensive real estate. One-bedroom apartments (already beyond the reach of many) are not conducive to multiple children. Finally, contraception is inexpensive and widely available, making it easy for women not to have

children if they choose not to. For a long term solution, lifting the policy is the right answer. S. Philip Morgan of Duke University estimates that if all restrictions were relaxed, the fertility rate would be approximately 1.62, not far above the current 1.47 rate. So if the policy was to be eliminated, there is very little danger of a population explosion. Instead, the population triangle, which is quickly becoming top-heavy, could get an assist at the bottom levels.

More short term solutions are needed, solutions that would focus on adapting the economy to the new reality of slowing population growth. For example, developing and supporting innovation, promoting a consumer-spending driven economy, and raising the workforce’s level of education. Thus, ending the one child policy is just one piece of the puzzle. Coping with these demographic changes will require China’s leaders adopt a comprehensive strategy. **E**

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Set It & Forget It!

By Josh Cooper



Who doesn't want to retire rich? The majority of people still believe that working hard and contributing to their 401K or retirement scheme will leave them with plenty of cash in their old age. The problem is that demographics and other fundamental economic factors are working against young people today. In fact, in many countries around the world it's only a matter of time before there simply aren't enough young people to prop up the pension pot Ponzi scheme.

The simple fact is that everybody now needs to take control of their financial outlook more than ever before. Working hard and saving money is a

great start, but it is only the first step to securing a healthy financial future. The key to retiring rich without relying on flimsy pension schemes is to consistently invest well and make your money work for you over time. One of the ways to achieve this objective is by following the so called 'set it & forget it' investment approach.

What assets do you need to acquire for a SIFI plan?

The two cornerstones of this investment method are **portfolio diversification and compounding yield**. Here are some of the main types of assets you want to build your portfolio on:

- **ETFs & Index Funds.** These broadly comprised investment tools allow for diversification by spreading your cash amongst a range of stocks or funds. ETFs allow you to invest in a specific sector of the economy or a particular nation's stock index. Historically speaking, it's far better to put your money into stock market index funds than mutual funds as they are much cheaper and you don't need to rely on money managers being able to outperform the market for decades on end (a feat which is very rarely achieved).

- **REITs.** Real Estate Investment Trusts are great because they essentially allow you to be a 'lazy

landlord'. In other words, you are investing your money into real estate-related assets and collecting the rent without having to actively manage any property or unruly tenants. REITs are a good way to balance your portfolio's volatility as they don't tend to move too closely in line with stock and bond markets. They also offer stable and relatively high yields.

- **Government & Corporate Bonds.** Investing in debt is a proven way to get good returns on your capital. When using bonds as part of your SIFI plan the trick is to spread out your cash carefully between safer and riskier instruments.

- **High Interest Savings Accounts.** Although interest rates in most countries remain very low, if you can find some high yielding places to store your cash then you can deposit a chunk of your net worth in there and use it as another drip feeding pot. ISAs are obviously preferable in this regard as they shield you from taxation.

Setting it up and letting the magic of compounding work for you

The first thing to consider when constructing your SIFI portfolio is how much risk tolerance you have. It goes without saying that if you are willing to take more risks then the rewards could be higher. However, one of the major advantages of the

SIFI approach is that you don't need to take big gambles with your money to end up wealthy, and therefore you don't need to take too much risk when deploying your capital.

Self-discipline and the ability to delay gratification are at the very heart of this investment approach.

Unlike speculative investing whereby one attempts to make big bucks by hoping and praying that their shares double, triple, or quadruple in value, the SIFI technique is primarily based on utilising compound yield. A good starting point is to set an annualised average percentage of dividend/interest yield which you would like to get from your overall portfolio. Most investors who use the SIFI method tend to aim somewhere between 5-10%. When you've set a target that you feel is attainable, use this to guide you as you search for investment opportunities and remember to balance out your asset allocation in line with this goal.

Before you start putting your money to work though, remember to do your homework and find the right platform upon which to build your financial

empire. Look for a broker that is cheap, has an easy to use portfolio management system, offers a wide range of international investment options, and most importantly, allows you to re-invest your dividends back into buying more stock. The latter element is what allows your portfolio to snowball into a much juicier pot by the time you are ready to stop working and start spending your fortune.

The importance of self-discipline

The 'forget it' aspect of this methodology is absolutely paramount to your success. Self-discipline and the ability to delay gratification are at the very heart of this investment approach. This could mean that you start with a lump sum of cash, construct your portfolio then simply leave it to grow without any intervention for X number of years. This is ideal if one suddenly comes into a sizable amount of money in his 20s or 30s and wants to use it to generate more income further down the line.

More commonly though, people who follow SIFI plans tend to set themselves monthly or yearly goals to add a portion of their savings to the portfolio. David Bach's superb book *The Automatic Millionaire: A Powerful One-Step Plan to Live and Finish Rich* advocates a very easy and clever approach to maintaining financial discipline. He demonstrates that the best way to save money is to have a certain amount of one's salary automatically taken from the pay cheque each month and be put into a savings account or an investment portfolio like the kind outlined here. Using a one-off lump sum to start your SIFI portfolio is great, but those who are disciplined enough to add more assets to it every month will be rewarded tremendously years down the line. **B**



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Investment News

Stocks and Shares

U.S. fears hit Asian shares hard

Asian equity markets suffered heavy losses in early February after Wall Street shares tumbled as weak economic data sparked fears of a slowing U.S. economy. Overall factory activity hit an eight-month low in January as new order growth plunged by the most in 33 years. In a sign of heightened investor jitters, the CBOE Volatility Index rose above 20 on Monday 3 February for the first time in four months, while the yield on the 10-year Treasury note hit a three-month low.

Source: CNBC

Lloyds Banking Group 'April share sale likely'

Lloyds Banking Group has confirmed it plans to return more of the government's 32.7% stake to private investors. The news came as it made yet another hefty provision of £1.8bn for mis-selling payment protection insurance (PPI) taking the total to £10bn. The government sold 6% of its original 39% stake to large investors last year. The BBC's business editor, Robert Peston, says the first Lloyds sell-off is likely to be in April.

Source: BBC

Panasonic shares soar 15% after return to profit

Panasonic shares rocketed 15 percent on Wednesday 5 February after the struggling Japanese electronics giant said it swung into the black with a \$2.4 billion profit in the nine months to December. The company, recovering from combined losses topping \$15 billion in the past two fiscal years, said net profit came in at 243.0 billion yen (\$2.4 billion) in the first three quarters, reversing a net loss of 623.8 billion yen over the same period a year ago. Sales rose 4.4 percent.

Source: AFP

Toyota expects record profits after yen boost

Toyota is forecasting record annual operating profits as the weaker yen helps to boost sales abroad. For the financial year ending in March, it expects operating profit to reach 2.4tn Japanese yen (\$23.7bn; £14.5bn). The continuing weakness in the yen also helped Toyota post better-than-expected earnings for the third quarter, with operating profit of 600bn yen. That is nearly five times higher than earnings in the same quarter a year earlier.

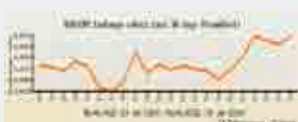
Source: BBC



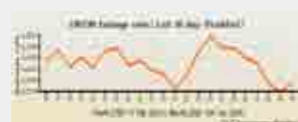
Tianjin economic forum

Currencies

U.S Dollar - Chinese Yuan



Euro - Chinese Yuan



GB Pound - Chinese Yuan



Japanese Yen - Chinese Yuan



Good News for Homeowners: Increasing Land Prices Should Cause Tianjin Home Values to Rise

By Durrell Mack, Head of Research at Tianjin Jones Lang LaSalle

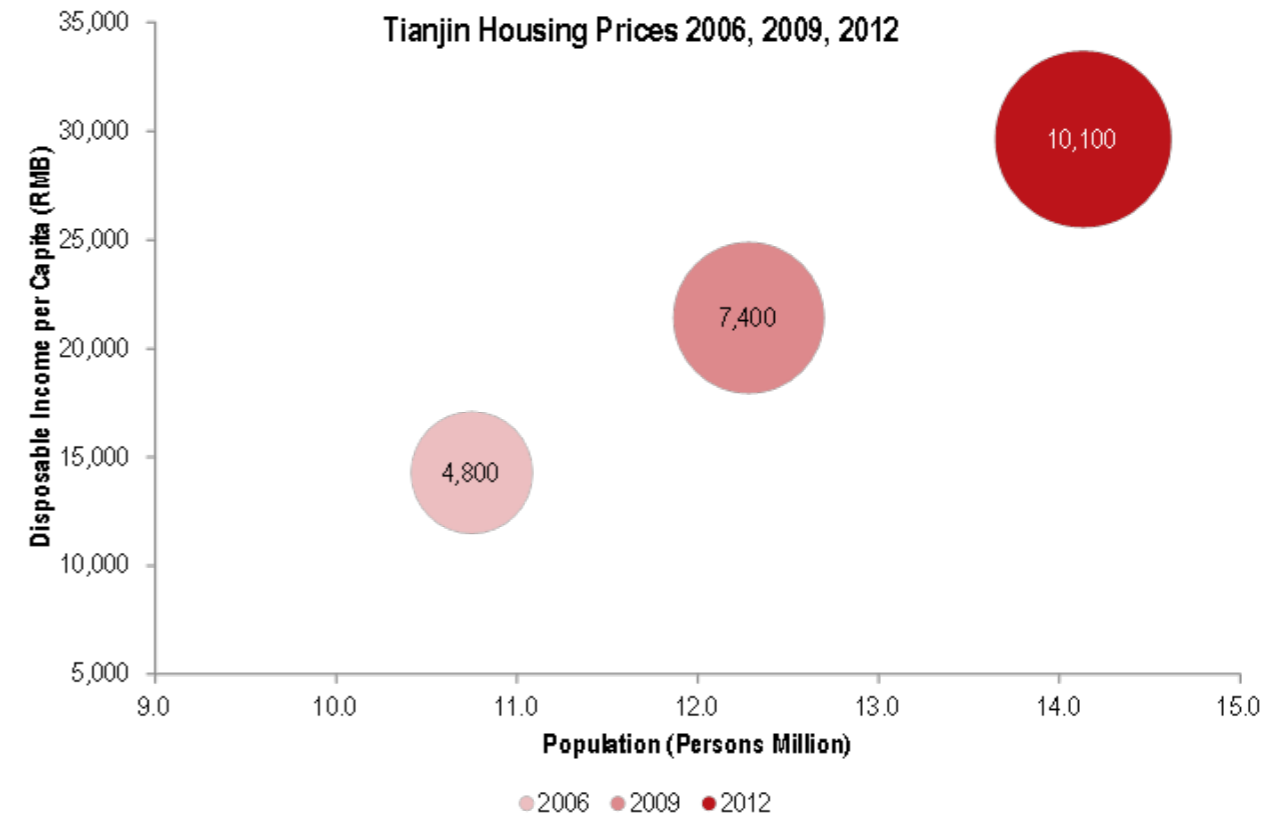


Land prices continue to rise across China, with land sale revenues expected to achieve a record high, totaling over CNY 3 trillion in 2013. Tianjin land sales have also been buoyant. In the past year, Tianjin witnessed two record land deals. One of the land parcels set the mark for the highest total transaction price for a single site at CNY 10.3 billion, while the other transaction broke the record for the most expensive price per square metre at CNY 25,000 (GFA) for the buildable land. The latter price is already higher than the average price for the majority of high-end residential units in the city. These land price increases have been influenced by two factors: China's control on international capital flows and the mounting debt that local governments are accumulating. Although land prices are no guaranteed indicator for the direction of home values, they are highly positively correlated, meaning that record breaking land deals of the past year should lead to higher home prices in the future.

China's restrictions on international capital flows have to do with something called the Impossible Trinity. The Impossible Trinity, also known as the Trilemma, is a term in economics used to describe the

challenges national policymakers face when trying to establish a stable exchange rate, maintain a sovereign monetary policy and allow for free international capital flows. However, it is not possible to do all three simultaneously; at most only two can be juggled at the same time.

Each country solves the challenges of the Impossible Trinity differently. In the United States, the Federal Reserve Bank controls the monetary policy and the government allows for free capital flows, but the exchange rate is determined by international market forces. Thus, the United States



Source: CEIC, Tianjin Bureau of Land Resources and Housing, Jones Lang LaSalle

Note: Circles denote the housing price in CNY

has relinquished its ability to keep exchange rates stable in favour of the other two sides of the trinity.

China, on the other hand, has adopted a different solution. China views maintaining a fixed exchange rate and retaining a sovereign monetary policy as more valuable to its export dependent economy. By keeping the exchange rate within a certain range, its exports are potentially more price competitive compared to the rest of the world. Thus, in theory, China does not allow free capital flows. By limiting cross-border capital flows, there has been a build up of excess capital within the country looking for the safest and best possible returns, and for most domestic investors and average citizens, their investment of choice has been the housing market.

Recently, some of the more savvy domestic institutional investors and developers have been figuring out ways to invest in international markets. But due to capital controls and the challenges of operating in

environments outside of their home country, most institutional investors and developers have still preferred to invest in China. This strategy has been a wise decision, as home sales, like land revenues, have hit record highs. The driving force behind the robust residential sales has been the country's rising incomes and urbanization rates, in addition to few quality alternative investment options within the country for the average person.

The fundamentals for ever-increasing land prices are expected to persist.

The Chinese stock market has resembled a rollercoaster ride over the past five years, and like a rollercoaster, if you had invested five years ago in the market, you might have ended right back where you

started, effectively with no gains beyond a nice thrill. However, over that same period, housing prices have skyrocketed. Wealth management products have recently gained in popularity, but with uncertain track records and a significant number focused on generating returns based on the property market, average investors have preferred to pour their investment capital into hard assets, such as housing.

The strong demand for housing has led developers to bidding wars over prime residential land in the country's largest cities. Inevitably, the escalation in land prices will translate into higher housing prices, because the cost of land is one of the largest elements in the cost of developing new residential complexes.

Controls on capital are only part of the reason that land prices have soared. The other is local government debt. In December 2013, China's National Audit Office announced that local governments across the

country held total debt obligations of approximately CNY 17.9 trillion as of June, which was up from CNY 10.7 trillion in 2010.

Since local governments in China are largely forbidden from borrowing money directly, which also means they are not allowed to issue bonds, local governments have adopted innovative solutions to gain access to debt financing. One of their favoured ways of borrowing money has been through local government financial vehicles (LGFVs). Essentially, LGFVs are state-owned companies established for the primary purpose of providing local governments with the ability to receive bank loans or sell bonds. Thus, about one-third of the CNY 17.9 trillion debt is located on the books of these companies. Because LGFVs were designed just to be facilitators for financing, the majority do not have assets that can be used as collateral, meaning that the local governments must provide the collateral, which mainly comes in the form of land revenues and public assets.

While public assets are used as collateral, creditors have historically

favoured land because it was viewed as more secure. As a result, local governments are heavily incentivized to see that land prices do not fall. Actually, local governments want to see the value of land increase, because higher land prices mean they can take out larger loans or repay existing ones.

According to the Bloomberg article, "China Debts Dwarf Official Data With Too-Big-to-Finish Alarm", Tianjin had one of the most heavily indebted LGFVs in the country in 2011. The vice mayor at the time stated that Tianjin would have no problem paying its debt obligations, and there is no reason to believe otherwise, but the city has been building at such a rapid pace that it is inconceivable to think that the city's debt has not increased since 2011. Tianjin's investment in infrastructure, resulting in new subway lines and highways, and the construction of new areas, including Taiandao and the Yujiapu Financial District, have been driven by the city's LGFVs. These investments have done much to help improve Tianjin's overall landscape and spur GDP growth; however, the

debt the city has accrued constructing these projects will have to be repaid. And to do that, the government will certainly need to sell more land at increasingly higher prices.

With the Tianjin local government still committed to building out the city's infrastructure and establishing new commercial areas, and the central government insistent on restricting international capital flows, the fundamentals for ever-increasing land prices are expected to persist. However, Tianjin's land available for sale is not infinite. There will come a point in time, when the government will have to find alternative sources of revenue or collateral to finance projects, and that alternative will likely come in the form of property taxes. But in the meantime, Tianjin homeowners should enjoy the fact that their property prices should continue to climb. **E**

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China's Auto Market

By Justin Toy



China's auto market, much like the Chinese economy as a whole, has been growing at an incredible rate over the past several decades. The ever growing demand for passenger vehicles in China has altered not only China's economy and infrastructure, but also worldwide markets from oil to steel. City streets that were once jam packed with bicycles and motorbikes are now teeming with cars and gridlocked traffic. In 2013, the Chinese market sold more than 20 million vehicles compared to 15.6 million vehicles sold in the US auto market, the second largest auto market in the world. Private automobile ownership in China now totals over 85 million vehicles, 14 times more than a decade ago, and there is still plenty of potential for growth before the market is saturated. According to a report by McKinsey & Company, new car sales in China are forecasted to contribute about 35 percent of the

world's car market growth through 2020, while car penetration will have only reached 15 percent.

One of the main reasons that the growth in China's auto market is expected to slow down compared to last year is environmental and congestion concerns in major cities.

According to the Chinese Association of Automobile Manufacturers, automobile sales rose faster than analysts had anticipated last year at a rate of 14 percent over 2012. Strong growth is expected to continue in China through 2014, though not

as robust as last year. Analysts are predicting 2014 growth to come in between 8-10 percent. Last year's sales come after two years of sluggish growth. In 2011 the automotive market in China expanded by 2.45 percent and 4.33 in 2012. 2013's impressive numbers have helped to convince analysts and investors that although the days of hyper growth are over, the Chinese automotive market has fully rebounded from lows in 2011-12.

Trends that will shape the automotive market over the next few years

Through to 2020, sales of SUVs in China are expected to grow by 13 percent compounded annually, surpassing the growth rate of all other segments. Sales are expected to triple over the next ten years as the number of wealthy consumers increases. Wealthy consumers in China are

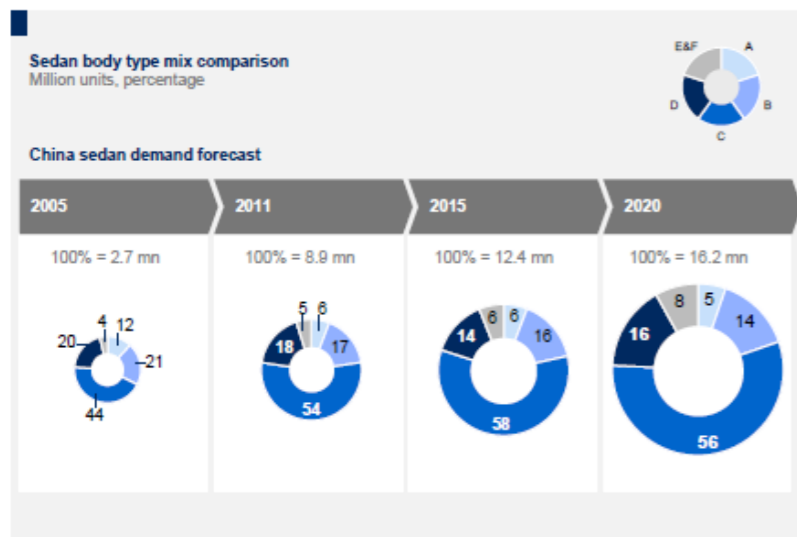


Source: CEIC, Tianjin Bureau of Land Resources and Housing, Jones Lang LaSalle

most likely to buy an SUV than other buyers in the market. Purchasing an SUV fulfills their driving needs while at the same time allowing them to show off their lifestyle, wealth, and preferences. Purchasing an SUV is also seen as an upgrade from a sedan. SUVs are expected to reach 22% of passenger vehicle sales in 2020, an increase from 5% in 2011. However, this level is still significantly lower than the 35 percent market share held by SUVs in the US during 2011.

Sedans make up the majority of car sales in China. By 2020, the market share of sedans is expected to decrease from their current level, around 80 percent, but they will still maintain a dominant position at about 70 percent market share. Sedans are broken into classes A,B,C,D,E & F based on their model-size. Models A and B refer to entry-level small passenger city cars, mostly three door hatchbacks, that are relatively low in price. Model C refers to medium sized five door vehicles while model D refers to upper medium sized or executive passenger cars. Finally, models E and F are defined more by price as large and luxury or super luxury class.

(Graph of the data)



Preferences for larger cars will increase the market share for models C-F at the expense of models A and B. Model C cars are expected to retain their dominant market share through 2020 as more Chinese-multinational joint

ventures aggressively compete in this space. There will still be opportunities in the A model segment, which is currently dominated by lower end domestic companies. As new urban lifestyles emerge, the premium small car segment, such as Smart, which only represented 2 percent of the model A market in 2011, is expected to quadruple by 2020 as more Chinese citizens buy a second car for commuting. Meanwhile, electric vehicles (EVs) sales are expected to grow in model A as public awareness of environmental issues and government incentive policies increase.

Chinese consumers will be much more likely to purchase high priced cars (CNY 250,000 to 800,000) than in previous years. This is not only due to higher income levels, but also because Chinese consumers will be looking to "trade up" their cars as they replace their entry-level vehicles. However, the CNY 80,000 to 250,000 segment will continue to be the dominate price segment with 60 percent of the market in 2020. This segment will continue to flourish as incomes increase and as demand rises from medium and small sized cities. Tier 3 and 4 cities already accounts for 40 percent of all new car sales. This number is expected to increase

to 60 percent by 2020. Meanwhile, new car sales in tier 3 and 4 cities are expected to grow at an annual rate of 10 percent, compared to tier 1 and 2 cities at 4 and 6 percent respectively.

One of the main reasons that the growth in China's auto market is expected to slow down compared to last year is environmental and congestion concerns in major cities. Today, Beijing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Tianjin, and Guiyang have implemented quotas and/or bidding systems in order to receive a new car license plate. In 2011, 30 cities in China accounted for 36 percent of total car sales, a continuing trend of restrictions would definitely have a substantial effect on future growth. The threat of increased restrictions is highest in tier 2 cities in Northern China where environmental pollution is most severe. In the short-term however, car sales are actually benefiting from this threat as consumers are purchasing cars in anticipation of new restrictions.

In Beijing, where restrictions were first implemented in 2011, a black market for license plates is exploding with people paying prices as high as USD 33,000, almost double the price of China's top selling model, the Ford Focus. This year, Beijing is planning to reduce the number of new number plates by 40 percent to 150,000, meaning only 1 in 150 applicants will get a plate through the lottery system.

Nevertheless, China still remains the place to be for automakers around the world. Ford was able to increase its sales by almost 50 percent from 2012 as they introduced more new vehicles to the market. Sales for GM were up 11.4 percent to 3.16 million vehicles in 2013. Sales from Japanese automakers have recovered after plummeting in 2012 because of anti-Japanese sentiment over the Diaoyu Islands. With over 1.4 billion citizens and only 85 million private vehicles, market penetration in China has only reached 6 percent (compared to 90 in the US), making China the most important auto market for the foreseeable future. **B**

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2013 Passenger Vehicle Sales by Brand, Made in China (excluding imports and commercial vehicles)

Source: China Passenger Car Association (CPCA)

Rank	Brand	Sales in 2013	Rank	Brand	Sales in 2013
1	Volkswagen	2395696	11	Changan	500500
2	Hyundai	1030808	12	Wuling	448484
3	Toyota	857749	13	Chery	437044
4	Nissan	843063	14	Audi	411730
5	Buick	807700	15	Great Wall	347672
6	Honda	729568	16	Citroen	280001
7	Chevrolet	714743	17	Great Wall Haval	279764
8	Ford	678951	18	Peugeot	272072
9	Kia	546766	19	Skoda	231200
10	BYD	506189			

2013 Vehicle Sales by Maker (excludes commercial vehicles)

Sales numbers listed below cover only two- or three-box sedans, MPVs, and SUVs. Pickup trucks, microvans and other commercial vehicles are not included.

Rank	Car Maker	Deliveries	Rank	Car Maker	Deliveries
1	Shanghai GM	1,542,559	11	SAIC-GM-Wuling (SGMW)	548,984
2	Shanghai Volkswagen	1,525,008	12	Dongfeng Yueda Kia	546,766
3	FAW Volkswagen	1,513,618	13	BYD	506,189
4	Beijing Hyundai	1,030,808	14	Chang'an	500,500
5	Dongfeng Nissan	926,229	15	Chery	443,944
6	Chang'an Ford	682,686	16	GAC Honda	434,828
7	Great Wall	627,436	17	Dongfeng Honda	321,216
8	FAW Toyota	554,661	18	GAC Toyota	303,088
9	Dongfeng PSA (DPCA)	552,073	19	SAIC	230,020
10	Geely	549,393	20	BMW Brilliance	207,327

Lifting the Veil of Doubled Payment Offers

By Robert Parkinson, CEO & Founder of RMG



When it comes to the time of Chinese New Year, salary is always a hotly debated topic in the job market. People like talking about family and neighborhood issues at holiday parties and gatherings. Besides, it is quite frequent that peers talk about their work and staff treatment issues. For many years there has been much debate on what really drives people to change jobs. Various answers including salary, promotion, line manager style and organizational culture actually make people quite confused. I think that ALL those factors surely matter

in job changing decisions. According to RMG's China Talent Flow Survey 2013 (TFS2), salary is the first factor that drives people to change jobs. It accounts for 69% among the all factors in our report. Post Chinese New Year is the peak period of job-changing. Quite a lot of people are actively looking for new opportunities with higher salary than their current companies. However, do you really think changing jobs for higher a salary is as wonderful in reality? As an old Chinese idiom says, there is no weal without woe. Making wrong choices because of being blinded by money is nothing worth

celebrating in the year of the horse! Before I start to share my experiences, I'd like to ask you a question about the definition of the word "occupation". I have always wondered why nearly two-thirds of participants regard salary as the most important factor. As I check out the word on Wikipedia, I finally understand that people's choice is closely related to the definition of "occupation". According to Wikipedia, occupation is defined as a regular activity where people spend time to earn money. In this case, it's quite obvious why people change jobs for money. From a psychological perspective, according

to Maslow's hierarchy of needs, in the beginning of one's career they aim to earn enough to support basic needs. Moving on to the next stage, people work to get higher and higher payment to satisfy their wants. Finally people will enter the stage of self-actualization where they do not care about salary anymore.

Most Chinese people start working from 18 to 24 years old. They will not stop until they are about 55 years old. Normally, people in the beginning and middle parts of the work life span tend to change jobs for higher and higher salary. However, not everyone can enjoy the process of changing jobs. If you happen to get an offer with a doubled salary, don't be eaten up by your excitement right now. Today the job market has become mature and transparent. If you don't know why you got such an offer, then you'd better reconsider it. Now let me share some career cases about changing jobs and salary with you.

Have you calculated your working time?

Let's say that right now you are a manager whose annual salary is

about CNY 100,000. There are 3 offer letters in front of you, CNY 150,000, CNY 200,000 and CNY 300,000 respectively. How would

You will probably miss the big picture if you only focus on the money.

you make a choice? If you would like to take the first offer, then I would congratulate you for your sensibility; if you chose the second offer, I suppose you would be willing to take some new challenges in your career. However, if you decided to go for the highest one, I would be quite worried that you might oversee the cost of working time. In particular, for those who are used to leaving the office when the clock hand strikes the number 6, you might quite enjoy the regular working times and 15 days annual leave with your current company.

Can you convince yourself that for a tripled salary, you can still enjoy

your work? According to RMG's senior IT consultant, a lot of IT companies do not pay for overtime workers, they are paid by projects. Data from RMG's China Talent Flow Survey 2013 (TFS2) shows nearly 40 percent of IT support and technical talent changed jobs in the past 12 months. In IT people change jobs quite often because they are looking for bigger or better projects to get more experience.

Do you have a strong enough supporting team?

You will probably miss the big picture if you only focus on the money. What I mean by big picture is actually the work going on around you. For instance, the support from a company's finance, recruiting and operations teams directly influence whether you can do your work successfully and efficiently. Say at the current company your KPI is quite good. It might not be 100% related to your work. Without the support from other teams, can you still achieve your KPI score?

In fact, there is always a good

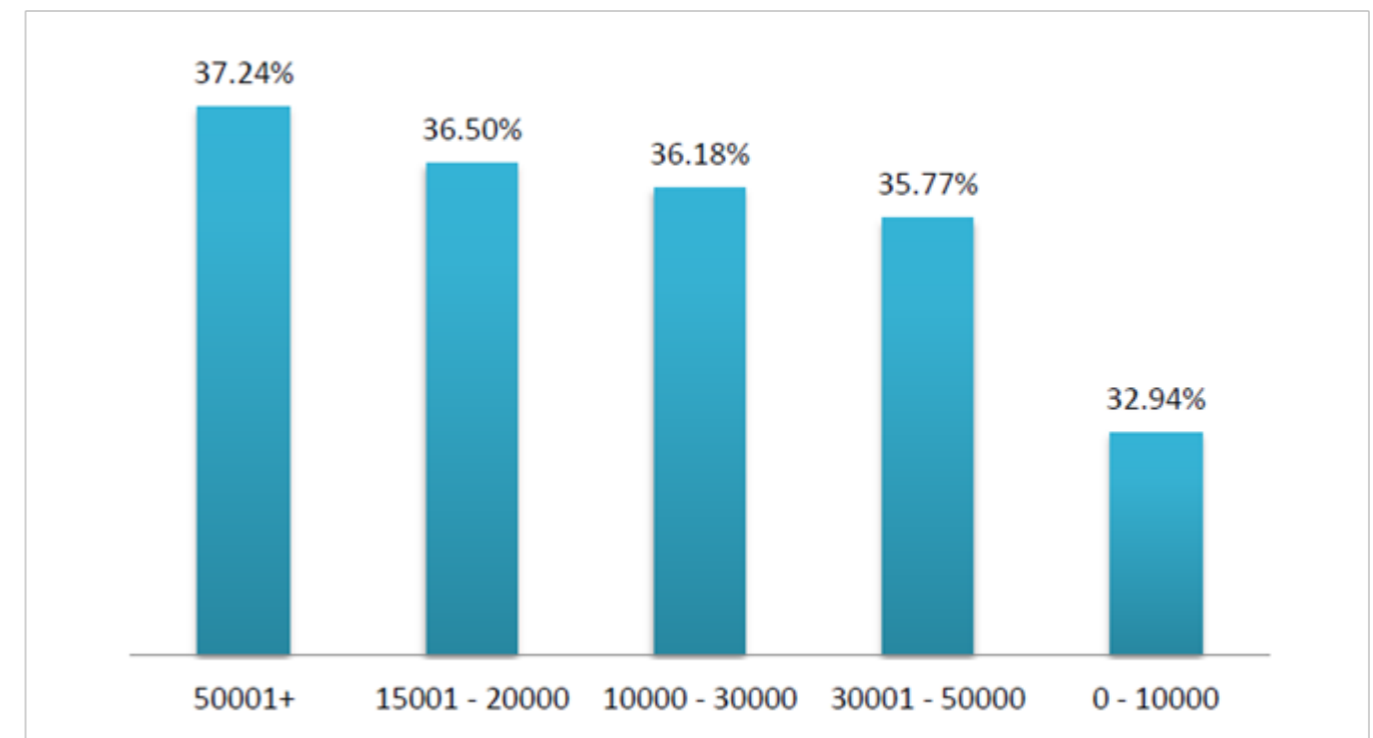


Figure 1 Job-changing rate by salary levels

■ 25-29 ■ 30-35 ■ 36-45 ■ 44-55 ■ 55+

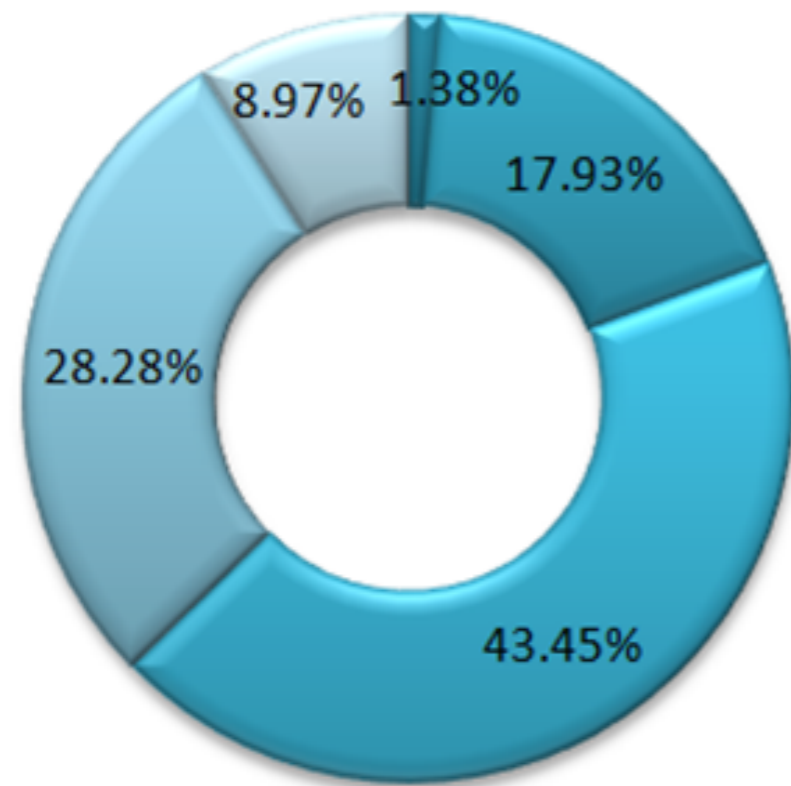


Figure 2 Participants whose salary level is above CNY 50,000 by age groups


support network behind a successful manager. Imagine you go to the new company for a higher salary but end up with a less effective supporting team. Neither you nor the company will be happy. Worst of all, you will end up with an unpleasant resignation session. The logistics team leader in our company says that lots of sales managers in small logistical companies look forward to working on an international platform. They all want to show their excellent skills on a good platform where they can boom the business.

Are you ready for a different corporate culture?

Some managers will start looking for better career opportunities after working in a company for 3

to 5 years. The reason might be that they are looking for a new environment or there is a lack of promotional space. These kinds of managers will pay more attention to salary and development opportunities. According to TFS2, in the past 12 months, the job-changing proportion of participants whose monthly salary is above CNY 50,000 is 37.24%. In comparison to others, the job-changing rate for this group is the highest. Moreover, another interesting finding related to the highly-paid group is that 76.55% of those participants are above 36 years old. (See Chart 1 and Chart 2).

Frankly speaking I understand that people like measuring their values at work based on salary. However, it is necessary for everyone to know

that salary is not the only way to measure one's value. In a lot of western countries people will have a New Year's resolution. I am sure many Chinese will do something similar. Everyone will make a wish list for their work and life in 2014. Nobody looks forward to endless overtime, inefficiency from subordinates, or little attention being paid to new ideas. Changing jobs for a higher salary seems quite wonderful, but after lifting the mysterious veil, will you reap what you sow? 

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Manuel Torres



Cao Jia

By Manuel Torres (Managing Partner), Cao Jia (Senior Associate) of Garrigues Shanghai

SAFE's Administration on PRC Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees



Among the various legitimate financing options available to the companies domiciled in China, borrowing a loan from a domestic bank ("Domestic Loan") which accepts a guarantee provided by an offshore entity or individual ("Offshore Guarantee") is an alternative usually opted for by those companies having offshore resources. A typical case would be a foreign invested enterprise ("FIE") borrows a CNY loan from a domestic bank which accepts the guarantee provided by the bank of the FIE's foreign shareholder, like the standby letter of credit issued by a foreign bank.

Due to the potential funds inflow into and outflow out of China under the Offshore Guarantee, such financing methods are subject to the administration by the State Administration of Foreign Exchange ("SAFE"). The foreign exchange administration policies in this regard shall be taken into account by the domestic companies, among the others, when making commercial decisions regarding their financing arrangements.

SAFE's Administration on a Nationwide Basis

The foreign exchange policies on the Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees have been put forward by the SAFE on a nationwide basis through the issuance of its Circular Huifa [2013] No.19 on 28 April, 2013.

Under such a regime, different approaches are adopted for the administration on FIEs and domestic invested enterprises ("DIEs"):

- FIEs

A FIE could directly raise a Domestic Loan under an Offshore Guarantee without the prior

approval by the SAFE.

However, if the Offshore Guarantee is executed by the domestic bank to repay the Domestic Loan when the FIE defaults in its repayment thereof, the quota of said FIE for borrowing its foreign debts will be consumed by such amount from said offshore guarantee actually executed by the domestic bank, and the registration for foreign debt shall be applied for by such FIE before the SAFE.

· **DIEs**

Unlike the FIE, a DIE shall apply before SAFE in advance for a quota for borrowing any Domestic Loan under Offshore Guarantee by submitting its relevant documents, including:

- Application letter;
- Business license;
- Audit report for the last fiscal year;
- Letter of intent for Domestic Loan under Offshore Guarantee; and
- Other supplementary documentation.

SAFE also set certain criteria for the DIE envisaging such financing, including:

- It is engaged in the industries encouraged by the State;
- It has been making profits in the past three years or its has good

Violation by the borrower will trigger the penalties imposed by SAFE, including rectification, a fine and the confiscation of illegal income.

operation trends;

- It has sound financial management systems and internal control systems;
- The proportion of its net assets and total assets shall not be below 15%; and

- The sum of its foreign debts and outbound guarantee shall not be above 50% of its net assets.

The registration for foreign debt shall also be applied for by the DIE before the SAFE in case the domestic bank executes the Offshore Guarantee when the DIE defaults in the repayment of the Domestic Loan.

SAFE's Administration in Certain Regions for Trial Implementation

A trial implementation for the administration on the Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees has been adopted by SAFE in certain regions of China, including Guangdong, Zhejiang and Fujian Provinces, as well as Shenzhen Municipality, from 28 October, 2013, per the issuance of its Circular Huifa [2013] No.40 .

This trial implementation is aimed to liberalise the administration on such financing methods to a certain



SAFE's Administration on Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees

Item	Nationwide		Four Regions (Guangdong, Zhejiang, Fujian, Shenzhen)	
	FIE	DIE	FIE	DIE
Prior Approval by SAFE	Not required	Required	Not required	
Qualifications of the Borrower	Not imposed	Imposed	Imposed	
Limitation on Amount of Loan	Not imposed		Imposed	
Default by the Borrower & Execution of Offshore Guarantee by Domestic Bank	Registration for foreign debt required		Registration for foreign debt not required	

extent in order to encourage the development of the small-scale companies in some coastal provinces and municipalities of China.

Under such trial implementations, the approaches for administration on FIEs and DIEs are consistent. Certain policies are worth attention:

A company domiciled in these regions may directly sign a contract on Domestic Loans under the Offshore Guarantee with a domestic bank and an offshore guarantor without the prior approval by the SAFE. If the following requirements are met:

- The total contractual amount of the loans of one company borrowing Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees in a calendar year does not exceed the equivalent of CNY 50 million;
- At any time, the outstanding balance of the principal under Domestic Loans with Offshore Guarantees does not exceed the net assets of said company at the end of last year; and
- Said company is not categorized as Rank B or C , according to relevant

foreign exchange administration policies on cross-border goods trade.

If said requirements could not be met by the domestic borrower in the above regions, the borrowing of Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees by the same shall be subject to SAFE's policies on the nationwide basis as mentioned above.

In case the Offshore Guarantee is executed by the domestic bank when the borrower defaults in repayment of Domestic Loan, the registration for foreign debt is not required by the SAFE, though the foreign debt of such borrower has occurred due to the execution of the Offshore Guarantee. Furthermore, before the repayment is made by the domestic borrower to the offshore guarantor the domestic borrower could not borrow any new Domestic Loan under the Offshore Guarantee.

As the SAFE is concerned with the inflow of hot money into China in disguise of this financing method, it specified that, in particular, the usage of such Domestic Loan shall be limited to the expenditures

for operation within the business scope of the domestic borrower. A violation by the borrower will trigger the penalties imposed by SAFE, including rectification, a fine and the confiscation of illegal income.

A chart above is summarised for easy identification of the different administration approaches on a nationwide basis and in certain regions of China for trial implementation.

Since the foreign exchange administration policies have direct impact on the financing arrangements of domestic companies like the Domestic Loans under Offshore Guarantees, it is advisable that these companies master such requirements and keep an eye on the latest updates thereof, in order to optimise their financing decisions and be in compliance with the Chinese laws as well. **B**

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Leadership & Management: What's the Difference?



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There is a lot that is said in management literature on the differences between leadership and management. We will briefly explore some of these differences asking whether it is necessary to so neatly compartmentalise the two. Can you be a great business leader without also having some degree of management competence?

What is leadership?

Leadership is primarily about the ability to communicate a vision to a group of people, an organisation or company, and to motivate others to own that vision for themselves and act upon it. One commentator says it is "...a relationship through which one person influences the behaviour or actions of other people" (Mullins1999). Another writes that it is "...a force that creates a capacity among people to do something that is different or better" (McKenna 1994). The characteristics of strategic leadership are:

- Vision, eloquence and consistency
- Commitment
- Being well informed
- Willingness to delegate and empower
- Astute use of power

Since each leader is unique, each will possess these qualities in varying measure.

One study of leadership qualities revealed that 1500 managers identified 225 qualities they believed relevant for successful leadership (Nanus & Dobbs 1999). Following 400 interviews, this list was narrowed down to 20 qualities. From this list of 20 qualities, 15,000 executive leaders selected those qualities they believed of primary importance. They believed successful leaders were:

- Honest
- Forward-looking
- Inspiring
- Competent

The problem with an approach that defines leadership in terms of a list of characteristics is that it is rather arbitrary where the list begins and ends. As Sir Peter Parker, a former Chairman of British Rail, quipped:

"Nothing in business circles brings such a rush of clichés to the head as leadership, one of those humpty-dumpty words which, as Alice said, mean whatever we want them to mean..."

Some characteristics may be more valid than others, but it may be difficult to test their significance empirically as contributing to successful leadership.

Leadership & Management

Kotter (1999) has said that leadership and management are two distinctive and complementary functions. He says, "leadership...is about coping with change", whereas "management is about coping with complexity". The table below summarises the main differences that he sees between leadership and management:

Table: Differences between leadership and management functions

Leadership function	Management function
Setting a direction	Planning and budgeting
Aligning people	Organising and staffing
Motivating and inspiring	Controlling and problem solving

(Source: adapted from Kotter 1990)

Confusion sometimes arises where managerial proficiency is seen as being synonymous with successful leadership and it seems that often leadership and management are divergent functions. However, it is also reasonable to assume that leaders need to develop managerial competence, and managers need to learn leadership skills, even if they have different foci as suggested below:

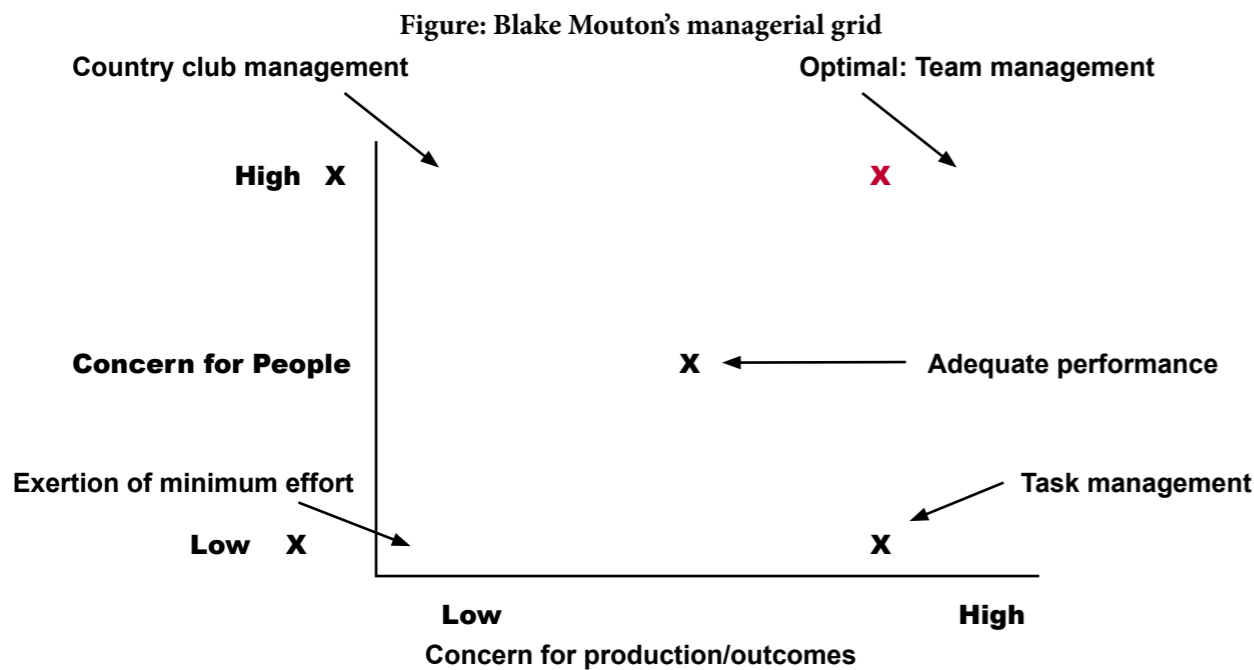
Leadership foci	Leadership foci
People	Resource
Values	Efficiency
Vision	Objectives
Influence	Procedures
Motivation	Organisation
Long-range	Short-term
Based on trust	Based on policies
Who you are	What you do

McKenna sees management as being preoccupied with planning, co-ordinating, supervising and controlling routine activities while he says "...leadership is an agency of change, and could entail inspiring others to do more than they would otherwise have done, or were doing" (1994). Perhaps in reality there is more of a continuum between leadership style at one end and management style at the other, than a tightly defined dichotomy of function (cf. Kotter). The neat comparisons may also stem from "either/or" thinking, that typifies a Western mind-set, as opposed to "both/and" thinking that embraces paradox and a more nuanced management of polarities.

Leadership/management style

The skills of leadership and management may be seen as being more integrated using Blake Mouton's managerial grid. Here a concern for people and for production represent the axes of a two dimensional grid and has been used to define an optimal leadership/managerial position. This is where there is both concern for people and production (or, in the public service or nonprofit context, programmes and outcomes).

China Strengthens Consumer Protection Rights



(Source: McKenna 1994)

To move towards an optimal position where concern for people and outcomes are equally important is to achieve the ideal of Team Management. For this to happen, leaders and managers need to develop their competencies in developing a collaborative work environment. Here each member of the team sees themselves as being responsible for the management of their sphere of influence including the positive influence of peers, and of those up- and down-stream from them - what may be called 360-degree leadership.

Leadership Behaviour

Use of authority by the Leader	• Delegates
	• Participates
	• Consults
	• Persuades
• Tells	Freedom of the Team

Higher Control → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → → Lower Control

Management Style

A recent study of 450 Chinese leaders reporting on their perception of the strengths and gaps of Chinese leaders shows that they scored Chinese business leadership highly in the areas of Decisiveness and Resourcefulness but identified that in the areas of Change Management, Participative Management and Leading Employees there are significant competency gaps (see Ryan 2014). This view is supported by LDi Training (www.lditraining.cn) where we see that the real need for training in managing and leading is far less related to the hard-edged skills of business leadership and management (for example, planning, budgeting, marketing, building efficient processes, etc.) and far more related to the softer people skills needed to build a collaborative 'team management' approach that will take the organisation to the next level of performance. It is having these skills that makes the difference in outstanding managers and leaders. **B**

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Return of items bought online

According to the report, most of the consumer complaints focused on dishonest representation of business operators and functional failures of the products, as well as bad after-sales services. The PRC law contains provisions on repair, return and replacement of defective products, protecting a customer in various provisions of the 'PRC Contract Law' of 1999, the CPL of 1994 and the 'Provisions on the Liability for the Repair, Replacement and Return of Certain Commodities' of 1995.

However, now lawmakers apparently want to take it a step further and enlarge consumer rights beyond those regarding defects in products. In order to strengthen the consumer's position in long-distance sales, the CPL Amendments propose the introduction of an unconditional right to return goods in such sales. This provision is apparently modelled on the unconditional return rights in various EU directives.

Article 9 of the CPL Amendments suggests the introduction of Article 28, stating that where business operators sell goods via the internet or by television sale, phone sale or mail order, consumers shall be entitled to return the goods within seven days from the receipt thereof, unless the goods are not suitable to be returned given their nature. The business operators shall refund the payments already made by the consumers within seven days upon receipt of the returned goods.

Liability of platform providers

The current Article 38 of the CPL imposes a backup liability on the organisers of trade fairs for the products sold through such channels. Article 16 of the CPL Amendments extends this backup liability to providers of online sales platforms.

Electronic advertisements

In common with many European jurisdictions, Chinese law is about to introduce a prohibition against sending advertisements to consumers without their consent. The CPL Amendments explicitly address the sending of advertisements in electronic form.

According to Article 10 of the CPL Amendments, a provision shall be included in Article 29 of the CPL stating that business operators shall not send electronic commercial information to consumers without their consent or request, or after the consumers have expressly rejected such information.

Information obligation

Further, business operators must correctly display their commercial information on websites and other electronic communication, as the CPL Amendments picks up on this issue and aims to regulate it in a stricter way.

China Amends Consumer Protection Law

On October 25, 2013, the legislative body in China, the National People's Congress, passed amendments to its Law on Protection of Consumer Rights and Interests ("LPC") with the aim to better protect the legitimate interests and rights of consumers, which is the first revision to LPC since its adoption in 1993. The amendment is scheduled to take effect on March 15, 2014.

More stringent regulation of e-commerce industry

When LPC was firstly promulgated back in 1993, e-commerce was still unheard of by the majority of the society. That explains the fact the current LPC has no specific rules regulating e-commerce. Now the amended LPC aims to fill up the gaps and officially extends its jurisdiction to such a prosperous business arena. In order to strengthen the consumer's position in long-distance sales, the LPC amendment introduces an unconditional right to return goods

in such sales. It provides that for goods sold via the Internet, television, telephone, or mail order, consumers have the right to return the goods within seven days from the date of receipt of the goods, and have the money refunded within seven days

If the amendments are to be fully adopted, the legal grounds on which citizens could sue local governments will be expanded and should be more clearly defined.

upon the receipt of the returned goods by the seller. However, to prevent e-shoppers from abusing their rights, the following types of goods to which the seven-day unconditional return shall not apply: customer tailor-made goods; fresh, alive and perishable goods; digital downloads or unpacked audiovisual products (e.g., movies or CDs) and computer software; delivered newspapers and periodicals; and other products that are unsuitable to be returned.



Moreover, the return freight fees shall be borne by the consumer.

Strengthening the joint liabilities of false advertisement publishers and e-trade platforms

The Decision provides that advertising agents and those designing, producing and publicising false advertisements of products or services should bear joint liability if such products and services have caused harm to consumers. Moreover, social groups, organizations and individuals that endorse goods or services to consumers through false advertising shall bear joint liabilities. This means celebrities could be held liable for false advertising if they endorse a product that causes harm to consumers. In addition, providers of e-trade platforms who know that the seller or service provider is infringing on consumer rights and interests through their platforms and fail to take necessary measures against it will be held jointly liable for the damage caused.

Imposing higher compensation

Compared with the current Consumer Protection Law, the decision has imposed harsher



penalties on business operators who defraud consumers, and additional compensation for commercial fraud could be equivalent to three times the price of the products or the service charges paid by consumers, with a minimum fine of CNY500.

Consumer privacy

Infringement of consumer privacy has been on the rise in recent years, particularly due to the dramatic growth of e-commerce. Such widespread violation of consumer's legitimate rights has raised substantial concerns by the public. The amendment to LPC, drawing upon the experiences and legislation of the EU, now introduces specific rules to address the issue.

As a result, privacy protection obligations will now extend to sellers of consumer goods as well as internet service providers and telecommunication providers in China. In an era of booming e-commerce, this is widely praised by the consumers.

Clarifying the role of consumer associations

The decision requires consumer associations to provide consumption information and consultation services to consumers and participate in the legislation of laws, regulations and relevant standards concerning consumer rights and interests. Moreover, such organizations may file actions in cases where the rights of a large group of consumers have been infringed upon. In such scenarios consumers are likely to win out, bolstered by the support of China's Consumer's Association which will now be able to initiate class-action litigation on behalf of consumers.

Establishing a credit file to record illegal acts

The decision requires business operators to abide by state laws and regulations, and run businesses based on good faith. Moreover, regarding illegal acts – such as false advertising, passing a defective product off as

a high-quality one, or passing a substandard product off as a standard one – these acts will be recorded into a credit file system and be announced to the public.

Increased protection will mean better and more benefits made available to consumers while in the meantime, more cost and risk to businesses which have become accustomed to a much less regulated and protected consumer markets. Businesses now may consider designating a data protection officer to ensure compliance since failure to do so will trigger a penalty of CNY 500,000, a significantly greater deterrent than the previous fine of only CNY 10,000. **E**

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Intellectual Property in China: A Case Study to Show that Appearances Do Matter!



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Intellectual property rights (IPR) infringement in China against consumer goods is mainly in the form of counterfeits. However, instances of infringement are sometimes not so clear cut. Infringers may target the packaging and visual presentation, rather than the contents, functional design, and trademark logo of a product. For many consumer goods, packaging can be crucial to the identity of the product and thus its market appeal, meaning a potential loss of sales and harm to the original producer's reputation when such infringement occurs.

Recent experience shows that the recognition of particular visual design elements as IP is becoming more widely accepted. For instance, a Beijing court recently ruled that a defendant's use of a green and yellow colour combination was an infringement upon the trademark of US agricultural machinery manufacturer John Deere, despite the fact that the trademark certificate did not explicitly describe a colour combination.

Under Chinese law the visual identity of a product, its trade dress, is protected under trademark laws, patent laws, copyright laws and unfair competition laws. Thus there are many legal avenues to rely on in the case of infringement, though some may prove more viable than others. Understanding how the packaging and presentation of a product can be protected as IP is essential to the overall strategy of any consumer goods firm in China, in order to protect their brand and product identity, and ensure future competitiveness. This case study showcases the IP experiences of one European company operating in China.

French perfume

A French company designed and marketed a perfume bottle and packaging with a distinctive shape. In 2005, a Chinese company produced two types of perfume and used bottles and packaging nearly identical to the ones designed by the French company and marketed them in China and abroad under a different trade name.

Actions taken

Once made aware of the situation, the French company took immediate steps to cease the copyright infringement. Considering the financial damages, the scope of the infringement and the harm done to its reputation, the French company brought legal action before the judicial courts, seeking compensation. The French company had registered the bottles as a design patent in China. The legal action was therefore grounded on infringement of the design, the copyright and violation of the Unfair Competition Law. It is interesting to note that the Unfair Competition Law (A5.2) protects packaging: "unauthorized use of the name, packaging or trade dress unique to well-known products, packaging or trade dress similar to that of well-known products, thereby causing confusion with the

well-known products of another party and causing purchasers to mistake the products for such well-known products." In order to rely on the Unfair Competition Law, it is necessary for the product to be well-known in China, that there is the

Since France and China acceded to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works in 1992 and are members of the World Trade Organization, the works of the French company are protected in China.

likelihood of confusion between the two products, that the trade dress is distinctive and unique, and that the plaintiff used the trade dress first. All of these conditions existed in this case, thus the plaintiff also grounded his action on the performance of unfair competition.

Outcome

Despite the different legal grounds offered, the Beijing Court based its decision solely on the infringement of the copyright. The Beijing Court held that, since France and China acceded to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works in 1992 and are members of the World Trade Organization, the works of the French company are protected in China according to the Copyright Law. As the Chinese party reproduced the bottles and packaging in large quantities, without the copyright owner's permission, the court decided that the Chinese company committed copyright infringement and would bear the liabilities of ceasing the act of infringement, make an apology, and compensate the plaintiff for their loss.

In practice, it was not possible to evaluate the actual loss of the plaintiff and since the defendant provided the legal source and information on the company manufacturing the bottles, the defendant had only to pay for the ceasing of the infringement. **E**

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Open-Source Operating Systems

By Stephen P. Ashton



Computer systems have infiltrated every aspect of the modern world. From the way we communicate, learn, and entertain ourselves to the security, infrastructure and economics of our nations. Behind every computer system is an operating-system (OS). These are programs which provide a way for users to interact with the computer system, manage the system's hardware resources and provide mutually relied upon resources for all other applications on a computer.

Human computer interface systems

These are parts of the OS which allow direct communication between user and computer system. This includes the interception and deciphering of device data from a mouse, keyboard or touch screens. Once the system recognises the data it forms prompts, times the functions at comfortable speeds and displays feedback. These functions are for the benefit of the user not the system. For example, the system doesn't need to display

what you type or have a prompt pop-up saying "Are you sure?" Many functions are slowed down so that you can see them happening, as it is a little disconcerting when things happen so fast you can't even perceive them occurring.

Kernel

This is the brain and nervous system of the operating system. It controls the hardware resources at their most primitive level. For instance, it allocates hardware resources to the software with the assistance

of firmware. It manages memory allocation for programs using RAM and it optimises the CPU resources for the system. It also maintains a structuring hierarchy for file storage and manages networking and security applications.

The OS is an intermediary between the programs you use on your computer and the hardware of your computer system. For instance using a web cam application you would utilise hardware such as a web cam, microphone, speakers/headphone, mouse and keyboard not to mention your display monitor. All these hardware resources are provided to the program from the operating system.

Modern OS have attached a high importance to multitasking. This is achieved by intelligently sharing resources between currently open applications. This is achieved using a scheduler to switch resources between current events. However, due to modern multiple core processing systems things are becoming easier, as different cores can be assigned to separate tasks.

What is open-source?

Open-source software is that which the copyright holder gives free license for users to use, modify and distribute the code freely. They receive no payment for its use and make no attempt to profit from the distribution of the original code. Normally software of this nature is created collaboratively by like-minded people, with the betterment of technology being the key driving factor of its creation rather than monetary gain.

The advantages of open-source software from the point of view of a business model can be easily misunderstood, especially when viewed from a superficial view point considering the initial cost of development. However, when you consider the long term implications, the model makes a lot of sense.

Firstly, you create sense of community with your target market. Because they act as co-developers they will have a genuine stake in the survival and evolution of the product. Loyalty and a sense of belonging to a collaborative goal will solidify your relationship with the key market. Secondly, the word of mouth marketing and promotion from people who have

When used correctly open-source can produce some truly innovative devices which help technology as whole to evolve.

helped with the product can save money on advertising. Thirdly, lower maintenance and expansion costs can be achieved with this model as users are the co-developers so bugs and fixes can be corrected by them. The long term evolution of the software can be continued with little maintenance by the original developer. This means large, complex projects can be created for very little capital after the initial outlay for the original base source code.

Lastly, money can be made from surrounding products such as hardware, support, add-on programs and related accessories.

Why use an open-source operating system?

As a consumer why would you choose an open-source OS? Possibly because it's free to use on your system. And on your devices. This is especially useful if you have constructed your computer yourself. The OS can be a costly part of building a system and without this financial burden, cheap well featured systems can be constructed. Furthermore, many of these operating systems have a small footprint in terms of storage space, meaning that they do not use excessive amounts of space on your hard drive, they can even be booted off DVD/CD and USB drives. This is handy to test systems and check for viruses on hard drives.

The truth is that with the powerful processors we now have available to us, our computers don't run as fast as they should. Many applications are written in high level programming languages which offer less specificity when trying to achieve tasks. This also causes unnecessary processes to be carried out.

Moreover, the security of these systems is usually a lot better than traditional systems. This is down to



the way viruses are written. Normally malicious code is created for a specific OS, with Windows and Mac being the main targets. Therefore open-source OS are generally safer.

Examples of open-source operating systems

Linux/Ubuntu

In this example Linux is the type of kernel with Ubuntu being the name of the OS. This is an extremely popular OS which is bundled with many open-source and freeware software programs. The design is quite refined and offers a graphical user interface known as GNOME and a flashier UNITY interface. Both offer a highly intuitive interface which is easy to navigate.

Android

Created by Google, Android is mainly for mobile devices, again based on the Linux kernel. This open-source OS has quickly become the dominant mobile OS in the world, with Android devices having the largest part of the market share. This operating system has caused many cheap devices to be created, due to the free licence for the OS to be used on any hardware. Android allows for smaller companies to create high quality devices due to the small amount of capital needed to develop the software side of the devices.

Android has however become very fragmented in its releases, due to compatibility of hardware. Only certain releases work for certain handsets, tablets and other mobile

devices. Some releases were for tablets only, some for phones. They have in recent releases tried to address this issue by unifying all devices with one unified OS.

Unix/freeBSD

Developed in 1970 at AT&T Bell labs, Unix was developed with a modular philosophy, with simplicity and efficiency at the heart of the OS. Although now a closed source system, Unix has given rise to many open-source OS which are described as Unix certified or Unix-like. Due to the popularity of the modular philosophy that Unix systems adhere to, becoming a Unix certified OS is quite an accomplishment. Most recently Apple's OS X has become Unix certified- this due to its adherence to certain criteria in the



OS specification.

BSD stands for Berkley Software Distribution but is commonly referred to as Berkley Unix. BSD is a descendant of Unix as it shared many of the original source code with the original Unix release. Free BSD is descendant of the original BSD code. However it is open-source and has an active community. It is referred to as the "unknown giant"- probably due to the widespread use of its code directly or indirectly in various hardware such as Sony PS3/4 and Panasonic TVs.

Open-source is the way?

As you can see the use of open-source operating systems is a lot more widespread than you would ever have thought. Although these systems never seem to be in the limelight they underpin a lot of modern systems which we utilise regularly. Samsung, for instance, recently released an Android powered washing machine

and fridge. It seems that having a free operating system has encouraged companies to be more innovative as they don't have the financial or time burden of creating the software to create these devices. Instead they can utilize their resources elsewhere such as being innovative.

Android in particular has the ability, being a mobile OS, to create some very interesting interactive systems. This has caused a massive amount of devices being developed with Android at the core. But is this a blessing or a curse? Unfortunately not all devices are of high quality and some manufacturers purposely build inferior quality devices which are underpowered or use poor quality hardware components. However, as they trade using the Android banner, this makes the device look to be associated with Google, and therefore of a high professional quality, when

this is not the case.

When used correctly open source can produce some truly innovative devices which help technology as whole to evolve. But when used incorrectly, unstable and potentially unreliable devices can be created, mainly at the expense of the consumer.

I believe that these systems are viable replacements for paid OS, especially when you consider the possibility of having a dual boot system. There is no reason not to at least try it. The use of these OS behind the scenes in everything from public servers, to computers in academia and behind national infrastructure cannot be understated. **3**

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New Appointments



Susan Liu Appointed Director of Sales and Marketing at the Banyan Tree Tianjin Riverside

Ms. Susan Liu has been appointed as Director of Sales & Marketing of Banyan Tree Tianjin Riverside.

Ms. Liu has a wealth of experience in the hotel market. In her over 16-year working experience, she held previous positions with Starwood, Radisson, TEDA International Club and the Crystal Palace Hotel in Tianjin.

In her current role she will be responsible for driving the overall marketing strategy and overseeing the daily operations of the Sales, PR, Revenue and Catering departments, and will utilise her expertise of both international and local markets to further enhance the hotel's reputation as one of the leading luxury hotels in Tianjin.



Wanda Vista Tianjin Has Appointed Ms. Yuki Dong as Director of Sales & Marketing

Recently, Wanda Vista Tianjin announced the appointment of Ms. Yuki Dong as Director of Sales & Marketing, in charge of sales, marketing and communications.

With more than 10 years of profound experience in Sales & Marketing, Ms. Dong has served many globally renowned hotel chains, including Accor, Intercontinental and Starwood. She joined Wanda Hotels and Resorts in December 2013. Before this appointment, she was Director of Sales & Marketing at the Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel.

With her rich and extensive experience and enthusiasm, Ms. Yuki Dong will guide the sales & marketing team to take Wanda Vista Tianjin to become the leading five-star plus hotel in Tianjin.

In her spare time, she likes travelling and watching movies.



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Richard Tian

Senior Partner / Attorney-at-Law

Director of International Legal Affairs Department




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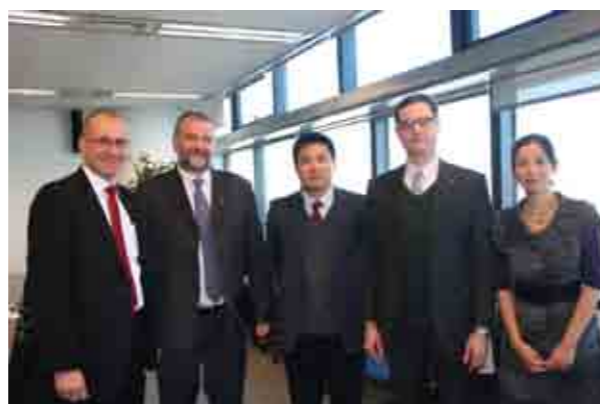
Past Event:



Working Meeting With Mr. Xu DaTong President of Commerce Commission, Tianjin Binhai New Area 21 January, 2014

On 21 January, the European Chamber Tianjin Chairman, Mr. Castaldi along with other board members and staff had a fruitful working meeting with President Xu Datong of the Commerce Commission of Tianjin Binhai New Area.

Both sides agreed to reinforce further communication and cooperation, and worked out a specific working agenda during the one hour meeting. This includes the regular high level meetings with Heads of Tianjin Binhai New Area, working level meetings and activities for policy updating and emergency meeting to help out member companies' for their individual problems.



GM Briefing: Asymmetry in the Development of EU and China 23 January, 2014

On 23 January, The European Chamber Tianjin Board welcomed H.E. Mr. Alberto Bradanini, Italian Ambassador to China's visit to Tianjin and invited him to deliver a speech during the GM Briefing dinner event with other member companies.



Ambassador Bradanini's introduced the status of the Sino-European strategic partnership, which reached its 10th anniversary last year, celebrated within the 16th EU-China Summit (Beijing, 21 November 2013). He also touched upon the dynamics of bilateral trade and direct investments, which have largely benefited China for more than a decade now and have been characterised by deep and lasting competitive asymmetries. Stress was laid on the Italian contribution as well as on the strategic importance of identifying realistic routes, in order to balance current trade moving from the results of the 3rd Plenum of the PCC Central Committee and from the existing complementarities between China and Europe.



Room 2415, Suite 17, Magnetic Plaza, BinShui Xi Dao, Nankai District, Tianjin 300381.
Tel: +86 22 2374 1122 Fax: +86 22 2374 1122 Email: tianjin@european-chamber.com.cn Website: www.european-chamber.com.cn

Upcoming Event:



Seminar - How to Apply for a Visa to Germany 11 March, 2014

Against the background of increasing Sino-German business ties, the application process for business visas to Germany for Chinese managers, employees and business partners is of great significance for most companies. However, HR departments of German and Chinese companies are often lost when it comes to applying for a visa.

Speakers: Ingo Ganns, Visa Officer, German Embassy

Ms. Li Nan, Visa Service Manager, German Industry & Commerce Greater China - Beijing

5 March, 2014: Networking Dinner in TEDA, Delights Bar & Restaurant

26 March, 2014: Kammerstammtisch Tianjin, Drei Kronen 1308 Brauhaus Tianjin

Room 1502, Global Center, No. 309 Nanjing Road, Nankai District, Tianjin 300073 Tel / Fax: +86 22 8787 9249 tianjin@bj.china.ahk.de



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A Royal Victory: England Crowned Champions of the Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup 2014

19 January 2014, Tianjin – England, the nation that gave polo its famous moniker ‘the sport of kings’, reclaimed its crown today with a hard-fought win over their rivals Hong Kong China in the final of the Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup 2014.

After a thrilling four chukkas, England trotted off the field 6 – 5 the victors, and in so doing, denied their opponents Hong Kong China a third successive championship victory. Jubilant, the English trio of Max Routledge, Jack Richardson and Max Charlton had finally settled the score against their fierce rivals Hong Kong China, a team that had beaten them on almost every occasion at the Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club.

In the previous two Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cups, England had drawn Hong Kong China at the semi-final stages, and on both occasions were dumped out of the competition, with Hong Kong China going on to win the title. In last year’s Fortune Heights Super Nations Cup final, they met again, and once again, Hong Kong China triumphed, beating the English by 11 – 7.

Summing up the reasons for this year’s success, England coach Alan Kent cited discipline and teamwork. “They are a young team but they bonded very well together,” said Kent, delighted with the way his side had performed. “We have got better with each game,” explained England captain Max Charlton. “Today we went out there and just gave it everything.”

Hong Kong China’s Facundo Llorente was magnanimous in defeat. “England are a great team. We played well but they played a bit better; sometimes you win and sometimes you lose.”

In front of an expectant home crowd, Dr. Richard Caleel, President of the Federation of International Polo, had the honour of throwing the ball in to set in motion the grand final of the 2014 Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup.

With the Fortune Heights Snow Polo World Cup 2014 now concluded, polo fans in China and around the world can now look ahead to an exciting programme of events coming later in the year at the Tianjin Goldin Metropolitan Polo Club, including the Metropolitan Polo Classic 2014, the Metropolitan Intervarsity Polo 2014, and the FIP Super Nations Cup 2014.



Changeable David

On 15 to 28 February 2014, the itinerant exhibition named Changeable David, by Tianjin Historic Building Finishing Co., LTD will be held in Minyuan Terrace Western District.

How will you spend this extraordinary year? Maybe you have not decided. But David has already designed variety plans for his life. The Naughty Monkey King, McDonald’s Uncle and Big Smurf, are just a few the works on show.

This exhibition will all display fifteen painting works by young people who like DIY. The Changeable David exhibition will definitely surprise you. Come along and see it for yourself.



EU SME Helpdesk Holds IPR Seminar

On the 26th February, the China IPR SME Helpdesk and the EU SME Centre will hold a free seminar entitled Drafting Contracts in China, about how SMEs can use contracts to effectively protect their business in China. During the seminar expert speakers will outline:

- How to avoid common contractual errors which lead to loss of technology, know-how and competitiveness.
- Practical and useful tips on how to protect your business.
- How to write strong contracts which can protect your products and your company while doing business in China.

The Helpdesk China experts will give practical advice on the topics and participants will have the opportunity to attend one-on-one consultation sessions to discuss individual questions.

The China IPR SME Helpdesk is a European Commission funded project that provides free, practical, business advice relating to China IPR to European SMEs. To learn about any aspect of intellectual property rights in China, don’t hesitate to visit our online portal at www.china-iprhelpdesk.eu.

Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Convention Centre Hotel Celebrates 2014 Spring Festival

The Lion Dance has been a traditional part of Chinese culture for many centuries, and marked the start of the hotel's Chinese New Year celebrations. A Tianjin indigenous dance team performed a traditional Lion Dance in the lobby of the Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Convention Centre Hotel. From there, the lion dancers weaved their way through the various outlets of the hotel, warding off evil spirits, assuring good luck, and collecting Hong Baos – good luck red envelopes – along the way.

Hotel General Manager, Mr. Nicholas Emery, greeted the Lions at the Hotel entrance and dotted the eyes of the dancing lions to celebrate the coming of the New Year.



Spring Festival Lion Dance Celebration at Tangla Hotel Tianjin



To celebrate the start of the Lunar New Year in style, bring good fortune to all and leave guests with a joyful and unforgettable Spring Festival experience, Tangla Hotel Tianjin held a lively and sensational Lion Dance celebration on Lunar New Year's Day in the hotel lobby, restaurants and other areas, earning a lot of plaudits from guests. Hotel General Manager, Fintan O' Doherty, greeted the lions at the Hotel entrance and dotted the eyes of the dancing lions to celebrate the coming of the New Year.

Afterwards, Hotel General Manager Fintan O' Doherty expressed sincere greetings to all the staff that remained at their posts during the Spring Festival.

Sheraton Tianjin Hotel Celebrates 2014 Spring Festival

On the morning of the Lunar New Year's Day, a number of guests in Tianjin participated in the annual Spring Festival Lion Dance Show exclusively held by the Sheraton Tianjin Hotel. The wonderful performance of the lion dance attracted almost all the hotel guests to get up early to witness this unforgettable moment and record it with phones and cameras. In addition, a big surprise was given to the guests when they received red packets given by the god of wealth. Moreover, Mr. Zhang Dawei, the chairman of JTG, also attended this grand event and painted the eyes of the lion.



Lion Dance Sparks at Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel



A grand lion dance performance sparked the Chinese New Year celebration at the Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel on Friday morning, the first day of the Year of the Horse which fell on 31 of January 2014.

General Manager, Steven Yau, and Deputy General Manger, Lin Lang, joined the celebration and went through the Dian Jing Ceremony to dot the lion's eyes, which symbolizes a life full of light and everything going as you wish.

Moreover, Mr. Cai Shen Ye handed out gold ingots and red envelopes to every guest in the hotel, and he also passed around his best wishes to all staff in the office.

Spring Festival Lion Dance at Hotel Nikko Tianjin

To celebrate the start of the Lunar New Year in style, bring good fortune to all and leave guests with a joyful and unforgettable Spring Festival experience, Hotel Nikko Tianjin held a lively and sensational Lion Dance celebration on lunar New Year's Day in the hotel. Hotel General Manager, Olivier Rochefort, dotted the eyes of the two dancing lions to celebrate the coming of the New Year. Afterwards, Hotel General Manager Olivier Rochefort expressed sincere well wishes to all the staff that remained at their posts during the Spring Festival.



The Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Celebrates Chinese New Year



The Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Tianjin treated their guests to a lion dance performance during the first day of the Chinese New Year celebrations on 31 January 2014 to attract good luck in the new lunar year. Mr. Zhang Bao, Deputy General Manager painted the eyes for the lions. The lion dance was performed at a specific time to usher in prosperity to the hotel. Mr. Jesper Sando Mork, Executive Assistant Manager, received the Golden Yuan Bao from the god of wealth, which is a symbolic gift for abundant fortune.

Include your event
email to editor@businesstianjin.com

01
SAT
星期六

2014 5th Tianjin Wedding Expo
2014第五届天津婚博会
Tianjin Meijiag International Convention & Exhibition Center Tianjin, China
天津梅江国际会展中心
<http://www.591wed.com/>



01
SAT
星期六

24th East China Import and Export Fair
第24届中国华东进出口商品交易会
Shanghai New International Expo Centre
上海新国际博览中心
<http://vinisud-asia.com/>
Mar 1-5



06
THU
星期四

2014 11th China International Equipment Manufacturing Exposition
2014第十一届中国国际装备制造业博览会
China International Industry Automation Technique & Equipment Exhibition
中国国际工业自动化技术及设备展览会
Tianjin Meijiag International Convention & Exhibition Center Tianjin, China
天津梅江国际会展中心
<http://www.biztradeshows.com>
Mar 6-9

08
FRI
星期五

Tianjin Philharmonic series No.4: A concert for mothers
献给母亲的歌—古典音乐饗宴系列之四
Tianjin Concert Hall 天津音乐厅
19:30
+86 22 2332 0068

08
SAT
星期六

China Wedding Expo
中国婚博会
Shanghai World Expo Exhibition & Convention Center 上海世博会会展中心
vinisud-asia.com
Mar 8-9



11
TUE
星期二

Laoshe-Teahouse
老舍名著话剧《茶馆》
Opera House, Tianjin Grand Theatre
天津大剧院音乐厅
19:30
¥ 180-1080
+86 22 8388 2000, 8388 2002, 2332 0068
Mar 11-13



Special Days

4 Mar Mardi Gras
8 Mar International Women's Day

17 Mar St. Patrick's Day
30 Mar Mothering Sunday

14
FRI
星期五

China (Tianjin) International Building Materials & Decoration Exposition
中国(天津)国际建筑材料装饰博览会
Tianjin Meijiag International Convention & Exhibition Center Tianjin, China
天津梅江国际会展中心
<http://www.tjbd-china.com/>
Mar 14-15

8th Tianjin International crafts, art collections & Mahogany Furniture Exhibition
第八届天津国际工艺品、艺术收藏品及红木家具博览会
Tianjin International Exhibition Center
天津国际展览中心
+86 21 6299 0137-805/811
Mar 14-17



15
SAT
星期六

The Tianjin Comedy Night
喜剧之夜
The Astor Hotel,
A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin
天津利顺德大酒店
19:00 - 22:00
¥ 250
+86 22 23311688



19
WED
星期三

China (Beijing) International Maritime Technology and Equipment Exhibition
中国(北京)国际海事技术与装备展览会
China International Exhibition Center
中国国际展览中心新馆
+86 10 58236500
Mar 9-21



24
MON
星期一

14th China North International Bicycle & E-Bike Exhibition
第十四届中国北方国际自行车电动车展览会
Tianjin Meijiag International Convention & Exhibition Center Tianjin
天津梅江国际会展中心
<http://www.norexpo.com/Default.aspx>
Mar 24-30

30
MON
星期一

Shikun Liu Piano Recital
中国钢琴名师系列2—刘诗昆钢琴独奏音乐会
Concert Hall 音乐厅
¥ 80 - 280
+86 22 2332 0068



Common Chinese Characters 6 of 2500

Hànzi: Chǎng Bùshǒu: Chǎng
 汉字：厂 部首：厂
 Chinese Character: factory Radical: factory

Cíxìng: Zhōngxìngcí / míngcí

词性：中性词/名词

Word Type: neutral word/noun

Dāpèi: Gōngchǎng, chǎngzhǎng

搭配：工厂，厂长

Combinations: factory, factory supervisor

Lìjù: Zhèlǐ yǒu hěnduō gōngchǎng.
Tā shì chǎngzhǎng.

例句：这里有很多工厂。
他是厂长。

Example Sentences: There are many factories here. He is a factory supervisor.

Bèizhù: "Chǎng" zhège zì shì míngcí, biǎoshì yòngyú shēngchǎn jiāgōng de dìfāng.

备注：“厂”这个字是名词，表示用于生产加工的地方。

Notes: The character “chang” is a noun. It is used to indicate a place of manufacturing or production.

Common Chinese Characters 7 of 2500

Hànzi: Qī Bùshǒu: Qī
 汉字：七 部首：七
 Chinese Character: seven Radical: seven

Cíxìng: Zhōngxìngcí / shùcí

词性：中性词/数词

Word Type: neutral word/number

Dāpèi: Qī tiān, shíqī

搭配：七天，十七

Combinations: seven days, seventeen

Lìjù: Yīge xīngqī yǒu qī tiān.
Wǒ dìdì shíqī suì.

例句：一个星期有七天。
我弟弟十七岁。

Example Sentences: One week has seven days. My little brother is seventeen.

Bèizhù: "Qī" zhège zì shì shùcí. Yībān yòngyú biǎoshì shùliàng héshùnxù.

备注：“七”这个字是数词，一般用于表示数量和顺序。

Notes: The character “qi” is a number. Typically it is used to indicate quantity or order.



If you encounter any problems learning Chinese, please send us an email at bizclass@businesstianjin.com We'll do our best to help you. See you next month!

Common Chinese Characters 8 of 2500

Hànzi: Bǔ Bùshǒu: Bǔ
 汉字：卜 部首：卜
 Chinese Character: a surname, to divine
 Radical: to divine
 (the practice of divination)

Cíxìng: Zhōngxìngcí / míngcí / dòngcí

词性：中性词/名词/动词

Word Type: neutral/noun/verb

Dāpèi: Luóbo, zhānbǔ

搭配：萝卜，占卜

Combinations: radish, to divine (the practice or divination)

Lìjù: Zhège luóbo hěnhǎo chī.
Zhōngguó gǔdài yòng guī ké zhānbǔ.

例句：这个萝卜很好吃。
中国古代用龟壳占卜。

Example Sentences: This radish is delicious.
In ancient China turtle shells were used to practice divination.

Bèizhù: "Bǔ" zhège zì yǒu liǎng ge yīn "bo" "bu", jìshì míngcí yě shì dòngcí.

备注：“卜”这个字有两个音，既是名词也是动词。

Notes: The character “bu” has two pronunciations “bo” and “bu”. It is used as a noun and verb.

Common Chinese Characters 10 of 2500

Hànzi: Rén Bùshǒu: Rén
 汉字：人 部首：人
 Chinese Character: person Radical: person

Cíxìng: Zhōngxìngcí / míngcí

词性：中性词/名词

Word Type: neutral word/noun

Dāpèi: Nǚrén, jiārén, Zhōngguórén

搭配：女人，家人，中国人

Combinations: woman, family (member), Chinese (person)

Lìjù: Tā shì 1 ge piàoliang de nǚrén.
Wǒ ài wǒ de jiārén. Tā shì Zhōngguórén.

例句：她是个漂亮的女人。我爱我的家人。
她是中国人。

Example Sentences: She is a beautiful woman.
I love my family. She is Chinese.

Bèizhù: "Rén" zhège zì shì chángyòng zì, yībān yòngyú biǎoshì gè zhǒng gēn rén yǒuguān de cí.

备注：“人”这个字是常用字，一般用于表示各种跟人有关的词。

Notes: The character “ren” is frequently used. Typically it is used with a variety of words related to people.

Common Chinese Characters 9 of 2500

Hànzi: Bā Bùshǒu: Bā
 汉字：八 部首：八
 Chinese Character: eight Radical: one

Cíxìng: Zhōngxìngcí / shùcí

词性：中性词/数词

Word Type: neutral word/number

Dāpèi: Bā ge, bānián

搭配：八个，八年

Combinations: eight, eight years

Lìjù: Wǒ chīle bā ge jiǎozi.
Tā lái Zhōngguó bānián le.

例句：我吃了八个饺子。
他来中国八年了。

Example Sentences: I ate eight dumplings.
He has been in China for eight years.

Bèizhù: "Bā" zhège zì shì shùcí, yībān tā yòngyú biǎoshì shùliàng héshùnxù.

备注：“八”这个字是数词，一般它用于表示数量和顺序。

Notes: The character “ba” is a number. Typically it is used to indicate quantity and order.



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Chinese

China Station

A: 2F, Radisson Plaza Hotel Tianjin No. 66, Xinkai Lu, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2457 8888
 中国站
 河东区新开路66号天津天诚丽笙世嘉酒店2层

Fortune Restaurant

A: 2F, Crowne Plaza Tianjin Binhai No. 55, Zhongxin Da Dao Airport Industrial Park
T: +86 22 5867 8888 ext. 2355
 富淳中餐厅
 空港物流加工区中心大道55号天津滨海圣光皇冠假日酒店2层



Qing Wang Fu

A: No. 55, Chongqing Road Heping District
T: +86 22 8713 5555
 +86 22 5835 2555
E: info@qingwangfu.com
W: qingwangfu.com
 庆王府
 和平区重庆道55号

Riverside Chinese Restaurant

A: 3F, Holiday Inn Tianjin Riverside Phoenix Shopping Mall East Haihe Road, Hebei District
T: +86 22 2627 8888 ext. 2211
 海河轩中餐厅
 河北区海河东路凤凰商贸广场天津海河假日酒店3楼

Tao Li Chinese Restaurant

A: 6F, Hotel Nikko Tianjin No. 189, Nanjing Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 8319 8888 ext. 3561
 桃李中餐厅
 和平区南京路189号天津日航酒店6层

Tian Tai Xuan

A: 1st and 2nd Floor, The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin, No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping District, Tianjin
T: +86 22 5809 5098
 天泰轩中餐厅
 和平区大沽北路167号天津丽思卡尔顿酒店一楼和二楼

Japanese

Benkay Japanese Dining

A: 5F, Hotel Nikko Tianjin, No. 189 Nanjing Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 8319 8888 ext. 3558
 和平区南京路189号天津日航酒店5层
 弁慶日本料理餐厅

Café Vista

A: 1F, Wanda Vista Tianjin, 486 Bahao Road, Da Zhi Gu, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2462 6888
 美食汇全日餐厅
 河东区大直沽八号路486号天津万达文华酒店一层

Kasumi

A: 1F, Crowne Plaza Tianjin Binhai No. 55, Zhongxin Da Dao Airport Industrial Park
T: +86 22 5867 8888 ext. 2322
 露日式料理
 空港物流加工区中心大道55号天津滨海圣光皇冠假日酒店1层

Kushi Grill

A: 2F, Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Tianjin No. 66, Xinkai Lu, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2457 8888
 串烧
 河东区新开路66号天津天诚丽笙世嘉酒店2层

Seasonal Tastes

A: 1F, 101 Nanjing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 2389 0168
 知味全日餐厅
 和平区南京路101号一层

Seitara

A: Sheraton Hotel Tianjin Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi District
T: +86 22 2731 0909
 清太郎日本料理
 河西区紫金山路喜来登大酒店

SóU

A: 49F, Tangla Hotel Tianjin, No.219 Nanjing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 2321 5888 ext.5106
 思创
 南京路219号天津唐拉雅秀酒店49楼

Thai

YY Beer House

(Behind International Building)
A: No. 3, Aomen Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 2339 9634
 粤园泰餐厅
 和平区澳门路3号(国际大厦后侧)

Western

Café@66

A: 1F, Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Tianjin No. 66, Xinkai Lu, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2457 8888
 咖啡66
 河东区新开路66号天津天诚丽笙世嘉酒店1层

Churchill Wine & Cigar Bar

A: 1F, Wanda Vista Tianjin, 486 Bahao Road, Da Zhi Gu, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2462 6888
 丘吉尔红酒雪茄吧
 河东区大直沽八号路486号天津万达文华酒店一层



Aulare Latin Restaurant

A: Magnetic Plaza, Building A4 2-16, Binshui Xi Dao Nankai District
T: +86 187 2229 0691
E: tianjin@aulare.com
 艾伊莎贝西餐厅
 南开区滨水道时代奥城A4座2-16号



Texas BBQ Saloon

A: Units 115 and 128, Central Avenue, Building C7, Magnetic Plaza, Nankai District
T: +86 22 8713 5555
 +86 182 0258 9904 (English)
 +86 182 0258 9924 (Chinese)
 德克萨斯风味烧烤西餐厅酒吧
 南开区奥城商业广场C7座115-128

Prego Italian Restaurant

A: 3F, 101 Nanjing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 2389 0173
 Prego意大利餐厅
 和平区南京路101号三层

Qba - Latin Bar & Grill

A: 2F, 101 Nanjing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 2389 0171
 Q吧 - 拉丁酒吧&烧烤
 和平区南京路101号二层



Bistro Thonet

A: No.55 Chongqing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 8713 5555
E: info@qingwangfu.com
W: qingwangfu.com
 庭悦咖啡
 和平区重庆道55号庆王府院内



Brasserie Flo Tianjin

A: No.37, Guangfu Road Italian Style Town, Hebei District
T: +86 22 2662 6688
 福楼
 河北区意大利风情区光复道37号

1863 Bistro & Terrace

A: 1F Astor Wing, The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin No. 33, Tai'er Zhuang Lu Heping District
T: +86 22 2331 1688 ext. 8918
 1863别致西餐厅&花园
 利顺德翼, 和平区台儿庄路33号天津利顺德大饭店豪华精选酒店一层

Café Majestic

A: 1F Haihe Wing, The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin No. 33, Tai'er Zhuang Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 2331 1688 ext. 8910
 凯旋咖啡厅
 海河翼, 和平区台儿庄路33号天津利顺德大饭店豪华精选酒店一层

Café Venice

A: 2F, Holiday Inn Tianjin Riverside Phoenix Shopping Mall East Haihe Road, Hebei District
T: +86 22 2627 8888 ext. 2271
 威尼斯咖啡厅
 河北区海河东路凤凰商贸广场天津海河假日酒店2楼

Glass House

Hyatt Regency Jing Jin City Resort & Spa
A: No. 8, Zhuijiang Da Dao Zhouliang Zhuang, Baodi District
T: +86 22 5921 1234
 水晶厨房
 宝坻区周良庄珠江大道8号京津新城凯悦酒店

Pan Shan Grill & Wine

A: 2F, Main Building Sheraton Hotel Tianjin Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi District
T: +86 22 2731 3388 ext.1820
 盘山葡萄酒扒房
 紫金山路天津喜来登大酒店主楼2层

Promenade Restaurant

A: 1F, The St. Regis Tianjin No. 158, Zhang Zizhong Road Heping District
T: +86 22 5830 9959
 河岸国际餐厅
 和平区张自忠路158号天津瑞吉金融街酒店一层(津塔旁, 哈密道正对面)



DINING



Spectrum All-Day Dining

A: 7F, Hotel Nikko Tianjin No. 189, Nanjing Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 8319 8888 ext. 3570
 彩西餐厅
 南京路189号天津日航酒店7层



Mighty Deli (South Park Store)

A: No. 85-87, Shuishang Gongyuan West RD, Nankai, Tianjin (opposite to Nancuijing Park) 南开区水上公园西路85-87号南翠屏公园对面
T: +86 22 8783 9683 (Somerset Store)
A: 5F, Somerest Youyi, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi District
 天津市河西区平江道盛捷服务公寓5层
T: +86 22 2810 7747

Zest

A: 1st Floor, The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin, No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping District, Tianjin
T: +86 22 5809 5109
 香溢 - 全日餐厅
 和平区大沽北路167号天津丽思卡尔顿酒店一楼



Inasia Restaurant

(Olympic Stadium Store)
A: 4F, A-Hotel, Olympics Gym, Nankai District, Tianjin 天津市南开区水滴体育馆A-Hotel四楼
T: +86 22 2382 1666/2233 (Somerset Store)
A: 5F, Somerest Youyi, Pingjiang Dao, Hexi District 天津市河西区平江道盛捷服务公寓5层
T: +86 22 2810 7992

Bars

China Bleu

A: 50F, Tangla Hotel Tianjin, No. 219 Nanjing Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 2321 5888
 中国蓝酒吧
 南京路219号天津唐拉雅秀酒店50层

O'Hara's

A: Astor Wing, The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin No. 33, Tai'er Zhuang Lu Heping District
T: +86 22 2331 1688 ext. 8919
 海维林酒吧
 利顺德翼, 和平区台儿庄路33号天津利顺德大饭店豪华精选酒店一层

The St. Regis Bar

A: 1F, The St. Regis Tianjin, No. 158 Zhang Zizhong Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 5830 9958
 瑞吉酒吧
 和平区张自忠路158号天津瑞吉金融街酒店一层
 (津塔旁, 哈密道正对面)

Purple Bar

A: 2F, Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Tianjin 66 Xinkai Road, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2457 8888 - 3278
 葡吧
 河东区新开路66号天津天诚丽笙世嘉酒店2层

Flair

A: 1st Floor, The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin, No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping District, Tianjin
T: +86 22 5809 5099
 Flair酒吧
 中国天津市和平区大沽北路167号天津丽思卡尔顿酒店一楼

Education



University of Maryland Robert H. Smith School of Business China Leadership EMBA Program

A: 2505-A CITIC Building, 19 Jianguomenwai Street Beijing
T: +86 10 6500 3930
E: Beijing@rhsmith.umd.edu
W: rhsmith-umd.cn
 马里兰大学史密斯商学院中国领导力EMBA项目
 北京市朝阳区建国门外大街19号国际大厦2505-A

SERVICES

Event Planning



InterMediaChina is Tianjin's premiere event planning company. We will pinpoint the features that can make your event a success and ensure that your target audience is reached through superb advertising and promotion. Also arrange the following:
 • Budgeting
 • Selecting and reserving the event site
 • Transportation and parking
 To set up an event with InterMediaChina, please send e-mail to gm@intermediachina.com

Catering Solutions



Flo Prestige
A: No.37, Guangfu Road Italian Style Town, Hebei District
T: +86 22 2662 6688
 福楼外宴策划
 河北区意大利风情区光复道37号

Hotels & Apartments

★★★★ Hotels



Jeff's House Kindergarten
 Welcome to my house. We will play, learn and grow together. We are a family. We and our parents will all be the masters.
A: No. 77, Munan Dao, Heping District
T: +86 22 2331 0236/0636
W: jeffhouse.net
 杰夫幼稚园
 和平区睦南道77号(近河北路)

International Schools

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF TIANJIN
 Working Learning Acting TOGETHER
International School of Tianjin
A: Weishan Lu, Jinnan District
T: +86 22 2859 2001
 国际学校天津分校
 津南区津南微山路



Hanbridge Education
A: C4-308/309, Magnetic Capital International Office Building
T: +86 22 5837 5737
 汉桥教育
 奥城国际写字楼C4-308/309



Tianjin International School
A: No.4-1, Sishui Dao, Hexi District
T: +86 22 8371 0900 ext. 311
 天津国际学校
 河西区泗水道4号增1



Wellington College International Tianjin
A: No. 1, Yide Dao, Hongqiao District
T: +86 22 8758 7199 ext. 8001
Mobile: +86 187 2248 7836
E: admissions@wellington-tianjin.cn
W: wellington-tianjin.cn
 天津惠灵顿国际学校
 红桥区义德道1号



Banyan Tree Tianjin Riverside
A: No. 34, Haihe Dong Lu, Hebei District
T: +86 22 5883 7848
www.banyantree.com
 天津海河悦榕庄
 河北区海河东路34号



Hotel Indigo Tianjin Haihe
A: No.314 Jiefang South Road, Hexi District, 300202, Tianjin
T: +86 22 8832 8888
F: +86 22 8832 6868
 天津海河英迪格酒店
 中国天津市河西区解放南路314号

SERVICES



Holiday Inn Tianjin Riverside
A: Phoenix Shopping Mall
 Haihe Dong Lu, Hebei District
T: +86 22 2627 8888
 天津海河假日酒店
 河北区海河东路凤凰商贸广场

Hyatt Regency Jing Jin City Resort & Spa
A: No. 8, Zhujiang Da Dao
 Zhouliang Zhuang, Baodi District
T: +86 22 5921 1234
 京津新城凯悦酒店
 宝坻区周良庄珠江大道8号



Hotel Nikko Tianjin
A: No. 189, Nanjing Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 8319 8888
 天津日航酒店
 和平区南京路189号



Radisson Blu Plaza Hotel Tianjin
A: No. 66, Xinkai Lu, Hedong District
T: +86 22 2457 8888
 天津天诚丽笙世嘉酒店
 河东区新开路66号



Tangla Hotel Tianjin
A: No. 219, Nanjing Lu, Heping District
T: +86 22 2321 5888
 天津唐拉雅秀酒店
 和平区南京路219号



Yi Boutique Luxury Hotel Tianjin
A: No. 52-54, Min Zu Road, Hebei District
T: +86 22 2445 5511
 天津易精品奢华酒店
 河北区民族路52-54号



Renaissance Tianjin Lakeview Hotel
A: No. 16, Binshui Dao, Hexi District
T: +86 22 5822 3388
 万丽天津宾馆
 河西区滨水道16号



Sheraton Tianjin Hotel
A: Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi District
T: +86 22 2731 3388
 天津喜来登大酒店河西区紫金山路



The St. Regis Tianjin
A: No. 158, Zhangzizhong Road
 Heping District
T: +86 22 5830 9999
 天津瑞吉金融街酒店
 和平区张自忠路158号
 (津塔旁, 哈密道正对面)



The Astor Hotel, A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin
A: No. 33, Tai'er Zhuang Lu,
 Heping District
T: +86 22 2331 1688
 天津利顺德大饭店豪华精选酒店
 和平区台儿庄路33号



The Westin Tianjin
A: 101 Nanjing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 2389 0088
W: westin.com/tianjin
 天津君隆威斯汀酒店
 和平区南京路101号



The Ritz-Carlton, Tianjin
A: No. 167 Dagubei Road, Heping
 District, Tianjin
T: +86 22 5857 8888
 天津丽思卡尔顿酒店
 和平区大沽北路167号

Apartments

Astor Apartment
A: No. 32, Tai'er Zhuang Lu
 Heping District
T: +86 22 2303 2888
 利顺德公寓
 和平区台儿庄路32号



Ariva Tianjin Binhai Serviced Apartment
A: No. 35 Zi Jin Shan Road, Hexi District
T: +86 22 5856 8000
F: +86 22 5856 8008
W: www.stayariva.com
 滨海·艾丽华服务公寓
 天津市河西区紫金山路35号

Sheraton Apartment
A: Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi District
T: +86 22 2731 3388
 喜来登公寓
 河西区紫金山路



Qing Wang Fu Club Suites & Serviced Residences
A: No. 55 Hongqing Road,
 Heping District
T: +86 22 8713 5555
E: info@qingwangfu.com
W: qingwangfu.com
 庆王府公馆
 和平区重庆道55号



Somerset International Building Tianjin
A: No. 75, Nanjing Lu
 Heping District
T: +86 22 2330 6666
 天津盛捷国际大厦服务公寓
 和平区南京路75号

Somerset Olympic Tower Tianjin
A: No. 126, Chengdu Dao
 Heping District
T: +86 22 2335 5888
 天津盛捷奥林匹克大厦服务公寓
 和平区成都道126号

Somerset Youyi Tianjin
A: No. 35, Youyi Lu, Hexi District
T: +86 22 2810 7888
 天津盛捷友谊服务公寓
 河西区友谊路35号

Wanda Vista Tianjin
A: 486 Bahao Road, Da Zhi Gu,
 Hedong District, Tianjin 300170
T: +86 22 2462 6888
F: +86 22 2462 7000
 天津万达文华酒店
 中国天津市河东区大直沽八号路
 486号



The Lakeview, Tianjin-Marriott Executive Apartments
A: No. 16, Binshui Dao, Hexi District
T: +86 22 5822 3322
 天津万豪行政公寓
 河西区滨水道16号

Logistics

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- Customs clearance
- Inspection and quarantine declaration
- Warehousing in bonded zones

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Promotional Products

PROMOTIANJIN is a traditional promotional products agency serving major corporations and non-profit agencies since 1998. Based in Tianjin, it has been actively serving accounts in financial services, health care, media, non-profit, advertising, cultural affairs and home and industrial furnishings fields. Main clients are organisations of all sizes throughout China and abroad. For further details, please send e-mail to gm@promotianjin.com

Real Estate



CBRE Tianjin
A: 42F, Units 12 & 13, Tianjin World Financial Centre Office Tower, No. 2 Dagubei Road, Heping District.
T: +86 22 5832 0188
W: cbr.com.cn
 世邦魏理仕天津分公司和平区大沽北路2号天津环球金融中心津塔写字楼42层12-13单元

SERVICES



Jones Lang LaSalle
A: Unit 3509, The Exchange Mall
 Tower 1, No.189 Nanjing Road,
 Heping District.
T: +86 22 8319 2233
W: joneslanglasalle.com.cn
 仲量联行天津分公司
 天津市和平区南京路189号津汇广场1座3509室

Rentals



CAR/BUS Rental Services in Tianjin and Beijing with reasonable rates.
 To make a reservation or enquiry, please send e-mail to info@chinabustravel.com
T: +86 135 0207 0987

Serviced Office



The Executive Centre
 Asia-Pacific's Premium Serviced Office Provider
A: 41F, Tianjin World Financial Center
 2 Dagubei Road, Heping District
 Tianjin
T: +86 22 2318 5111
W: executivecentre.com
 天津德事商务中心
 和平区大沽北路2号天津环球金融中心津塔写字楼41层



Regus Tianjin Centre
A: 8th Tianjin Centre, No.219 Nanjing Road, Heping District
T: +86 22 2317 0333
Regus Golden Valley Centre
A: 11th Floor, Block One, Golden Valley Centre, Heping District
T: +86 22 5890 5188
W: www.regus.cn
 雷格斯天津中心
 和平区南京路219号天津中心8层
 雷格斯金谷大厦中心
 和平区金之谷大厦一号楼11层

HEALTH



Tianjin United Family Hospital
A: No.22, Tianxiao Yuan
 Tanjiang Dao, Hexi District
T: +86 22 5856 8500 (Reception)
 24 Hour Emergency:
T: +86 22 5856 8555
W: ufh.com.cn
 天津和睦家医院
 河西区潭江道天潇园22号

Travel Agencies



Tianjin's travel agency specialising in tourism for foreigners
T: +86 159 2200 0555
E: info@thestarstravel.com

Spas

Green Bamboo Well Being Resort
A: 6-17, bldg. 17, Magnetic Capital
 Binshui Xi Dao, Nankai District
T: +86 22 8378 8397 (English)
 +86 136 0205 9458 (Attn: Elsa)
 青竹堂足疗养生馆
 时代奥城商业广场17座6层17号

Hospitals



Tianjin International SOS Clinic
A: 1F, Sheraton Hotel,
 Zi Jin Shan Lu, Hexi District
T: +86 22 2352 0143
 天津国际 (SOS) 紧急救援诊所
 紫金山路天津喜来登大酒店公寓楼1层

Gyms

Astor Fitness & Health Club
A: 3F, Haihe Wing, The Astor Hotel,
 A Luxury Collection Hotel, Tianjin
 No. 33, Tai'er Zhuang Lu Heping District
T: +86 22 2331 1688 ext. 8876
 利顺德健身俱乐部
 海河翼, 和平区台儿庄路33号天津利顺德大饭店豪华精选酒店三层

Powerhouse Gym
A: Binjiang Shopping Center, Kaifeng Dao, Xiao Bai Lou (1902 Street)
 Hexi District
T: +86 22 2302 2008
 宝力豪健身俱乐部
 河西区小白楼滨江购物中心



DINING

TEDA & TANGGU

Brazilian

Salsa Churrasco

A: 11F, Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin
No. 86, 1st Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6628 3388 ext. 2740
巴西烧烤餐厅
开发区第一大街86号天津滨海假日酒店11层

Chinese

Wan Li Chinese Restaurant

A: 2F, Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Hotel & Convention Centre
No. 29, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6621 8888 ext. 6750
万丽轩中餐厅
开发区第二大街29号天津万丽泰达酒店及会议中心2层

Yue Chinese Restaurant

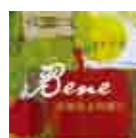
A: 2F, Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel
No. 50, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6528 8888 ext. 6220/6222
采悦轩中餐厅
开发区第二大街50号天津滨海喜来登酒店2层

Japanese

Sake n Sushi Bar

A: 11F, Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin
No. 86, 1st Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6628 3388 ext. 2730
寿司吧
开发区第一大街86号天津滨海假日酒店11层

Italian



Bene Italian Kitchen

A: 2F, Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel
No. 50, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6528 8888 ext. 6230/6232
班妮意大利餐厅
开发区第二大街50号天津滨海喜来登酒店2层

Western

Brasserie Restaurant

A: Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Hotel & Convention Centre
No. 29, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6621 8888 ext. 3711
万丽西餐厅
开发区第二大街29号天津万丽泰达酒店及会议中心



Feast All Day Dining Restaurant

A: 1F, Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel
No. 50, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6528 8888 ext. 6210
盛宴全日西餐厅
开发区第二大街50号天津滨海喜来登酒店1层

BARS



Happy Soho Live Music & Dance BAR

(Opposite of Central Hotel)
A: No. 16, Fortune Plaza, Third Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 2532 2078
欢乐苏荷酒吧
开发区第三大街财富星座16号(中心酒店对面)

Education



GEMS World Academy Tianjin Eco City, China

A: No. 312, Hefeng Road, Tianjin ECO-City, Binhai New Area
T: +86 22 6622 7888
天津杰美国际学校
滨海新区天津生态城和风路312号



TEDA International School

A: No. 72, 3rd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6622 6158
泰达国际学校
开发区第三大街72号



Tianjin TEDA Maple Leaf International School

A: No. 71, 3rd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6200 1920
天津泰达枫叶国际学校
开发区第三大街71号

SERVICES

Hotels

Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin
A: No. 86, 1st Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6628 3388
天津滨海假日酒店
开发区第一大街86号



Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Convention Centre Hotel

A: No. 29, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6621 8888
天津万丽泰达酒店及会议中心
开发区第二大街29号



Sheraton Tianjin Binhai Hotel

A: No. 50, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6528 8888
F: +86 22 6528 8899
天津滨海喜来登酒店
开发区第二大街50号
<http://sheraton.com/tianjinbinhai>



Crowne Plaza Tianjin Binhai

A: No.55 Zhongxin Avenue Airport Economic Area, Tianjin
T: +86 22 5867 8888
天津滨海圣光皇冠假日酒店
天津市空港经济区中心大道55号

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HEALTH

Spas

Touch Spa

A: 2F, Renaissance Tianjin TEDA Hotel & Convention Centre
No. 29, 2nd Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6570 9504
开发区第二大街29号天津万丽泰达酒店及会议中心

Yue Spa

A: 15F, Holiday Inn Binhai Tianjin
No. 86, 1st Avenue, TEDA
T: +86 22 6628 3388
开发区第一大街86号天津滨海假日酒店15层

Hospitals



Tianjin TEDA International SOS Clinic

A: 102-C2 MSD, No.79 1st Avenue, TEDA, Tianjin
T: +86 22 6537 7616
国际SOS天津泰达诊所
天津经济技术开发区第一大街79号泰达MSD-C区2座102室

Gyms

Eco-City International Country Club

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BULLET (C) TRAIN

TJ ~ BJS (¥55 - ¥66)

Train	Tianjin	Beijing
C2002	06:25	06:55
C2094	22:45	23:15

BJS ~ TJ (¥55 - ¥66)

Train	Beijing	Tianjin
C2001	06:35	07:05
C2093	23:00	23:30

TG ~ BJS (¥66 - ¥80)

Train	Tanggu	Beijing
C2274	12:40	13:10
C2280	20:25	20:55

BJS ~ TG (¥66 - ¥80)

Train	Beijing	Tanggu
C2273	10:45	11:15
C2279	18:50	19:20

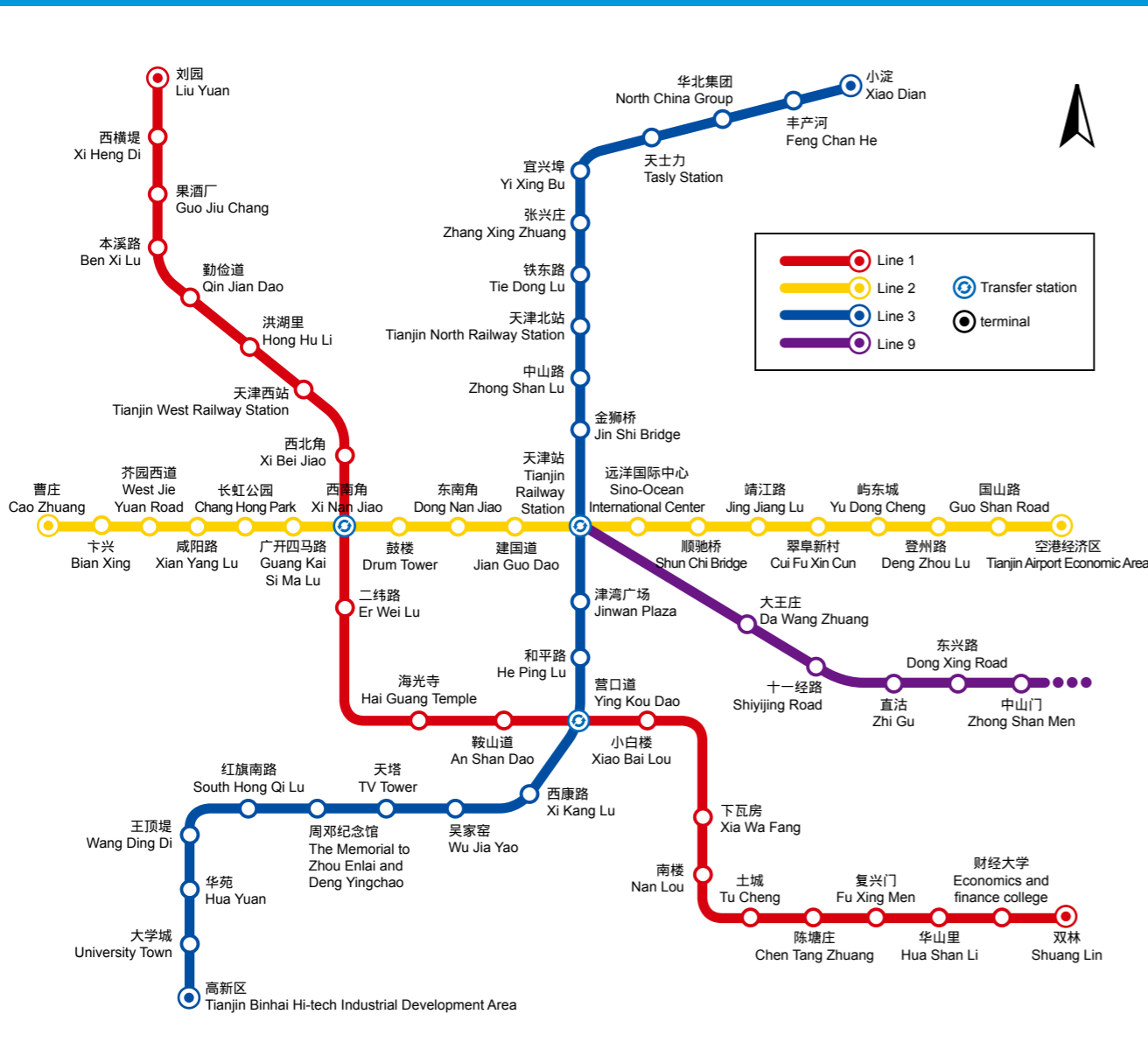
Wuqing ~ BJS (¥39 - ¥46)

Train	Wuqing	Beijing
C2202	06:53	07:18
C2232	20:43	21:08

BJS ~ Wuqing (¥39 - ¥46)

Train	Beijing	Wuqing
C2201	06:45	07:07
C2231	21:15	21:37

TIANJIN SUBWAY



By Sanne Jehoul

Introducing Chinese Authors and Books

Mo Yan



Laureate of the 2012 Nobel Prize in Literature, Mo Yan (real name Guan Moye 管谟业) is one of today's most famous Chinese authors of novels and short stories. He was born a decade before the Cultural Revolution, in 1955, and many of his works are a reflection or reinterpretation of Chinese history, with most famously in the Western world his 1987 novel *Red Sorghum Clan*, which sheds light on different crucial time periods.

Mo Yan comes from a poor farming family in the Shandong province, and he started working as a cattle herder when he was only 11 years old. His talents as a writer were discovered while he was in the People's Liberation Army

after the Cultural Revolution in 1976, but it took until 1981 for his first short story to get published. Other famous works include *Life and Death are Wearing Me Out* and *The Garlic Ballads*, which is based on a true story about farmer riots in his own region. His style often hints at magical realism, always with a historic element in the narrative, and it should come as no surprise that he was influenced by the work of Colombian writer Gabriel García Márquez. The author himself pops up in his stories as a semi-autobiographical character.

When he was awarded the Nobel Prize, he was only the second Chinese author in history to receive it, after Gao Xingjian. However, Mo Yan has evoked much criticism in recent years and the ideas behind his writings have been widely debated, especially after his Nobel Prize win. His critics include many important figures in Chinese arts and literature, such as Ma Jian, Ai Weiwei, and even internationally he's been scrutinized by academics, press, and authors. His books often criticise the Communist Party, through their illustrations of poverty and hardship, but many still find that he is too much 'inside the system,' since Mo Yan is a Party member and vice-chairman of the state-sponsored Chinese Writers Association.



Tianjin Exhibition

Maritime Elegance – Shanghai Painting Collection



After the Opium War in 1840, Shanghai became an important port, responsible for much foreign capital and trade, and the city was constantly expanding. Merchants saw the opportunities for rapid economic development and quickly the city turned into the most important commercial and industrial hub of Mainland China. With culture consumption being increasingly prosperous, the art market developed and flourished, attracting many professional artists to Shanghai. In the late Qing Dynasty, the area was a centre of artist groups gathering for activities. Painters adapted to the emerging commerce and industry and a new taste for painting styles led to the rise of artists such as Zhao Zhijian, Ren Yi, XuGu, and a number of other key figures. The large impact and influence they had on modern and contemporary Chinese paintings is undeniable, and now Tianjin Museum presents a collection of works by these artists through a comprehensive display.

Until 31 December 2014, on Tianjin Museum's 5th floor. Free but ticketed.

www.tjbgw.com

Beijing Exhibition

Gabriel Orozco: Chicotes



In Beijing's Faurischou Foundation Gallery, Mexican artist Gabriel Orozco has installed one of his recent works; a room filled with car tyres. 'Chicotes' is a word referring to parts of exploded car tyres, which is material the artist collected along Mexican roadsides. The texture of the tyre parts are part of what fascinate in this, as their raggedness reminds us of something organic, like roots or bark. For this piece Orozco "arranged the various parts in a neat order, transforming and 'fusing' them into new totalities."

Orozco is famous for his photography and audio-visual work, but also works with sculptures and installations. Found objects make up a large part of his art, as he focuses on the different story each object has to tell about its past.



Until 23 March 2014. Free entry.

www.faurischou.com

Without a Home: Ji Dachun



A collection of old and new work by established Beijing-based artist Ji Dachun, who is known for his surrealism and satire about contemporary Chinese society, sheds light on numerous key moments in the artist's career. A few new works were created for this exhibition, but the art presented by the Ullens Center for Contemporary Art includes about 40 of Ji Dachun's works, all from the past decade. His paintings, which he started exhibiting about 20 years ago, have "alternated between a wry figurative

mode and an aesthetic characterized by abstract quasi-landscapes and still lifes." Common objects and cultural figures are placed against white backgrounds, and "are marked by bizarre visual non-sequitur and juxtapositions, resulting in humorous, otherworldly scenes (...)"

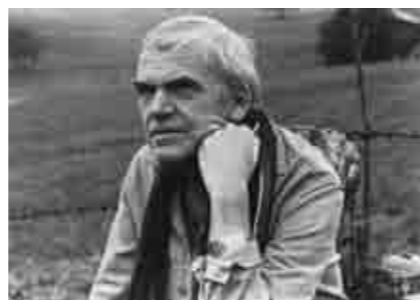
Until 11 May 2014. Nave and Long Gallery. Tickets 10 to 15 CNY.

<http://ucca.org.cn>

Quote of the Month

"Love is the longing for the half of ourselves we have lost."

Novelist Milan Kundera, from *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*



From Countryside to City - China's Great Migration

By Christopher Ribiero



In what is regarded as the largest peacetime human migration in history, the Chinese government has embarked on a mission to move 250 million rural citizens to the cities by the year 2025. The plan is expected to reshape the future of the Chinese economy over the next century.

China is no stranger to carrying out ambitious social programs, but to merely call the plan ambitious is a drastic understatement – the expected cost is USD 600 billion per year for the next twelve years and the challenges involved in integrating these people into city life are vast.

By sometime around 2025, China's urban population is expected to swell from about 650 million to over 900 million – this means that roughly

one of every ten people in the entire world will live in a Chinese city. To further put this into perspective, China's urban population at the time of "Reform and Opening" was about 178 million - this translates into a 500% increase in roughly 50 years. This is no small feat, especially considering the overall size of the population and the depths of poverty from which some of these people are coming from.

But the Chinese government is optimistic that these new city dwellers will be the driving force behind transitioning their economy away from manufacturing towards one propelled by consumer spending. It's believed that a citizen's earning and spending power triples when they move from the countryside to the

city, not to mention the proposed increase in tax revenues to the local and central governments.

Theoretically, each new resident moving into the city will use their increased earnings to buy clothes, cosmetics, furniture, consumer electronics and household appliances. This "army" of consumers is expected to increase China's GDP fivefold by 2030.

Meanwhile, as the population is relocated, large swaths of countryside are being levelled in favour of these urban centres. According to *Industry Leader Magazine*, China aims to have about 220 cities of at least one million people by 2025 – now, there are just over a hundred. This means big investment in infrastructure

Last Word

and construction which will help to provide new jobs for the migrant workforce and further support robust economic development.

But when policy wonks and economists describe the plan, it's rare to hear them talk about the human element. Ian Johnson of the New York Times quotes Li Xiangyang, vice director of the Institute of World Economics and Politics as saying, "If half of China's population starts consuming, growth is inevitable. Right now they are living in rural areas where they do not consume."

However, for people that live in the countryside, a transition to city life may not be ideal. Many of these people have little to no education and skills which may not be useful in the city, not to mention the fact that they are losing land that may have been held by their family for decades and is an important part of their cultural heritage.

As Party officials dream of soaring revenues and talk about a better quality of life for Chinese citizens, there remain sceptics who feel there may be unexpected consequences if the plan isn't carried out carefully. Behind the sunny economic forecasts and idealistic visions could lay bleak consequences for millions of people. Similar plans in Mexico and Brazil have yielded disastrous results. Instead of reaping the benefits of a larger middle-class, the governments of those respective countries are coping with a giant underclass with millions of people living in slums with no prospects for sustained employment.

China already has over 200 million migrant workers – people that have left their hometown and are often working in factories in one of China's many industrial coastal cities. These people often endure difficult circumstances, leaving their families behind to live in cramped quarters with no access to public services such as health care and schooling for their children.

There are Party members that are acutely aware of risks involved in the plan, but most recognise the migration phenomenon has been underway for some time, and in fact the "forced" relocation is actually just speeding the process along.

The fear is that mounting costs could eventually cause the money to run out. Subsidizing housing, healthcare, education and pensions for nearly 300 million people is a tall order.

They maintain that with assistance from the government to help them integrate into the cities, these folks will more easily transition into modern society and will eventually get to enjoy the benefits of the social safety net. For example, government subsidies are being offered to migrants in the form of cash and free apartments. There has also been experimentation with a revenue share program. This would give these new urban dwellers "shares" of profits generated by their former property and could give them a sustained revenue stream.


The fear is that mounting costs could eventually cause the money to run out. Subsidizing housing, healthcare, education and pensions for nearly 300 million people is a tall order. When this is put alongside China's already aging population and shrinking tax base, one can see why there's reason to worry.

To further complicate matters, the CCP must grapple with the challenges of city planning, namely transportation infrastructure, land and resource management and developing a sustainable energy grid.

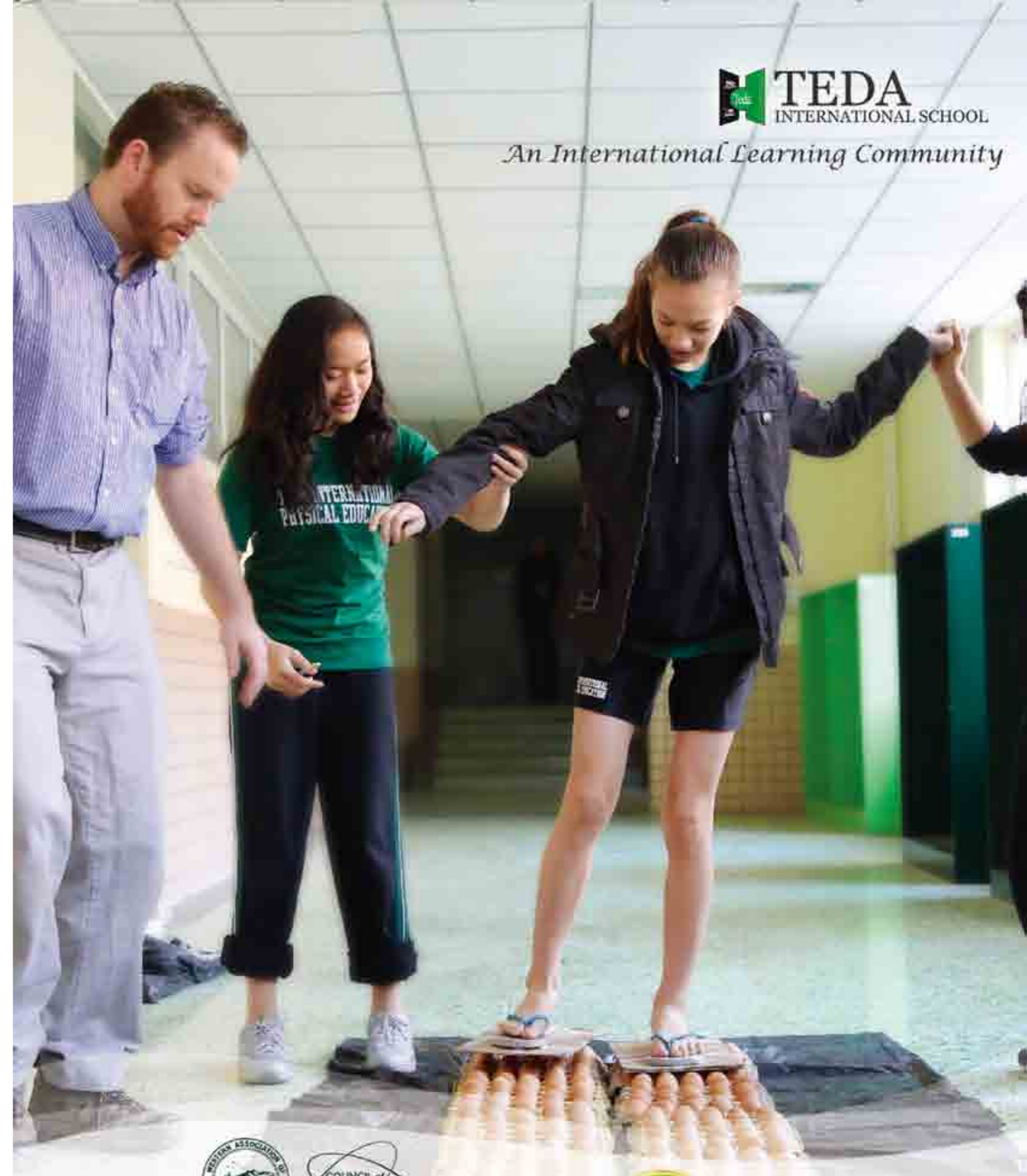
The mega-cities of the Chinese coast are known for overcrowding, poor city planning and pollution. The government is looking at innovative ways to solve these problems and is quickly leading the way in the development of eco-friendly, "green cities". Massive investments in renewable energy sources such as solar and wind underscore China's commitment to these plans, as new ways to power these new cities will be necessary.

In an article titled "New Urbanism Takes Root in China", Green Source magazine writer Lydia W. Lee spoke with California architect Peter Calthorpe. He says, "You have to recalibrate your brain when you work in China. It's not like the U.S., where we take tiny little steps in redevelopment and then fight over them for the next 10 years. In China, you'll see cities designed for one and two million people built from scratch in a few years. The question is: how do you turn that activity into something benign?"

When a city doesn't develop organically the concern is that intangible elements such as culture and character will be left behind. Designers aim to combat this by developing city grids that will be friendly to foot-traffic, thus allowing small businesses such as markets and restaurants to thrive.

As China forges ahead one can only hope that this plan yields the intended results. Will these people be the engine that drives China's economy for decades to come or will we see millions of people fall through the cracks? The answers to these questions are uncertain but the world will be watching closely. As the Middle Kingdom undertakes this massive task, its results -good or bad - will certainly have a ripple effect across the globe. 


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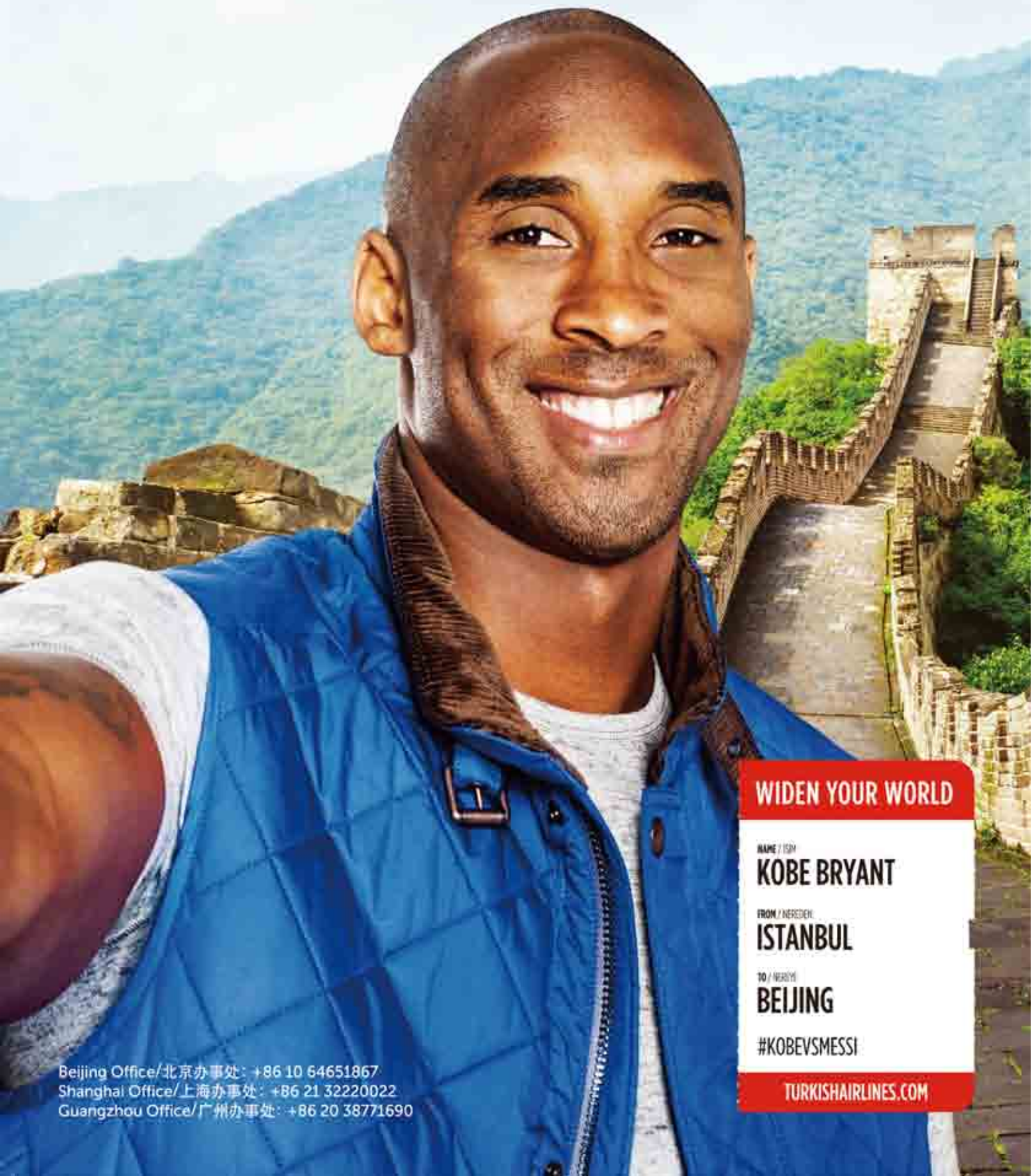



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