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INAUGURAL AAMA-TEX VIETNAM SHOWCASE GETS AFTEX ENDORSEMENT

Ho Chi Minh City, 8 September 2008 - AAMA-TEX Vietnam 2008, the Vietnam Apparel Machinery and Accessories Exhibition incorporating Textile Machinery & Accessories has received strong support from the regional textile and garment industry.

To be held from 29 to 31 October 2008 at the Ho Chi Minh Exhibition and Convention Centre (HIECC), the exhibition has the endorsement of the ASEAN Federation of Textile Industries (AFTEX).

With this support, AAMA-TEX Vietnam will be assured of support from member associations within AFTEX. The associations include the following:-

- Vietnam Textile and Apparel Association
- Garment Manufacturers Association of Cambodia
- Lao Textile and Garment Industry Group
- Thai Textile Manufacturing Association
- Confederation of Garment Exporters of the Philippines
- Malaysian Textile Manufacturers Association
- Textile and Fashion Federation (Singapore)
- Indonesian Textile Association

AFTEX member associations have been invited to organise visitor delegations from the respective countries to the show.

Said Mr Cheah Wai Hong, Project Director of AAMA-TEX Vietnam 2008, "The endorsement of AFTEX for the show is significant as the federation will facilitate our efforts to reach out to our target visitors not only within Vietnam but also those in Cambodia, Laos and Thailand."

The exhibition also has strong endorsement from the Sewing Machine Traders Association Singapore. It also has the support of the China Sewing Machinery Association and VDMA German Garment and Leather Technology Association.

Organised for the garment industry in Indochina, AAMA-TEX Vietnam 2008 is expected to attract some 120 companies from 15 countries and regions to exhibit at the inaugural event. The exhibition will showcase a wide range technologies, systems, machinery, equipment and accessories used in the manufacturing and production of garments and textiles.

Among the leading brands to be showcased at the exhibition are Babylock, Barudan, Brother, Feiyue, Highlead, Kingtex, Lectra Systeme, Mitsuyin, Pfaff, Protex, Richpeace, Sprayway, Tajima, VIBEMAC, Zoje and ZSK.

Trade visitors will include importers and exporters of garment and textile machinery, garment and textile manufacturers, dealers of garment and textile accessories, distributors and agents of garment and textile machinery accessories, trade associations and consultancy firms.

According to the organiser, Pico Event Management Pte Ltd, the show will draw regional interest as Vietnam and Cambodia remain major garment exporters to the United States and the European Union, the two most lucrative garment markets in the world.

In Cambodia alone, 75 per cent of its total exports are ready-made garments. In fact, Vietnam has now surpassed India as the second largest garment exporter to the US after China, based on the latest figures released by the US Department of Commerce.

In a press conference on 7 July 2008, Mr Le Quoc An, the Chairman of VITAS and current Chairman of AFTEX, said that the garment sector in Vietnam secured US\$4.2 billion as turnover in the first half of 2008, representing a 20 per cent increase year on year. Mr An added that since Vietnam had already inked many contracts with importers, it would not be difficult for Vietnam to meet the remaining export target of US\$5.3 billion in the second half of 2008.

To register to visit AAMA-TEX Vietnam or more information, please log on to:

www.aamatextvietnam.com

About AAMA-TEX

The AAMA-TEX trademark is owned by the Sewing Machine Traders Association (Singapore). AAMA-TEX, the triennial trade show in Singapore was last held in Singapore in March 2007. Since its modest beginnings in 1989, AAMA-TEX has grown to be the largest event of its kind in South and Southeast Asia in 2004 and 2007, taking up 15,000 square metres of space.

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