



FLANDERS-CHINA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
VLAAMS-CHINESE KAMER VAN KOOPHANDEL

NEWSLETTER | 31 AUGUST 2015

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FCCC ACTIVITIES

Sino-European Entrepreneurs Summit – September 7-9, 2015 – Paris

The Sino-European Entrepreneurs Summit (SEES) is a high-level, efficient, and international exchange platform for entrepreneurs. This platform is mainly to promote commercial ethics, social responsibilities and professional knowledge, where Chinese entrepreneurs can also present their new images. SEES is presented to excellent entrepreneurs in capital cities in Europe as a large annual conference, on which the entrepreneurs may discuss major global topics and establish cooperation. The Summit is coming a driving force in speeding up the process of Chinese enterprises' going global, boosting real economy, building internationally recognized brands, rejuvenating the Chinese nation and other key national strategies.

SEES 2015 is the first international conference in which Mr Wang Yanzhi, President of China New Silk Road Fund, will deliver a speech regarding the “one belt, one road” policy and introduce the investment strategy for the new USD40 billion government fund. SEES 2015 is the first international conference which will see initiators and experts of the aforementioned “one belt, one road” policy provide their insight to the application of the new China-Europe cooperation policy. SEES 2015 is bringing to your doorstep the Chairman of the largest Chinese private real estate developer – Vanke Group, President of the largest milk producer – Yili Group, President of the largest beverage group – Huiyuan Group and key Chinese companies including Beijing Capital Group, Fosun Group, Lenovo, Beijing Construction Engineering Group, Financial Street Holding, and many more.

6th September 2015, Sunday

20:00-22:00 Welcome cocktail, guests arrival, Intercontinental Paris Le Grand

7th September 2015, Monday, Day 1

Location: Maison de la Mutualité, 24 Rue Saint-Victor 75005 Paris

08:00 – 09:00 h. Registration and welcome

09:00 – 09:30 h. Opening speeches by Long Yongtu, Jean-Pierre Raffarin, Wu Jianmin and Gao Yuanyuan

09:30 – 10:30 h. Theme 1: WTO and “One Belt, One Road”

10:30 – 11:00 h. Application of “One Belt One Road” Policy on corporate strategy and international cooperation

11:00 – 11:30 h. Coffee break

11:30 – 12:30 h. Theme 2: Manufacturing – transition and upgrade (including a speech by

Mr Bert De Graeve, Chairman of the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce and Chairman of Bekaert)

12:30 – 14:00 h. Lunch break

14:00 – 14:30 h. Theme 3: Round-table conference of international financial investment experts

14:30 – 15:30 h. Subject discussion

15:30 – 16:00 h. Coffee break

16:00 – 17:30 h. Theme 4: Lasting success of Family business (including a speech by Lord Sassoon, President of the EU-China Business Association)

19:00 – 21:00 h. SEES Welcome cocktail

8th September 2015, Tuesday, Day 2

08:30 – 9:00 h. Welcome coffee

09:00 – 10:15 h. Keynote speeches by Gordon Brown (pending), Liu Mingkang, Moulay Hafid Elalamy and Wang Hao

10:15 – 10:30 h. Coffee break

10:30 – 12:00 h. Theme 5: CEO Dialogue: Sustainability and Entrepreneurship

12:30 – 14:00 h. Lunch break

14:00 – 15:30 h. Theme 6: Innovation leads the future development of China and Europe cooperation

15:30 – 16:00 h. Coffee break

16:00 – 17:00 h. Theme 7: Sino-European culture salon

18:00 – 19:00 h. Signature ceremony of Sino-European cooperative projects

19:00 – 22:00 h. Gala dinner

Website: www.sees2015.com

Seminar: “Growing a Business in China: 3 Success Stories” – 16 September 2015, 15h30 – Ghent

The Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC) is organizing a seminar: “Growing a Business in China: 3 Success Stories”. This event will take place at 15h30 on Wednesday 16 September 2015 at the Club of Flanders, Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 11, 9000 Gent.

The goal of the event is to share, discuss and exchange knowledge and experiences between companies doing business with or investing in China.

The programme will be:

15h00 Registration

15h30 Introduction by Mrs Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director, Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce

15h35 Case studies of doing business and investing in China:

- Mr Francky Helmons, General Manager, FKS-Consulting
- Mr Adam Sneep, Chief Executive Officer, Adifo
- Mr Hans Deprettere, Sales Export Manager Asia, Orfit Industries

17h00 Exchange of views and networking drink

If you are interested in attending, please register online before 11 September 2015 at <http://flanders-china.be/en/events/upcoming/seminar-growing-a-business-in-china-3-success-stories->

Participation fee for FCCC members: €45, non-members: €75.

Seminar: Belgian Customs and its activities in China – 1 October 2015 – Ghent

The Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce and the Province of East Flanders are organizing a seminar focused on ‘Belgian Customs and its activities in China’. This event will take place at 17h00 on Thursday 1 October 2015 at the Provincial House, Gouvernementstraat 1, 9000 Gent.

Mr Eddy De Cuyper, Counsellor, Customs Attaché, Embassy of Belgium in China, will give a

presentation on the Belgian Customs in China: legal aspects, procedures and experiences in relation to the Chinese customs.

The programme is as follows:

- 17h00 Registration
- 17h30 Welcome by Mr Geert Versnick, Vice Governor in charge of European and International cooperation and economic affairs
- 17h40 Introduction by Mrs Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director, Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce
- 17h45 Presentation : 'Belgian customs and its activities in China' by Mr Eddy De Cuyper, Customs Attaché, Embassy of Belgium in China
- 18h45 Question and answer session followed by networking drink

If you are interested in attending, please register online at www.flanders-china.be before 25 September 2015.

Participation fee for FCCC members: €45, non-members: €75.

10th EU-China Business & Technology Cooperation Fair – 4-6 November 2015 – Qingdao and 9-11 November 2015 – Chengdu

The EU-China Business & Technology Cooperation Fair has been held for nine consecutive editions attracting 4,400 Chinese companies and 12,400 European companies in total. The Fair provides a dominant cooperation platform in China for investment, trade and technology between the EU and China. 22,291 bilateral meetings between companies took place at the matchmaking event. Around 1/3 of the participants already informed about their successful match. The Fair is organized by the EU Project Innovation Centre and supported by the European Commission, the EU-China Business Association and several other EU institutions.

The 10th EU-China Business & Technology Cooperation Fair will be held from 4-6 November 2015 in **Qingdao**.

Qingdao, the most important transport hub and trading port in the North coastal region of China, is located at the intersection of land and maritime Silk Roads. With its well-established industries and rich resources, Qingdao is playing a leading role in developing the blue economy. As one of the first Chinese cities to open to the world, Qingdao is willing to work with other ocean-driven EU countries to forge partnerships in developing ocean economies, exploiting the resources, and promoting maritime research and innovation. Topics at the Fair will be:

Maritime Industry:

- Aquaculture & Fishery
- Shipbuilding, Mechanical Engineering & Precision Instrument
- Port Industry
- Shipping & Logistics
- Offshore Renewable Energy, New Materials & Environment
- Ocean Aviation
- Tourism

Other Industries:

- Bio-pharmacy & Bio-technology
- Modern Agriculture & Foodstuff
- ICT Industry & Services
- Universities, Innovative Clusters & Scientific Research Institutes

A cooperation forum will be held, as well as seminars on:

- Maritime research and industry cooperation
- High-end machinery industry cooperation
- New energy and environmental protection

B2B and cluster-to-cluster matchmaking session will also be organized.

More information is available at www.eu-china.org.cn The website for Qingdao's matchmaking is: <https://www.b2match.eu/tenth-eu-china-cooperation-fair-qingdao>

The **Chengdu** event of the of 10th EU-China Business & Technology Cooperation Fair will be held from 9-11 November 2015 in Chengdu.

The Chengdu Event will focus on:

- Frontier technological achievements and trends
- Short, sharp 30-minute meetings to foster effective networking
- Share information with Event experts, scholars and business players
- Get your problems solved – Matching enterprises offering or seeking solutions
- See an exhibition of successful examples of B2B match-making meetings

Main topics:

- Environmental Protection
- New Energy & Energy-saving
- Bio-pharmacy & Bio-technology
- Modern Agriculture & Foodstuff
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- General Aviation, Space and Aerospace
- ICT Industry & Services
- Universities, Innovative Clusters & Scientific Research Institutes

More information on the Chengdu Event is available at: <https://www.b2match.eu/tenth-eu-china-cooperation-fair-chengdu>

The Fair is organized with the support of the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA) and the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC).

ACTIVITIES SUPPORTED BY FCCC

Qingdao Day at Expo Milano – 17 September 2015 – Milan

On the occasion of Expo Milano 2015, the Qingdao Municipal Government will host the Qingdao Day in the China Pavilion of the Expo on 17th September, 2015. Senior leaders of the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), Shandong Province and the Qingdao Municipal government will be present at the event. Qingdao, as the host city of the Olympic Sailing Regatta in 2008, plays an important role in the national “One Belt and One Road” strategy in terms of geographic location and business cooperation with overseas partners. The Qingdao Day themed as “Sailing City Setting off on New Silk Road”, will be featured with exhibitions and themed shows so that a whole picture of Qingdao will be given to all guests. The Qingdao Day events will start at 10:00 AM on 17th September, including the economic and trade promotion seminar, signing ceremony of China Pavilion’s Relocation and business luncheon.

Contact person: Mrs. Gwenn Sonck, gwenn.sonck@flanders-china.be

Business trip to China by Unizo and Howest – October 2015

Unizo and Howest are organizing a business trip to China in October 2015. More information is available on the website <http://groups.alkreizen.be/cnunizowvl>.

The EU SME Pavilion at World of Food Beijing 2015 – November 18-20, 2015 – China National Convention Center, Beijing, China

China's demand for imported food and beverage products has been growing rapidly throughout the past few years, presenting unique opportunities for European SMEs in particular. To help more SMEs get to know the market, the EU SME Centre will set up an EU SME Pavilion at this year's World of Food Beijing, the largest international food & beverage trade fair in Northern China. SMEs can enjoy a preferential rate for the booth and benefit from exclusive premium services. The package will include:

- A booth with a preferential rate (282 €/sqm) within the EU SME Pavilion to give your brand maximum visibility, decoration included.
- Pre-Fair Services: A series of webinar trainings to get you ready for your visit to China and meeting with Chinese companies.

On-Site Services:

- Business-to-business tour connecting you with the largest Chinese grocers, retailers, distributors and e-commerce platforms
- A series of seminars covering intellectual property protection in China and essential legal topics
- After Fair Services: Follow-up support from the EU SME Centre experts

If you are interested in joining the Pavilion and learning more about the package, click the button to register your interest: [Register interest](#)

About World of Food Beijing 2015: World of Food Beijing is an annual food & beverage trade fair powered by Anuga. Occupying a total area of 35,000 sq m, comprising 25,000 sq m of showcase area with more than 600 exhibitors, and 10,000 sq m of conference and activity zone, this event is poised to showcase a wide array of foodstuff such as fine foods and imported foods, dairy products, bread and bakery, meat and seafood products, frozen foods, sweets and snack foods, coffee and tea. More than 45% of the exhibitors will hail from abroad and over 24,000 trade visitors are to be expected. To learn more about the event, [click here>](#)

ACTIVITIES FROM EUCBA MEMBERS

China Auto Parts and After-sales Service (The Netherlands) Exhibition 2015 – 14, 15, 16 September 2015

JiaheShengde Investment Holdings B.V. has issued an invitation to the grand opening of GIA Trade and Exhibition Centre on 14th September 2015 at 10:00 at De Werf 11, 2544 EH The Hague.

Apart from being the opening of GIA Trade and Exhibition Centre, 14th September 2015 is also the opening for China Auto-parts and After-sales Exhibition. The Exhibition will last for three days, from 14th September 2015 to 16th September 2015.

There will be many car parts and truck parts manufacturers / suppliers from China to participate as exhibitors. Thus, it would be a great opportunity to meet up with these Chinese companies and look for possibility to do business.

It is therefore with great pleasure that we invite you to a special dinner to celebrate our opening with all exhibitors on 14th September 2015 from 7:00pm to 9:00pm at Shanghai Garden Restaurant (Kleveringweg 11, 2616 LZ Delft).

During the exhibition, we also arrange seminars on how to deal with a different business culture when doing business with Chinese and how the aftermarket develops in China, vice versa. If you would like to know more about the programme, please visit our website: www.jiaheshengde.com.

If you are interested in attending any particular sessions of our programme, please kindly inform us of the number of attendees of your organization along with their titles and contact details by sending us an email to event@jiaheshengde.com. With the confirmation of your attendance, the electronic admission ticket will be sent to you later.

If you have any questions regarding the registration, please do not hesitate to contact us via event@jiaheshengde.com.

The Exhibition is supported by the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA).

PAST EVENTS

10th EU-China Business Summit – 29 June 2015 – Brussels

The EU-China Business Association invited 500 business leaders and officials to join the 10th EU-China Business Summit on 29 June 2015 at Palais d'Egmont in Brussels. The EU-China Business Summit is a joint initiative by BusinessEurope, the China Council of the Promotion of International Trade (CCPIT), in cooperation with the European Union Chamber of

Commerce in China (EUCCC) and the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA). The business summit is recognised as the highest-level platform for exchanges between EU and Chinese business and political leaders and brought together a number of high-level business leaders from large Chinese and European companies, including several CEOs. President Jean-Claude Juncker and Premier Li Keqiang made keynote addresses during the opening session.

Under the overall theme of “Building a Stronger Partnership” interesting discussions were held on topical issues like investment cooperation, the digital economy and green and sustainable growth. Commission Vice President Jyri Katainen introduced the panel on investment cooperation.

The thematic session 1: “New opportunities for EU-China investment cooperation” was moderated by Mr Stephen Phillips, Chairman of the EU-China Business Association (EUCBA). The second thematic session focused on “Green economy and sustainable growth” and the third one on “Industrial transformation in a digital world”.

FCCC Chairman Bert De Graeve, Chairman of Bekaert, participated in the CEO dialogue with European and Chinese CEO's and Mrs Malmstrom, European Commissioner for Trade. The EU-China Business Association is the EU-wide federation of business organisations in the EU promoting business relations with China. The Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce holds the secretariat-general of the association.

For more information on the 10th EU-China Business Summit you are invited to explore the dedicated website: www.eu-china-business-summit.eu The speeches delivered at the summit can be viewed [here](#).

The EU-China Business Summit was organized with the support of the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC).

FCCC and BNP Paribas Fortis: Breakfast debate at Westin Beijing – 24 June 2015

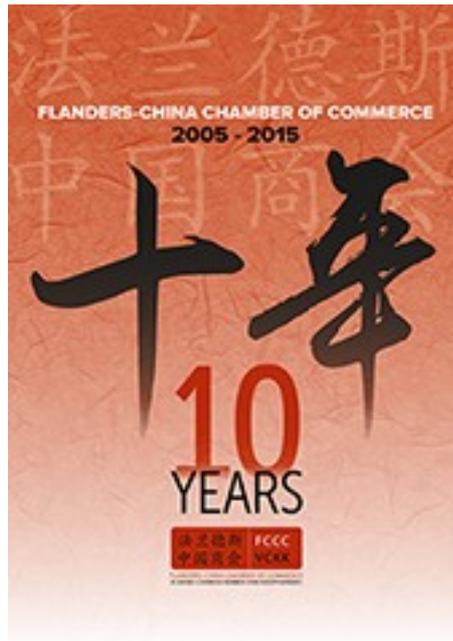
The Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC) and BNP Paribas Fortis organized a breakfast debate on June 24, 2015 in the Westin Beijing Hotel during the Royal State Visit. The theme of the breakfast debate was “How strong is China’s economic and financial engine? Business environment outlook for foreign strategic investors”. Minister-President Geert Bourgeois of the Government of Flanders attended the debate and delivered the conclusions.

Following a word of welcome by Mr Max Jadot, CEO of BNP Paribas Fortis, Mr Eric Raynaud, CEO of BNP Paribas Asia Pacific, introduced BNP Paribas in China. Next, Ms Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director of the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce (FCCC) introduced the Chamber. Mr Jurgen F. Conrad, Chief Economist ADB China talked about “Growth and structural reforms in the PRC”. “Renminbi internationalisation: the next step” was introduced by Mr Chi Lo, Senior Economist of BNP Paribas Investment Partners Greater China.

A Q&A session preceded the conclusions of the breakfast debate presented by Mr Geert Bourgeois, Minister-President of the Government of Flanders, and Minister for Foreign Policy and Immovable Heritage. More than 100 participants attended the breakfast debate.

PUBLICATIONS

FCCC publishes “10 Years: Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce 2005 – 2015”



On the occasion of its 10th anniversary, the Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce has issued the publication “10 Years: Flanders-China Chamber of Commerce 2005 – 2015”. The publication bundles interviews with H.E. Qu Xing, Ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Belgium; H.E. Michel Malherbe, Ambassador of Belgium to the People's Republic of China; Mrs. Claire Tillekaerts, CEO of Flanders Investment & Trade; Mr. Stefaan Vanhooren, President Agfa Graphics; Mr. Matthew Taylor, CEO, Bekaert; Mr. Stephan Csoma, Executive Vice President and two other Executives, Umicore; Christian Dumoulin, CEO, Vitalo; Filip Goris, General Manager Asia, Recticel; Mr. Hudson Liu, CEO, Huawei; Mr. Li Shufu, Chairman, Zhejiang Geely Group; Mrs. Chai Hui, General Manager Brussels Branch, ICBC; Mr. Robert Zhao, Chief Representative of the Weihai EU Office in Ghent; Mr. David Liu, Deputy Managing Director, APM Terminals; and Mr. Ma Jian, Chairman, Tianjin Liho Group.

Mr. Geert Bourgeois, Minister-President of the Government of Flanders, wrote the foreword to the publication. Chairman of the FCCC, Mr. Bert De Graeve, provided the introduction and Mrs. Gwenn Sonck, Executive Director of the FCCC, provided some more details about the FCCC.

The publication is available to Members of the FCCC free of charge.

[Here is the link to the brochure online.](#)

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[Link advertisement opportunities](#)

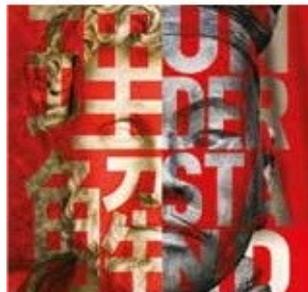
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Made up of equal numbers of participants from both Eastern and Western businesses, the program will include 11 weeks of face-to-face learning. The program is scheduled to take place

from February 2015 until September 2016 with a unique split of 50/50 program delivery across Eastern and Western locations. Delivered by two world-class business schools, the IMD-CKGSB Executive MBA is the ideal answer for fast-rising executives who want to create value for their organizations by spanning both East and West. You'll go beyond the basics to a true understanding of the forces that will be shaping the world of business in the future.

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AUTOMOTIVE

SAIC Motor warns of grim outlook

China's largest automaker SAIC Motor Corp warned of a grim outlook for the overall vehicle market in the second half of the year. Vehicle sales in China, the world's largest car market, rose 0.4% in the first seven months and are set to grow 3% this year, under half the 2014 growth rate, the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM) said. SAIC expects overall sales of passenger and commercial vehicles in China at 24.1 million this year, up slightly from 2014. For the first half, SAIC said its net profit rose 4.4% year-on-year to CNY14.2 billion. SAIC's revenue rose 1.1% to CNY323 billion from a year earlier.

- The Chengdu Motor Show (CDMS), one of the largest and most influential auto shows in West China, will run from September 5 to 13 at the Century City New International Convention and Exhibition Center. After 17 years of development, CDMS stands out

from other second-tier city auto shows and is regarded as one of the top four shows in the country.

- Toyota is gradually restarting operations in Tianjin after halting production in the wake of deadly explosions at a hazardous goods facility. At least 67 employees at the Toyota plant were injured in the blasts. The explosions happened while the plant was closed for the summer vacation. One of two Toyota dealerships heavily damaged by the blasts also reopened. The value of Toyota's lost output may be more than CNY660 million a week, according to Bloomberg.
- BYD Co posted a 29% jump in first-half net profit to CNY466.7 million on rising sales of its hybrid and electric vehicles. Sales of its "new-energy" vehicles more than doubled. The carmaker took in CNY31.6 billion in revenue, up 18% year-on-year.

FINANCE

Jin Liqun nominated as candidate for AIIB President

The 6th Chief Negotiators' Meeting on establishing the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) agreed to name Jin Liqun as the official candidate for the Bank's President. The chief negotiators from 54 of the 57 founding members of the AIIB (with Sri Lanka, Switzerland and Jordan absent) unanimously agreed to choose Jin for the post in Tbilisi, capital of Georgia. Jin needs to be re-confirmed by the Board of Governors at its inaugural meeting after the formal establishment of the AIIB. He previously served as China's Vice Finance Minister, Vice President of the Asian Development Bank, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of China Investment Corp (CIC), and Board Chairman of China International Capital Corp (CICC).

Three Chinese banks report weak profit growth

Three of China's top-five lenders reported weak growth in net profit and soaring bad loans in their semi-annual earnings reports amid a downturn in the Chinese economy. The Agriculture Bank of China (ABC), one of the biggest state-owned lenders, said net profit by June was flat at CNY104.3 billion. Net interest income, which is the biggest profit contributor for most Chinese banks, added 4.8% to CNY219.5 billion. Net non-interest income shed 0.4% to CNY47 billion. The bad loan ratio of ABC jumped to 1.83% in June from 1.53% at the end of March as the lender cited poor solvency of manufacturing and retailing companies in the western region. The Bank of Communications (BoCom), China's fifth-largest lender, said net profit gained 1.5% to CNY37.3 billion. Net interest income jumped 23.5% to CNY19.4 billion. BoCom reported bad loans of CNY50.2 billion by June, up CNY7.1 billion from the end of the first quarter, sending the bad loan ratio to 1.35%, the Shanghai Daily reports.

- China may remove a 75% loan-to-deposit ratio stipulation. The ratio will instead be regarded as a liquidity-monitoring indicator, according to a draft amendment to China's Law on Commercial Banks, which was deliberated by the National People's Congress Standing Committee. China has kept the 75% ratio since the law was enacted and put into effect in 1995. Shang Fulin, Chairman of the China Banking Regulatory Commission (CBRC), said the stipulation of loan-to-deposit ratio no longer meets the needs of the current development of commercial banks.
- Ping An Insurance (Group) Co is boosting overseas assets with about CNY16 billion of deals in the pipeline this year, which would raise total investments abroad to as much as CNY50 billion by year-end. More than CNY10 billion of the new deals are property related, including two projects in the United Kingdom and a USD650 million asset-backed-securities project in the United States.
- Police in China have launched a two-month crackdown against "underground banks" amid concerns about cash flowing in and out of the country illegally and fueling speculation in the country's volatile stock markets. The campaign will focus on illegal financing in stock markets, plus funding for terrorism and banking connected to corrupt officials.
- The People's Bank of China (PBOC) announced cuts in interest rates and reserve requirements for banks. The one-year lending and deposit rates were lowered by 25 basis points to 4.6% and 1.75% respectively. It was the fifth interest rate cut since

November 2014. Even after the cuts, China's interest rates are still higher than those of the world's major economies. Economists said the policy easing is likely to release around CNY700 billion of liquidity immediately.

- China's insurance industry's gross premium income surged 20% year-on-year in the first seven months of this year. The revenue for life insurance jumped 24.2% to CNY1.04 trillion in the January-July period, while that for non-life insurance such as property and casualty expanded 11.7% to CNY493.04 billion. Gross premium income rose 17.4% last year, up from only 9.4% growth in 2013. However, the current bearish capital market may hurt the industry's investment returns.
- Premier Li Keqiang said that the yuan will "remain basically stable" and in equilibrium. Li added that China recently improved its system of setting the daily yuan reference rate against the U.S. dollar – part of efforts to better reflect global market developments. There is no longer any basis for continued depreciation of the renminbi, he said.
- The Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (NPC) has approved the local government debt quota for this year, a step necessary under the new Budget Law to better control local government debt. After the overall ceiling is determined, the central government can allocate limits for each region. Based on the national auditor's survey results, as of mid-2013, local governments have amassed CNY17.9 trillion of liabilities, and they have to repay CNY1.86 trillion maturing debt this year.
- The Chinese government has asked the country's leasing industry to facilitate financing to bolster the real economy. Stronger leasing services can provide capital to support investment on equipment and industrial upgrades. It demanded less red tape, including no threshold for the minimum capital of financial leasing companies to establish subsidiaries and easier procedures for leasing equipment like ships, farming machinery, medical devices and aircraft.
- China Merchants Bank's net profit grew by a slower 8.3% in the first six months of 2015 to CNY32.98 billion while its bad loan ratio rose 0.39 percentage points to 1.5% amid the economic downturn. Its total assets climbed 10.3% to CNY5.2 trillion by June, as net interest income increased 17.7% to CNY66.1 billion and net non-interest income jumped 35.1% to CNY38.3 billion.
- China Cinda Asset Management Co was the sole bidder for Hong Kong lender Nanyang Commercial Bank in an auction that drew tepid interest. If it pays close to the reserve price of HKD68 billion, it would be the largest purchase of a Hong Kong lender, surpassing DBS Group Holdings's USD5.4 billion takeover of Dao Heng Bank in 2001.
- The People's Bank of China (PBOC) has removed the ceiling on bank rates for fixed deposits with terms ranging from two to five years. The cap on demand deposits and other deposits with terms ranging from seven days to one year remains unchanged. Previously, commercial banks offered deposit rates of 1.2 to 1.3 times the benchmark deposit rate, although the ceiling was 1.5 times the benchmark rate. But the adjustment of deposit rates will take two to three years because banks can remove the rate ceiling only after the relevant deposits mature.
- Industrial and Commercial Bank of China's net profit of CNY74.7 billion for the second quarter was 0.13% lower than in the same period last year. It was the second time since 2009 that the bank posted negative quarterly profit growth and a sign that China's state-owned banks were feeling the pressure of China's slowing economy. A year earlier, the bank posted 7% year-on-year growth. ICBC's non-performing loan ratio climbed 11 basis points in the three-month period to 1.40%.
- Insurer Ageas is selling its life insurance business in Hong Kong to China's JD Capital for €1.23 billion. Ageas plans to focus on six growth markets: Malaysia, China, Thailand, India, the Philippines and Vietnam. The regional office of Ageas Group will remain in Hong Kong.
- A nationwide audit of government cash and spending has found nearly CNY56.5 billion in funds sitting idle in the coffers of governments and other entities, despite calls by the central government for funds to be put to productive use. The National Audit Office (NAO), which discovered the money, also found that 36,000 hectares of land allotted to local governments remained unused because the governments changed

plans or mortgaged the land to raise money.

FOREIGN INVESTMENT

Nokia and Alcatel-Lucent Shanghai Bell to set up joint-venture

Nokia and Alcatel-Lucent Shanghai Bell will set up a China telecommunications equipment joint venture next year as part of Nokia's €15.6 billion global acquisition of Alcatel-Lucent. The joint venture, Nokia Shanghai Bell, will be headquartered in the China (Shanghai) Pilot free trade zone (FTZ). Nokia will hold a 50% stake plus one share, which means it has a controlling stake in the venture. Nokia had agreed to create a Chinese joint venture with China Huaxin, a state-owned Chinese investment company with a controlling stake in Alcatel-Lucent Shanghai Bell. The venture is expected to pave the way for China to approve Nokia's proposed take-over of Alcatel-Lucent. "The new JV will consolidate its position in the domestic market with strong research and development ability," Yuan Xin, China Huaxin's General Manager, said in a statement. The joint venture will help Nokia develop business in China, the world's biggest mobile phone market with over one billion users, analysts said. Both Nokia and Alcatel-Lucent are facing challenges from Chinese rivals including Huawei Technologies and ZTE Corp, both based in Shenzhen, Guangdong province. The Chinese telecom companies are gaining market share overseas, which challenge the overseas telecom giants in their home markets. Nokia is expected to complete the acquisition of Alcatel-Lucent globally in 2016, the Shanghai Daily reports.

- Panasonic Corp is shutting down its lithium battery factory in the Beijing Economic and Technological Development Area amid weakening global demand for smartphones and tablets. The Beijing factory was built in 2000 by Panasonic's unit Sanyo Electronics. 1,300 workers will be sacked. Panasonic also operates two other lithium battery factories in Suzhou and Wuxi, Jiangsu province.

FOREIGN TRADE

Neglect of duty investigated in Tianjin blasts

Chinese prosecutors are investigating 10 officials and port executives in Tianjin for alleged neglect of duty in connection with the warehouse explosions which killed at least 145 people. Another 28 are still missing and around 470 people wounded in the blasts are still in hospital. The officials include Wu Dai, Director of the Tianjin Transportation Commission, and Zheng Qingyue, President of Tianjin Port (Group) Co. Customs personnel of the Tianjin Customs District were found to have been slack and irresponsible in supervising the chemical business run by Ruihai. The personnel involved are also suspected of illegally issuing customs clearing permits to the company and allowing it to carry out illegal business activities. An investigation by the Supreme People's Procuratorate (SPP) has found that Wang Jinwen, a senior official with the Ministry of Transportation, violated the law by helping Tianjin Ruihai International Logistics Co, the owner of the warehouse, pass safety evaluations and obtain approvals to store and transport dangerous chemicals. Wang is being investigated on suspicion of abuse of power. Plans have been submitted by local governments across China to move or upgrade about 1,000 chemical plants after the explosions in Tianjin. The plants had cost about CNY400 billion and money involved in moving or upgrading them would be a major issue. In the face of local opposition, another question is where to move to?

Contaminated soil from the Tianjin blasts is to be stored in a 20,000 square meter leak-proof tank 4 km from the explosion site. A 13-cm "impermeable layer" of sand and bricks will be placed at the bottom and workers are busy lining the tank with leak-proof material. Thousands of tons of dangerous chemicals were stored at the warehouse when it exploded on August 12. Residents living near the blast site have reported bad smells in the past few days.

Landmark gas deal with Russia expected to be finalized

A landmark gas deal between China and Russia that has been years in the making looks set to be finalized. More than 20 agreements covering finance, transportation and energy cooperation will be signed when Russian President Vladimir Putin attends the September 3

parade in Beijing, said Andrey Denisov, Russian Ambassador to China. "The gas deal looks very likely to be confirmed at the final moment because of its large scale and importance due to international practices," Denisov said, adding that he was sure that there will be an agreement but that the details won't be disclosed until the last minute. In May 2014, after 20 years of negotiations, China and Russia agreed to build a natural gas supply line, known as the "eastern route", that is supposed to deliver 38 billion cubic meters of gas to Beijing and Northeast China annually, starting in 2018. Chen Yurong, Expert with the China Institute of International Studies, said that the Russian Ambassador might have been referring to the "western route". Negotiations on the western route, a 2,800-kilometer supply line to deliver 30 billion cubic meters of natural gas annually to Xinjiang over 30 years, began in 2006. According to Chen, the western route framework agreement is not legally binding like that of the eastern route, so it has been postponed and is mired in differences over pricing, while construction of the "eastern route" has begun, the China Daily reports.

- China will allow the import of live cattle from Australia. The agreement will be finalized within a few months after technical details have been sorted out. Andrew Robb, Australia's Minister for Trade and Investment, said the Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between the two countries had created a framework for business deals to be finalized and for decisions and problems to be addressed more quickly between the two countries.

HEALTH

Better understanding of bacteria "back door" gained

Chinese researchers have gained a better understanding of a "back door" into the defenses of nearly all bacteria to allow antibiotics to penetrate the bacteria's membrane without triggering drug resistance. The discovery could significantly accelerate the development of new antibiotics that can take advantage of the back door. But researchers could not observe the portal directly on living bacteria, given the structure was only five nanometers wide and well beyond the range of even the most advanced electron microscopes.

- The Department of Sociology at Renmin University of China and Kangmei Pharmaceutical Co have released a price list of 513 raw materials used in traditional Chinese medicine (TCM). Those prices usually fluctuate a lot. Caterpillar fungus was the most expensive at about CNY195,000 per kilogram. The university plans to issue the report quarterly.
- All certified genetically modified foods that are sold on the Chinese market are safe, according to the Ministry of Agriculture. China has established a safety supervision system that covers the complete chain of GM products, including research, production and trading, the Ministry said.

IPR PROTECTION

Integration of IP and market demand called for

Intellectual property industry insiders called for the integration of IP and market demand at a recent forum themed "Open innovation" in Nanning, the capital city of Guangxi. The forum, organized by the China Enterprise Confederation and wtoip.com, attracted more than 1,200 delegates. Li Mingxing, Vice Chairman of the China Enterprise Confederation, said in his opening address that open innovation is a requirement for China's sustainable development.

- Goldman Sachs (Shenzhen) Financial Leasing Co has been operating in Shenzhen using a nearly identical English and Chinese name as the New York-based financial institution, Goldman Sachs Group, but is not affiliated with it. The company uses the same Chinese characters as the real Goldman Sachs, and its English font is evocative of the U.S. bank's.

MACRO-ECONOMY

Slowest sales revenue growth of top 500 companies

According to the 2015 China Top 500 Enterprise List, total sales revenue of the companies on the list reached CNY59.5 trillion, up 4.94% year-on-year, the lowest growth rate ever since the China Enterprise Confederation and China Enterprise Directors Association started to draft the ranking 13 years ago. The threshold for entering the list has been raised by CNY750 million to CNY23.61 billion, the narrowest increase in five years. The total assets of this year's finalists reached CNY197.6 trillion, up 12% year-on-year, the lowest growth rate in a decade. 57 companies have reported losses of CNY80.38 billion this year, and 94 have reported negative growth in sales revenue. Merger and acquisition activities have slumped to a five-year low. Among the 500 companies, 140 carried out 690 mergers and acquisitions (M&As) last year, compared with 811 deals in 2013. China Petrochemical Corp (Sinopec Group) led the list for the 11th consecutive year with a total sales revenue of CNY2.89 trillion.

- Goals have been set for more coordinated Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei regional development in the next 15 years, mainly by transferring non-essential functions in Beijing to neighboring areas. By 2017, major breakthroughs will be achieved in transport integration, environmental protection and industrial upgrading in the integrated region, the relevant document says. The medium-term target of the strategy is, by 2020, to control the permanent population of Beijing within 23 million.
- Premier Li Keqiang is considering adopting pioneering technologies such as three-dimensional printing and modern manufacturing to upgrade low value-added domestically-made products. Li said China had to “make up for missing lessons” in industrial development, which is large in terms of volume, but lacks competitiveness.
- “The 2015 growth target of around 7% is achievable,” said Zhu Baoliang, Economist at the State Information Center (SIC) under the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC). “The country has the potential to keep the growth momentum in the next few years, given its solid economic fundamentals, better external conditions, and a government determined to deliver on its reform promises,” he added.
- Weak industrial activity, hampered by overcapacity and growing inventories, will not significantly rebound in the second half of the year, the government's top economic think-tank has warned. Year-on-year industrial output growth should remain at a slower 6% to 6.5% in the third quarter, and should have improved slightly to 6.5% to 7% in the last three months, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) said.
- China's steel sector can expect to face increasing international trade friction as inventories and output continue to rise amid weakening demand driven by the economic slowdown, according to Wang Liqun, Vice Chairman of the China Iron and Steel Association (CISA). He added that overcapacity would remain in the second half of the year, and companies should not expect exports to rise to counter the situation.
- Profits at Chinese industrial companies in July slid 2.9% from a year earlier as falling prices eroded earnings. Companies in July suffered their second-biggest drop in industrial profits this year since a total 4.2% decrease in January-February. Profits were down 1% in the first seven months of the year to CNY3.3 trillion, compared with the same period a year ago.

REAL ESTATE

Dalian Wanda to acquire World Triathlon Corp

Chinese real estate and entertainment firm Dalian Wanda will buy the organizer of Ironman extreme endurance contests for USD650 million. The deal for the World Triathlon Corporation comes after Wanda bought a stake in Spanish football club Atletico Madrid and spent more than €1 billion on Swiss sports marketing group Infront. Wanda Chairman Wang Jianlin, one of China's richest men, has built his firm into a property giant, but has been diversifying into sports and entertainment in recent years. Wanda hopes to increase the popularity of triathlons in China, the company said in a statement announcing the deal. “As China enters the ranks of middle income countries, people are paying increasing attention to physical fitness and spiritual fulfillment, and triathlon's unique charm and challenge is set to attract a large number

of people,” the company said. World Triathlon Corp is based in Tampa, Florida and Wanda said it operates at least 250 events a year, describing it as the world’s largest operator of Ironman events. Triathlons are also organized by the rival International Triathlon Union, the South China Morning Post reports.

- The People's Bank of China's decision to cut the reserve requirement ratio (RRR) and the benchmark interest rates will encourage more homebuyers to buy bigger, newer homes and help developers reduce inventories in first- and second-tier cities, analysts said. “The cumulative decrease in interest rates, and subsequently mortgage rates, will reduce financing costs and downpayment requirements. The RRR reduction will make more financing available for home purchasers,” Savills East China said in a research note.
- China's richest man Wang Jianlin said his firm Wanda Commercial Properties will list on the mainland soon, in addition to its existing Hong Kong listing, which raised about HKD28.8 billion. Wanda Commercial owns 112 shopping malls and 64 hotels in China. The firm plans to add 22 malls and 10 hotels by the end of this year. Wang Jianlin said that “China needs to drop the fantasy of keeping a high growth rate of 7% or 8% and just accept 6%, 7% or even 5%.”
- Restrictions on property purchases by overseas institutions and individuals have been eased. Overseas institutions with branches and representative offices in China, and individuals working or studying in the country can now buy property for their own use in line with their practical needs. Previously, would-be buyers had to be in the country for at least a year to qualify. In Shanghai, the average cost of a new apartment had risen to CNY3.24 million last year from CNY1.33 million in 2007, according Shanghai Homelink Real estate Agency Co figures.

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RETAIL

Ikea opens Xian store

Swedish furniture retailer Ikea has set its sights on China's vast northwestern market and is looking to cash in on the growing opportunities from the Belt and Road Initiative. Ikea opened its Xian store last week with 57 room settings, more than 8,000 products, a 633-seat restaurant and the free “Small Land” childcare facility to give local buyers special shopping

experiences. "With a total floor area of 63,000 square meters and an investment of USD100 million, Ikea's Xian store, the first such store in Northwest China, will provide more convenient one-stop shopping experiences, bring more inspiration for home life, and warm and happy experiences to the local people," said store Manager Guan Weining. The store will offer more than 8,000 kinds of household items. It is Ikea's 18th store in China after it came to the country in 1998.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Breakthrough in smartphone screen resolution

A breakthrough in rare earth display technology could increase the resolution of smartphone screens by a factor of over a million. By putting six different types of rare earth elements in a nanoscale capsule and beaming lasers onto it, Chinese researchers obtained for the first time the full spectrum of visible light. Apple's top of the range retina displays – used in iPhones, iPads and MacBooks – currently boast around 300 pixels per square inch (PPI). By comparison, the rare earth display could reach 850 million PPI.

- Beijing's Tsinghua University, one of the two most prestigious institutions for higher education in China, has been crowned the country's wealthiest school, with annual revenues reaching CNY12.36 billion, followed by Zhejiang University, Peking University and Shanghai Jiao Tong University, according to a list of 76 universities. Though Chinese universities are getting closer to the top global institutions in terms of investment, gaps still exist in their funding, said Xiong Bingqi, Vice President of the 21st Century Education Research Institute in Shanghai.

STOCK MARKETS

Chinese stocks plunge before regaining ground

Chinese stocks plunged by more than 8.5% on August 24 due to investors' weakened confidence over macroeconomics in domestic and global markets. It was the biggest one-day percentage loss since 2007. The decline offset market gains made since the start of the year. All index futures contracts sank by the 10% daily limit, reflecting a negative outlook for share prices. On August 25 stocks tumbled to their deepest four-day decline since 1996. The Shanghai Composite Index was down 7.63% to 2,964.97 points at the close, falling below 3,000 points for the first time since December. The Shanghai index has tumbled more than 20% since the yuan's devaluation on August 11 and has lost more than USD4 trillion in value since its June 12 peak. Mark Matthews, Managing Director at Bank Julius Baer, said the current situation will persist for another month, since concerns remain that growth in the Chinese economy is slowing. He forecast better days in around six months as reform of China's state-owned enterprises (SOEs) progressed.

China will allow its huge state pension fund to invest in domestic stocks in an attempt to boost returns. The fund will be able to invest up to 30% of its net assets in equities, according to final guidelines published by the central government. The fund, to which workers must contribute, had CNY3.5 trillion in net assets at the end of last year. The move could allow the fund to invest billions of yuan in domestic equities, convertible bonds, futures and infrastructure projects. Previously, the pension fund could only invest in treasury bonds and bank deposits. Four of China's brokerages – Haitong Securities, GF Securities, Huatai Securities and Founder Securities – announced they were being probed by regulators for suspected failure to review and verify clients' identities. Managers from Citic Securities were also being investigated for possible involvement in illegal securities trades. Chinese police have summoned 11 people including a financial journalist to assist their investigations into illegal stock market activities, as the government targets volatility on the exchanges.

China has the world's most volatile stocks right now after Greece, yet the fluctuations are 30% lower than the average of six financial market crashes, including the ones in 1929 in the United States, Japan in the early 1990s and Thailand in 1997. The 43% decline so far in the Shanghai Composite Index looks modest when compared with a 78% retreat during the bursting of the dotcom bubble in 2000 and an 84% slump in the Russian market following the 1998 default. Most of the previous stock frenzies were caused by banking crises and debt

defaults, while China's stock slump is largely a price adjustment to a frothy valuation following a more than 150% surge.

Shanghai shares recovered on August 27 and 28. The Shanghai Composite Index rose 4.8% to close at 3,232.35 points, paring last week's loss to 7.9%. It has been a wild week for China's equity market investors as a crash wiped nearly 17% off the index in three days before the rebound.

- One in five college students in Shanghai play the stock market, according to a recent survey. More than half had dabbled in the market for less than six months, the study by students of the Shanghai University of International Business and Economics found. Only 10% had more than two years' experience. Researchers polled nearly 500 students at some 20 city universities.
- Asia's richest person lost USD3.6 billion on August 24, the most among all billionaires worldwide, as China's stock markets experienced their biggest plunge since 2007. Wang Jianlin saw USD2 billion wiped from his stake in Dalian Wanda Commercial Properties, after the Hong Kong-listed property developer tumbled 17% to its lowest level since it went public in December. Mainland Chinese billionaires lost more than USD14 billion on August 24 collectively, or 6% of their total net worth.
- Chinese analysts and fund managers said China should not be blamed for the global stock market crash. The U.S. Federal Reserve (FED) and its policy direction were the real "enemy within", they said. Zhang Ming, Researcher at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) said that emerging markets, including China, were the main victims of the FED's rate increases as they led to a wave of currency devaluations that triggered capital outflows from those countries.
- China's stock market volatility does not pose a major risk to Australia's economy or undermine a landmark free-trade deal struck with Beijing that remains on target to be ratified by Canberra before the end of the year, Australian Minister for Trade and Investment Andrew Robb said. "The current uncertainty is likely to encourage more investment out of China into Australia because we are seen as a safe haven," he added.
- The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) has referred 22 cases of suspected market manipulation, insider trading, fabricating and spreading false information to the police. The number of cases now under investigation has risen to 48 so far this year.

TRAVEL

Weaker profits expected for Chinese airlines

A weaker yuan may reduce profits of China's three major airlines, industry experts predict. "The three largest carriers in China could lose between CNY2 billion and CNY4 billion each in net profit this year," Geoffrey Cheng, head of transportation and industrial research at BOCOM International, which is part of the Bank of Communications, said. "But this year's decline in fuel prices will help counteract the carriers' exchange losses," he added. Airlines' high dollar-denominated debt will increase because of the cheaper yuan. China Eastern Airlines reported a net profit of CNY3.564 billion in the first half of this year, and Air China one of between CNY3.8 billion and CNY4 billion for the same period. China Southern Airlines has predicted a net profit of between CNY3.4 billion and CNY3.6 billion. But while the fall in the yuan has yet to show up on their books, it has already had an impact on the share prices of airlines on the Shanghai Composite Index. Aviation shares had fallen on average by 2.25% by Aug 14.

- Transport app Citymapper – already available in several European cities – has now launched in Hong Kong, offering ways to navigate the city's public transport in the fastest time possible with the benefit of real-time updates. A new feature called Go behaves like a co-pilot, providing step-by-step navigation and pushing out useful alerts to guide users to their destination. Hong Kong is the second Asian city covered by the app, following Singapore.

- The number of people taking public transportation reached a record high for the year as Beijing imposed traffic restrictions in advance of the September 3 military parade, prompting an increase in subway train capacity and safety measures. On August 20, the first day the odd-and-even license plate rule was imposed, more than 24 million people traveled on public transportation, a record high for this year, the Beijing Commission of Transportation said. The number of cars on the city's roads was expected to drop by 35% to 50% from August 20 to September 3.
- Boeing Co raised its forecast for China's aircraft demand over the next 20 years to 6,330 aircraft, a 5% rise from last year's two-decade estimate. It valued the aircraft demand at USD950 billion. Boeing estimates that China's commercial airplane fleet will nearly triple over the next 20 years, from 2,570 aircraft in 2014 to 7,210 aircraft in 2034.
- China's first home-developed ARJ21-700 short/medium-range regional jet completed a demonstration flight from Beijing to Nanjing in Jiangsu province. The jet has eight first-class seats and 70 economy-class seats. The first plane will be delivered to Chengdu Airlines.
- Beijing topped the traffic congestion list of 45 major domestic cities in the second quarter, and the frequent use of ride-hailing services was cited in a report as a major reason. Commuters in Beijing spent on average 32 minutes per hour in traffic jams while traveling during rush hours, according to AutoNavi Software Co, a mobile web-mapping service provider. Following the capital, the top five most congested cities were Hangzhou, Guangzhou, Jinan and Dalian.
- A record 117 million Chinese travelled overseas in 2014, according to the Sydney-based Center for Asia-Pacific Aviation (CAPA) – more than double the 57 million in 2010 – and experts expect that trend to continue. “The short-term outlook for Chinese outbound visitors remains strong and the long-term is bright,” CAPA said in a report.

VIP VISITS

Guest list for military parade announced

The Chinese government has announced a guest list of more than 40 foreign representatives who would attend the military parade to mark the 70th anniversary of the end of the second world war on September 3. State leaders to attend the event include Russian President Vladimir Putin, South Korean President Park Geun-hye, South African President Jacob Zuma and Pakistan's President Mamnoon Hussain. The only head of state or government from the EU on the list is Czech President Milos Zeman. The Foreign Ministers of France and Italy will also attend. Japan will be represented by former Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama. The parade will involve 12,000 soldiers and 500 pieces of hardware passing along the south side of Tiananmen Square.

U.S. National Security Advisor prepares Xi's visit to U.S.

U.S. National Security Adviser Susan Rice held talks in Beijing with Chinese State Councillor Yang Jiechi to help lay the groundwork for President Xi Jinping's visit to Washington next month. She was also received by President Xi. Washington hopes to see President Xi Jinping's upcoming visit to the United States become “a milestone” in relations, Rice said. Both sides said it is necessary to manage and control points of difference. The September trip will be the first state visit to the U.S. by Xi as President. Xi said that negotiations should be accelerated over the Bilateral Investment Treaty, military-to-military cooperation should be reinforced, and the two countries should strive for progress in fields such as energy and infrastructure. China is willing to work with the U.S. to “manage and control sensitive issues in constructive approaches”, and the two should “expand common ground and narrow divergence”, Xi said.

ONE-LINE NEWS

- China and Taiwan signed two agreements on the safety of civil aviation and avoidance of double taxation in China, 18 months after the two sides held the last high-level talks

to seal bilateral deals.

- The once-hot smartphone market in China is expected to cool this year, growing a meager 1.2%, according to the International Data Corp's Worldwide Quarterly Mobile Phone report. The China smartphone market grew 19.7% last year and accounted for nearly a third of all new handsets shipped. But Apple Chief Executive Tim Cook said he is still seeing "strong growth" in China.
- A number of VPN services used to get around Chinese internet restrictions have been disrupted in the run up to the military parade planned for September 3. China is cracking down on IPsec VPNs, Astrill said in a message to users.
- The three major telecommunications network operators in China have reshuffled their senior management. China Mobile named Shang Bing, previously a Vice Minister of Industry and Information Technology as its new Chairman, replacing Xi Guohua, who is retiring. Unicom Chairman and Chief Executive Chang Xiaobing has resigned to take on the same roles at China Telecom, while Wang Xiaochu is going to assume the same positions at China Unicom. The changes may signal the start of consolidation in the industry.
- Citic plans to consolidate its real estate operations and combine its mining-related units. "We expect to launch the real estate restructuring next month," Deputy Chairman Wang Jiong said, after Citic posted a 46% rise in net profit in the first half to HKD37.68 billion. Revenue was HKD201.46 billion, flat compared to HKD200.62 billion in the year-earlier period.
- The U.S. Department of Energy and China's National Energy Administration (NEA) reached an agreement to promote clean coal technology at an industry forum in Billings, Montana. The discussions took place near one of the largest coal reserves in the world, the Powder River Basin of Montana and Wyoming, where massive strip mines produce roughly 40% of the coal burned in the U.S.
- Yang Dongliang, who is under investigation for corruption, has been dismissed from his post as Director of the State Administration of Work Safety. He served as Vice Mayor of Tianjin from 2001 to May 2012. The investigation was announced six days after warehouse explosions in Tianjin.
- CNOOC, China's biggest offshore oil and gas explorer, posted a 56% decline in profit for the first six months of this year to CNY14.73 billion.
- PetroChina Co's net profit plunged 63% in the first half of the year as falling oil prices squeezed earnings. Net income dived to CNY25.4 billion in the half year ended on June 30 from CNY68.1 billion a year earlier. The company's turnover dropped 24% to CNY877.6 billion as an increase in sales volume failed to offset the impact of slumping oil prices. The company's average realized price of crude oil dropped 45% while average natural gas prices rose 0.4%. PetroChina's production of oil and natural gas rose 2.9% to 75.9 million barrels of oil equivalent (BOE).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8th China (Weihai) Fishing Gear Manufacturing Center Expo (CGC EXPO Weihai 2015) – October 16-18, 2015 – Weihai, China

The 8th China (Weihai) Fishing Gear Manufacturing Center Expo (CGC EXPO Weihai 2015), will be held on October 16-18 in Weihai, China.

CGC 2015 Preview:

- 1047 companies applied for the booths, already beyond the venue holding capacity
- Free admission exclusively for pre-registered buyers
- Much cheaper hotel (5-star hotel, USD70/80 per night), taxi, and seafood within the city

Review of CGC 2014:

- 77,769 visitors, including international, domestic and public visitors
- 535 international buyers from 49 different countries and regions
- 703 exhibitors, including 11 international exhibitors

For more information:
E-mail: lijiang@chinafish.cn Web: www.cgceexpo.com www.chinafishshow.org

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Membership rates for the second half of 2015:

- SMEs: €195
- Large enterprises: €485

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