

## Daily Thai News Updates: 25 August 2016

### 1. Digital-camera sales to rise

Source: **The Nation** ([Link](#))

THAILAND'S digital-camera market is expected to achieve impressive growth of 20 per cent this year, from the Bt6.1 billion generated last year, according to leading local retail chain Big Camera. Market growth is in line with the government's measures to stimulate the tourism sector and domestic expenditure. Big Camera yesterday announced the roll-out of its biggest event - "Big Camera Big Pro Days 2016" - which is expected to provide a substantial sales boost in the second half of the year. Costing more than Bt10 million, the campaign will be held from August 30 to September 4 at [CentralWorldshopping](#) complex. More than 20 brands will showcase their digital cameras and imaging devices, occupying a total space of more than 1,000 square metres. The campaign will offer special discount promotions of up to 60 per cent to customers.

### 2. Baxter starts up peritoneal dialysis production facility

Source: **The Nation** ([Link](#))

BAXTER Thailand yesterday opened its first peritoneal dialysis (PD) manufacturing facility in Thailand to serve the critical healthcare needs of end-stage renal disease (ESRD) patients. The company says the new facility will enhance Baxter's ability to provide life-sustaining PD therapy for more than 16,000 patients living in Thailand. The facility, located at the Amata City Industrial Estate in Rayong province, will create job opportunities for more than 400 people in the community in a variety of areas, including pharmaceutical production, quality systems, laboratory sciences, engineering and industrial automation, and safety and environmental protection. "This new facility underscores Baxter's commitment to the Thailand market, to ESRD patients and to the local community," said Paul Vibert, corporate vice president and president of Baxter International Inc.

### 3. BJC expands glass output capacity

Source: **The Nation** ([Link](#))

Berli jucker (BJC) is investing Bt2 billion in the construction of a new furnace with a production capacity of 300 tonnes of glass a day, in order to cater to rising demand for glass containers. The new plant is scheduled to commence operations by the end of next year. "Our current production capacity does not appear capable of meeting the huge increase in domestic demand. Therefore, we have decided to put an additional investment into a new facility to enhance overall capacity," Pattaphong Iamsuro, president of the company's packaging supply-chain business, said yesterday.

Based in Saraburi province, the new plant will be located on a 95-rai plot covering three sites managed by BJC's subsidiary, Thai Malaya Glass Thailand. The manufacturing complex is the second site at which import and export giant BJC manufactures glass containers for beer, other beverages, food, pharmaceuticals and other products. When fully operational, the new furnace will give the group an overall daily glass-production capacity of 3,800 tonnes, which is seen as sufficient to meet demand from both domestic customers and those in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam.

#### **4. Car sales set to recover in 2017**

Source: **Bangkok Post** ([Link](#))

Thailand's domestic car sales are expected to recover to 800,000 vehicles next year thanks to higher income for farmers and the expiry of five-year ownership conditions for the government's first-time car buyer scheme. Speaking at a seminar during Big Motor Sale 2016, Pimonwan Mahachariyawong, deputy managing director of Kasikorn Research Centre, said the country's car market is likely to start recovering in 2017 after four straight years of contraction. The research house forecast overall farmers' income to edge up 3% next year to around 800 billion baht. Nonetheless, those figures remain lower than during the 2006-11 period, when their overall income averaged 1.2 trillion baht with a compound annual growth rate of 14%.Kasikornbank's research house also projected the country's economy to grow by 3% this year and 3.3% next year.

#### **5. TEV signs MoU to make electric buses locally**

Source: **The Nation** ([Link](#))

Privately owned Thai Electric Vehicle Co (TEV) is looking to manufacture electric buses in Thailand, likely in 2018.To pave the way for electric bus production in Thailand, the company yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding with China's leading truck maker Beiqi Foton Motor to transfer bus assembly technology to Thailand. The buses will be produced under the TEV brand.

Managing director Somboon Pitayarangsarit said prior to production, TEV will import 100 buses from China to be sold locally next year, mainly to the Bangkok Mass Transit Authority, state enterprises and tourism-related companies.The imported buses include 12-metre plug-in hybrids, 10.5-metre battery electric models and 6.5-metre battery options, priced at 5 million, 8 million and 4.5 million baht, respectively.Each bus can travel between 20-60 kilometres per charge.

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