

Thai News Update: 27 May 2019

1. Auto shipments hit 24-month low in April

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

Amid the escalating trade war between the US and China, Thailand's car exports hit a 24-month low in April, according to the Federation of Thai Industries (FTI) Thai exports of completely-built-units (CBU) in April dropped 7.52 per cent year-on-year to 67,114 vehicles . Almost all destinations saw declines in Thai car exports, except for shipments to Australia and the Middle East, said Surapong Paisitpatnpong, spokesman of the FTI's Automotive Industry Club.

2. FedEx Express launches industry-leading cold chain shipping solution in Asia Pacific

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

FedEx Express, a subsidiary of FedEx Corp and the world's largest express transportation company, has launched an industry-leading temperature-controlled cold chain shipping solution in Asia Pacific, according to its press release. The innovative Medpak VIoC solution provides superior temperature integrity, greater convenience and higher cost efficiencies to healthcare customers shipping temperature-sensitive shipments. The Medpak VIoC solution is a high performance reusable thermal packaging, which comes with energy efficient Vacuum Insulated Panels (VIP) and Phase Change Material (PCM) validated to ISTA (International Safe Transit Association) 7D standards.

3. Krungsri JPC, MNC set path to more Japanese investment in Thailand

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

In an effort to enhance its leadership in the Japanese corporate market and to be the preferred bank for MNC's customers in Thailand, Krungsri Japanese Corporate and Multi-National Corporate Banking Group (JPC/MNC) has set out five core strategies for 2019. The strategies are to focus on loans, FX and derivatives, deposits, trade and settlement, and cross-segment collaboration. In addition, Krungsri JPC/MNC will focus on expanding business opportunities in

the Eastern Economic Corridor (EEC), with Japan's foreign direct investment (FDI) to Thailand expected to be stable at \$5 billion (Bt159 billion) this year, Yuzo Nakada, Krungsri head of Japanese corporate and multi-national corporate (JPC/MNC) banking, said on Monday.

4. Dusit Thani lines up B2.6bn expansion

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

Dusit Thani Plc plans to splurge at least 2.6 billion baht to expand its hotel and residential business over the next 1-2 years. Of the total, about 300 million baht will be spent to renovate the Dusit Thani in Hua Hin, said Suphajee Suthumpun, group chief executive. Dusit Thani Hua Hin has 190 rooms and half of them will be closed for renovation by the end of June, reopening in October. Some 1 billion baht will be spent on the new residential development of 18 rai in the same area as Dusit Thani Hua Hin, possibly later this year or next year, while about 300 million baht is allotted for major renovation of Dusit Thani Pattaya under the new concept next year.

5. Solar power drawing private-sector interest after new PDP

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

Thailand's solar power market is heating up as many listed companies plan massive investments in the sector. Distribution channels for solar panels are also expanding to serve local demand for both on-grid and off-grid power generation. For on-grid power capacity, the national power development plan (PDP) for 2018-37 has a revised target for its solar power portfolio over the next 20 years. The target is divided between the household rooftop scheme at 10,000 megawatts and a further 2,725MW for floating solar farms at nine dams operated by the state-run Electricity Generating Authority of Thailand (Egat).