



Thailand Flood Relief and Recovery Bulletin

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Foreign Manufacturers like Doing Business In Thailand, Most will Stay despite Floods

NEW YORK (Nov. 22, 2011, Forbes from Wall Street Journal) - Foreign manufacturers like doing business in Thailand... and investors (and tourists) keep coming back for more...

PC companies may face an acute shortage of hard disk drives (HDDs) over the next several months. Japanese automakers, which are the largest foreign investors in Thailand, are struggling to recover their lost output...

But don't bet on an exodus of foreign factories from Thailand. "I think that most companies will stay in Thailand," says Setsuo Luchi, regional president of JETRO, the official Japanese trade organization.

Over 400 Japanese companies suffered losses in industries such as cars, electronics, food processing, agricultural machinery and building materials. Yet flood-hit automakers like Toyota have reaffirmed their commitment to Thailand, which is an export hub for the car industry in Southeast Asia, even though Indonesia offers a much bigger domestic market.



Thai American Chamber Survey: Thailand 'A Good Business Environment!'



AMCHAM THAILAND

A recent survey of members by the American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand found that **none of its member companies planned to leave as a result of the floods.** Thailand is centrally located, reasonably cost-efficient and consistently pro-investment. "It's a good business environment," says Luchi.

Flood Situation Ends in 11 Districts, Bangkok Will be Dry by New Year's, Governor Predicts

BANGKOK (Dec. 4, 2011, Bangkok Post) - Bangkok governor Sukhumbhand Paribatra on Sunday announced that the flood situation has now returned to normal in 11 districts of the capital, reports said. The districts are Chatuchak, Lat Phrao, Lak Si, Bueng



Khum, Chom Thong, Bangkok Yai, Bangkok Noi, Bang Phlad, Phasi Charoen, Bang Khun Thian and Bang Bon., according to him. Mr. Sukhumbhand said the flood affected people in these areas, residing at temporary shelters and evacuation centers can now return to their homes.

Inundated areas in Bangkok will be dried out before the end of December, Governor Sukhumbhand added. "Bangkok will dry before the end of this month because I want it as a New Year gift for all Bangkokians", he said. Officials of Bangkok Metropolitan Administration will surround each inundated area and then drain the flood water out to ensure that they all will be dry before New Year.



Members of the Thai Royal Navy work during a massive cleanup in a neighborhood in Bangkok where flood waters have receded. Agence France Presse

Disk Drive Maker Seagate Says Thai Facilities Not Impacted, but Supply Chain Affected

(Nov. 29, 2011, from Forbes) - Disk drive maker Seagate Technology (STX) forecast second quarter revenue expectations ahead of analyst estimates late yesterday, and gave its prognosis of its industry related to the record flooding in Thailand.



Seagate said that, due to industry impacts caused by flooding in Thailand, hard disk drive supply will be constrained for several quarters. For the December 2011 quarter, Seagate sees the industry shipping 110 to 120 million units, with the ability to manufacture and ship hard disk drives gradually improving through calendar 2012. The company said that while its own component and disk drive factories in Thailand have not been directly affected by

flooding, its ability to manufacture hard disk drives has been impacted due to external component supply constraints, as it has disclosed previously. Seagate now expects unit shipments of 43 million units and revenue of about \$2.8 billion in the December 2011 quarter, with gross margin 150-300 basis points above the high-end of its long-term, targeted gross margin of 22 percent to 26 percent.

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