



Vivat Supatham (fifth from right), with fellow GMFTI committee members and attendees at the 39th ASEAN Glass Conference in the Philippines.

ASEAN Glass Conference and GMFTI Chairman announced

With the theme 'A New Era of Collaboration' and *Glass Worldwide* as its exclusive official journal, the ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers (AFGM) has announced that the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference will take place in Hua Hin and Cha-am in Thailand. The conference will be organised on 17-20 October 2016 at the Dusit Thani Hua Hin Hotel by the Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries (GMFTI).

"I would like to take this opportunity to invite all our glass friends to the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference 2016 in Thailand, to be held in Hua Hin/Cha-am, a perfect beach area south of Bangkok" commented Vivat Supatham, recently elected GMFTI Chairman for 2016-2018 and successor to Somporn Bhumiwat.

"It's a great pleasure for me to take on the honourable position of GMFTI Chairman and I hope my experience of over 20 years in glass tableware,

glass blocks, float glass and glass containers will contribute to our glass group. Having *Glass Worldwide* as our official partner is a great opportunity to network and link people throughout the whole glass world" says Mr Supatham, who is also General Manager of the Siam Glass Industry Co Ltd (a company in the Osotsa Group).

ASEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY

Explaining the conference theme, AFGM Chairman Chai Kung Fee added: "A new Era of Collaboration" can be abbreviated to AEC, also the acronym for the new ASEAN Economic Community, officially established this year as a single regional common market of ASEAN countries. The objective is to create a competitive market of >



AFGM dignitaries at the 35th ASEAN Glass Conference in Thailand.



The GMFTI was represented at the 39th ASEAN Glass Conference last October.



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ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers, web: www.aseanglass.org



The programme will include several networking opportunities.

over 600 million people in ASEAN countries and many businesses began preparing themselves a few years ahead of time to meet the challenges and opportunities.

"The paradigm of this integration is to liaise on the principle of the abundance of opportunities instead of scarcity. Business needs closer collaborations among industry members and its associates to prosper together. This is also our belief and objective in setting

up the ASEAN Glass Conference annually as a platform to enhance the connectivity and collaboration among members and associates in the region's glass industry."

TECHNICAL AND SOCIAL EVENTS

Last staged in Thailand in 2011 in Phuket, the 2016 event follows the 39th ASEAN Glass Conference that was successfully staged in the Philippines by the Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines (GMAPI) last October.

A combination of technical and social events brought together approximately 300 attendees from 24 countries in Asia, Europe, the Middle East, North America and Oceania.

FIRST-TIME LOCATION

"GMFTI has selected Hua Hin/Cha-am as the host cities for an ASEAN Glass Conference for the first time" Worawit Sureesarakorn, Conference Chairman and Plant Manager of Fiberglass Co Ltd explained.

"Hua Hin is a well-known tourist destination in Thailand, as is the neighbouring city Cha-am and



most conference activities will be conducted in these two cities. I'm very glad that the 40th AFGM Glass Conference organising committee from the GMFTI team chose Hua Hin/Cha-am cities for the very first time as a venue in the history of ASEAN Glass Conferences. The committee wants to offer all conference delegates, spouses and children a new experience in Thailand and I'm looking forward to seeing old friends and new participants" Chai Kung Fee concluded.

Further details about the 40th ASEAN Glass Conference will follow in the next issue of *Glass Worldwide*. Interested parties can also visit www.aseanglass.org for more information when available. ■



AFGM Chairman Chai Kung Fee (left) with AFGM General Secretary, Nelson Hui Yuen Kin.

REGIONAL INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

The ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers (AFGM) is a 39 year old regional industry association, involving national industry associations from ASEAN member countries, including:

- Indonesia: Indonesia Glass Manufacturers Association.
- Malaysia: Glass Manufacturers Association of Malaysia.
- Philippines: Glass Manufacturers' Association of the Philippines.
- Thailand: Glass Manufacturers Industry Club, The Federation of Thai Industries.
- Vietnam: Vietnam Glass Association – Manufacturers sector.



The last ASEAN Glass Conference in Thailand was staged in 2011 in Phuket.



The 40th ASEAN Glass Conference will take place at the Dusit Thani Hua Hin Hotel in Cha-am.

ASEAN Federation of Glass Manufacturers, web: www.aseanglass.org