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Deadline for registration: March 11, 2005

Highlights of Zhejiang Province

Zhejiang Province is located along the shore of the East China Sea. It has a total area of over 38,600 square miles and a population of 46 million.

The province has more than 200 islands along its coast, the most islands in China. Zhejiang has long been a scenic spot for tourists since ancient times. Its capital, Hangzhou, with a history of more than 2,000 years, is a famous historic and cultural city and is one of the six ancient capitals in China (The other five are Beijing, Xian, Nanjing, Luoyang and Kaifeng).

Hills and mountains make up 70.4 percent of Zhejiang's total area, plains make up 23.2 percent and rivers and lakes 6.4 percent. Sloping from southwest to northeast, Zhejiang covers two topographical zones: the northern part consists of the Hangjia Plain north of Hangzhou Bay and the Ningshao Plain south of it. With low, flat terrain, numerous waterways and fertile soil, this area produces grain and silk.

The other zone is the hills and mountains in the west and south making up the greater part of the province. The Tianmu and Longmen mountains in the west are an important bamboo and tea growing region while the Guiji, Siming and Tiantai mountains in the east, with their many small basins, are a grain-producing region.

China Insight

Presents

Zhejiang Province Business Forum

Doing Business With China

Tuesday, March 15, 2005

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Registration begins at 8 a.m.

David Fong's Restaurant
9329 Lyndale Avenue South
Bloomington, Minnesota
Phone: (952) 888-9294



*The Forum is supported by the
University of Minnesota China Center*

Zhejiang will be an Advanced Manufacturing Base

To further develop Zhejiang into a manufacturing industry, the province specified four major categories, 36 key fields, and 100 developmental focuses on which to concentrate during this process.

The key technologies with great market potential will be the main targets of support. Such sectors as cleaner production, resources comprehensive utilization, energy conservation and new energy will also be supported in developing a circular economy in Zhejiang.

Experts in China estimate if the province uses the proper methods to advance its economy, Zhejiang's manufacturing industry will advance quickly to produce high quality products and services.

The four major categories Zhejiang will look at are the high technology industry, equipment manufacturing industry, industries with traditional advantages, and energy production and conservation. Research and development in each industry is key to modernizing and advancing Zhejiang's economy in areas such as computers, electronics, medical products, transportation, machinery, chemicals, construction, metallurgy, and energy.

Last year Zhejiang chalked up US\$85.2 billion in foreign trade, a growth of 38.8 percent over the previous year. The total included US\$58.2 billion in export and US\$27 billion in import, up 39.8 percent and 36.6 percent respectively. The trade surplus amounted to US\$30 billion.*

Zhejiang Province led the nation in trade surplus for the first time in 2002 when the export value exceeded the import value by US\$17.9 billion.

Zhejiang Province is seeking more foreign related economic management and services and is striving to improve its investment environment.

Zhejiang is now in a post-Industrial period with a solid industrial foundation, particularly in the manufacturing sector. Industries in Zhejiang and Minnesota are strongly complementary to each other and will have increased potential for cooperation in trade and investment.

Forum participants can expect to

1. learn the procedures to enter China;
2. work with a proactive province;
3. obtain reliable information directly from provincial sources in China;
4. have their questions answered;
5. network with provincial businesses and government sources in China;
6. meet other participants and form a network of local businesses working with Zhejiang Province.

*Source: Sina.com

Speakers

Wang Fang (Annie)



A member from the WTO Affairs Training Delegation, Zhejiang Province, who works for Ningbo Municipal Bureau of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation and the Ningbo WTO Affairs Consulting Service Center. She specializes in the policy of foreign trade, foreign investment and foreign economy.

Chupai Li (Tony)

Head of WTO Affairs Training Delegation. He is Deputy Director and Senior Engineer in the Quality & Technique Supervision Bureau of Zhejiang Province. He has a B.S. in Chemical Engineering and a MBA.



Rao Bin (Dennis)



A member of the WTO Affairs Training Delegation, Zhejiang Province, who works in the College of International Studies, Wenzhou University, as Vice Dean of the Foreign Language Department. His strong interest in the economy and business has created good relations with many local enterprises and industry associations.

Six other delegate members will form a panel to discuss Zhejiang Province's business climate and answer questions.