



INVESTMENT SERVICES CENTER
THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT
MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

555 Vipavadee Rangsit Road, Chatuchuck 10900 Tel. 0 2537- 8111, Fax : 0 2537-8177 www.boi.go.th

PRESS RELEASE

NO. 163/ 2009 (O.106)

September 16, 2009

Manufacturing sector plans Bt100bn investment and business expansion

Confidence on Thai economic recovery resumes

Almost half of companies with promotional privileges from Thailand Board of Investment (BOI) plan to expand business and workforce with combined Bt100 billion investment value in response to their strong confidence in economic recovery in the second half of this year, according to BOI's latest survey on employment, production and distribution. The expansion plans might boost this year's manufacturing sector's production capacity to the same level of last year.

Dr. Atchaka Sibunruang Brimble, BOI Secretary General, said the survey showed that 42% or 155 BOI-promoted companies have strong confidence in the recovery of Thai economy in the second half of 2009. According to the survey, 94 projects are considering investment expansion in the country by the end of the year with total investment value of Bt100 billion.

The survey respondents included 371 BOI-promoted companies with accumulated investment value of at least Bt500 million and received BOI investment incentives within the last five years.

The findings also indicated that a number of businesses in different industries are likely to hire more workers, especially those in the electronics and electrical products industry which, in July, showed 62% increase in employment rate.

In addition, 47% of the respondents or 173 companies will maintain their workforce after substantial layoffs at the beginning of the year because of increasing orders in the second quarter.

“The industrial manufacturers estimated that economic recovery will help improve local production capacity in almost every sector. It is speculated that the industrial sector will operate at 64.3% of its production capacity which is comparably the same rate in 2008,” Dr. Atchaka added.

The investment expansion projects are expected to reach approximately Bt100 billion by the end of 2009. This includes Bt 44 billion from chemicals, paper and plastics; Bt22 billion from services and public utilities; Bt19 billion from electronics and electrical appliances; and Bt15 billion from agriculture and agricultural products sectors.
