

## THE BOARD OF INVESTMENT MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY

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## **Press Release**

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BOI Roadshow to Australia draws close attention from the automotive sector

The Australian Auto Mission will organize a visit to Thailand next month to conduct a feasibility study of investment in the country. This positive move came after a seminar on the topic, "Unbeatable Thailand, Unparalleled Opportunities" held by Thailand's Ministry of Industry during an investment roadshow to Australia from 26-29 May.

At the seminar, the Ministry highlighted the country's investment plans in basic infrastructure projects

H.E. M.R. Pongsvas Svasti, the Minister of Industry, revealed that during 26-29 May 2012, the Ministry of Industry and the Thailand Board of Investment visited Sydney, Australia aiming to stimulate investment, and held a seminar on the topic, "Unbeatable Thailand, Unparalleled Opportunities", focusing on strengthening investors' confidence in Thailand and emphasizing the investment opportunities that the country offers. The seminar attracted nearly 200 Australian investors.

Executives from the Thailand Board of Investment and the National Economic and Social Development Board explained the trends and government policies that support Thai industrial sector expansion to reinforce confidence among Australian investors. The BOI Secretary General delivered a speech on "Investment Incentives and Opportunities", while the Deputy Secretary General of NESDB spoke on "Thailand's Infrastructure Development Plan and Opportunities".

Highlights of the investment seminar included two case studies on "Experiences of Doing Business in Thailand", confirming the potential and advantages of investing in Thailand. The first speaker was Mr. Paul O'Malley, the Managing Director and CEO of one of the largest steel and construction materials manufacturers in Australia,

BlueScope Steel. Mr. O'Malley was also appointed the BOI's Honorary Investment Advisor (HIA). The second was Mr. David Chuter, the Executive of Strategy and Communications of the Futuris Group of Companies, which is known as the leading car seat and auto parts manufacturer in Australia.

Furthermore, the Australian Auto Mission met with the delegates from the Ministry of Industry and BOI to ask for their collaboration in bringing the mission to Thailand during 10-15 June 2012.

Mrs. Atchaka Sibunruang, the Secretary General of BOI, disclosed that since 1997 to April of 2011, 242 projects from Australian investors applied for investment promotion incentives with total investment value reaching Bt39.3 billion. The majority of the investments were in mining and basis metals, followed by, metal products, machinery and transport equipment industries.

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