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Press Release

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Connect USA Conference in Chiang Rai Promotes American Products and Services for Northern Thai Businesses

The U.S. Embassy in Bangkok and the U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai organized the conference “Connect USA: Opportunities for Sourcing American Products and Services” at Le Meridien Hotel, Chiang Rai. The half-day program highlighted U.S. government-sponsored resources, including from the U.S. & Foreign Commercial Service, available to assist connecting U.S. and Thai businesses, as well as from the Foreign Agriculture Service, and EducationUSA.

U.S. Embassy staff shared presentations about sourcing products and services from the United States to over 70 participants from local businesses, trading companies, and business associations. Thai and American businesses hosted booths representing several industries, including: FedEx (logistics), CISCO (information technology), Baker Tilly (legal services), Ford (automobiles), Global Union Express (travel), ATC Supply (water), and CGS (manufacturing).

In her opening remarks, U.S. Consul General Susan Stevenson said, “ConnectUSA is an opportunity for Chiang Rai businesses to build networks and make new partners with U.S. companies. The U.S. Consulate has long supported economic development in the Greater Mekong Sub-region.”

The U.S. Consulate General in Chiang Mai has been working closely with local organizations to support such development. In March 2008, the Consulate hosted an international conference in Chiang Mai called “Logistics Development in the Greater Mekong Sub-region: Managing trade and Expanding Markets.”

The United States’ presence in Chiang Rai dates back over one hundred years ago since U.S. missionaries established Overbrook Hospital and Chiang Rai Wittayakom School. U.S. Ambassador to Thailand Kristie Kenney visited Chiang Rai in August 2011.

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<http://www.buyusa.gov/home/>. For details about education in the U.S., please visit--
<http://bangkok.usembassy.gov/education.html>

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