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## Strengthening Global Ties: A Productive Visit from Our Thai Partners



Premiere Logistics was delighted to welcome distinguished representatives from our valued partner and I.P.N member in Thailand, Perkin Logistics Thailand Co., Ltd., to our Shanghai headquarters. The visit, led by Mr. Atiwai, Overseas Manager, and Mr. VoraKhun, General Manager, marked a significant milestone in our long-standing cooperation.

The trip aimed to review ongoing joint initiatives, explore new opportunities for strategic cooperation across the Asia-Pacific region, and further align our operational objectives to better serve our clients. During their stay, Mr. Atiwai and Mr. VoraKhun engaged in in-depth discussions on innovation and future growth strategies. The exchange of insights was both productive and inspiring, reaffirming our shared commitment for excellence in global logistics.

A highlight of the visit was a cordial dinner hosted by Alex Liu, CEO of Premiere Logistics. Beyond business discussions, the evening offered a relaxed and engaging setting to deepen personal connections and celebrate cultural exchange—an embodiment of the trust and friendship that underpin our partnership.

As Premiere Logistics continues to expand its global presence, collaborations like the one with Perkin Logistics Thailand are instrumental to our success. The mutual understanding and reinforced trust forged during this visit would further empower us to deliver more seamless, efficient, and reliable logistics solutions across China, Thailand, and throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

We extend our sincere appreciation to our Thailand's partners for their visit and look forward to continuing this journey of shared growth and long-term success together.

# A Renewed Vision: The Renovation of Premiere Logistics Shanghai Headquarters





Premiere Logistics Ltd. proudly announces the comprehensive renovation of its Shanghai headquarters—the first major upgrade in 18 years. This renewal marks a key milestone in the company's ongoing growth and reflects its strong confidence in the future of the Asia-Pacific region.

The newly refurbished office features a modern, open, and collaborative workspace designed to enhance communication, creativity, and employee well-being. The redesign aligns with Premiere Logistics' vision of building an agile, people-centered environment that empowers teams to deliver even higher levels of service and innovation.

At a time when many companies are exercising caution in capital investment, Premiere Logistics' decision to reinvest in its Shanghai headquarters demonstrates a long-term commitment to both its people and its clients. The new office underscores the company's solid financial foundation and reinforces Shanghai's importance as a strategic hub within its global logistics network.

With this renovation, Premiere Logistics takes a decisive step toward the future—strengthening its footprint across Asia and reaffirming its position as a trusted partner in global supply chain solutions.

#### U.S. and China Reach Breakthrough on Tariff Reductions



In a significant move toward easing long-standing trade tensions, the United States and China have reached a preliminary understanding to reduce tariffs and suspend certain retaliatory measures. The agreement, announced following high-level discussions during the APEC Summit in South Korea, signals a renewed willingness from both sides to stabilize economic relations.

As part of the arrangement, the U.S. will lower tariffs on select Chinese imports—particularly those related to fentanyl precursor chemicals—from 20% to 10%, and extend its suspension of certain retaliatory tariffs for another year. While these adjustments represent progress, the overall tariff environment remains stringent, with average duties on Chinese goods still around 47%, and some items facing rates up to 100%.

Beyond tariff reductions, the agreement also encompasses broader cooperation and de-escalation measures. The U.S. will pause its Section 301 investigation into China's maritime and logistics industries for one year, a move welcomed by businesses across the supply chain. In response, China will lift related retaliatory measures during the same period.

China has also agreed to temporarily suspend newly imposed export controls on rare earth elements, while the U.S. will halt enforcement of recent export restrictions targeting companies linked to national security concerns. Both sides have pledged to review and renegotiate the terms annually, ensuring continued dialogue and flexibility.

In addition, U.S. officials have indicated that China intends to increase imports of American agricultural and energy products—a potential boost for bilateral trade volumes—though formal confirmation from Beijing is still pending.

### Manufacturers Embrace AI to Build Smarter, More Resilient Supply Chains



Amid rising economic uncertainty and shifting tariff policies, manufacturers are increasingly turning to artificial intelligence (AI) to fortify their supply chains. According to a recent KPMG survey, 63% of manufacturing executives now identify supply chain disruptions as a major obstacle to innovation—spurring a wave of technology-driven investments aimed at boosting resilience, agility, and operational efficiency.

Take Ingka Group, the largest operator of IKEA stores, which recently acquired Locus—a cutting-edge, AI-powered logistics platform. This strategic move brings delivery operations in-house, giving Ingka greater control, faster delivery times, and enhanced flexibility. It's a key pillar of their broader digital transformation strategy and reflects a growing trend among global manufacturers: bringing AI-driven logistics capabilities internal rather than relying on third-party providers.

But AI's impact extends far beyond logistics. Retail giant Walmart has embedded AI across its entire supply chain ecosystem, leveraging advanced technologies for demand forecasting, inventory management, warehouse automation, and logistics optimization. Its AI systems accurately predict consumer demand, dynamically manage stock replenishment, deploy robotics to streamline warehouse operations, and optimize delivery routes for lower costs and improved on-time performance.

As Brian Higgins, KPMG's Global Head of Industrial Manufacturing, emphasized, "Automation, AI, humanoids, robotics—that is very needed." In an era of increasingly complex global supply networks, AI provides a clear pathway forward—enabling smarter decisions, seamless coordination, and unprecedented levels of efficiency and resilience.

With pioneers like IKEA and Walmart leading the charge, AI is not merely transforming supply chain management—it is redefining it. Through continuous, intelligent improvements—forecast by forecast, delivery by delivery—the foundation for the future of supply chain excellence is being built today.

### Global Trade Defies Tariff Turbulence, Maintains Steady Growth



Despite the United States imposing its highest tariffs since the 1930s, global trade has demonstrated striking resilience, according to the latest DHL Global Connectedness Tracker. The report reveals how international trade and investment are adapting in response to shifting U.S. policies during President Donald Trump's second term.

From 2025 to 2029, global trade volumes are projected to grow by 2.5% annually—nearly on par with the growth rate of the past decade. This sustained momentum underscores the diversification of the global economy: while the U.S. accounted for 13% of global imports and 9% of exports in 2024, most countries have resisted protectionist measures, helping to maintain stability in global markets.

Although tariffs have reduced earlier growth projections—from 3.1% down to 2.5%—the overall trajectory of trade remains robust. The impact has been most evident in North America, whereas regions such as South America, the Middle East, and parts of Asia have benefited from increased energy exports and limited exposure to new tariffs. Notably, the first half of 2025 saw the fastest sixmonth expansion in global trade since 2010, driven initially by strong U.S. import demand and China's successful reorientation toward ASEAN, Africa, and Europe.

Contrary to widespread concerns about "deglobalization," the report finds no evidence of the world fracturing into competing economic blocs. In fact, the average distance goods travel has reached an all-time high, while intra-regional trade has declined to a historic low of 51%, signaling deeper global integration rather than retreat.

"Companies are actively navigating risks and opportunities in an interconnected world—not pulling back from it," said Professor Steven A. Altman of NYU Stern. DHL Express CEO John Pearson added, "Connectivity continues to be a powerful driver of growth and opportunity."



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