

PRESS RELEASE

“CONSUMPTION TRENDS OF LARGE EXPORT MARKETS FOR FISHERY PRODUCTS; FISHERY INDUSTRY IN THE FUTURE & CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY” SEMINAR OPENING CEREMONY OF SGS CAN THO OFFICE

On December 12th 2014, at Iris hotel, SGS Viet Nam hold the seminar on “**Consumption Trends Of Large Export Markets For Fishery Products; Fishery Industry In The Future & Corporate Social Responsibility**” in combination with the **opening ceremony of SGS Can Tho Office**.

There are about 100 guests attending the event, including Representatives of the South West Steering Committee, Can Tho City People's Committee, Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, Department of Trade and Industry, Representatives of Government agencies of Can Tho City; Representatives of the press and media with fisheries companies of the Mekong Delta.

In the context of bilateral agreements with large export markets are about to be signed, especially Free Trade Agreement Vietnam - EU, from the beginning of 2015, although Vietnamese seafood exports to this market will receive benefits such as tax incentives, we still have some difficulties when meeting the high requirements of international standards. To help businesses prepare for the international market integration, the seminar provides important information about consumption trends for seafood products of large export markets and the future prospect of the fisheries sector when the Free Trade Agreement with EU will be signed. At the same time, the seminar also spends much time on the provisions of the new version of Social Accountability standard (SA 8000). This is an important trend of the fisheries sector nowadays, besides food safety issue, consumers also pay more attention to the way businesses ensure working conditions and responsibility to employees. By applying this standard, businesses will be committed to guarantee the rights of workers and affirm the moral values to the whole society. This will be the passport for Vietnamese enterprises to gain access to major markets around the world.

SGS is the world's leading inspection, verification, testing and certification company. Recognised as the global benchmark for quality and integrity, SGS employ over 80,000 people and operates a network of more than 1,650 offices and laboratories around the world. As a member of SGS group, SGS Vietnam Ltd has been providing quality services since 1989. In September 1997, SGS Vietnam became the first international, independent **inspection, testing and certification company** to be granted a 100% Foreign Owned Company License. Presently, SGS Vietnam has more than 900 employees working in 8 offices and laboratories (in Hanoi, Quang Ninh, Hai Phong, Da Nang, Quy Nhon and Ho Chi Minh city).

With the purpose of providing better and faster quality services for Mekong Delta business, in October 2014, SGS Vietnam has opened a new office in Can Tho City, located on the 5th floor of VCCI building, No. 12 Hoa Binh Street, Ninh Kieu District, Can Tho City. This is one of the first steps of SGS Vietnam's upcoming development strategy, focuses on providing services for the agricultural and fisheries supply chain, in order to maximize the potential of two key sectors of Mekong Delta. With the experiences and strengths of a multi-national corporations, SGS desires to contribute to the sustainable development of the local and global economy, by building trust between our partners throughout the whole supply chain, making trade simpler and more efficient.

For further information, please contact:

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