

EXIM Thailand to Provide Equity Capital to Companies with Listing Potential

EXIM Thailand announces its readiness to make equity investment as long-term business partner in high-growth customer companies with an aim to encourage their eventual listing on the stock markets. This initiative will benefit EXIM Thailand customers' fund-raising efforts which will in turn open up their new trade and investment opportunities in the international arena.

Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee (center), Chairman of the Board of Directors, Export-Import Bank of Thailand (EXIM Thailand), Mr. Pakorn Malakul na Ayudhya (second right), Chairman of the Stock Exchange of Thailand (SET), and Dr. Apichai Boontharawara (second left), EXIM Thailand President, recently participated in the panel discussion titled "Capital Market and Business Potential Enhancement" organized by EXIM Thailand to suggest ways to fuel the growth of customer's businesses through supporting them in their listing on the stock markets (both the Stock Exchange of Thailand and the Market for Alternative Investment).

According to Dr. Apichai, a large number of Thai entrepreneurs do not maintain sufficient capital base for long-term business expansion having high debt-to-equity ratio and certain limitations on their loan increase ability. EXIM Thailand, thus, has taken the initiative to augment its clientele's business potential by offering to co-invest in their businesses and assist them in their preparation for listing on the Thai stock exchanges. EXIM Thailand's involvement would also improve the credibility of its customers undergoing the Securities and Exchange Commission and SET's screening. Since the purpose of EXIM Thailand's equity investment is not profit-oriented and non-speculative, its security holding position will not exceed 30% of total equity while the length and final exit of investment will be pre-determined.

"EXIM Thailand's new role as co-investor of its customer business is a pioneering step forward to serve the present needs of Thai entrepreneurs while pursuing the Bank's goal of offering diverse and integrated products and services," revealed Dr. Apichai.

Dr. Narongchai Akrasanee, Chairman of the EXIM Thailand's Board of Directors, also said the Bank's new role demonstrated its ability to introduce new financial solutions in a timely manner to cater for Thai enterprises' needs to adjust in the ever-changing economic circumstances. These include the growing opportunities in emerging markets, production base relocation, standardization requirements, value creation through innovation, high-potential service sector such as tourism and spa business, energy stability building projects as well as domestic infrastructural projects that are still inadequate such as independent power producers (IPPs), industrial estates, raw water treatment plants and logistics networks.

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