Executive summary

(*Access full sector-specific updates: advertising (1), aerospace (2), automotive (1), chemicals (1), conglomerate (1), design(1), education (2), financial services (4), hospitality (1), legal services (1), logistics (1), technology (1), transportation (2), and real estate (1).

- **GroupM**, the media investment management group of **WPP**, has forged a strategic alliance with **Alibaba**. Read more [here](#).
- **Airbus** has inaugurated its A330 Completion and Delivery Centre (C&DC) in Tianjin, China, taking
additional steps in the expansion of its global footprint and strategic partnership with China. Read more [here](#).

- **Babcock** has signed a contract for the design and supply of its market leading cargo handling system for two LPG carriers. Read more [here](#).

- **Ford Motor Company** – building on its global promise to provide customers with affordable and capable electric vehicles – announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Anhui Zotye Automobile Co., Ltd., a major manufacturer of zero-emission all-electric vehicles in China. Read more [here](#).

- **BASF** will build a new specialty amines plant at its existing wholly owned site in Nanjing Chemical Industry Park in China. Read more [here](#).

- **Siemens** supports the joint exhibition “Deutschland 8 - German Art in China” (September 19 - October 31, 2017) in Beijing. Read more [here](#).

- **Benoy’s** urban design team has created a series of initial ideas to spark conversation and promote innovative thinking for the future of Hong Kong’s New Central Harbourfront Site 3, which spans from Jardine House to the Central Ferry Piers, and is part of the government’s new Central Harbourfront initiative. Read more [here](#).

- The Provost of the **University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC)** has been recognised for his contribution to the development of Ningbo. Professor Chris Rudd, who is also a Pro-Vice-Chancellor of The University of Nottingham UK, was awarded the Camellia award by Ningbo Municipal Government. Read more [here](#).

- **Heriot-Watt University** has been named International University of the Year by the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018. Read more [here](#).

- **Deloitte** convened the China Outbound Investment Forum in Chongqing, China as an important part of the 2017 Deloitte GCSG Annual Meeting. Read more [here](#).

- **Accenture** and **Huawei** announced the latest achievement in port information field: Accenture will help Shanghai International Port (Group) Co., Ltd (SIPG) to establish a consolidated information management platform that will run on Huawei FusionCloud solution, with some of the work to be undertaken as part of the existing Huawei-Accenture Strategic Agreement. Read more [here](#).

- **Grant Thornton** was honoured late last month in Beijing. On Aug 30-31, the seventh membership representative conference of the BICPA (Beijing Institute of Certified Public Accountant) and the second membership representative conference of the BAEA (Beijing Assets Evaluation Association) were held in Beijing Meeting Center. Present were Chen Yugui, secretary general of the CICPA and Zhang Guochun, secretary general of the BAEA among the 236 delegates. Read more [here](#).

- **PwC** officially launched Belt & Road United, a membership-based platform that promotes sharing and exploring of business opportunities along the Belt and Road (B&R). Read more [here](#).

- **Hilton** has become the first hospitality company to partner with the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA), in a bid to provide leadership training and fund projects that bring about positive societal change. Read more [here](#).

- **DLA Piper** has advised AviaAM Financial Leasing China (AviaAM) on the acquisition, financing, leasing and delivery of eight Airbus A320 family aircraft for circa US$500 million. Read more [here](#).

- **DHL Supply Chain** together with **Huawei** Technologies has launched a Narrowband Internet of Things (NB-IoT) application at an automotive site in Liuzhou, China. Read more [here](#).

- China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited and **IBM** announced the development of the first blockchain-enabled bancassurance project in Hong Kong. Read more [here](#).

- **Alstom** has been awarded a contract by Chengdu Metro Corp. Ltd. to supply the traction systems for 496 metro cars to circulate on Line 5, the city’s new metro line. Read more [here](#).

- **Thales** won a new contract for the future Ankeng Light Rail Transit (LRT) project in Taiwan. Under the planning of the New Taipei City Department of Rapid Transit Systems, the Ankeng LRT project is part of the transportation expansion plan in the Greater Taipei region that aims to reduce travelling time between regions and to alleviate the busy traffic volume within the metropolitan area. Read more [here](#).

- Global real estate company **JLL** is adding to its portfolio of services with the launch of its Command Centre in Asia Pacific. Read more [here](#).
**Advertising**

GroupM, the media investment management group of WPP, has forged a strategic alliance with Alibaba. The high-powered partnership combines GroupM’s [m]PLATFORM solution with Alibaba’s Uni Marketing products, collaborating in areas including data, resources and strategy. This will create additional mileage for GroupM’s clients and enable their brand marketing efforts to be more relevant to consumers. Launched globally last November, [m]PLATFORM is GroupM’s proprietary audience intelligence and activation solution. It connects wide-ranging WPP data sources, including Kantar and Wunderman, third-party data providers and data from GroupM’s other global media partners. In the prevailing big data era, [m]PLATFORM provides marketers with an edge in building personalized and long-standing consumer relations. Read more here.

![GroupM and Alibaba partnership](image1)

**Aerospace**

CBI member Airbus has inaugurated its A330 Completion and Delivery Centre (C&DC) in Tianjin, China, taking additional steps in the expansion of its global footprint and strategic partnership with China. At the same time, the first A330 to be delivered from the C&DC was handed over to Tianjin Airlines. Located at the same site as the Airbus Tianjin A320 Family Final Assembly Line and the Airbus Tianjin Delivery Centre, the A330 C&DC covers the aircraft completion activities including cabin installation, aircraft painting and production flight test, as well as customer flight acceptance and aircraft delivery. Some 150 Chinese staff members of the C&DC were trained by Airbus experts in Toulouse. Read more here.

![A330 C&DC](image2)

**CBI member Babcock** has signed a contract for the design and supply of its market leading cargo handling system for two LPG carriers. This marks the sixth and seventh LPG carriers to be delivered with Babcock equipment at Jiangnan Shipyard in Shanghai, China, and signifies the long-standing and successful business relationship between the companies. The two LPG carriers are scheduled for delivery by August 2019. Both 84,000cbm LPG carriers will be fitted with Babcock’s LPG reliquefaction technology including its patented Vent Gas Cooler system™ (VGC™) – an innovative, multi-functional enhancement. The VGC™ provides significantly increased capacity and efficiency at lower capital and operating costs. Its commercial success is attributed to the through-life savings achievable by ship owners and has been fitted to over 70 LPG carriers varying in size from 84,000cbm to 12,000cbm. Read more here.

![Babcock LPG carriers](image3)

**Automotive**

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**CBI member **Ford Motor Company – building on its global promise to provide customers with affordable and capable electric vehicles – announced the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Anhui Zotye Automobile Co., Ltd., a major manufacturer of zero-emission all-electric vehicles in China. The goal of the MoU is to explore the establishment of a joint venture for the development, production, marketing and servicing of a new line of all-electric passenger vehicles in China. The announcement is consistent with Ford’s vision for a more sustainable auto industry, as well as efforts to contribute to societal goals of improving air quality and addressing climate change. “The potential to launch a new line of all-electric vehicles in the world’s largest auto market is an exciting next step for Ford in China,” said Peter Fleet, Ford group vice president and president, Ford Asia Pacific. “Electric vehicles will be a big part of the future in China and Ford wants to lead in delivering great solutions to customers.” Read more [here](#).

**Chemicals**

**CBI member **BASF will build a new specialty amines plant at its existing wholly owned site in Nanjing Chemical Industry Park in China. The new multi-product plant can manufacture 21,000 metric tons per year and further extends BASF’s amines portfolio at the specialty amines complex in Nanjing. The plant is scheduled to come on stream in 2019 and will mainly produce 1,2-Propylenediamine (1,2-PDA), n-Octylamine (n-OA) and Polyetheramine (PEA). “BASF offers a wide range of amines globally, and this investment reflects our continued commitment to meeting the growing market demand in Asia Pacific,” said Stefan Blank, President, BASF Intermediates division. “Building on decades of experience in developing and manufacturing amines, this new plant will further strengthen our global leadership in these versatile intermediate products.” Read more [here](#).

**Conglomerate**

**CBI member Siemens** supports the joint exhibition “Deutschland 8 - German Art in China” (September 19 - October 31, 2017) in Beijing. The exhibition brings together more than 50 artists, represented by about 300 works, among them Georg Baselitz, K.O. Götz, Katharina Grosse, Anselm Kiefer, Alicja Kwade, Sigmar Polke, Neo Rauch, Gerhard Richter, and Rosemarie Trockel. The main opening ceremony in the Imperial Ancestral Temple in Beijing will take place on September 17, 2017, with the presence of the German Foreign Minister, Sigmar Gabriel. The exhibition is jointly hosted by the Foundation for Art and Culture in Bonn and the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing. Cedrik Neike, member of the Managing Board of Siemens AG, talks about the partnership, “Germany and China not only have strong economic ties, but are also involved in a close cultural exchange. Joint exhibitions such as this in Beijing send a clear message about the understanding and intercultural dialog between the two countries. Germany and China will promote exchanges and cooperation between museums, art galleries, libraries, concert houses and theaters, as well as in the digital media.” Read more [here](#).
Design

CBI member Benoy’s urban design team has created a series of initial ideas to spark conversation and promote innovative thinking for the future of Hong Kong’s New Central Harbourfront Site 3, which spans from Jardine House to the Central Ferry Piers, and is part of the government's new Central Harbourfront initiative. While commercially driven, the planning brief for the redevelopment of Site 3 offers the opportunity to maximise public benefit for citizens and visitors to Hong Kong. The team at Benoy studied the planning brief and analysed the basics of the site, including key constraints and existing uses, to conceptualise a range of solutions with input from BuroHappold Engineering. Three of these concepts are represented by the thematic code names 'Urban Forest', 'Glacier' and 'Coral Reef'. Read more here.

Education

The Provost of CBI member the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) has been recognised for his contribution to the development of Ningbo. Professor Chris Rudd, who is also a Pro-Vice-Chancellor of The University of Nottingham UK, was awarded the Camellia award by Ningbo Municipal Government. The award is the highest honour the Ningbo city can bestow upon a foreign national, recognising their contribution to the social and economic development of the city, whether in business and technology or culture and education. Read more here.

CBI member Heriot-Watt University has been named International University of the Year by the Times and Sunday Times Good University Guide 2018. It is the first time International University of the Year has been a category in the prestigious awards, which are regarded as the most authoritative in the UK. Heriot-Watt was selected as International University of the Year in recognition of its truly global presence and impact: the
University has five global campuses in the UK, Dubai and Malaysia, partners in 150 countries and over 30,000 students worldwide. Alastair McCall, editor of The Sunday Times Good University Guide, said: "Heriot-Watt has done more than most in spreading the good name of British - and in particular Scottish - higher education across the globe. With 30,000 students around the world studying for Heriot-Watt degrees - just 11,000 of them in Edinburgh - a Heriot-Watt degree is truly a global currency. Read more here.

Financial Services

CBI member Deloitte convened the China Outbound Investment Forum in Chongqing, China as an important part of the 2017 Deloitte GCSG Annual Meeting. On this occasion Deloitte has invited over 150 professionals from 25 countries across the globe and enterprise executives from various industries, to discuss the development and trend of Chinese outbound investment in the context of China's economic transformation. Representatives from Chongqing Commerce Commission delivered their opening remarks at the Outbound Investment Forum, during which they stressed Chongqing as the economic center of Western China, a region which consists of many investment advantages, such as its favourable geographical location, unique system, platforms, industries and economic corridors, all of which have attracted large amounts of foreign investment and widespread international attention. As Chongqing opens up even further, it will be considered as a new growth highlight with great potential. Read more here.

CBI members Accenture and Huawei announced the latest achievement in port information field: Accenture will help Shanghai International Port (Group) Co., Ltd (SIPG) to establish a consolidated information management platform that will run on Huawei FusionCloud solution, with some of the work to be undertaken as part of the existing Huawei-Accenture Strategic Agreement. SIPG is a large business conglomerate engaging in port operation and related businesses including port handling, stevedoring services, warehousing, logistics, and real estate development services. In its effort to become one of the global top-tier providers in this industry, SIPG is addressing several challenges, including capital scarcity, the streamlining of its management structure, ensuring service quality and controlling operating costs. Under the agreement, Accenture is responsible for the overall design of SIPG's information management platform and the system integration, leveraging its in-depth industry insights and expertise in large-scale systems implementation. Through the existing Huawei-Accenture Strategic Agreement, Huawei will provide its hardware and software expertise and services, including hyper-converged infrastructure (HCI) FusionCube; OpenStack-based cloud operating system FusionSphere; integration server, software-defined storage, and network hardware. Accenture and Huawei will also work together to fulfill the implementation of their engineering system, human resources system, master data management system and the private cloud platform, as well as to carry out their business intelligence system implementation and optimization. Together both will provide an agile and responsive information management platform. Read more here.

CBI member Grant Thornton was honoured late last month in Beijing. On Aug 30-31, the seventh membership representative conference of the BICPA (Beijing Institute of Certified Public Accountant) and the second membership representative conference of the BAEA (Beijing Assets Evaluation Association) were held in Beijing Meeting Center. Present were Chen Yugui, secretary general of the CICPA and Zhang Guochun, secretary general of the BAEA among the 236 delegates. Zheng Jianbiao, national head of
securities business of Grant Thornton together with other 7 delegates was appointed as vice chairmen of the BICPA and the tenure is four years. Read more [here](#).

CBI member PwC officially launched Belt & Road United, a membership-based platform that promotes sharing and exploring of business opportunities along the Belt and Road (B&R). More than 150 entrepreneurs and representatives from academic and government bodies attended the launch ceremony. Nearly 20 of them rank among the initial members. These initial participants in the Belt & Road United will benefit from the power of the platform's connectivity, which utilises both an online function that facilitates information and knowledge sharing, and an offline union made up of business, professional service, academic, and government entities. The Belt and Road United aims to engage a range of expertise spanning well-known scholars and think tanks that conduct insightful research on the B & R initiative, enterprises that have the financial capacity and intention to invest in B&R projects, investment agencies, professional services providers, consuls of B&R countries in China, as well as representatives from relevant government bodies, chambers of commerce and industry associations. Read more [here](#).

**Hospitality**

CBI member Hilton has become the first hospitality company to partner with the China Foundation for Poverty Alleviation (CFPA), in a bid to provide leadership training and fund projects that bring about positive societal change. The partnership, officially launched at an event in Shanghai, focuses on the Charity Future - Hilton program, an incubator project to support student-led charity societies. Over the next two years, the partnership aims to provide youth leaders from 200 student-led charity societies across 100 universities with access to leadership and training opportunities. Students can also apply for seed funding to implement local social impact projects. "Our youth will be the next generation of change-makers in business and society, it is critical that we recognize the challenges they face and provide them with better opportunities," said Qian Jin, president Greater China and Mongolia, Hilton. "We are pleased to partner with the CFPA, to share our expertise and leverage our growing portfolio in China, to support young people and local communities across the country." Read more [here](#).
Legal Services

CBI member DLA Piper has advised AviaAM Financial Leasing China (AviaAM) on the acquisition, financing, leasing and delivery of eight Airbus A320 family aircraft for circa US$500 million. Debt funding for the acquisition was provided by China Development Bank, Henan branch and the aircraft have each gone on a 12-year lease to the largest Russian air carrier, Aeroflot. The first three aircraft were all delivered on the same day with two delivered in Toulouse and one in Hamburg. AviaAM was established as a joint venture between AviaAM Leasing (a Warsaw Stock Exchange listed aircraft leasing company) and Henan Civil Aviation Development and Investment Company (HNCA). AviaAM has expertise in narrow-body aircraft leasing, trading and management and aviation-related business and infrastructure development. Read more here.

Logistics

CBI members DHL Supply Chain together with Huawei Technologies has launched a Narrowband Internet of Things (NB-IoT) application at an automotive site in Liuzhou, China. Leveraging existing infrastructure and limited investments, the implemented IoT solution is designed to facilitate and streamline yard management for inbound-to-manufacturing logistics, leading to significant improvements in inbound processing time at the site. The proof of concept will run until the end of September with 100 DHL drivers at a section with 30 docks. “In leveraging Huawei’s and China Mobile’s NB-IoT technology, we were able to design and develop this unique solution. Supported by a range of industrial, multimedia IoT protocols and interfaces, it offers connectivity, smart operations and device management functions. Exploring new technologies like NB-IoT is one of many ways we are forging forward with our digitalization journey in China,” explains Yin Zou, CEO, DHL Supply Chain Greater China. Read more here.

Technology

China Construction Bank (Asia) Corporation Limited and CBI member IBM announced the development of the first blockchain-enabled bancassurance project in Hong Kong. Built on the IBM Blockchain Platform, the solution is designed to streamline CCB (Asia)’s bancassurance process and greatly enhance customer experience and the quality of services delivered through faster transaction processing time and increased transparency. Bancassurance is an arrangement whereby a bank and an insurance company form a distribution partnership in which the sales associates of the bank can sell the insurance company's products to the bank's client base and through the bank’s channels. The arrangement can be hindered by delays in data transmission or incomplete information. Read more here.

Transportation

CBI member Alstom has been awarded a contract by Chengdu Metro Corp. Ltd. to supply the traction systems for 496 metro cars to circulate on Line 5, the city’s new metro line. The contract is worth approximately €57 million. The line is expected to start revenue service by the end of 2019. When it opens, Chengdu Line 5 will be 49km long and have 41 stations. It will connect the city’s 6 districts from the North to the South, and will be a high capacity line, with Type A 8-car configuration for the first time in Chengdu. As part of the contract, Alstom will be supplying its OptONIX metro traction system, specifically designed and developed for the Chinese market. This includes traction inverters, motors and auxiliary converters. It is designed to improve operational performance and reduce life cycle costs by using regenerative electrical braking. Read more here.
CBI member Thales won a new contract for the future Ankeng Light Rail Transit (LRT) project in Taiwan. Under the planning of the New Taipei City Department of Rapid Transit Systems, the Ankeng LRT project is part of the transportation expansion plan in the Greater Taipei region that aims to reduce travelling time between regions and to alleviate the busy traffic volume within the metropolitan area. This is the third win for Thales in Taiwan following successful LRT contracts awarded for Danhai and Kaohsiung. Awarded by the China Steel Corporation, this contract involves the delivery, design and manufacturing of signalling, automatic vehicle localization, priority management, passengers and security services, communications and Operation Control Centre (OCC) systems. The Ankeng LRT line will be one of the new lines connecting passengers coming from other districts/regions within Taipei to the Greater Taipei metro network, providing convenient transportation-route options and addressing increasing demand. It is scheduled to enter service in early 2022. Read more here.

Real Estate

Global real estate company CBI member JLL is adding to its portfolio of services with the launch of its Command Centre in Asia Pacific. The new product provides real estate owners and occupiers with advanced analytics and operational knowledge for real time, remote monitoring of buildings and facilities. The platform analyses data captured through a series of data inputs coming from a building, including Wi-Fi sensors that are easily retro-fitted. It identifies trends and anomalies allowing for continuous monitoring and fine-tuning of building services to improve operations and maintenance, reduce costs and save energy. "With the increasing prevalence of smart buildings, investors are getting savvier about new solutions they can harness to make their assets work more efficiently, enhance occupant experience and be more attractive to tenants," says Albert Ovidi, Chief Operating Officer of JLL Asia Pacific. Read more here.

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