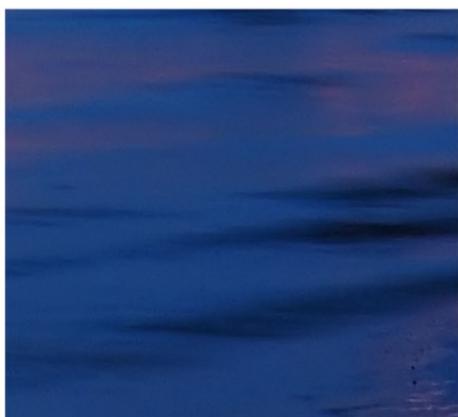
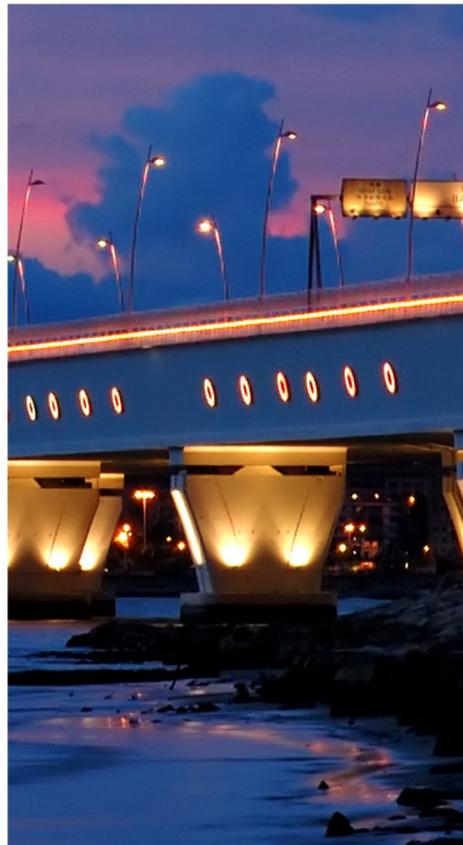
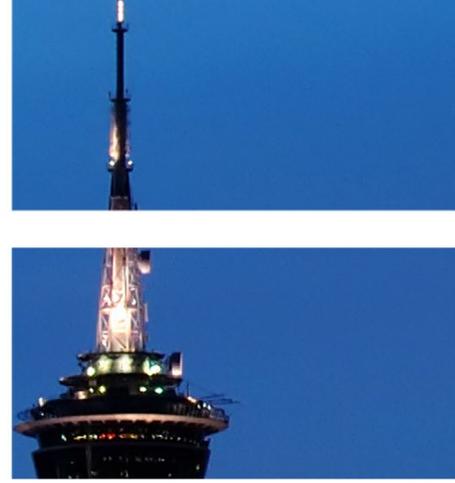


Trade Focus Report



PACIFIC TYCOON

Bridging the gap: The Pearl River Delta and the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge

The Pearl River Delta is home to more than 60 million people and accounts for nearly 30% of Chinese exports. Situated in the Guangdong province, it is a low-lying area surrounding the Pearl River estuary – where the Pearl River flows into the South China Sea. As one of the most densely urbanised areas in the world it is also regarded as one of the main hubs for China's economic growth.

To support the continued economic progression throughout China, the government is carrying out a number of significant infrastructure projects. One of these is the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge - a significant ocean crossing which aims to link the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), Zhuhai City of Guangdong Province and Macao Special Administrative Region.

The construction of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge was undertaken in order to meet the demand of both passenger and freight land transport from Hong Kong the mainland and Macau. Once established, this new transport link between the east and west banks of the Pearl River will help to enhance the economic and sustainable development of all the three places.

The Pearl River Delta

As a vital trade and manufacturing hub for economic progression, the Pearl River Delta has grown exponentially since the Chinese government adopted economic liberalisation in the late 1970's. As well as the three major rivers from which it is named; the Xi Jiang (West River); Bei Jiang (North River); and Dong Jiang (East River), the Delta refers to the dense network of cities that cover nine regions of the Guangdong province:

- Guangzhou
- Shenzhen
- Zhuhai,
- Dongguan
- Zhongshan
- Foshan
- Huizhou
- Jiangmen
- Zhaoqing

The Pearl River Delta is described as the world's leading workshop and is a significant manufacturing base for a number of products – predominantly electronics, watches, toys, garments, textiles and plastic products. The number of privately owned enterprises continues to increase rapidly throughout the region – playing a significant role in the region's ever-expanding economy. Indeed, at the turn of the century, nearly five percent of the world's goods were produced in the Pearl River Delta, from its 70,000 companies.

The region's economic potential and growth forecasts show no sign of abating. With such significant international and local trade coming from the area, transport infrastructure is a top priority for the Chinese government. Therefore, on top of the five trade crossings already in existence in the region, in 2009 construction began on the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge.



The Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge

The bridge is an ongoing construction, scheduled to be completed in 2015 and open in 2016. A US\$10.7 billion project, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau-Bridge will reach 50km – one of the largest in the world – and will be made up of a main bridge in mainland waters, together with boundary crossing facilities and link roads within the three places; Hong Kong, Zhuhai and Macau. The bridge is being developed to tackle the fact that despite the Pearl River Delta being China's trading hub for nearly 500 years, getting from one side to the other currently requires using a slow ferry ride or much longer journey.

When completed, the construction will be made up of a six-lane network of bridges as well as a 4.2-mile undersea tunnel which will connect all three urban centres. The projected travel times when it opens in 2016 is 45 minutes by car – down from around four hours.

By slashing the travel times between the eastern and western banks of the Delta, the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge will help many less-developed parts of southern China achieve improved access to global markets through Hong Kong. The resulting enhanced flow of labour, goods and capital shared between China and overseas will solidify Hong Kong's position as the trading capital of the world. Further to the increased productivity as a result of such reduced transport times, the bridge will alleviate local congestion, encourage wider socio-integration, facilitate more tourism, increase employment and attract significant private investment.

Conclusion

The Pearl River Delta is of the utmost importance to the Chinese economy and the construction of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge underlines the government's commitment to meeting economic demand with significant infrastructure projects.

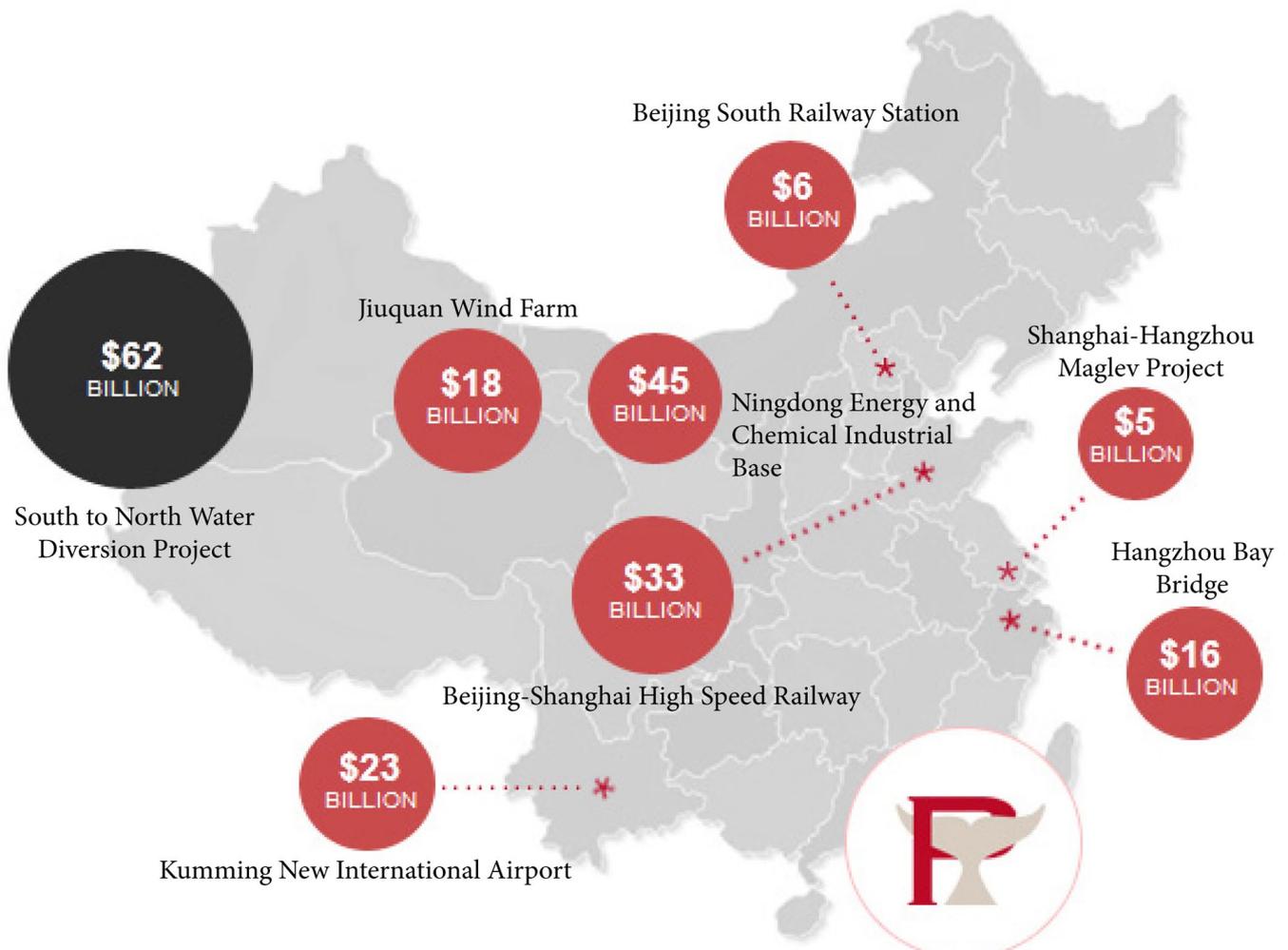
The Pacific Tycoon Trade Focus Reports analyse the numerous projects already under development in China. Each of these significant infrastructure projects come at a time when China is trying to shift toward consumption as a driver of growth rather than state investment, both in its own shores and internationally.

The construction of the Hong-Kong-Zhuhai-Macau Bridge will enhance Chinese trade links, create even more employment opportunities and help meet China's long-term manufacturing and economic goals.



Pacific Tycoon's head office is based in Hong Kong, at the heart of the booming East Asian economy. Benefiting from our proximity to the industrial and business-led projects transforming China, we endeavour to monitor and understand each one closely. For further details on the trillion dollar projects shown on this map, visit our website:

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