Taiwan Venture Capital Association 創投法律專題座談會

## Perspectives and Predictions on Opportunities and Challenges for VC's and PE's in Greater China in 2008

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# **Overview of PIPEs/VC**

#### **Role of PE's/VC's in Greater China:**

- **4** Shape the Business and Investment Landscape
- **Launch New Companies and New Industries**
- **4** Grow Regional Players into National Competitors
- **4** Grow National Players into International Players
- Improve Governance Systems
- **4** Improve Strategic Know-How
- Create Jobs
- **4** Create Tax Revenues
- Conduct CSR and Philanthropic Programs and Support NGO's
- **4** Improve Lifestyles and Standard of Living
- **4** Introduce New Ideas and New Values to Evolving Society





## Challenges for VC's and PE's in Greater China

#### **Changing Landscapes:**

- **4** Government Restructurings:
  - General Bureau of Energy
    - Vice Ministry Rank Under NDRC
    - Reorganization Falls Short of Expectations
    - Uncertain Macro Environment, Tax and Pricing Reforms Need Powerful Independent Ministry
    - Renewable Energy Policies Need Aggressive Advocacy
  - Ministry of Environment
    - More Aggressive Enforcement
    - Exit of Smaller Players
    - Bureaucratic Obstacles Remain
    - XBRL Standards





## Challenges for VC's and PE's in Greater China

- New MII: Industry and Information
  - Combines Former MII, Parts of NDRC and Commission on Defense Industry and Technology
  - Reduces NDRC Micro-Management to Allow Focus on Macro Policy Coordination
  - Clears Way for Telecom Sector Restructuring with Elimination of Personnel and Administrative Uncertainties
- Ministry of Transportation
  - Consolidates Former MOT and General Bureau of Aviation
  - Goal to Improve Coordination, Planning a National Transport System Across Modes
  - Ministry of Railways Excluded (Difficult to Restructure Because of Mixed Regulatory/Service Functions)





## Challenges for VC's and PE's in Greater China

- Ministry of Health
  - Combines Old MOH and General Bureau of Drug Administration
  - Results from Failure of Former Drug Administration to Address Widespread Food Safety Problems
  - Higher Profile Ministry Level Body with Increased Government Attention and Rule Enforcement Power
- State Council Omitted:
  - Consolidation of Ministries of Agriculture and Forestry
  - Consolidated Financial Supervisory Board





## Challenges for VC's and PE's in Greater China in 2008

- Law and Business Integrated
- Changing Landscape in Law, Business and Government
- RMB Appreciation=Consider FIVCE Structures
- Weaker Exports
- Tax Changes Remain Unclear
- M&A Round-Tripping Tight
- Capital Inflows Tight
- Capital Market Options and Exits Tight
- Corporate Governance Standards
- Corruption: Private/Public





## Challenges for VC's and PE's in Greater China in 2008

- Vested Interests/Bureaucratic Inertia/Sectoral Interests Vary
- Lack of Uniformity of Enforcement of Penalties
- GAP vs. GAAP Accounting
- Antiquated Bank Practices
- Separation of Market and Government/Separation of Regulator and Regulated
- Transparency Issues
- Checks and Balances Institutionalized
- Laws, Regulations, Interpretations and Evaluations
- Labor Management
- Executive Team's Interests





## Hot Sectors for VC's and PE's in Greater China in 2008:

- **Sustainable Clean/Green Tech Sector:**
- **4** Renewable Energy:
  - Wind
  - Solar/PV
  - Biomass/Biogas
  - Recycling
  - Waste Management
  - Water Management
  - Agricultural Modernization
  - Forestry/Anti-Desertification
  - Environmental Positives





## Hot Sectors for VC's and PE's in Greater China in 2008:

- **4** Digital Telecom Media Tech
  - Chinese Facebook/Xiaonei
  - Chinese Youtube/Tudou.com
  - IC Silicon, Display
  - IT 🔤
  - Convergence Telecom
  - Information Technology Support, Management
  - Call Centers
- **4** Bio-Life Healthcare
  - Clinical Trials
  - Specialty Niches
  - Health, Nutriceuticals





# Hot Sectors for VC's and PE's in Greater China in 2008:

- **4** Consumer Lifestyle/Fitness/Sport
  - Many Consumer/Food and Beverage Opportunities
  - Sports/Fitness/Training/Sports Management
- **4** Banking/Finance Industry Support
  - Modernization of Services
- **4** Outbound Focus
  - Outbound M/A
  - Natural Resources
  - Latin America
  - Fourth Link
- **4** Culture





# What to Expect for X-Straits

#### **PRC Side Perspective**

- **4** Taiwan Leadership Group
- 4 Normalized Relations
- Depoliticized
- **4** Indicators:
  - Boao Meeting
  - Sichuan Quake Relief Cooperation
  - Media Tone
  - Society-Wide Acceptance
  - Evolution of Position
  - Opening of Sectors and Bureaucratic Improvements
  - Arbitration and Judicial Rules Enforcement
  - Agency Level Coordination



Expect Incentives to Participate in Domestic Economy for HK/Macau Companies to Extend to Taiwan Companies

# What to Expect for X-Straits

#### **Taiwan Side Perspective**

- **4** Leadership Group: Su Chi, PK Chiang, Lai Shin-Yuan
- **4** Normalized Relations
- **4** Depoliticized
- **4** Indicators:
  - Boao Meeting
  - Sichuan Quake Relief Cooperation
  - Media Tone
  - Society-Wide Acceptance
  - Evolution of Position
  - Opening of Sectors and Bureaucratic Improvements
  - Arbitration and Judicial Rules Enforcement
  - Agency Level Coordination

Expect Market Opening



## **Cross-Straits Frameworks: Nomenclature vs. Realpolitik**

#### Nomenclature:

- **4** Common Market
- **4** Confederation
- **4** Federal Relationship
- 4 One Country, Two Systems
- **4** Two States on Each Side
- **4** United Nations

#### Realpolitik

- **4** Chinese-Taipei
- 4 Capital Links
- **4** Securities Markets
- \rm **WTO**
- Treaty of Shanyuan 1004/1005





Looking Over the Horizon: Predictions!!!

**China is the Graveyard of Prophets** Sidney Rittenberg, First American to Join the CCP in Yanan

The Job of the Great China Professional is to Insure That China Is Not the Graveyard of Profits.

Nicholas V. Chen, Going to China Since 1973





#### The Obvious:

- **4** First Trick Pony: Fellow Commuters: Direct Flights for All
- **4** Second Trick Pony: Tourism, Hotel/Leisure, Real Property
- **4** Third Trick Pony: 40% Re-Investment Cap Lifted
- **4** Fourth Trick Pony: Negative List Restrictions Lifted
- Fifth Trick Pony: Lift Two Way Investment Restrictions
- Sixth: National Treatment and Compliance with WTO Rules
- Seventh Trick Pony: Normalize and Institutionalize Conduct and Practices





#### Less Obvious:

- **4** Liaison Offices Exchange
  - Functions: Visa/Consular/Open Travel
- **4** Official Cooperation and Coordination:
  - All levels: Commerce, Judicial, Arbitration, Law Enforcement, Environment, Health, Safety
  - Financial Process: Currency Conversion
  - Peace Mechanisms and Conflict Management
  - Education
  - Cultural Exchanges
- **4** Transport Links and Open Skies
- **Inbound PRC Investment to Taiwan**





#### Harder:

- **4** Upgrading Liaison Offices
- **4** Establish Communications Framework
- Balance of Reasonable Security and Defense Interests (Different vs. Same/Cooperator vs. Competitor)
- **4** Red Line Phone System
- **4** Mutual Trust, Monitoring and Verifications
- **4** Peace Treaty Framework
- Standardization Convergence: X Straits/Within China's Regions and Local vs. National





**Goal For Greater China VC's/PE's (and Other Commuters) for Their Investments is to Realize..** 

The Convergence of the Greater China (China/Taiwan/HK/ Overseas Chinese Combination) Advantages of the Following Inputs Yields Massive Competitive (Local, Regional, Global, Sectoral) Advantage. Those Combined Inputs:

- **4** Money
- Technology
- **Know-How**
- Manufacturing Prowess
- Brand and Marketing and Distribution Power
- **4** After-Sales Service

- Low Cost Land
- Low Cost Labor
- Corporate and Operational Best Practices
- **4** Solid Predictable Legal Framework or
- Team of Seasoned Professional Bodyguards



If we get most of the above...then we can achieve...



#### **Greater China Market Normalized Movement of**

- \rm Money,
- ♣ People,
- \rm **Goods**,
- 4 Services,
- **4** Ideas
- **4** Across Boundaries with
  - Maximum Speed
  - Least Interference and
  - Least Cost



That translates into Massive Competitive (Local, Regional, Global, Sectoral) Advantage



## **Final Observations on PE/VC**

**Taiwan and its VC's/PE's Face Many Challenges But They Seldom Realize They Are So Lucky** 

#### Three Stages of Opportunities and Challenges Granted to Taiwan by China

**Closed Doors and Cold War** 

**Opening Doors and Kissinger/Zhou Enlai Realpolitik Rapprochement** 

The Golden Handshake and the Coming Fourth Link





# Happy Hunting Be Careful Out There

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