



For Immediate Release

**ACCJ Vice President Marie Kissel Elected Chairman
of the Asia Pacific Council of
American Chambers of Commerce**

April 17, 2018 – The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) announced today that Marie Kissel was elected as the new chairman of the Asia Pacific Council of American Chambers of Commerce (APCAC) at the group’s 50th anniversary board meeting in Kuala Lumpur, held April 4–5.

Ms. Kissel, who is senior advisor, International Government Affairs at Abbott, will lead the association of 28 American chambers of commerce (AmChams) from across Asia–Pacific, representing 15,000 companies, 50,000 overseas American employees, and 10 million total workers. APCAC member companies represent an estimated \$700 billion in annual trade and investment in the region.

“I am honored to have been elected the new chairman of APCAC and I am looking forward to the important work ahead. APCAC and its 28 member AmChams are doing vital work throughout this dynamic region,” said Ms. Kissel. “APCAC is dedicated to promoting solutions to make it easier to do business in Asia.”

She also noted that APCAC is unique in representing US business leaders with in-country expertise from across Asia–Pacific and South Asia and in articulating the goals of member chambers to government partners.

Some 350 business, government, diplomatic, and academic figures from more than 12 countries gathered for the 2018 Business Summit, hosted by the American Malaysian Chamber of Commerce, to discuss a wide range of issues facing the region in what has been dubbed the Asian Century.

In addition to Ms. Kissel's role, APCAC announced its new Executive Committee members. These include: Ann Yom Steel, Executive Director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Singapore, as the new Vice Chair; Tara Joseph, President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong, as the new Treasurer; and Adam Sitkoff, Executive Director of the American Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam (Hanoi) as the new Secretary. Other corporate and regional vice chairs will be announced in the coming weeks.

For more information about APCAC, please visit www.apcac.org or email info@apcac.org.

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About ACCJ

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan (ACCJ) was established in 1948 by representatives of 40 American companies. Over its 70-year history, the ACCJ has positioned itself as one of the most influential business organizations in Japan. The ACCJ has approximately 3,500 members who together represent over 1,000 globally minded companies with offices in Tokyo, Nagoya, and Osaka. Working closely with the U.S. and Japanese governments, business organizations and others, the ACCJ engages in activities that advance its mission of further developing commerce between the U.S. and Japan, promoting the interests of U.S. companies and members, and improving the international business environment in Japan. The ACCJ's more than 60 committees represent a variety of industries and make policy recommendations through advocacy tools such as viewpoints, public comments, and white papers. The ACCJ holds over 500 events and seminars a year, many of which focus on government policy and economic trends. The ACCJ is also committed to promoting charitable and CSR activities.

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