

Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

Weekly Updates

1 November – 7 November 2018

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the latest in Asia

Japan

E-commerce: Rakuten, Walmart join hands for online grocery delivery service

Rakuten and Walmart's local supermarket chain Seiyu are pairing up to launch an online grocery delivery service in Japan, a move to compete with Amazon Japan and other local retailers

South Korea

Retail technology: E-mart partners with LG to develop smart-cart robot

E-mart has inked a pact with LG Electronics to jointly develop a new type of service robot called smart-cart robot, which can free shoppers from the hassle of pushing heavy carts by themselves

E-commerce: Shinsegae plans to create "Korea version of Amazon"

Shinsegae has recently secured investment worth 1 trillion won (US\$877.8 million) to set up a new unit dedicated to e-commerce business as part of the company's ambitious plan to create a "Korea version of Amazon"

E-commerce: Line acquires 20% stake in KEB Hana Bank Indonesia

Line, owned by South Korea's major internet company Naver, has recently acquired a 20% in the Indonesian unit of KEB Hana Bank, aiming to expand its fintech operations in Indonesia

Singapore

Luxury: Hugo Boss opens flagship store in Singapore

Hugo Boss has opened its first standalone flagship store for Singapore in Ion Orchard shopping mall

Malaysia

Shopping malls: Malaysia to have 700 shopping malls by the end of 2019

The number of shopping malls in Malaysia is expected to reach about 700 by the end of 2019, according to Malaysia Retail Chain Association

Convenience stores: Malaysia's CVS Twenty4 opens cash-free store in Ipoh

Malaysia convenience store Twenty4 has launched a cash-free convenience store in Ipoh; the store operates 24 hours per day and only accepts cashless payments – debit cards, credit cards, Paywaves, Samsung Pay, Apple Pay or other e-wallets

Apparel and footwear: Foot Locker to make debut in Malaysia

Foot Locker is set to open its first store for Malaysia in 1 Utama shopping mall, offering various international sneaker brands and exclusive collections

India

Hypermarkets: Walmart reportedly to add 47 new stores in India by 2022

Walmart reportedly will earmark about US\$500 million to add 47 new stores in India by 2022, taking its total store count to 70 in the country

E-commerce: Amazon to buy 9.5% stake in Future Retail

Amazon is set to acquire a 9.5% stake in Future Retail for about 25 billion rupees; Future Retail's 1,100-plus local stores, including Big Bazaar and Nilgiris supermarket chains, are expected to give Amazon access to nearly a third of the country's food and grocery market E-commerce: Food ordering and delivery platform Swiggy expands services to 16 new cities India's food ordering and delivery platform Swiggy has recently expanded its services to 16 new cities across India

Asia Distribution and Retail

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