



Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

Weekly Updates

15 November – 21 November 2018

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the latest in Asia

Asia at a glance

[E-commerce: ASEAN ministers ink pact on e-commerce](#)

Member countries of the ASEAN have entered into a cooperation framework agreement to support the development of a digital economy in the region; it marks the region's first agreement to promote cross-border e-commerce transactions

Japan

[Apparel and footwear: GU to launch GU Style Studio in Harajuku](#)

GU will launch GU Style Studio, a next-generation store merging online and in-store shopping with advanced digital technologies, in Tokyo's Harajuku district on 30 November 2018

South Korea

[Retail technology: Lotte Mart to open new store adopting QR codes](#)

Lotte Mart plans to open a new store with QR codes on all products; the new store, scheduled to open by the end of 2018, will allow shoppers to use their smartphones to access detailed information and customer reviews about each product

[Hypermarkets: E-Mart plans foray into the Philippines](#)

E-Mart has sealed a pact with Robinsons Retail to launch 25 stores under its private label "No Brand" and 25 stores under its cosmetics banner "Scentence" in the Philippines by 2020

[Convenience stores: Lotte, Shinsegae reportedly compete for buying Ministop Korea](#)

Lotte and Shinsegae are reportedly vying for the full acquisition of Ministop Korea, South Korea's fourth-largest convenience store in terms of store count

[Duty-free shops: Lotte Duty Free's overseas sales soar 65% yoy](#)

Lotte Duty Free's overseas sales surged 65% yoy for 3Q18, with the outlet in Vietnam even posting an 800% jump in sales

[E-commerce: Mobile payments at convenience stores surge in 2018](#)

Mobile payments made at convenience stores in South Korea have more than doubled in 2018, driven by greater use of smartphones and the expansion of mobile payment services in the country

Thailand

[E-commerce: Thai e-commerce market to lead Southeast Asia in 2019](#)

Thailand's e-commerce market is expected to hit 778 billion baht in 2019, taking the lead in Southeast Asia, according to SAP, a German-based European multinational software corporation

India

[Hypermarket: SPAR India ramps up retail footprint by 50% within two years](#)

India's chain hypermarket SPAR announced that the company has expanded its retail selling space by 50% within two years

[E-commerce: India Post launches e-commerce platform](#)

India Post has recently conducted a soft launch of its e-commerce portal, leveraging its parcel business network to provide e-commerce service

Asia Distribution and Retail

Teresa Lam

Vice President

T: (852) 2300 2466

E: teresalam@fung1937.com

Tracy Chan

Research Manager

E: tracychansy@fung1937.com

Fung Business Intelligence

10/F LiFung Tower

888 Cheung Sha Wan Road

Kowloon, Hong Kong

www.fbicgroup.com