



Asia (ex-China) Retail & E-commerce

Weekly Updates

11 October – 17 October 2018

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the latest in Asia

Asia at a glance

[Apparel and footwear: Fast Retailing to spend US\\$885 on warehouse automation](#)

Fast Retailing has recently announced that it will deepen its partnership with Japan's logistics company Daifuku and earmark US\$885 million to automate its warehouse and distribution system

[Apparel and footwear: Uniqlo opens its largest Southeast Asian store in Manila](#)

Uniqlo has recently opened its largest Southeast Asian store in Manila's Glorietta 5 shopping centre; the 4,000 sqm-mega store is the brand's 15th global flagship store

Japan

[Retail in general: Japan to raise sales tax to 10% from October 2019](#)

Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe announced on 15 October that the government will raise the consumption tax to 10% from the current 8% starting October 2019

[Supermarkets: Aeon to ally with local supermarket operator Fuji](#)

Aeon will enter into a capital and business partnership with Fuji, a local supermarket operator based in Matsuyama; under the deal, Aeon will acquire up to 15% stake in Fuji for about 13 billion yen from Fuji's existing shareholders in February 2019

[Convenience stores: FamilyMart to buy 20% stake in Don Quijote, offload Uny](#)

FamilyMart will acquire 20% stake of Don Quijote for US\$1.9 billion and dispose its remaining stake in general-merchandise unit Uny

[Discount stores: Don Quijote set to buy out Uny](#)

Don Quijote is closing an agreement to take over 100% stake of Uny general merchandise store business, making it the fourth-largest retailer in Japan

South Korea

[Duty-free shops: Hyundai to open its first duty-free store in Gangnam](#)

Hyundai Department Store will open its first duty-free store inside its COEX branch in Gangnam in November 2018.

Singapore

[E-commerce: Honestbee launches tech-integrated grocery store](#)

Singapore's online grocer Honestbee has opened a tech-integrated grocery store Habitat by Honestbee – a 60,000-sqft retail space housing a full supermarket, specialty fresh grocer, online fulfillment center, retail innovation hub and experiential dining destination under one roof.

Malaysia

[Department stores: Parkson to shutter fifth mall in Vietnam](#)

Parkson is closing its fifth mall in Vietnam after suffering significant losses in recent years in the country

[Retail technology: Unmanned CVS BingoBox opens in Malaysia](#)

China's self-service convenience store BingoBox has recently opened its first Malaysia store in collaboration with local partners

Thailand

[Consumer electronics: Apple to launch two debut stores in Thailand](#)

Apple reportedly will launch in Thailand by opening two debut stores in Bangkok, with the first one scheduled to open at IconSiam

India

[Retail in general: P&G establishes fund to invest in Indian startups](#)

P&G India has recently set up a multimillion-dollar fund to invest in Indian startups and pursue a collaborative growth strategy in the country

[E-commerce: Google reportedly to launch "shopping" tab in India](#)

Google reportedly will soon roll out its "shopping" tab in India in tie-up with local partners, allowing users to search for products to buy and directing them to local merchants' websites or e-commerce platforms for product listings

[E-commerce: Major e-tailers see strong start to their festive sales](#)

Flipkart and Amazon India have witnessed a strong start to their festive sales, with categories including apparel and large appliances posting record sales

[E-commerce: Amazon reportedly to acquire stake in Future Retail](#)

Amazon reportedly is set to buy at least 7%-8% stake in India's Future Retail; the deal is

estimated to cost some 257.1 million pounds

[Beauty and personal care: India's e-tailer Nykaa in talks to raise fund from SoftBank](#)

India's fashion and beauty e-tailer Nykaa is reportedly in early discussions with SoftBank to raise US\$150-200 million

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