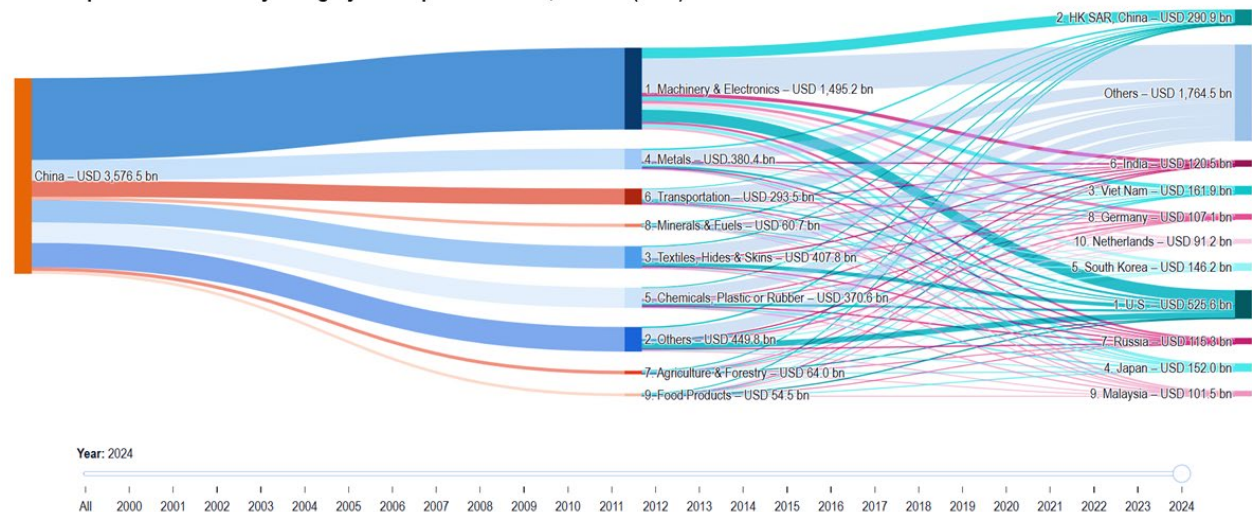


Data Visualisation: China's Exports by Category and Top Ten Partners (2000-2024)

China's rise from 4% of world exports in 2000 to nearly 16% in 2024 reflects a two-decade structural transformation rooted in deep industrial capability, scale and world-class logistics—not a temporary boom or policy cycle.

China Exports to the World by Category and Top Ten Partners, USD bn (2024)



Source: UN Comtrade, ANDAMAN PARTNERS Analysis

ANDAMAN PARTNERS presents a visualisation of China's exports by category and leading trade partners from 2000 to 2024.

China's export structure has long been anchored by Machinery & Electronics, which rose from roughly 30% of exports in 2001 to a stable 40-45% from the mid-2000s onward. In 2024, the category reached USD 1.50 trillion, accounting for 41.8% of national exports.

Over 2000-2024, Transportation was China's fastest-growing category (15% CAGR), followed by Machinery & Electronics (13%), Chemicals (13%), Metals (12%) and Food Products (10%). By contrast, traditional labour-intensive sectors such as Textiles, Minerals & Fuels and Agriculture & Forestry posted more moderate growth of 7-8%.

The long-run sectoral shift is stark: Textiles fell from 27.6% of exports in 2000 to 11.4% in 2024, reflecting rising wages and China's move into higher-value production. Transportation products, such as cars, electric vehicles (EVs) and ships, expanded from 3.7% of exports in 2000 to 8.2% in 2024, driven by automotive upgrading and the global spread of Chinese EVs and machinery.

China's partner mix also changed profoundly. The U.S. has been China's largest single-country market since 1999. Hong Kong, still the second-largest destination in 2024 with USD 292 billion

(8.6%), functions mainly as a re-export and logistics gateway (around 99% of its merchandise exports are re-exports).

But since 2000, China's export geography has become more diversified and more regional. As China's coastal ports, inland logistics corridors and supply-chain linkages expanded, exports to Hong Kong and Japan declined, while flows to Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Malaysia, Thailand), South Asia (India) and newer hubs such as Mexico, the UAE and Russia rose sharply.

By 2024, after the U.S. and Hong Kong, China's following four largest export markets were all in Asia (Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, India), each accounting for under 5% of total exports. Russia moved up to seventh place, while Germany and the Netherlands represented China's key European destinations; Malaysia completed the top ten. Markets 11-20 span the Western Hemisphere (Mexico, Brazil), Europe (the U.K.), the Middle East (UAE) and Asia (Indonesia, the Philippines), underscoring China's increasingly multipolar export footprint.

Also by ANDAMAN PARTNERS:

- [The Four Export Clusters Producing 80% of China's Exports](#)
- [China's Exports: Africa Surging, North America Stalling](#)
- [Engine of Global Trade: The Rise and Global Impact of China's Exports](#)

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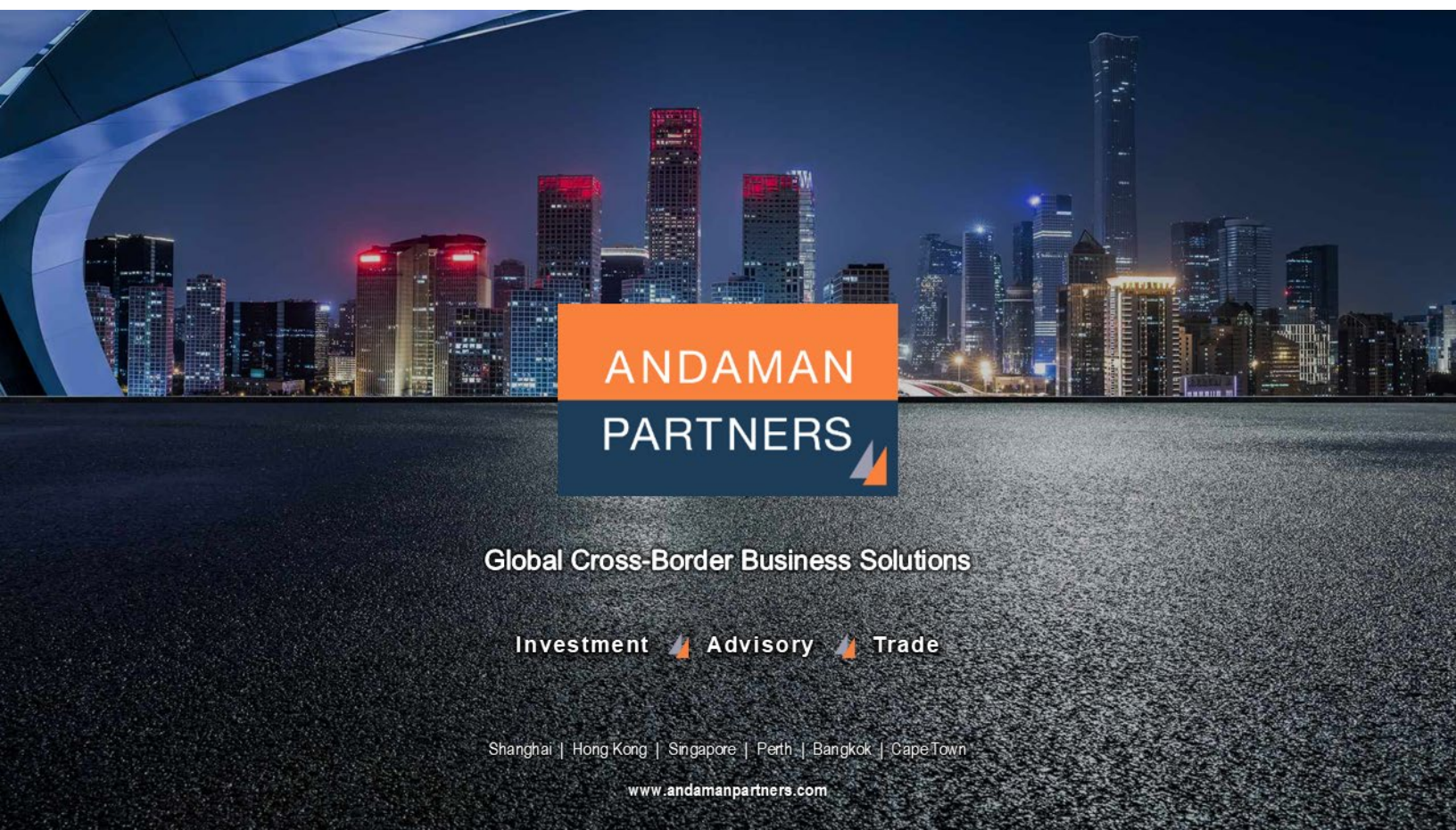
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