Introducing the AmCham Team

New to the team, since January, is Susanne Reisinger-Anders as Head of Member Relations. Susanne has worked at the ORF, successfully managed a restaurant in the 3rd district, as well as administrated two dentist ordinations. Before joining AmCham she was Marketing & Sales Project Manager at Unternehmensgruppe Niederberger. Susanne will be responsible for the acquisition of new members and ensuring contentment for our active members at AmCham.

Patricia Kemler joined AmCham in October 2017 and is responsible for Marketing and Events. She took over from Carina Machat, who is currently on maternity leave. Before joining AmCham Patricia worked in Marketing, as well as the International Relations Department in the theater industry.

Mag. Daniela Homan remains Executive Director of AmCham Austria and together we are looking forward to an exciting year, with our monthly AmCham Talks Business Breakfast, as well as prominent guest for our luncheons. We also hope to welcome the intended new ambassador, Mr. Trevor Traina, to Vienna soon.

We would also like to invite you to follow us on our social media channels

We look forward to hearing from you,

The AmCham Team
The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis announced that the goods and services deficit was $50.5 billion in November, up $1.6 billion in October, revised. November exports were $200.2 billion, $4.4 billion more than October exports. November imports were $250.7 billion, $6.0 billion more than October imports.

The Producer Price Index for final demand fell 0.1 percent in December, seasonally adjusted, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Final demand prices advanced 0.4 percent in both November and October. On an unadjusted basis, the final demand index climbed 2.6 percent in 2017 after a 1.7-percent rise in 2016.

Industrial production rose 0.9 percent in December even though manufacturing output only edged up 0.1 percent. For the fourth quarter as a whole, total industrial production jumped 8.2 percent at an annual rate after being held down in the third quarter by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma. The index has increased 3.6 percent since December 2016 for its largest calendar-year gain since 2010.

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 148,000 in December, and the unemployment rate was unchanged at 4.1 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Employment gains occurred in health care, construction, and manufacturing.

Real gross domestic product (GDP) increased at an annual rate of 2.6 percent in the fourth quarter of 2017, according to the “advance” estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. In the third quarter, real GDP increased 3.2 percent.

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. increased 0.6 percent in December to 107.0 (2016 = 100), following a 0.5 percent increase in November, and a 1.3 percent increase in October.

“The U.S. LEI continued rising rapidly in December, pointing to a continuation of strong economic growth in the first half of 2018. The passing of the tax plan is likely to provide even more tailwind to the current expansion,” said Ataman Ozyildirim, Director of Business Cycles and Growth Research at The Conference Board. “The gains among the leading indicators have been widespread, with most of the strength concentrated in new orders in manufacturing, consumers’ outlook on the economy, improving stock markets and financial conditions.”

United States Economic Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Economic Data</th>
<th>%*</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>+ 2.6</td>
<td>Q4 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Prod.</td>
<td>+ 0.9</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
<td>+ 0.1</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Producer Prices</td>
<td>+ 0.1</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leading Indicators</td>
<td>+ 0.6</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>Dec 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Def. bn $</td>
<td>50.5</td>
<td>Nov 17</td>
</tr>
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</table>

*change previous period
News from our Members

**DORDA RECHTSANWÄLTE**

Dorda advises SAZKA Group on the acquisition of shares in Casinos Austria

Jürgen Kittel, M&A partner at DORDA, advised Czech based lottery and gaming group SAZKA Group on the acquisition of further shares in Casinos Austria. SAZKA Group thereby increased its indirect stake in Casinos Austria from 11.3% to approx 34%.

SAZKA Group is one of the largest European consumer gaming companies focused on lottery and sports betting. Consumers spend over EUR 15 billion on wagers through SAZKA Group’s portfolio companies.

**CBRE**

The Future of Retail in 2030 - technology to change the way we shop

The Future of Retail | 2030 examines 40 “futurist” insights and perspectives on how we will shop in the future - fuelled by changes in people’s lifestyles, urban environments, retail operations, logistics and other trends impacting the industry.

Robotics and automation - according to CBRE, retailers will increasingly invest in new technology and automation and robotics will change the number of jobs available in the retail sector by 2030.

The power of prediction - As the Internet of Things becomes the new normal, the advanced integration of connected sensors will provide deeper insights into the buying patterns of consumers, enabling retailers to anticipate consumer requirements before they can themselves, allowing the supply chain to become far more refined and efficient.

**DHL**

DHL launches Global Trade Barometer a unique indicator for world trade

DHL has introduced a new and unique early indicator for the current state and future development of global trade. The DHL Global Trade Barometer is based on large amounts of logistics data that are evaluated with the help of artificial intelligence.

Since global trade fuels the world economy, the DHL Global Trade Barometer not only provides an outlook on future trade, but also on the prospects for the global economy. The indicator has been developed in cooperation between DHL and Accenture and will be published quarterly.

**ABA – INVEST IN AUSTRIA**

Great Wall Motors is building a research center in Austria

Assisted by ABA - Invest in Austria, the Chinese automobile producer Great Wall Motors is building its first research and development center outside of China in Kottingbrunn, Lower Austria. The group will invest about EUR 20 million over the next three years. 150 employees will be responsible for further developing electric drives, with particularly focus on components such as electric engines, power electronics and special software for electric-powered and hybrid vehicles.

The Great Wall Motors Company was founded in 1984 and is headquartered in Baoding in the Chinese province of Hebei. The company employs more than 82,000 people across the globe. In 2016 it manufactured 1.2 million vehicles. It owns the brands Great Wall,

**AUSTRO CONTROL**

„Drone Space”:
The new Austro Control Drone-app

The new Austro Control drone app “Drone Space” supports drone pilots when operating their drone in Austria. The app has all the relevant information regarding the current regulations in terms of operating drones in Austria and the austrian airspace structure. The app checks the location and tells you right away if flying is possible or not. The App is available for Apple iOS or Android phones.

**AVL LIST**

AVL Graz to Receive Four Cutting-Edge Battery Test Systems

Covering an area of 400 sq. m, four new battery testing facilities, which will rank among the most advanced in Europe, are being erected by AVL List GmbH. The automotive development process – from preliminary testing and design through to development and validation – plays a central role in fulfilling the high quality and safety standards for future batteries. In response to the ever increasing industrial requirements, four new battery testbeds are to be added to the AVL Test Center. They are expected to go into operation in spring 2018.

By expanding its e-mobility testing center, AVL can support customers in the field of large-scale battery development. AVL started developing lithium batteries for the global passenger car and commercial vehicle industry ten years ago. New technologies are being developed to support the optimal integration of all types of cells in batteries, and to make them suitable for large-scale production.

Please send us your press releases:
(amcham-presse@amcham.at)
Wonder Wheel
by Woddy Allen

February 4th & February 8th, 2018
Burgkin
1010 Vienna

(Original English Version)
The story of four characters whose lives intertwine amid the hustle and bustle of the Coney Island amusement park in the 1950s: Ginny, an emotionally volatile former actress now working as a waitress in a clam house; Humpty, Ginny’s rough-hewn carousel operator husband; Mickey, a handsome young lifeguard who dreams of becoming a playwright; and Carolina, Humpty’s long-estranged daughter, who is now hiding out from gangsters at her father’s apartment.

Man Ray

February 14th – June 24th, 2018
Bank Austria Kunstforum
1010 Vienna

Man Ray (born as Emmanuel Radnitzky in 1890 in Philadelphia) achieved worldwide renown for his portraits of artists and his rayographs of the 1920s. Man Ray exploited countless artistic media and techniques in an inventive and playful manner. A selection of 150 key works from all over the world will map the outline of an enigmatic and complex artist personality who paved the way for modern and contemporary art, and – in congenial artistic complicity with Marcel Duchamp – laid groundwork for how and what we see as “art” today.

WOW! The Heidi Horten Collection

February 16th – July 29th, 2018
Leopold Museum
1070 Wien

Free entry every Thursday 6pm - 9 pm
An exhibition introducing one of the most sensational European private art collections to the public for the first time. Its presentation at the Leopold Museum fulfills a long-cherished wish of the collector to make the masterpieces available to a broad audience. The works have been carefully assembled since the 1990s, and span from Gustav Klimt to Andy Warhol to Damien Hirst.

The exhibition presents over 150 works from hundred years of art history and offers a unique insight into the spectrum of art and artists that Heidi Goëss-Horten has been able to unite under one roof. German Expressionism and American Pop Art form the largest categories of works. Included are works by Francis Bacon, Georg Baselitz, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Marc Chagall, Jean Dubuffet, Lucio Fontana, Lucian Freud, Damien Hirst, Alex Katz, Ernst Ludwig Kirchner, Paul Klee, Yves Klein, Gustav Klimt, August Macke, Franz Marc, Henri Matisse, Joan Miró, Edvard Munch, Roy Lichtenstein, Pablo Picasso, Robert Rauschenberg, Gerhard Richter, Mark Rothko, Egon Schiele, Andy Warhol, and many others.
AMCHAM TALKS MIT MAG. KLAUS KUMPFMÜLLER
VORSTANDSDIREKTOR FINANZMARKTAUFSICHTSBEHÖRDE (FMA)
„AUFSICHT ÜBER DEN ÖSTERREICHISCHEN FINANZMARKT UND DEREN NEUE HERAUSFORDERUNGEN“

We look forward to welcoming you at the next AmCham Talks on February 23rd with Ali Mahlodji, Co-Founder whatchado, Autor, EU-Jugendbotschafter!
Jan Bachura
ist neuer Business Partner Finance bei Europas großem Weltraumlieferanten, der RUAG Space. Der gebürtige Tscheche arbeitete zuvor zehn Jahre in verschiedenen Finanzpositionen bei der OMV.

Michael Kirchmayer
verstärkt als Head of Commercial das Managementteam von DHL Paket Austria. Der Wiener war zuvor in Führungspositionen bei Head Sport und Lauda Air tätig.

Lukas Haider

Yvonne Schulz
übernimmt bei McDonald’s Österreich als neue Senior Managerin für Human Resources die Verantwortung für das Personalmanagement. Die gebürtige Badenerin startete bereits 2012 ihre Laufbahn bei McDonald's und war unter anderem für das Mitarbeiter-Recruiting verantwortlich.

Georg Wabl
ist seit Dezember 2017 als Rechtsanwalt im BINDER GRÖSSWANG Restrukturierungs-Team tätig. Er ist spezialisiert auf Insolvenzrecht und Restrukturierungen und berät dabei insbesondere grenzüberschreitende Unternehmen.

Matthias Witzemann

Axel Preiss
übernimmt die Leitung der Managementberatung von EY Österreich. Der 39-Jährige ist seit sechs Jahren Partner bei EY und war vorher unter anderem als Vertriebsdirektor und Consulting Leader bei IBM Österreich tätig.

Lukas Januszewski