Liebe Mitglieder und Freunde der AmCham,

Bis dahin verabschiede ich mich mit herzlichen Grüßen Ihre

Daniela Homan
Executive Director


„Weltweit existieren rund 3.000 bilaterale Handelsabkommen, alleine 1.400 wurden von den Mitgliedsstaaten der Europäischen Union abgeschlossen“, führt Martin Brodey am Montagabend die Diskussion ein.

„Wir brauchen einen globalen Standard für den Investitionsschutz, um Investoren in unterschiedlichen Rechtssystemen Sicherheit zu bieten. Auch das Erfolgsmodell der Europäischen Union basiert auf einheitlichen Standards und einem verlässlichen Rechtssystem“, fordert Manfred Schekulin.

James Bangert, betont: „ISDS schafft Transparenz, schützt Investitionen und gibt der Politik Mitsprachemöglichkeit im öffentlichen Interesse. Ein modernes ISDS im Rahmen von TTIP schafft faire Bedingungen und Investitionssicherheit, die die Wirtschaft braucht.“

„Schiedsgerichte steigern die Effizienz und Transparenz, zumal die Staaten keine ständigen Gerichtshöfe finanzieren müssen und die Kosten durch die Unternehmen und Staaten getragen werden“, erklärt August Reinisch.
The Goods and Services Deficit **Down**

The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, through the Department of Commerce, announced that the goods and services deficit was $40.9 billion in April, down $9.7 billion from $50.6 billion in March, revised.

April exports were $189.9 billion, $1.9 billion more than March exports. April imports were $230.8 billion, $7.8 billion less than March imports.

The Unemployment Rate **Unchanged**

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 280,000 in May, and the unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 5.5 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Job gains occurred in professional and business services, leisure and hospitality, and healthcare. Mining employment continued to decline.

The Producer Price Index **Up**

The Producer Price Index for final demand rose 0.5 percent in May, seasonally adjusted, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Final demand prices fell 0.4 percent in April and advanced 0.2 percent in March.

The Industrial Production **Down**

Industrial production decreased 0.2 percent in May after falling 0.5 percent in April.

Manufacturing output decreased 0.2 percent in May and was little changed, on net, from its level in January. In May, the index for mining moved down 0.3 percent after declining more than 1 percent per month, on average, in the previous four months.

The Consumer Price **Increased**

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.4 percent in May on a seasonally adjusted basis, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Over the last 12 months, the all items index was unchanged before seasonal adjustment.

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. increased 0.7 percent in May to 123.1 (2010 = 100), following a 0.7 percent increase in April, and a 0.4 percent increase in March.

“The U.S. LEI increased sharply again in May, confirming the outlook for more economic expansion in the second half of the year after what looks to be a much weaker first half,” said Ataman Ozyildirim, Director, Business Cycles and Growth Research, at The Conference Board. “While residential construction and consumer expectations support the more positive outlook, industrial production and new orders in manufacturing are painting a somewhat more mixed picture.”

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<tr>
<th>United States Economic Data</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>-0.7</td>
<td>Q115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Industrial Prod.</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>May 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
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<td>May 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Producer Prices</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leading Indicators</td>
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<td>May 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
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<td>May 15</td>
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<td>Def. bn $</td>
<td>40.9</td>
<td>Apr. 15</td>
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Deloitte Austria: “Tax Firm of the Year 2015”

Members of the Deloitte network have been named European Tax Innovator of the Year at the recent International Tax Review (ITR) European Tax Awards. Deloitte won 15 ITR tax awards in total this year, more than any other organization, for work completed in the last year. Awards were given to firms that demonstrated innovative client work in Europe and South Africa between January 2014 and January 2015, at an awards ceremony in May in London.

“We are pleased about winning this award because it underlines our role as Austria’s leading tax firm. The award also provides evidence of our expertise and experience that our clients trust in” says Dr. Bernhard Gröhs, Managing Partner at Deloitte Austria. “Deloitte is known for its innovative use of technology to solve complex challenges. Deloitte has proprietary tools to help companies assess the impact of the forthcoming changes and to shape strategies so that new compliance and reporting obligations can be met.”

Biesterfeld Spezialchemie has received „The Best Project Development Partner Award“ 2014 for the quality and number of their projects in the non-food area from their long-term partner Tereos Syral. Tereos Syral annually awards a „Business Development Award“ and a „Project Development Award“ to their distributors.

“We highly appreciate this award and we look forward to our further collaboration with the team of Tereos Syral in a challenging raw material segment”, explains the Biesterfeld Spezialchemie team.

Tereos Syral is a leading producer of starch and derivatives and is the cereal division of Tereos, an agro-industrial cooperative specializing in the primary processing of sugar beets, sugar cane and cereal grains. Biesterfeld Spezialchemie has the distribution for non-food-activities with the focus on the business areas pharma and personal care in Germany and Austria.

DB Schenker opens “Terminal of the Future” in Finland

DB Schenker Logistics opened one of its largest and most modern terminals in June in Finland. The new location, near the capital Helsinki, represents one of the largest investments that DB Schenker has made worldwide at 57 Million Euros. "Combining four locations and operations such as land transport, air, and sea freight in one building will improve our efficiency and productivity, and streamline our cargo flows between the different transport modes,” says Dr. Karl-Friedrich Rausch, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Management, Schenker AG. "The new location has various advantages,” adds Dr. Rausch. "It is near the airport, closer to the harbor than before, and it has a better connection to the road network.”

DLA Piper

DLA Piper announces a cooperation agreement with Martinez Neira Abogados (MNA) in Colombia, one of Colombia’s leading law firms

Together the firms will operate as DLA Piper Martinez Neira. MNA works with economic conglomerates based and operating in Colombia, among many other clients, and has significant capabilities across a range of practices, including corporate, M&A, banking, antitrust, capital markets, litigation, tax and energy.

“MNA is a major player in the Latin American market and an ideal partner for us,” said Roger Meltzer, global co-chair and co-chair (Americas) of DLA Piper. “Colombia in particular is a key jurisdiction with particularly attractive opportunities, having experienced an historic economic boom in the last decade with strong prospects for continued growth. This agreement is just the latest step in our plan to continue to expand in Latin and Central America, and also fits extremely well with our existing platform in the market and our practices in Spain, New York, Miami and Canada.”

Hilton Vienna

40 Years Hilton Vienna

Hilton Vienna is celebrating its 40th anniversary after the first guest checked in on June 6th 1975. Norbert B. Lessing, Country General Manager of Hilton Hotels Austria states “Hilton Vienna has a special status being Austria’s biggest conference hotel. With a market share of 22 percent of the Viennese Meeting and Convention business in 2013, Hilton Vienna could clearly position itself as market leader.”

Throughout the last 40 years, around 10,000 employees have worked for Hilton Vienna and more than 800 apprentices received a high-quality education. Ronald Diesenreiter started his career at Hilton Vienna and in his position as Hotel Manager he welcomed many famous guests such as Paris Hilton, the Dalai Lama, Sir Roger Moore and many more.
DRAWING NOW: 2015

May 29th - October 11th 2015
Albertina
1010 Vienna

Forty years ago, the Drawing Now exhibition was presented at New York’s MoMA and the Albertina in Vienna. With Drawing Now: 2015, the Albertina once again attempts to take stock of what drawing means or can mean today. In the present showing, selected works by 36 international artists and artist groups turn the spotlight on relevant movements of the past ten years.

Drawing Now: 2015 illustrates the broad spectrum of present-day tendencies of drawing in art: its range of featured works runs from the abstract to the figurative and from sketches to large-scale projects planned in great detail. In terms of content, the artists devote their works to private experiences, simple everyday observations, and political events.

For this exhibition, the front of the Albertina itself becomes a three-dimensional drawing board, with artist Rainer Prohaska stretching orange belts around the architectural complex in which the Albertina is housed in order to effect the graphical interconnection of the building’s various elements. Prohaska thus articulates an expansion of the notion of drawing in a manner that is particularly emphatic: Drawing an orange line shows that drawing is no longer limited to paper, but can also conquer walls and rooms, architecture and the cityscape.

Joel Meyerowitz - Retrospective

July 17th – November 1st 2015
KUNST HAUS WIEN
Untere Weißenburgerstraße 13
1030 Vienna

Joel Meyerowitz (born in New York in 1938) is one of the most important protagonists of New Colour Photography in America during the 1960s and 1970s, next to William Eggleston and Stephen Shore.

After his first encounter with Robert Frank in 1962 Meyerowitz decided to give up his job as art director in New York and dedicate himself to photography. Captured with his 35-mm camera as fleeting moments, it is especially his shots of street scenes in American cities which made him a precursor of street photography and his works icons of contemporary photography.

His one-year trip to Europe in 1966/67 marked a first turning point in his photography, as it allowed him to question his color photography critically. As early as 1968, the Museum of Modern Art showed a first individual exhibition of these works created in Europe under the title "From a moving car". His first book, Cape Light (1978), in which he examines achromatic variations of light on Cape Cod, is considered a milestone in photography today.

For the first time in Austria, the exhibition at KUNST HAUS WIEN shows a comprehensive view into the broad spectrum of 50 years of his photography. Apart from early black-and-white and color photographs from the 1960s, samples from all groups of works, such as Cape Light, Portraits, Between the Dog and the Wolf and Ground Zero are presented, allowing visitors to draw photographic and cultural comparisons between Europe and the USA.
LL.M. in Anglo-American Business Law in Austria

The Danube University Krems in Austria will offer a part-time LL.M. program in Anglo-American Business Law starting this fall. The LL.M. gives students the unique opportunity to comprehensively study both English and American Business Law in one single program: bringing Anglo-American content as well as methodology and international experts to the heart of Europe. The LL.M. is designed as a part-time program allowing students to balance a career with weekend courses once a month in Krems. The LL.M. faculty comprises law professors and practitioners flown in from the US and England as well as ‘native’ lawyers who work in continental Europe. The Austrian attorney and senior lecturer at the University of Vienna School of Law, Franz J. Heidinger, LL.M. (Virginia), serves as academic director of the program.

More infos
MEMBERSHIP ANNIVERSARY

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR MEMBERS CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF MEMBERSHIP!
WE THANK THEM FOR THEIR CONTINUING SUPPORT!

Tatjana Oppitz, Country General Manager IBM Austria:
„AmCham is an excellent platform for peer to peer exchange of information, resulting in tangible business benefit as well as a great learning and networking experience for its members.“

IBM is a globally integrated technology and consulting company headquartered in Armonk, New York. With operations in more than 170 countries, IBM attracts and retains some of the world’s most talented people to help solve problems and provide an edge for businesses, governments and non-profits. Innovation is at the core of IBM’s strategy. The company develops and sells software and systems hardware and a broad range of infrastructure, cloud and consulting services. Today, IBM is focused on five growth initiatives - Cloud, Big Data and Analytics, Mobile, Social Business and Security. IBM has been providing this broad range of IT services and consulting to the Austrian market since 1928 and operates 7 offices in Austria.

Aon is the leading global provider of risk management, insurance and reinsurance brokerage and is one of Austria’s leading brokers, too. Aon Austria was founded in 1927 as “Jauch & Hübener”. In 1997, the merger with Aon took place. Aon Austria has a total staff of 240 employees situated in 6 branch offices and is perfectly set up to offer individualized solutions for local clients. Through its more than 66,000 colleagues worldwide, Aon unites to empower results for clients in over 120 countries via innovative and effective risk and people solutions and through industry-leading global resources and technical expertise.

UNIQA Insurance Group is one of the leading insurance groups in Austria and Central and Eastern Europe. 22,000 employees and exclusive sales partners serve more than 10 million customers in 19 countries. UNIQA is the second-largest insurance group in Austria with a market share of around 22 percent. The history of UNIQA dates back more than 200 years. Since then, business has developed into a Europe-wide insurance provider. The first steps towards becoming an insurer outside of Austria were made in 1991. Today 65 percent of UNIQA’s customers and around 28 percent of premiums originate from international business.

American Express: Unique Private and Business Services
With a premium-network of more than 57 millions of high-spending cardmembers American Express is the largest card issuer in the world. Each day the company processes millions of transactions and provides both, private and business financial solutions. Furthermore American Express operates the world’s largest travel network serving consumers and businesses alike. The diversity of customers enables American Express to offer an array of valuable services like a worldwide 24/7 customer service, marketing proposals for merchants or a leading reward program. Business owners gain purchasing power, flexibility, financial control and they save money. All of this makes American Express a unique services company.
Marijana Mitrovic verstärkt als Consultant das Valuation Team von CBRE. In ihrer Funktion erstellt sie Bewertungsgutachten beim An- und Verkauf von Immobilien, sowie bei Miet- und Standortanalysen.

Olaf Riss, Professor an der Uni Linz, unterstützt als Anwalt künftig die Litigation & Regulatory Praxis der Kanzlei DLA Piper. Der Fokus der Tätigkeit liegt unter anderem im Gesellschaftsrecht, und im Bank(Vertrags)recht.

Andreas Gschwenter wird ab Juli Chief Operating Officer und Chief Information Officer bei der Raiffeisen Bank International. Er leitete seit 2010 als COO und CIO die Bereiche IT, Operations und Cost Management der Raiffeisen Bank AVAL in der Ukraine.


Sebastian Pfanner verstärkt als Business Analyst das Österreich-Team der Technologieberatung Arthur D. Little.

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