Liebe Mitglieder und Freunde der AmCham!

Ich wünsche Ihnen und Ihren Familien ein frohes Weihnachtsfest, erholsame Feiertage und alles Gute für das kommende Jahr.


Ich hoffe, Sie auch im kommenden Jahr begrüßen zu dürfen!

Herzlichst Ihre
Daniela Homan,
Executive Director

Best of 2015

55th Anniversary Cocktail at the The Ritz-Carlton, Vienna, Rooftop Bar

TTIP Panel Discussion

Evening at the English theatre

AmCham Talks with Dr. Hans Jörg Schelling
Goods and Services Deficit

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 $40.8 billion in September, down $7.2 billion from $48.0 billion in August, revised. September exports were $187.9 billion, $3.0 billion more than August exports. September imports were $228.7 billion, $4.2 billion less than August imports.

Unemployment Rate

Total nonfarm payroll employment increased by 271,000 in October, and the unemployment rate was essentially unchanged at 5.0 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Job gains occurred in professional and business services, health care, retail trade, food services and drinking places, and construction.

Producer Price Index Down

The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the Producer Price Index for final demand decreased 0.4 percent in October, seasonally adjusted.

Final demand prices moved down 0.5 percent in September and were unchanged in August.

Industrial Production Down

Industrial production declined 0.2 percent in October after decreasing the same amount in September.

In October, the index for manufacturing moved up 0.4 percent, while the index for mining fell 1.5 percent and the index for utilities dropped 2.5 percent.

Consumer Price Increased

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent in October on a seasonally adjusted basis, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Over the last 12 months, the all items index increased 0.2 percent before seasonal adjustment.

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index®

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the U.S. increased 0.6 percent in October to 124.1 (2010 = 100), following a 0.1 percent decline in September, and a 0.1 percent decline in August.

“The U.S. LEI rose sharply in October, with the yield spread, stock prices, and building permits driving the increase,” said Ataman Ozyildirim, Director of Business Cycles and Growth Research at The Conference Board. “Despite lackluster third quarter growth, the economic outlook now appears to be improving. While the U.S. LEI’s six-month growth rate has moderated, the U.S. economy remains on track for continued expansion heading into 2016.”

United States Economic Data

| Data Category       | % Change | Period
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>+2.1</td>
<td>Q3 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Prod.</td>
<td>-0.2</td>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
<td>+0.2</td>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producer Prices</td>
<td>-0.4</td>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading Indicators</td>
<td>+0.6</td>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Oct. 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Def. Defn $</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>Sept. 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*change previous period

U.S. Economy

Economic Data
News from our Members

DHL

New DHL report challenges the logistics industry to embrace the trend of ‘fair and responsible logistics’

DHL has issued a new study titled ‘Fair and Responsible Logistics’, reporting on a trend that is transforming the way businesses operate by ensuring profits grow hand in hand with sustainability, and value creation is shared by all stakeholders. The report has been developed by the DHL Trend Research team as an ongoing initiative within Deutsche Post DHL Group to accelerate sustainability and responsibility in the logistics industry.

In the report, the key drivers of the fairness and responsibility transformation are analyzed, most importantly the growing expectations of consumers to ‘go fair’. It also highlights that while many companies today are relying on digitalization and new technologies as key sources of business rejuvenation, they should not overlook the movement toward fair and responsible business as this is becoming an important source of future growth and lasting competitive advantage.

DLA Piper

DLA Piper earns eighth consecutive perfect score on Human Rights Campaign’s 2016 Corporate Equality Index (CEI)

This score distinguishes the firm as a „Best Place to Work for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Equality. “ The 2016 CEI assessed 1,027 businesses on their policies and practices relating to LGBT employees, including non-discrimination workplace protections, domestic partner benefits, transgender-inclusive health care benefits, competency programs, and public engagement with the LGBT community.

„Diversity is a core value at DLA Piper, and we are honored to again be recognized on the Corporate Equality Index," said Genhi Givings Bailey, DLA Piper’s director of Diversity and Inclusion. „DLA Piper is a firm that is committed to embracing diversity in the workplace, and we’re excited to receive this recognition for the eighth consecutive year.

ERSTE BANK

Erste Group Immomir adds two more buildings to the Silo passive energy office complex

The Viennese district of Liesing is developing into a centre for innovative, ecological and flexible office and commercial office space. After successfully completing Silo One, work has now started on Silo Plus and Silo Next – two sustainable office buildings with around 19,700m² of rental space. In total, Silo Plus will offer 10,660m² and Silo Next 9,032m² of rental space and more than 250 parking spaces. The construction work will start in the middle of 2016 and will be finalized by the end of 2017.

The two new office buildings are designed to meet the specific needs of modern companies due to their flexible and efficient space structures as well as the energy-optimizing building technology and installations. A special feature of the Silo Offices is the flexible functionality of the rooms. The concept offers adaptable office spaces ranging from 310m² to 1,800m². This makes it possible to offer functional and flexible completion variants that include open space offices as well as individual offices with a high degree of comfort for users, high quality installations and innovative building technology.

SCHOENHERR

Schoenherr advises Albemarle on sale of Tribotec to Treibacher Industrie

Schoenherr, alongside Willkie Farr & Gallagher, advised premier specialty chemicals company Albemarle Corporation on the sale of its Tribotec metal sulfides business to Treibacher Industrie AG, an international leading player in the chemistry and metallurgy sectors.

New York Stock Exchange-listed Albemarle develops, manufactures and markets technologically advanced and high-value added products. Treibacher Industrie, a privately owned enterprise headquartered in Althofen (Austria), develops and manufactures ferro alloys for the steel and foundry industries, powders for the carbide industry, materials for high-performance ceramics as well as fine chemicals and special alloys.

WOLF THEISS

Wolf Theiss advises Dexter Axle on the acquisition of AL-KO VT

The AL-KO business unit Vehicle Technology of AL-KO KOBER SE resident in Koetz near Augsburg, and axle manufacturer Dexter Axle from Elkhart, Indiana (USA), are being merged under the roof of the future „DexKo Global Inc.“.

AL-KO Kober SE shall contribute to DexKo its business unit Vehicle Technology and shall receive in return shares in the new company. After the merger the new company shall constitute in its business unit Vehicle Technology and shall receive in return shares in the new company. After the merger the new company shall constitute in its specific market segment the largest axle manufacturer in the world with an annual turnover of around 850 Million Euros.

Wolf Theiss served as local legal counsel for Dexter Axle in Austria, Czech Republic, Poland and Romania in relation to this transaction.

Please send us your press releases: (amcham-presse@amcham.at)
TINA The Rock Legend - The Musical

March 1, 2016, 08.00 p.m.
Wiener Stadthalle, Halle F

Hits such as „Simply the Best“, „Private Dancer“ or „We don’t need another hero“ have made pop history, and turned Tina Turner into the rock legend that she is. Over 180 million sold albums and countless international number one rankings have been responsible for her worldwide fame. 188,000 spectators were live in Rio in 1988 at Tina Turner’s concert in the Maracana stadium! An entry in the Guinness Book of World Records was secured.

In “Break Every Rule: Tina - The Musical”, her unmistakable sound is brought back to life in a thrilling live show. It is a sweeping biographical musical about the rock legend, touching on the main stages of Tina’s success story.

The multimedia show to be seen at „Break Every Rule“ ranges from the early days of „Proud Mary“ and „Nutbush City Limits“ over to the 80’s phase, all the way to the soundtrack of „The Golden Eye“ (1995).

On the big screen, there are photos, video clips and interview sequences of Tina to be seen. Short scenes of „Break every Rule: Tina - The Musical“ lead us into the career of the native American who now resides in Switzerland.

This tribute is more than just a two-hour concert. „Break Every Rule“ is a nostalgic trip that is for every single fan, definitely worth every cent.

Groupie
by Arnold Wesker

January 18 – February 20, 2016
Vienna’s English Theatre
1080 Vienna

Matty Beancourt, a life-affirming, slightly naïve woman in her late fifties, lives alone in a small town near London. When she reads the autobiography of famous painter Mark Gorman, who grew up in the same East End streets as she, she becomes so enthused by his childhood memories – so similar to hers – that she decides to write to him. Weeks later she receives a not exactly encouraging reply but, chatty by nature, Matty adamantly keeps writing and a correspondence develops with the moody artist. When she spontaneously decides to pay him a surprise visit, she discovers that her idol isn’t the shining star she held him to be and leads a far less glamorous life than she imagined. But Matty isn’t a woman to shy away from a challenge. A difficult friendship starts to blossom between these two diverging characters and their impact upon each other is startling.

Groupie is a charming and touching play about affection and friendship, dreams and hopes in those past the “prime of their life”.

John Cassavetes

December 2, 2015 - January 6, 2016
Filmmuseum
Augustinerstraße 1,
1010 Vienna

“Directing really is a full-time hobby with me. I consider myself an amateur filmmaker.” John Cassavetes, who was born in New York in 1929 to Greek immigrant parents and died in Los Angeles in 1989, remained a maverick and an outsider throughout his life. Within the American film industry, he was tolerated more than he was respected – and recognised as an actor rather than a director. His work, while appreciated by perceptive film critics (predominantly in Europe), was generally considered „difficult“ even by arthouse audiences.

Following up on the first retrospective held several years ago, the Film Museum now presents an expanded Cassavetes universe, including the core of his work as an actor and selections from his television work such as the detective series Johnny Staccato (1959), where he attempted to fuse industry norms with his own innovative ideas.

Cassavetes was just as intense an actor as he was a director, in exceptional action films (The Killers, The Dirty Dozen), as the demonic villain (Rosemary’s Baby, The Fury) or together with his „soul brother‘ Peter Falk in Columbo and Elaine May’s masterwork Mikey and Nicky – a long, improvised journey through the night.
Past Events Gallery

AmCham Talks with Damian Izdebski

AmCham Thanksgiving Party
A big thank you to our sponsors Dunkin’ Donuts & Trzesniewski

Leopold Höher verstärkt seit Oktober als Counsel das Team der Praxisgruppe Banking und Finance bei Wolf Theiss.

Philipp J. Marboe ist neu ernannter Counsel bei Wolf Theiss. Vor seinem Wechsel zu Wolf Theiss war er seit 2008 bei Schönherr Rechtsanwälte und davor bei britischen und französischen Anwaltsfirmen tätig.

Verena Rickert ist neue Medical Director bei Merck, Sharp und Dohme Österreich und steht dem Medical-Affairs-Team vor.

Sabina S. Kampfer die Wirtschaftsprüferin und Steuerberaterin steigt bei SOT ein und erweitert die Geschäftsleitung als Prokuristin.

Ulrich Gröger wurde mit Anfang Oktober zum General Manager von Colgate-Palmolive Österreich berufen.

Florian Moritz ist neuer Marketing Director von Reed Exhibitions in Österreich. Zuletzt war er als Head of Marketing & Communications im Mumok tätig.

Martina Rommer ist nun als Rechtsanwältin bei Binder Grösswang tätig, wo sie das Banking- & Finance-Team verstärkt.