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
The U.S. Census Bureau and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, through the Department of Commerce, announced that total September exports of $195.6 billion and imports of $238.6 billion resulted in a goods and services deficit of $43.0 billion, up from $40.0 billion in August, revised.

September exports were $3.0 billion less than August exports of $198.6 billion. September imports were $0.1 billion more than August imports of $238.6 billion.

The Producer Price Index for final demand rose 0.2 percent in October, seasonally adjusted. This increase followed a 0.1 percent decline in September and no change in August.

Industrial production edged down 0.1 percent in October after having advanced 0.8 percent in September. In October, manufacturing output increased 0.2 percent for the second consecutive month. The index for mining declined 0.9 percent and the output of utilities moved down 0.7 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) was unchanged 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 1.7 percent before seasonal adjustment.

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 214,000 in October, and the unemployment rate edged down to 5.8 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

Employment increased in food services and drinking places, retail trade, and health care.

Real gross domestic product - the output of goods and services produced by labor and property located in the United States - increased at an annual rate of 3.5 percent in the third quarter of 2014, according to the "advance" estimate released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. In the second quarter, real GDP increased 4.6 percent.

"The LEI rose sharply in October, with all components gaining over the previous six months," said Ataman Ozyildirim, Economist at The Conference Board. “Despite a negative contribution from stock prices in October, and minimal contributions from new orders for consumer goods and average workweek in manufacturing, the LEI suggests the U.S. expansion continues to be strong.”

**United States Economic Data**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>%*</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GDP</td>
<td>+3.5</td>
<td>Q3 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Prod.</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consumer Prices</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Producer Prices</td>
<td>+0.2</td>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leading Indicators</td>
<td>+0.9</td>
<td>Oct 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unemployment</td>
<td>-0.1</td>
<td>Oct. 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Def. bn $</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>Sept 14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*change previous period
Binder Grösswang advised Bank für Kärnten und Steiermark AG (BKS) on a capital increase with a volume of approx. EUR 52 million.

Despite difficult market conditions, the planned volume was fully placed. The new shares were admitted to trading on the Wiener Börse.

For Binder Grösswang, and in particular its capital markets team, the counsel of BKS on its capital increase constituted the second important equity capital market transaction in 2014, after the counsel of the purchasing Chinese shareholder on the IPO of FACC AG in June. Binder Grösswang is pleased to note: “We have an excellent, perfectly coordinated capital markets team, which is now perceived and appreciated as such in the market also for equity transactions. This is the result of many years of hard work.”

Altogether, the Wiener Börse saw four equity capital market transactions in 2014, and Binder Grösswang advised on two of them.

Cushman & Wakefield's head of EMEA retail investment, Michael Rodda, said: “Wien Mitte offers a lively shopping environment and is an established social meeting point in Vienna. This mandate marks a new collaboration between Cushman & Wakefield and BAR.”

Offers of more than €500 million are expected from informed real estate experts for this prime asset.

Erste Bank: A New Model for Investing in Students

Erste Bank is offering a new form of student sponsoring. “For Best Students” invests in students: Tuition fees, living costs, and one-off costs. In exchange, the student transfers a share in his or her future salary to For Best Students. Good career prospects and personality are the decisive factors, collateral or a student’s financial situation are immaterial. “The model is new in Austria. For Best Students invests in the career of students. We are sharing exclusively in their future success, and thereby become real partners”, explains Peter Bosek, member of the management board.

The preconditions for sponsorship are good career prospects and the personality of students. “We want to offer an alternative to traditional student loans, and are talking in account that students are in most cases not able to offer any collateral apart from their effort and dedication”, says Bosek. The investment facility potentially encompasses: 100% of tuition fees, living costs of up to €1,000.- per month, as well as one-off costs of up to €5,000.-. In exchange, the student transfers a share in his or her future income to For Best Students for a time period agreed upon in advance.

The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company was recognized with the 2014 Aon Hewitt Top Companies for Leaders® award.

“Goodyear is honored to be ranked among the best companies for attracting and developing leaders,” said Richard J. Kramer, chairman and chief executive officer. “Having ‘Top Talent and Teams’ is a priority for the company and part of our mission and strategy. The best leaders develop other great leaders and create a culture of collaboration to drive business success and grow our business. This award is further evidence that our strategy is working.”

Goodyear is recognized for having complete alignment between its business strategy and global talent strategy and for developing a systematic and process-oriented approach to leadership development through a series of innovative practices.

C&W and BAR exclusively mandated to sell Vienna’s €500m Wien Mitte

Global real estate adviser Cushman & Wakefield and Austrian agent Bareal Immobilientreuhand GmbH (BAR) have been exclusively mandated to sell Wien Mitte, the largest state-of-the-art shopping centre and office complex in Vienna. The 95,100 sq m centre is located in the central business district at the top of Landstraßer Hauptstraße.

Office space, a shopping mall and a substantial food court area are arranged around the Wien Mitte station, used by 150,000 daily commuters.

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Wolf Theiss advises Vienna International Airport on the access of IFM Global Infrastructure Fund

The Airports Group Europe S.à r.l. from Luxembourg which is owned by the IFM Global Infrastructure Fund has released a public mandatory offer to buy 20 to 29.9 percent of the nominal capital of Vienna International Airport. This acquisition was already approved by the take-over commission. IFM intends to position itself as a longterm investor and could spend up to EUR 500 million for the shares. Law firm Wolf Theiss is advising the Vienna International Airport on all legal aspects of this transaction.
Mary Poppins

November 25 - June 27 2015
Ronacher
1010 Vienna

Based on the stories by P.L. Travers and one of the most popular Disney movies, the musical tells the story of the Banks family and their enchanting nanny and had its opening night in October 2014 at the Ronacher. The show which opened in 2004 at London’s Prince Edward Theatre has had seven productions on three continents, including hugely successful tours across the UK, America, Australia and Asia, making it one of the most successful musicals of the recent past with more than 11.5 million visitors worldwide.

Altogether it won 44 of the most important theatre awards including Tony Award, Olivier Award and Helpmann Award. The original movie from 1964 was already enormously popular and won five Academy Awards. The show, which ran over six smash years on Broadway, was produced by Disney Theatrical Group and legendary musical producer Cameron Mackintosh. Mackintosh co-created the production, the book has been written by Academy Award-winning screenwriter Julian Fellowes, original music and lyrics by Richard M. Sherman & Robert B. Sherman (“With A Tea Spoon Of Sugar, Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious”), new songs and additional music and lyrics by the Olivier Award-winning team of George Stiles and Anthony Drewe.

Dial “M” for Murder

November 3- December 20, 2014
English Theatre
1010 Vienna
Performances daily at 7:30pm, ex. Sundays

Frederick Knott’s 1950s classic British thriller is a masterpiece of suspense and intricate plotting and became a worldwide success through Alfred Hitchcock’s film starring Grace Kelly. Wealthy and elegant Sheila Wendice is leading a seemingly happy life with her husband Tony, an ex-tennis player, until one day, she receives a blackmailing letter about a brief affair she had with crime-fiction writer Max Halliday. She hasn’t the slightest suspicion that Tony has long been aware of her secret. Wanting revenge as well as her money, he is meticulously planning her murder, perfect alibi included. It all seems to be going according to plan until it falters in the most unexpected way...

Lillian Bassman & Paul Himmel
Two Lives for Photography

October 16 - February 8, 2015
Kunst Haus Wien
1030 Vienna

Kunst Haus Wien, in cooperation with Haus der Photographie at Deichtorhallen Hamburg, is devoting a comprehensive retrospective to an exceptional American couple, the photographers Lillian Bassman (1917–2012) and Paul Himmel (1914–2009). In this exhibition, two lives are united in an extraordinary artistic symbiosis.

The two artists were a couple for 77 years. Lillian Bassman set her stamp on the layout of the magazine in the 1940s. As a fashion photographer she developed a unique style: Using new experimental photographic techniques she gave her photographs a special glaze that made the black-and-white images look almost as if they had been painted. In the 1990s, when she was over 70 years old, fashion designers such as John Galliano as well as art directors rediscovered her works and commissioned her to do fashion photography for them.

The work of her husband Paul Himmel also appears to be timeless modern. Paul Himmel worked at first for Vogue, Junior Bazaar, Harper’s Bazaar and many other magazines as a fashion photographer. But what interested him most in photography was motion. His photographs of the New York City Ballet in the 1950s, which captured dance not in static photographs but in flowing studies of motion, wrote photographic history.
Schoenherr Book presentation:
„Investitionsleitfaden Österreich: Markt- eintritt, Unternehmensführung, Steuern“

Wednesday, December 10th, 2014
Start: 6:00pm
Location: Schoenherr Attorneys at Law, Schottenring 19, 1010 Vienna
Event language: German

After an introductory speech by Ambassador Michael Postl (Director for Economic Relations at the Austria’s foreign ministry), the book’s authors Diana-Maria White and Rita Wittmann (both corporate lawyers at Schoenherr) will provide a short overview of the legal framework that investors must consider when approaching the Austrian market.

RSVP to invitation@schoenherr.eu or tel: +43 1 534 37-0

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Results & Relations Member Discount

Ever heard about “Search-Engine-Fitness”? How “21st century” are your PR-activities?

Online advertising spending has quadrupled over the past 10 years and Google owns more than 60% of that stake in 2014. At the same time, budget spending in print media (daily newspapers, magazines magazines and posters) has dropped massively.

Nevertheless, many companies still focus their press activities on traditional target groups, eg print journalists. Keyword marketing and search engine optimization are often left aside, even by renowned brands. As a consequence, even though press material is often perfectly formulated, it cannot be found easily when published online by any potential customers, cause it does not consist of the relevant key words that are searched for in the internet (search engine optimization).

Communication Check „Public Relations in the 21st Century“

- How „Google-fit“ is your communication strategy?
- Are you incorporating online media in your PR and media relations activities? Bloggers, too? And if so, how?
- Is your press material search engine-optimized?
- Are consumer portals and special interest pages incorporated in your public relations efforts?
- What sites / blogs / communities are of interest to your field of business?
- How can you occupy a topic – with what means and with what content?
- How can you find out what company content already exists online?
- Issue / Reputation Management: How to deal with negative content?

In this compact and efficient workshop about online and social media PR topics, we assess and analyze your current communication strategy and highlight simple and highly effective tools for improvement. Many of them are implemented very quickly and can be – once tried - easily put into use. Your communication activities will thus become more output-oriented and sustainable. The results & relations PR-check shows how PR can be designed and implemented in an affordable and more contemporary way to ensure optimal reach of your specific target group.

Duration: 4 hours including a follow-up discussion/meeting
Price: EUR 1,190 for AmCham members (instead of EUR 1,590 regular price)
Mail to brigitte.pawlitschek@results.at
www.results.at
www.eu-results.com
www.facebook.com/resultsrelations

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Park Hyatt Member Discount

Tagungen und Veranstaltungen:
Für geschäftliche und private Veranstaltungen bietet das Park Hyatt Vienna 800 m2 erstklassige Veranstaltungsfläche, welche für jegliche Anlässe für bis zu 200 Personen ausgerichtet ist. Alle Veranstaltungsräume bieten kostenfreies Internet, fest installierte Bildschirme mit einer Größe von 70 und 80 Zoll, sowie Technik auf dem neuesten Stand. Alle acht Veranstaltungsräume, sowie der Grand Salon haben Zugang zu dem 100 m2 großen Prefunction Bereich und bieten natürliches Tageslicht.

AmCham Mitgliedern wird die Tagungspauschale für jeden zehnten Teilnehmer kostenfrei angeboten.

Gestalten Sie Ihre Veranstaltung nach Ihren Wünschen und Bedürfnissen und nutzen Sie unsere Tagungspauschalen. Für mehr Informationen, klicken Sie hier:
http://bit.ly/1yjhJTF
Benjamin Cziomer


Ursula Emhofer


Aleksandra Izdebska

hat die neu geschaffene Position als Leiterin des Konzernmarketings bei Novomatic AG übernommen.

Charlie Klein

ist neuer Vice President Vehicle Engineering Europe bei Opel und verantwortet alle europäischen Aktivitäten innerhalb der weltweiten Fahrzeugentwicklung von General Motors.

Robert Klenkhart

ist neuer CFO der Aon Gruppe in Österreich und zieht auch in die Geschäftsführung von Aon Risk Solutions ein. Vor seinem Einstieg bei Aon Austria war er 10 Jahre Finanzleiter bei Austin Powder GmbH.

Lars Maritzen

ist Kartellrechtsanwalt bei Dorda Brugger Jordis. Er verstärkt ab sofort den Antitrust und Regulatory Desk.

Carsten Wreth

wird mit Wirkung zum ersten Januar 2015 bei Opel eintreten. Er übernimmt die neu geschaffene Position des Vice President, Customer Experience Europe.

Karl Wurm

avanciert zum Commercial Director Österreich und ist gesamtverantwortlich für den österreichischen Vertrieb und die Beam Suntory-Marken (zB.: Jim Beam).