



AMCHAM NEWSLETTER

AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE IN AUSTRIA

NR 1/25



UPCOMING EVENTS

AmCham Talks

Friday, Mar. 28th, 2025, 9.00 am
Hilton Vienna Plaza
Schottenring 11, 1010 Vienna

EmpowerHer

Tuesday, Apr. 8th, 2025, 6.00 pm
BAWAG ICON Tower
Wiedner Gürtel 11, 1100 Wien

Amcham Talks

Friday, Apr. 25th, 2025, 9.00 am
Hilton Vienna Plaza
Schottenring 11, 1010 Vienna

Business Breakfast by Spirty

Friday, May 16th, 2025, 9.00 am
Hilton Vienna Plaza
Schottenring 11, 1010 Vienna

Further information on our
upcoming events via the
[AmCham App](#) or at [amcham.at](#)

/ LAUNCH OF THE TRANS- ATLANTIC ECONOMY 2025

by AmCham EU

2025 is a year of peril and promise for the transatlantic economy. Tensions abound, including transatlantic trade disputes, disruptive politics, dramatic energy shifts, supply chain uncertainties, raw materials scrambles, challenges from China, and Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and other neighbours. Yet the transatlantic economy faces these tests following a remarkably robust year.

Real economic growth is expected on both sides of the Atlantic, yet absolute and per capita growth rates will be uneven. The US expected to expand by 2.7%, while Europe faces a more modest 1% growth rate. Trade tensions along with structural challenges on both sides, from inflationary pressures in the US to regulatory and energy cost burdens in Europe, add to the uncertainty.

However, opportunities for growth remain. The transatlantic economy is not just the world's largest commercial partnership – it is also its most consequential. If both sides align on key priorities, they can reinforce their leadership in a competitive global economy.

[Read the full AmCham EU report here.](#)

Impressum

Medieninhaber, Herausgeber und Redaktion: Amerikanische Handelskammer in Österreich
A-1090 Wien, Porzellangasse 39/7, Tel: +43 (0) 1 319 57 51, office@amcham.at, www.amcham.at

Für den Inhalt verantwortlich: Mag. Barbara Piplits-Schneider

Redaktion: Christoph Engel, Mag. Barbara Piplits-Schneider

CONNECT WITH OUR SOCIALS



GET THE AMCHAM APP



EXECUTIVE LETTER

/ IT WAS GREAT WHILE IT LASTED

Barbara Piplits-Schneider

In October 2024 I was entrusted with leading the AmCham Office as Deputy Executive Director. With full enthusiasm and the experience gained from four years as AmCham's Event and Office Manager, I embraced these new responsibilities, bringing fresh energy and a sharper focus on economic topics to our events and communications.

It certainly wasn't easy—the office has been understaffed for six months—but I am very proud of what I've accomplished. Not only did I exceed the 2024 budget target for Yearbook advertisement revenues, but I also managed to organize and finance the **Farewell New Year Reception** for former U.S. Ambassador **Victoria Kennedy** on very short notice—securing a record number of sponsors. And what a night it was! The elegant **Hotel Sacher** set the stage for over 120 members to bid farewell to the Ambassador and raise their glasses to the new year.

Another highlight was the **AmCham Talk with Ingo Bleier** from Erste Group. When our originally scheduled speaker canceled at the last minute during the Christmas holiday break, I took it as an opportunity to bring in a speaker I had long wanted to feature. I was eager to hear his take on the impact of the new U.S. administration and the economic outlook for 2025—and clearly, I wasn't alone. **With nearly 100 registrations, we set a new record high for AmCham Talk attendance!**

I'm especially proud of the **many new AmCham members** who joined in recent months due to my efforts. And it has been truly rewarding to receive so positive feedback from long-standing members who have praised my work as more **efficient, vibrant, and engaging** than ever before.



Barbara Piplits-Schneider
Deputy Executive Director
AmCham Austria

All of this makes it very disappointing for me that someone else has been chosen by the AmCham Board as the new **Executive Director**. And so, in early April, my time at AmCham will come to an end, and I leave with a deep sense of pride in what I have achieved for our members.

I wish you all the best for the future and would love to stay in touch via [LinkedIn](#).

With warm regards,
Barbara Piplits-Schneider
Deputy Executive Director

U.S. ECONOMY

/ GOODS AND SERVICES DEFICIT

The U.S. international trade deficit increased from \$98.1 billion in December (revised) to \$131.4 billion in January, as imports increased more than exports, according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. The goods deficit increased \$33.5 billion in January to \$156.8 billion. The services surplus increased \$0.2 billion in January to \$25.4 billion.

/ PRODUCER PRICE INDEX

The Producer Price Index for final demand was unchanged in February, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Final demand prices rose 0.6 percent in January and 0.5 percent in December 2024.

On an unadjusted basis, the index for final demand advanced 3.2 percent for the 12 months ended in February.

/ INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION

Total industrial production increased 0.7 percent in February after moving up 0.3 percent in January. In February, manufacturing output rose 0.9 percent, the index for mining gained 2.8 percent, and the index for utilities decreased 2.5 percent. At 104.2 percent of its 2017 average, total IP in February was 1.4 percent below its year-earlier level.

/ UNEMPLOYMENT UNCHANGED

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 151,000 in February, and the unemployment rate changed little at 4.1 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Employment trended up in health care, financial activities, transportation and warehousing, and social assistance. Federal government employment declined.

/ GDP

Real gross domestic product (GDP) increased at an annual rate of 2.3 percent in the fourth quarter of 2024, according to the Bureau of Economic Analysis. In the third quarter, real GDP increased 3.1 percent. The increase in real GDP in the fourth quarter primarily reflected increases in consumer spending and government spending that were partly offset by a decrease in investment. Imports, which are a subtraction in the calculation of GDP, decreased.

/ CONSUMER PRICE

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers increased 0.2 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in February, after rising 0.5 percent in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported. Over the last 12 months, the all items index increased 2.8 percent before seasonal adjustment.

/ THE CONFERENCE BOARD LEADING ECONOMIC INDEX®

The Conference Board Leading Economic Index® (LEI) for the US declined by 0.3% in February 2025 to 101.1 (2016=100), after a 0.2% decline (revised from -0.3%) in January. Overall, the LEI fell by 1.0% in the six-month period ending February 2025, less than half of its rate of decline of -2.1% over the previous six months (February–August 2024).

"The US LEI fell again in February and continues to point to headwinds ahead," said Justyna Zabinska-La Monica, Senior Manager, Business Cycle Indicators, at The Conference Board. "Consumers' expectations of future business conditions turned more pessimistic. On a positive note, the LEI's six-month and annual growth rates, while still negative, have remained on an upward trend since the end of 2023, suggesting that headwinds in the economy as of February may have moderated compared to last year. However, given substantial policy uncertainty and the notable pullback in consumer sentiment and spending since the beginning of the year, we currently forecast that real GDP growth in the US will slow to around 2.0% in 2025."

/ UNITED STATES ECONOMIC DATA

	%*	Period
GDP	+ 2.3	Q4 24
Industrial Prod.	+ 0.7	Feb 25
Consumer Prices	+ 0.2	Feb 24
Producer Prices	+ 0.0	Feb 25
Leading Indicators	- 0.7	Oct 24
Unemployment	4.1	Nov 24
Def. bn \$	131.4	Jan 25

MEMBER NEWS

Please send us your press releases:
amcham-presse@amcham.at

/ ACCENTURE

Bei „Brain & Champagne“ ging es um die Zukunft der Arbeit

„Ideen entwickeln, Innovationen vorantreiben, Diversität stärken“, so beschreibt Brain & Champagne Gastgeberin und Avana-de-Österreich Geschäftsführerin Christiane Noll die Motivation für den Diversity- und Netzwerk-Event, den Avana-de gemeinsam mit Accenture im Jahr 2018 ins Leben gerufen hat. Rund 100 Gäste sind auch heuer wieder der Einladung ins Accenture Future Camp im Wiener Börse Gebäude gefolgt.

„Neue Technologien sind bei uns Alltag“, erzählte Christina Scholochow und betonte: „KI wird uns nachhaltig beeinflussen. Die Frage ist, wo wird sie uns beeinflussen.“ Aktuell werde Künstliche Intelligenz in ihrem Bereich zum Durchleuchten der Prozesse in den Unternehmen eingesetzt. „Wir sind ein Start-up, wir müssen probieren, aber unsere Ressourcen sind begrenzt. Da spielt Effektivität eine entscheidende Rolle“, so die Unternehmerin. Sabine Zaussinger sagte: „Wir haben unsere Digitalisierungsreise für unsere Branche sehr früh gestartet und KI bereits im Einsatz. KI ist etwas Positives und dringend Notwendiges.“ Die SVS-Managerin unterstrich, dass man den Mitarbeiter:innen „die Angst nehmen“ müsse. „Wenn das gelingt, ist es schön zu sehen, wenn Mitarbeiter:innen Ideen für die Nutzung einbringen“, so Zaussinger.

/ MASTERCARD

FinanzRESILIENZ in Österreich stärken - Technologischen Wandel und geopolitische Spannungen meistern!

In einer Zeit des beispiellosen technologischen Wandels und zunehmender geopolitischer Spannungen steht die globale Finanzstabilität vor neuen und komplexen Herausforderungen. Mastercard, als eines der globalen Unternehmen im digitalen Zahlungsverkehr, nimmt eine entscheidende Rolle in dieser sich nachhaltig verändernden Lebensrealität ein.

Unsere Wirtschaft, und damit auch das Finanzwesen, stehen heute vor beispiellosen Herausforderungen, die über klassische Risiken hinausgehen. Globale Unsicherheiten, rasante technologische Fortschritte, eine noch nie dagewesenes Maß an Konnektivität sowie exponentiell wachsende Datenmengen führen zu wachsenden Bedrohungen durch Cyberkriminalität wie beispielsweise Ransomware-Attacken, durch Künstliche Intelligenz (KI) gesteuerte Cyberkriminalität, betrügerische Social Engineering-Angriffe oder neue Möglichkeiten für Geldwäsche im Crypto-Umfeld sind längst Realität.

In dieser komplexen Landschaft wird Resilienz – die Fähigkeit, Krisen zu bewältigen und sich schnell von Schocks zu erholen – zur Schlüsselkompetenz, um langfristige Stabilität und Sicherheit zu gewährleisten. Ein zentraler Aspekt ist die zunehmende Bedeutung der Cyberresilienz. Neue Technologien beeinflussen die Art und Weise, wie wir leben und arbeiten. Diese Fortschritte haben jedoch auch ein erhöhtes Risiko von Cyberkriminalität und damit einhergehend einen sich schnell entwickelnden Bedarf für effektive Cyber-sicherheit geschaffen.

[Read the full white paper here](#)

/ MARTSCHIN & PARTNER

Martschin & Partner Joins Global Ranks as Worldcom Public Relations Group's Newest Partner

The Worldcom Public Relations Group (Worldcom), the leading global partnership of independent public relations firms, announced today that it has voted Martschin & Partners, one of Austria's leading independent public relations firms, into its global partnership.

“They are highly respected and recognized in Austria and the DACH region. Martschin & Partner's expertise, not only across the broad spectrum of PR services but also in several key industries, is fundamental to extending our ability to serve Worldcom partners' existing clients across the region while providing new client prospects comprehensive reach and resources.”

“With this partnership, we are thrilled to take our growth to the next level and enhance our communications expertise, as well as strengthen our international flexibility”, says CEO of Martschin & Partner, Johannes Martschin. “The Worldcom PR community is incredibly dynamic and engaged, with mutual exchanges multiple times a week. This constant access to cutting-edge PR knowledge and the seamless exchange of ideas have brought a refreshing new energy to our agency – to our clients' benefit!”

INSIGHTS

/ BREAKING BARRIERS

Ekaterina Ambrosch

Manufacturing innovation thrives on collaboration, as breakthroughs rarely happen in isolation. With global markets evolving and technology advancing rapidly, the industry faces a choice: embrace collaboration or risk falling behind. Today's most successful innovations often emerge when startups, with their bold ideas, partner with established corporations that provide the infrastructure and market expertise needed to scale. This fusion of agility and experience ensures that new technologies become industry-changing solutions. Strong, strategic partnerships are key to a more competitive, efficient, and future-ready manufacturing sector.

At EIT Manufacturing, we have seen firsthand how startup-corporate partnerships drive groundbreaking solutions. However, differences in corporate structures, work cultures, and expectations can create challenges. That's why our latest white paper, *Breaking Barriers: A Roadmap for Startup-Corporate Collaboration in Manufacturing*, offers practical strategies to navigate these complexities.

Why Collaboration Matters

The manufacturing industry must innovate to stay competitive, meet sustainability demands, and keep pace with rapid technological change. Startups introduce novel solutions like AI-driven automation, IoT-enabled smart factories, and advanced materials, but scaling these innovations requires the backing of established companies.

For corporations, partnering with startups provides early access to emerging technologies, helping them maintain a competitive edge, optimize production, and explore new business models. However, success depends on trust, aligned objectives, and a clear strategy.

Overcoming Challenges in Startup-Corporate Partnerships

While collaboration offers immense potential, obstacles such as slow decision-making in corporations, misaligned expectations, and cultural differences can hinder progress.



Our white paper provides actionable steps for both startups and corporates to establish successful partnerships—aligning goals from the outset, maintaining transparent communication, and testing ideas in low-risk environments before scaling. We also introduce a Collaboration Readiness Self-Assessment to help companies evaluate their preparedness and strengthen their collaboration potential.

Moving Forward Together

The future of manufacturing depends on strong, effective collaborations. By embracing openness, adaptability, and strategic planning, companies can unlock innovation and drive sustainable growth.

We invite you to explore our white paper and join us at Manufacturing Day 2025 on 9 May in Vienna, themed "Collaborate to Innovate." This flagship event offers insights into how partnerships fuel technological advancements, accelerate growth, and create new market opportunities.

Register for free: www.manufacturingday.eu

For more details, visit www.eitmanufacturing.eu or www.mitic.at.

AMCHAM IN THE NEWS



© LEADERSNET / C. Mikes

/ EINE ÄRA GEHT ZU ENDE

AmCham Neujahrsempfang im Zeichen des Abschieds

Der traditionelle Cocktailempfang der Amerikanischen Handelskammer in Österreich läutete heuer nicht nur ein neues Jahr, sondern auch das Ende einer Ära ein: Nach drei Jahren verabschiedet sich Botschafterin Victoria Kennedy.

Mehr auf
[Leadersnet](#)
[medianet](#)
[New Business](#)

/ AMCHAM TALKS - JANUARY

Economic Scenarios for Europe and Effects of US Policies

No matter where you are at the moment, every conversation starts with: What is Trump doing? Erste Group's Ingo Bleier, CFA and Gerald Walek gave us some insights on the economic scenarios we can expect at the AmCham Talks.

Mehr auf
amcham.at



© AmCham Austria

/ AMCHAM TALKS - FEBRUARY

Intrapreneurship & Strategic Change: US-EU Learning Opportunities

Fail, but fail fast! - that's part of the US approach to innovation. The US has an innovation culture, they have close ties to universities, follow transformative leadership, work with flat structures and embrace disruption, Europe in contrast has a perfectionist culture, prefer intra-company R&D, has a transactional leadership and formal structures and like incremental development. These two different philosophies have enormous potential for us to learn from each other, so the conclusion by speaker Wolfgang Güttel, professor at TU Vienna.

Mehr auf
[LinkedIn](#)

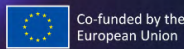


© AmCham Austria

MANUFACTURING DAY — 9 May 2025

REGISTER FOR FREE

www.manufacturingday.eu



JAMES TAYLOR

AMCHAM NEWS – CAREER

Aleksandrowicz Grzegorz



Microsoft Österreich bestellte Grzegorz Aleksandrowicz mit 1. Februar 2025 zum Chief Financial Officer.

Der viele Jahre bei Microsoft tätige Finanzmanager wird in dieser Position eng mit dem Leadership Team von Microsoft Österreich zusammenarbeiten.

Sonia Dimogli



führt seit Januar 2025 in der Position der Country Managerin die Geschäfte der Coca-Cola Österreich GmbH.

Dimogli folgt auf Fabio Cella, der ab Jänner 2025 die Leitung von Coca-Cola Schweiz übernommen hat.

Emmanuel Hotton



Mit 01. Januar 2025 übernahm Emmanuel Hotton die Geschäftsführung von Gilead Sciences in Österreich.

Der erfahrene Manager mit Masterabschlüssen in Marketing und Bio-

chemie folgt auf Amaya Echevarría und bringt eine Fülle an Expertise in der Pharmaindustrie mit.

Michael Lind



steigt zum Managing Partner bei PwC Legal auf. Der auf Corporate und M&A spezialisierte Wirtschaftsanwalt

war zuvor u. a. bei Wolf Theiss und Binder Grösswang tätig. Intern war er für den Bereich Finance verantwortlich.

Astrid Reigl



übernimmt als Managerin die HR Transformation bei EY People Consulting. Sie wird u. a. Konzepte für das

HR Prozessdesign und die Implementierung moderner HR-Technologien entwickeln.

Alexandra Son



verantwortet die vierköpfige Personalabteilung bei CBRE in Österreich. Die studierte Juristin ist seit rund vier

Jahren beim Immobiliendienstleister tätig.

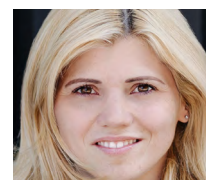
Thora Swyter



verantwortet die kommerzielle Leitung des Bereichs Specialty Care bei Johnson & Johnson. Die Pharmazeutin steigt in ihrer dieser Funktion auch

in das Managementteam auf.

Marion Vöhr



leitet seit Anfang des Jahres das Geschäftsfeld „Public, Healthcare & Utilities“ bei msg Plaut

Austria. Als versierte Führungskraft mit ausgeprägtem strategischem Weitblick verantwortet sie das Geschäft mit Kunden aus den Bundes-, Landes- und Kommunalverwaltungen, Ministerien sowie öffentlichen Betrieben und Organisationen in den Bereichen IT, Healthcare und Energie.

NEW MEMBERS



/ ALETHEIA WORKS

is more than a consultancy—it's a catalyst for transformational mature leadership and organizational excellence. Founded and led by Dr. Monika Picker, an ICF Certified PCC Executive Coach with 12 years Coaching practice and visionary with over 3 decades international business experience, the company empowers leaders to navigate complexity and achieve sustainable success. With locations in Salzburg, Vienna Austria, and Chişinău, Moldova, Aletheia Works specializes in executive coaching, organizational transformation, and cross-cultural leadership development and management.

Dr. Picker brings a unique blend of academic rigor, entrepreneurial acumen, and global insight to every engagement. As a fourth-generation entrepreneur and former President of the ICF Germany Chapter, her expertise spans industries including finance, IT or smart energy. Her coaching and business philosophy emphasizes unlocking creativity, clarity, and resilience, enabling leaders to build high-performing teams, enhance executive presence, and master strategic communication.

Contact Monika Picker, CEO
Homepage www.monika-picker.com

Email m.picker@aletheia.at
Office Aribonenstraße 13, 5020 Salzburg



/ FINANCEPARTNERS

led by Manuela Rott, specializes in interim management roles such as CFO, SOX Compliance Manager and Project Manager for AI-readiness in Accounting & Finance. Manuela seamlessly integrates advanced automation technologies with financial accounting, enhancing back-office efficiency and effectiveness. She is known for her innovative approach, often stating that her passion is "to marry financial accountants with robots."

This reflects her commitment for leveraging automation to reduce manual tasks and streamline financial processes which reduces errors, saves time, and increases accuracy. Her dedication to human-centered AI-readiness not only optimizes financial accounting tasks but also allows finance teams to identify AI-based use cases and redirect their focus towards data-driven decisions and strategic analysis.

Contact Manuela Rott
Homepage www.financepartners.at

Email manuela.rott@financepartners.eu
Office Neustift am Walde 2, 1190 Wien

NEW MEMBERS



/ FL3XX

is the leading aviation management platform, designed to support the full scope of flight operations with precision and efficiency. Trusted by over 200 companies worldwide, FL3XX simplifies complex workflows by integrating sales, dispatch, crew management, maintenance, finance, and more into a single, user-friendly platform. Offering 100+ integrations and mobile apps, FL3XX ensures seamless data exchange and real-time access, making every step of the process smoother and more connected. With a strong presence across North America, EMEA, and Asia, FL3XX is headquartered in Vienna, Austria, where it

continually drives innovation in aviation technology. By automating repetitive tasks and offering deep insights through analytics, the platform empowers operators to save time, reduce costs, and make smarter decisions. Whether managing private jets, helicopters, medical flights, mission-critical operations, or drones, FL3XX is the trusted partner for operators seeking greater control, flexibility, and an enhanced overall user experience across all types of aviation operations.

Contact Paolo Sommariva, CEO
Homepage www.fl3xx.com

Email paolo.sommariva@fl3xx.com
Office Kollingasse 11/3, 1090 Wien



PEOPLE MAKE
THE DIFFERENCE

/ JAS FORWARDING

JAS Worldwide wurde 1978 in Italien gegründet und hat sich seitdem zu einem führenden Anbieter von globalen Logistiklösungen entwickelt. Ursprünglich begann das Unternehmen als spezialisierter Anbieter von Luft- und Seefracht-Dienstleistungen und hat sich im Laufe der Jahre kontinuierlich weiterentwickelt, um den wachsenden Anforderungen des internationalen Marktes gerecht zu werden.

Mit einer klaren Vision, den globalen Handel zu erleichtern, expandierte JAS Worldwide rasch in verschiedene Regionen, einschließlich Nordamerika, Europa und Asien. In den 1980er und 1990er Jahren eröffnete das Unternehmen mehrere Niederlas-

sungen weltweit und baute ein starkes Netzwerk von Partnern und Dienstleistern auf, was zu einer noch effizienteren Abwicklung von internationalen Transporten führte.

Durch kontinuierliche Innovation und Investitionen in Technologie und Infrastruktur konnte JAS Worldwide seine Position als globaler Logistikdienstleister weiter festigen. Das Unternehmen bietet heute eine breite Palette an Dienstleistungen, darunter Luft- und Seefracht, Landverkehr, Lagerung und Supply Chain Management.

Contact Bernd Mittermayer, CEO
Homepage www.jas.com

Email bernd.mittermayer@jas.com
Office Objekt 263/3/2, Flughafen Wien, 1300 Wien

NEW MEMBERS



/ KORN FERRY

is a global organizational consulting firm. We work with our clients to design optimal organizational structures, roles, and responsibilities. We help them hire the right people and advise them on how to reward and motivate their workforce while developing professionals as they navigate and advance their careers. Over the years, we have evolved from being a leading executive search firm to a comprehensive provider of organizational strategy and talent solutions. Our mission is to empower businesses worldwide by helping them navigate change, achieve growth, and find and keep top talent.

We work with clients to design effective organization structures, roles, and responsibilities. Our services include hiring the right people, advising on workforce motivation and rewards, and developing professionals throughout their careers. By integrating strategy, operations, and talent, we drive superior performance through our expertise in Organizational Strategy, Assessment and Succession, Talent Acquisition, Leadership Development, and Total Rewards.

Contact Markus Kaiser, Senior Client Partner
Homepage www.kornferry.com

Email markus.kaiser@kornferry.com
Office Johannesgasse 18, 1010 Wien



/ MSG PLAUT

is an owner-managed IT service provider in Austria as well as in Southeastern and Eastern Europe and part of the globally active msg Group with over 10,000 employees. For over 40 years, the company has been supporting organizations in the banking, insurance, industry, trade, transportation and public administration sectors. With comprehensive industry expertise, msg Plaut accompanies companies on their way to success from idea generation to implementation. International projects are efficiently implemented through global know-how and local focus – supported by international staffing, shoring and the use of modern AI applications. At the center of all innovations is the human being, supported by the principles of digital humanism.

In 2000, msg global solutions was founded in the United States, with its headquarters in Princeton, New Jersey. The company serves over 200 clients across the Americas with a team of approximately 100 employees, leveraging its status as a certified local SAP partner with more than 20 years of experience.

msg global solutions USA offers consulting and implementation services in accounting, finance, regulatory reporting, performance management, and sustainability. Its clients represent a wide range of industries, including financial services, insurance, food and agribusiness, retail, and oil and gas.

Contact Nicolai Descovich, Head of Sales Insurance
Homepage www.msg-plaut.com/at

Email nicolai.descovich@msg-plaut.com
Office Modecenterstraße 17, Unit 4/6, 1110 Wien

NEW MEMBERS



/ ÖFBG

ÖFBG e.Gen. stands for Austrian Financial Advisory Cooperative and was founded in November 2023 by Gerald Weillbuchner, who is their executive chairman. Years before, he worked for the Austrian Chamber of Commerce and served as a Member of the State Parliament in Upper Austria.

Since an internship at the Austrian Embassy in Washington, DC 10 years ago, Gerald Weillbuchner has been fascinated by the United States. Understanding global connections and getting to know new people are the reasons why they joined AmCham.

ÖFBG offers tailor-made solutions in the areas of insurance, financing and investments. Their target groups are companies, municipalities and upscale private customers. To this end, they cooperate with national and international partners. They are currently doing business in Austria and Italy.

A unique selling point is that their customers can become members of their cooperative. This allows them to vote at the annual general meeting, enjoy advantages and benefit from a strong network of mutual support.

Contact Gerald Weillbuchner, CEO
Homepage www.oefbg.at

Email gerald.weillbuchner@oefbg.at
Office Bauernmarkt 10 / 8 + 9, 1010 Wien



/ PARALLEL BIO

is pioneering human-first drug discovery by combining organoids and AI to create true-to-life models of human biology. By discovering drugs proven to work in humans from the start, we'll shift clinical trials from years to weeks, getting new drugs to patients faster and with less upfront cost and risk. Pharmaceutical partners, including three Fortune 500 companies, are using its 'Clinical Trial in a Dish' to test the safety and efficacy of immunotherapies in a fully human, end-to-end biological platform.

Parallel Bio was founded in 2021 by Robert DiFazio, a former Stanford immunology dept. director, and Juliana Hilliard, who built a drug discovery platform in 'mini brains'.

Contact Robert DiFazio, CEO
Homepage www.parallel.bio

Email robert@parallel.bio
Office Graben 19/10, 1010 Wien

NEW MEMBERS



/ SILHOUETTE INTERNATIONAL

Seit ihrer Gründung im Jahr 1964 in Linz ist die Silhouette Group ein unabhängiges Familienunternehmen – bis heute fest in Familienbesitz. An der Spitze des Unternehmens stehen Michael Schmied, CMO und Enkel der Gründer, Reinhard Mahr als CEO und CFO sowie Thomas Windischbauer als COO. Innovationskraft, Pioniergeist und eine konsequente Zukunftsorientierung prägen die DNA der Silhouette Group und treiben ihre Entwicklung stetig voran.

Am Hauptsitz in Linz vereint die Silhouette Group als Komplettanbieter von Premiumbrillen Gläser, Fassung und Service zu einer perfekten Einheit – für ein unvergleichliches Seherlebnis. Jeder Schritt der Produktion erfolgt in Österreich. Über 1.300

Fachkräfte arbeiten täglich daran, Kundinnen und Kunden weltweit mit innovativen Designs und höchster Qualität zu begeistern. Mit 13 eigenen internationalen Vertriebsgesellschaften, einem regionalen Büro und einem Exportanteil von 95 Prozent ist die Silhouette Group Marktführer im Premiumsegment randloser Brillen. Ihre Produkte sind in über 100 Ländern erhältlich und prägen den weltweiten Erfolg des Unternehmens. Mit der Kernmarke Silhouette, der urban-progressiven NEUBAU EYEWEAR (seit 2016) und der High-Performance-Sportbrillenmarke evil eye (seit 2019) steht die Silhouette Group für höchste Qualitätsansprüche, edelste Materialien und preisgekröntes Design – ausgezeichnet mit über 130 internationalen Awards.

Contact Ulrike Paukner-Henley, Legal Counsel
Homepage www.silhouette.com

Email office@silhouette.com
Office Ellbognerstraße 24, 4021 Linz



universität
wien

/ UNIVERSITÄT WIEN

The University of Vienna. Forever a part of you.

The alumni community of the University of Vienna is a lively, international network that connects graduates across generations. The University attaches great importance to staying in touch with its alumni, as their studies were more than just education – they prepared them for actively shaping society. 200,000 living alumni worldwide form a strong network for exchange.

In particular, the eight international alumni chapters, including five in the US, foster ties with their alma mater and enable global networking. As part of this community, alumni benefit from a network that supports academic, economic and social developments – a community characterised by shared values, curiosity and diversity. Stay in touch: <https://alumni.ac.at/portal/getinvolved/informiertbleiben>

Contact Ruth Gabler-Schachermayr, Head of Alumni Relations
Homepage www.univie.ac.at/

Email communications@univie.ac.at
Office Universitätsring 1, 1010 Wien