

European Chambers of Commerce Newsletter

Past Events & News



European Business Seminar: State and Local Tax Incentives

March 10, 2010 | The Beacon Council | Miami

On March 10, 2010, the European Chambers hosted the first of the 2010 European Business Seminar Series at The Beacon Council's office. The first business seminar was on fiscal incentives and was conducted by Manny Mencia, Enterprise Florida's Senior Vice President for International Business Development, and Frank R. Nero, President of the Beacon Council. The Spain-United States Chamber of Commerce, the French-American Chamber of Commerce, the German American Business Chamber, the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast, and the British-American Business Council Miami put together the seminar series which turned out to be sold out. The next seminar will be held on April 7, 2010 about tax laws in Florida for small and mid size companies and the speaker will be Jose Angulo from the Florida Department of Revenue. This time the seminar will take place at the Società Dante Alighieri in Miami.

"Committed to promoting the European community through trade, investment and competitiveness."

The Setai European Chambers' Networking Reception was a Success!

February 25, 2010 | The Setai Hotel | Miami Beach



The European Chambers in Miami hosted the first joint European networking reception of the year at the Setai on February 25, 2010. About 200 attendees attended the event at the courtyard to network and enjoyed signature cocktails and wonderful appetizers offered by the Setai.

Thanks to everybody who supported the event. The next European networking reception will be hosted in May 2010.

European Sport Activity Event

March 27, 2010 | Coconut Grove

The European Chambers in Miami hosted a Sailing Event at SailLaser Miami.

This was not only a great networking event but also attendees had a chance to go on sail boats in groups together with a trainer of SailLaser. Everybody got a glimpse on what sailing is like by sailing into the beautiful bay area for about 20 minutes while getting great insides from the trainers. We thank the SailLaser team for hosting the Chambers that day, and the beverage sponsor bioaQa who provided delicious organic lemonade beverages to everyone. SailLaser offers sailing lessons in the sail marina in Coconut Grove.



From our Chambers

French energy company AREVA announced plans to build its first two U.S. biomass power plants in Florida

Majority-owned by the French government, Areva is better known for its nuclear power plants. When President Obama cited in his 2010 State of the Union Speech the need to build "a new generation of safe, clean nuclear power plants" in the United States, Areva welcomed his position on nuclear energy. Indeed, the group is already involved in the revival of nuclear energy in the United States, where its EPR (Evolutionary Power Reactor) is currently undergoing certification by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

But the company is also looking to gain a foothold in the U.S. wind and biomass power sectors. It recently completed its first offshore wind farm, along Germany's northern coast, and officials hope to build similar wind farms with Areva-built turbines in the United States. Besides, Areva recently announced plans to build its first U.S. biomass power plants - two of them in Florida (in Hamilton and Gadsden Counties), the third in Washington State (Mason County). The facility in Hamilton County, FL is the initial model in what will be a series of 50-MW biomass power plants designed to burn clean wood waste as fuel to produce electricity.

Moreover, Areva announced the acquisition of U.S.-based Ausra, a leading provider of large-scale concentrated solar power solutions for electricity generation and industrial steam production. It reflects Areva's strategic objective to be the world leader in concentrated solar power (CSP) and will further strengthen and diversify its renewable portfolio. The Ausra acquisition would form the backbone of Areva's new solar electricity business. "Our plan, in line with our broader renewable energy strategy, is to build concentrated solar power plants," explained Areva spokesman Jarret Adams. The market for concentrated solar power plants is expected to grow substantially in the next decade, with an average annual growth rate of 20% and should reach an estimated installed capacity of over 20 GW by 2020. With the acquisition of Ausra, Areva is poised to capture the leading position of this attractive and growing market.



Handelsblatt Business Monitor: Germany is Europe's Most Competitive Economy

Berlin - Germany held its position as the most productive and competitive economy in Europe for the fourth consecutive year. Only China received a stronger international competitiveness rating. This is the result of a survey of 1,100 business leaders in Europe.

The Handelsblatt Business Monitor, which was conducted on behalf of the business daily Handelsblatt and the consulting firm Droege & Comp., evaluated a total of nine international economic areas. Germany came away with top marks. Reasons for Germany's strong performance include the strong Mittelstand - Germany's small and medium enterprises - along with successful streamlining of businesses, moderate overall wage growth and below average price increase rates.

While German business leaders have expressed critical sentiments about Germany's business environment in recent years, the significant improvement in this year's survey stands out. The evaluation by German executives now falls within the average of all executives. In the survey, Germany's economic competitiveness was rated on a scale from one (excellent) to five (poor), with an overall average of 2.5. Only China received higher marks, coming in at 2.1. Following Germany, Switzerland received an average rating of 2.6 and Italy came in last with a rating of 3.4.

Source: Germany Trade & Invest



Magnegas Corporation Committed to being GREEN

The Italy-America Chamber of Commerce is proud to present MAGNEGAS, one of its Sustaining Members worldwide recognized for its commitment and achievements in the GREEN natural gas alternative Magnegas Corporation, a company based in Florida and quoted on the Over the Counter Bulletin Board

(OTCBB:MNGA) was funded by the Italian- American Physicist Ruggero Santilli who developed , in the course of 20 years , an alternative fuel technology called Magnegas. The patented Magnegas Arc Flow refinery system has now reached industrial maturity and recycles certain industrial oil based liquid wastes and agricultural, farm, and city wastes into a clean burning hydrogen based natural gas alternative called Magnegas.

This GREEN ALTERNATIVE FUEL can power bifuel cars running on natural gas, cooking grills, industrial equipments and homes. Magnegas is also an ideal metal cutting and welding fuel that is now sold in USA and abroad. When used in bifuels cars the Magnegas exhaust has been independently certified to surpass all Environmental Protection Agency (USA) requirements without a catalytic converter, making it dramatically cleaner than fossil fuel.

The Magnegas Technology is now commercially available in the USA, and in several foreign countries. In Benevento (Italy) the Futuridea Association for Useful and Sustainable Innovation thru Magnegas Italia, S.R.L. www.magnegasit.com owns exclusive distributorship rights for Italy and has acquired a recycler which is part of a Technology Demonstration Center located in the Campania Region. Distribution rights have also been acquired by a company in the Netherlands and by a Greek company with the purchase of equipment and with development of marketing plans. The network of Magnegas distributors is also expanding in Asia and South America.

For additional information about distributorship please contact Ermanno Santilli in Belgium at +32 474173537 and at ermanno_santilli@me.com

For a description of the Magnegas Technology view the website www.magnegas.com.



Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast, Inc.



IFEMA Exhibition Center Madrid

The Gourmets Fair began with the philosophy of being a meeting point for delicatessen manufacturers and consumers. It is currently the reference event in Europe's quality gastronomy industry.

The 1st Gourmets Fair was held in Madrid –in the Convention Pavilion in Casa de Campo- on April 2-5, 1987, with the participation of 73 exhibitors and 8,000 visitors.

In 1992 the State Secretary of Commerce lent the fair its international character, and it became the Club de Gourmets International Fair.

In 2007 it became a full member of the Global Association of the Exhibition Industry, UFI, as well as an Official Fair in the Madrid Community.

In April 2009, the twenty-third edition of the Gourmets Fair was held with HRM the King of Spain acting as Honorary President. It received 79,963* professional visitors, with 1,311* exhibitors and 40,000* products displayed. The round tables, conferences, competitions, exhibitions and other parallel activities reflect the vanguard spirit which has always distinguished Grupo Gourmets.

The 24rd Club de Gourmets International Fair will take place on April 12-15 in pavilions 4, 6 and 8 of IFEMA, Feria de Madrid, with plenty of space to accommodate its growing demands, and premises and services in tune with the fair's leading position.

*audited figures

Exhibitors

Manufacturers and producers in the quality food and drink industry attend the Gourmets Fair from all over Spain, either independently or represented by their Autonomous Regions, Provincial Councils, Chambers of Commerce, Regulatory Councils and other organisations.

The international character of the Gourmets Fair is renewed by the presence of a large assortment of products from 16 countries. Oils, smoked cold cuts, heavy salted fish, coffee, tea, tinned meat, fish and vegetables, foie-gras and other duck and goose products, dairy products, legumes and pastas, honey and preserves, cakes and chocolates, ready meals, fresh produce, cheeses, sauces, vinegars and spices. As for beverages, there will be liqueurs and brandies, water, cava and champagnes, beer and juices, plus a large number of wineries presenting their products. Several publishing houses and kitchenware and accessories companies complete the large range of products exhibited at the fair. 80% of exhibitors come back every year, a solid proof that the Gourmets Fair meets their expectations.

Visitors

A total of 79,963 trade professionals visited the SICG on this occasion. We have once again broken our attendance records as the figures show we surpassed the number of trade visitors at last year's event by almost 12.9%. This is the best indicator of the growing interest in the Club de Gourmets International Fair.

Parallel Activities

Alongside product exhibition, Grupo Gourmets has been organising varied gastronomy-related activities ever since the first edition. Conferences, debates, round tables, tasting sessions, championships, competitions and forums which are of great interest for the professionals who attend the event.

Some of the activities which will be taking place in the 24rd edition of the Gourmets Fair are the 2th Spanish Maîtres Championship/Grupo Gourmets/Young Restaurateurs, the 17th Ham Cutters/Dehesa de Extremadura Competition, the New Products Exhibition, the 2010 Gourmetour (Spanish Tourist and Gastronomic Guide) and Gourmets Wine Guide Awards ceremony, the 15th Wine Tunnel in collaboration with the Spanish Ministry of Environment, the 3rd Oyster Opener Competition/Exhibition or the 12th Wine Forum: tastings, conferences and round tables with wine as the star, that will include: Exhibitors wine tastings, Best Spanish Wines Tastings, Chablis commented tasting, Continós' Vertical Tasting.

1st SALON DU CHOCOLAT MADRID

In the Club de Gourmets there will be the launch of the 1st Salon du Chocolat Madrid, an event that will take place from the 26th-27th November 2010 in the IFEMA exhibition site.

**MARCH 2010 CALENDAR****Combined European Chamber of Commerce Events**

Business Seminar Series: Tax Laws in Florida for Small and Medium Businesses

Guest Speaker: Jose Angulo, Florida Department of Revenue

Date & Time: April 7, 2010 |5:00 PM to 7:00 PM

Location: Dante Alighieri

Members: Free

Non Members: \$20

RSVP: Please contact your respective Chamber.

Individual Chamber of Commerce Events**French American Chamber of Commerce**

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German American Business Chamber

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Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Events

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US-Spain Chamber of Commerce Events

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