

<p style="color: white; font-style: italic;">"Committed to promoting the European community through trade, investment and competitiveness."</p>	<p>May 2010 • Volume 1, Issue 4</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">In this issue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PAST EVENTS & NEWS • FROM OUR CHAMBERS • JUNE 2010 CALENDAR
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Past Events & News

European Business Seminar: Why do bad lawsuits happen to good people?
 May 5, 2010 | Courtyard by Marriott | Miami

On May 5, 2010, the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast, the Spain-United States Chamber of Commerce, the French-American Chamber of Commerce, the German American Business Chamber and the British-American Business Council Miami hosted the third of the 2010 European Business Seminar Series at The Courtyard by Marriott in Downtown Miami. On the subject matter of labor laws and with guest speaker Mark Cheskin, partner of Hogan Lovells US PA, the seminar grabbed the attention and the interest of all participants, and created an interactive Q & A session. The next seminar will be June 9, 2010 on the subject of the EB5 visa program with guest speaker Eric Gould, Co-founder, South Florida Regional Investment Center. This time the seminar will take place at the Miami Science Museum, from 9 to 10 AM. Registrations and a light breakfast will start at 8:45 AM.



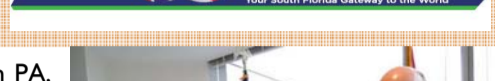
The Raleigh European Chambers' Networking Reception was a Success!
 May 12, 2010 | The Raleigh Hotel | Miami Beach

The European Chambers in Miami hosted the second joint European networking reception of the year at the Raleigh Hotel on May 12, 2010. About 250 people attended the event to network and enjoy the sensual and sophisticated hotel's well known pool area, where the atmosphere is elegant and relaxing. The next European networking reception is slated for August 2010. We look forward to your presence!



From our Chambers

The British Parliamentary Election and its potential impact for Transatlantic Relations



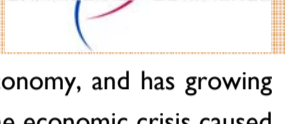
At a recent Council Boardroom Breakfast, hosted by the law firm of Gray Robinson PA, Dr. Nicol Rae, Professor of Politics and International Relations at FIU indicated that David Cameron's new coalition government is a gamble, but it could yet prove a surprisingly successful one. The youngest prime minister in almost two centuries, the first coalition government in 65 years, the first ever Conservative-Liberal Democrat government - by accident, British history was made in all sorts of ways!! At the May 6th general election, many anticipated the return of a single party - the Conservatives - with a strong mandate. Instead, after five days of deal making, and based on a losing Labour Party and an unlikely minority Conservative government, it looked as though the best possible outcome, given the difficult electoral numbers, has emerged - a formal coalition to implement an agreed agenda containing much of the best in each party's manifesto.



From left: Neal Stebbing, Dr. Nicol Rae, and Nick Watkins

There are two broad challenges for the new government led by David Cameron, the Conservative leader and Nick Clegg his Liberal Democrat deputy. The first is fiscal - within two weeks a joint legislative program must be presented to Parliament to address the very serious financial crisis facing the nation, and within two months a new emergency budget is due. After 13 years in power, the Labour Party is replaced by a coalition that looks far sounder than anybody dared hope: a coalition of ideas and people that brings out the best in both parties. For the Conservatives, for the Liberal Democrats and for Britain, it's a good deal.

France: Florida's Second European Trade Partner

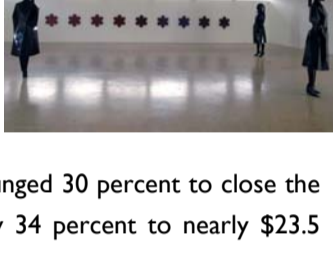


France has always been a major trading partner of Florida and an importer contributor to Florida's economy, and has growing business and investment interests in the State. France was even the highest-ranking trade partner until the economic crisis caused a decrease in Franco-American trade of 3%, falling to \$62.22 million. Nevertheless, Miami became more important to France and total trade remains twice what it was in 2003. France is now ranked Florida's 13th trade partner, just behind Switzerland (2008).

Imports from France are very important and the biggest trade year to year involves gasoline and other refined petroleum products. The top imports into South Florida from France in 2008 also included aircraft engines and perfumes. Fashion-conscious South Florida imported nearly \$251 million in French fragrances last year, an increase of 15 percent. Miami is a big destination for luxury products from caviar, yachts to diamonds and alcohol.



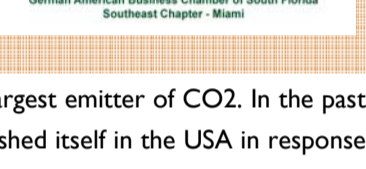
Art is another part of South Florida's trade exchange with France. The Miami Customs District reported exports of nearly \$49 million worth of artwork to France in 2005, and imports of five time that amount in perfume from the European country. Miami is gaining a reputation as an art destination, with serious art collectors and galleries.



On the other hand, South Florida exports little to France, with only the top four categories topping \$10 million in value. However exports of aircraft from Florida soared by more than 2,800 percent to nearly \$25 million. In 2005, while overall U.S. exports of airplanes and jets to France plunged 30 percent to close the year at \$1.2 billion. South Florida's shipments to France of aircraft parts, meanwhile, rose nearly 34 percent to nearly \$23.5 million.

Even though the trade deficit decreased slightly due to difficult economic times, the lineup of French imports read like a roster of luxury products: wine, cosmetics, antiques, sculptures, natural waters, jewelry, yachts and French creams and cheeses.

Transatlantic Energy and E-mobility Conference organized by the German American Chamber of Commerce South on June 3rd, 2010 in Atlanta



The United States of America is the largest economy in the world and, after China, the second largest emitter of CO2. In the past few years, the idea of generating energy in a sustainable manner and using it efficiently has established itself in the USA in response to the concern for secure energy supplies and climate protection. However, while the USA is only recently breaking into the renewable energies market, Germany has been at the forefront in renewable energy technologies for some time.

The huge market potential and the current positive developments in the area of electric mobility and energy offer an extremely interesting market. In order to inform about current technology trends in the USA and Germany as well as exchange ideas and experiences, the GACC South will host the "E-mobility Transatlantic Mobility and Energy Conference" on June 3, 2010.

- Featuring Keynote speakers and presentations:
- Karsten Schmidt, Bertrand US, Inc. : Electro Mobility: Powertrain of the Future
 - Dr. Joachim G. Taiber, Clemson University, International Center for Automotive Research; Klaus Schoenborn, CADFEM GmbH : Developing an integrated clean transportation ecosystem - strategy and examples of how CUICAR is approaching it together with its partners
 - Bryan C. Coley, Southern Company : Pilot & demonstration projects, Integration of electric vehicles to the smart grid
 - Dr. John D. Gatto, NRW Invest LLC North America : Status Quo Electro Mobility in Germany, R&D and projects in North Rhine Westphalia

- Possible topics for further presentations:
- Status of battery research and development
 - Electric cars in mass production
 - Regulations and requirements (highways, interstates, or roads)



Location: The Peachtree Conference Center | 999 Peachtree St. NE, Ste. 550 | Atlanta, GA 30309
 Date: June 3, 2010 | Program: 9:00am - 12:00pm
 Networking Reception/ Business Luncheon: 12:00 - 2:00pm
 Event Fee: \$40 members | \$50 non-members
 To RSVP: contact Silke Miehke at smiehke@gaccsouth.com or by calling (404) 586-6804.
[Flyer E-mobility here](#)

Italy-America Chamber of Commerce announces new President Marco Ferri



The Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast (IACC) is pleased to announce that Marco Ferri has recently been appointed as its new President. Upon his appointment, the newly appointed Marco Ferri said, "Over the last six years, the IACC has seen dramatic growth, diversification and increased recognition under the direction of my predecessor, Giampiero Di Persia." Marco Ferri, along with the IACC Board, staff and members thank Mr. Di Persia for his tireless commitment to the IACC and the Italian business community. Ferri added, "I certainly have some big shoes to fill!"



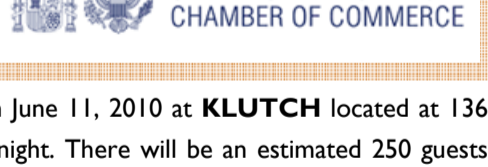
Since its inception in 1991, the IACC has been a landmark for the Italian business community in the Southeast region of the United States. The IACC is surrounded by a vibrant group of entrepreneurs, businessmen, professionals and multinational companies that represent the "Made in Italy" concept worldwide. Not only is the IACC an asset to Italian businesses and professionals already established in the United States, but as Ferri explains, "The IACC has been, and will continue to be a valuable tool for assisting Italian businesses penetrate and grow in the U.S. market."

With the appointment of a new President and with the upcoming 20th Anniversary of the IACC, everyone is excited to see the changes and positivism that will come. "As incoming President of the IACC, it is my goal to continue the long-standing tradition of support to our Italian business community and at the same time increase participation by US firms with Italian business interests," said Ferri. "Specifically, my objective is to expand the presence of the IACC throughout the Southeastern United States which will result in new synergies and opportunities for our members, as well as increase the utility of the IACC as a resource for our members," further commented Ferri.

Marco Ferri is ready to lead the Chamber in its endeavor to open new chapters in different cities of the Southeastern United States. With the creation of new IACC chapters, the Chamber will expand its business community in the Southeastern United States, which will create awareness of Italian businesses and products locally and in turn, increase the growth of IACC members and partners regionally.

"Together with a fantastic group of fellow Board Members, I look forward to serving our members and the Italian business community," commented Ferri. To learn more about the IACC, its members, services and programs, please visit their website at www.iacc-miami.com.

The Spain-US Chamber of Commerce to celebrate its 30th Anniversary



The Spain-US Chamber of Commerce in Miami will celebrate its 30th anniversary on June 11, 2010 at **KLUTCH** located at 136 Collins Avenue, Miami Beach, Florida. The festivities will begin at 8:30PM on Friday night. There will be an estimated 250 guests including special VIP guests.

June 12, 2010 will mark the actual 30th anniversary in which the Chamber first opened its doors. This anniversary marks a milestone of achievement. Beginning with a few members, the Chamber now currently has more than 500 members to date.

The Chamber celebrated its 30th Anniversary gala last November, honoring IBT Group LLC as its Company of the Year and gave three Universal Spanish Awards to Mr. Pedro J. Ramirez, Editor of *El Mundo*, singer and composer, Mr. David Bisbal, and the Hon. Alberto Nuñez Feijóo, President of The Xunta of Galicia. That was the kick off event that marked the first of many other events to celebrate this milestone.

The celebration on June 11, 2010, will be more informal, allowing friends to enjoy in the celebration of accomplishment among friends and familiar faces. During the Chamber's anniversary party guest will feast on traditional Spanish tapas, and will enjoy a surprise performance.

The Spain-US Chamber of Commerce is one of the most active bi-national Chambers in the Southeast United States. For more information about this event please contact Victoria Gonzalez at vgonzalez@spainchamber.org or by calling (305) 358-5988.

To RSVP please send an email to recepccion@spainchamber.org.

JUNE 2010 CALENDAR

Combined European Chamber of Commerce Events



Business Seminar Series: EB5 visa program
Guest Speaker: Eric Gould, Co-founder, South Florida Regional Investment Center
Date & Time: June 9, 2010 | 8:45-10:00 AM
Location: Miami Science Museum | 3280 S. Miami Ave. | Miami, FL 33133
Cost: Members: Free | Non Members: \$20
RSVP: Please contact your respective Chamber.

Individual Chamber of Commerce Events

French American Chamber of Commerce

[Click here for upcoming events](#)

German American Business Chamber

[Click here for upcoming events](#)

Italy-America Chamber of Commerce

[Click here for upcoming events](#)

Spain-US Chamber of Commerce

[Click here for upcoming events](#)