

European Chambers of Commerce Newsletter

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

Events & News

European Chambers Luncheon

May 13, 2011: Four Seasons Hotel Miami

On May 13th, 2011, the German American Business Chamber Miami, the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast, the Spain-United States Chamber of Commerce, the French-American Chamber of Commerce and the British-American Business Council hosted a European Chamber's Luncheon at the Four Seasons Hotel Miami. Special guest Admiral James G. Stavridis, Commander of European Command, and Supreme Allied Commander of NATO military forces, headquartered in Belgium, gave an interesting presentation about NATO and its mission to ensure worldwide security. This high profile luncheon was attended by over 150 Chamber members and proved to be another successful European Chamber event.



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European Chambers Networking Cocktail Event

May 26, 2011—JW Marriott Marquis 255 Biscayne Blvd Way

The European Chambers in Miami joined forces again for another successful Business Card Exchange Cocktail, on May 26th, 2011. Over 200 guests attended. The JW Marriott Marquis Miami served some delicious appetizers and complimentary cocktails to our guests. Be sure to check out their website at www.hiltonbentleymiami.com for more information.



News From Our Chambers



Swire Properties unveils plans for Brickell CitiCentre

Longstanding BABC Trustee Member Swire Properties has unveiled plans for a nine-acre mixed use development christened Brickell CitiCentre (BCC). The \$700 million development would span four blocks bordered by Brickell Avenue on the east, SW First Avenue on the west, and between Sixth and Eighth streets. BCC will consist of a total of 4.6 million square feet of retail space, condos, offices, a hotel and restaurants housed in five towers.

It will be developed in phases with the first phase slated to include around 500,000 square feet of retail shops and restaurants, a 290-room four-star hotel, two eight-story office towers and a residential tower with about 270 units. The second phase will include the development of a majority of the office space and a probable second residential tower. The retail segment of the development will be anchored by one department store plus a mix of luxury and moderate retailers focusing on fashion brands and home furnishings.

Plans for the Brickell CitiCentre include landscaped sidewalks and plazas with public art offerings. Sustainable features in the development include a signature elevated trellis known as a Climate Ribbon. The trellis will provide overhead shading, water collection and solar energy apart from enhancing the pedestrian experience and overall project sustainability.

The development is expected to create an average of 1700 jobs per year during its four year construction phase and around 3800 permanent jobs upon completion. Swire Properties aims to secure permission from the Miami City Commission by the end of July 2011 and commence construction in late 2011 or early 2012. The project is planned to be completed over a four-year period.

To read more about Swire Properties exciting plans visit:

[Brickell CitiCentre](#)





“The French American Chamber of Commerce wants to take it to the next level”

The French American Chamber of Commerce has evolved over the years, established itself in the Financial District of Miami, increased his membership base and gained new communication tools.

Today, the Chamber has set new objectives, to increase our membership, pursue the development of services to our members, develop luncheons seminars and enriching activities. The focus is also to enhance the networking and referrals among our members and to further our collaboration with the European Chambers.

Our principal mission is to promote French companies in Florida and to increase interaction between French and American business communities.

As a part of our networking annual events, we organize “French Week Miami” in November, a festival showcasing the diversity and richness of the French presence in South Florida.

To spiced it up and show our most important National Talent, *French Spice* was launched last year and will make its full take off this November 2011.

After the hot summer months of “mouth-watering” dining with Miami Spice, you are invited to experience a taste of France in Miami. From Gourmet to Bistro restaurants, you will celebrate the diversity of Miami with a French twist!

We invite everyone to follow the buzz on <http://www.frenchspicemiami.com/> and join us in November for a fine dining program of high quality French cuisine at specially priced lunches and dinners.

For all budget and taste, restaurants will offer two categories of dining experience:

- « Bistro »: three-course lunch for \$15 and \$25 for dinner,
- « Gourmet »: three-course lunch for \$22 and \$35 for dinner

The French American Chamber of Commerce is counting on your presence!



Experience a taste of France in Miami

From Bistro to Gourmet Restaurants, Celebrate the diversity of Miami

French Spice

NOVEMBER 1-30

MAMI SPICE
Partnership with



The Distinguished German American Award of Excellence 2011

The German American Business Chamber of Florida, South East Chapter is proud to present the Distinguished German American Award of Excellence 2011 to

Dr. Hans C. Graber

Dr. Graber is the Associate Dean for Infrastructure at the University of Miami, Executive Director at the Center for Southeastern Tropical Advance Remote Sensing, and Professor in Applied Marine Physics.

Dr. Graber, who has been with the University of Miami for over 20 years, is a tenured professor and serves also as the Executive Director of CSTARS (Center for Southeastern Tropical Advanced Remote Sensing) a state-of-the-art, real-time satellite reception and analysis facility in southern Miami-Dade that recently celebrated its eight anniversary.

He received his Sc.D. in Hydrodynamics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1984), and his S.M. in Coastal Engineering, also from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1979). He attended The City College of New York, where he received his B.E. in Civil Engineering (1977). Graber is a member of the American Meteorological Society, American Geophysical Union and a Charter Member of The Oceanography Society. In 1990, Graber joined the University of Miami as an Associate Professor.

The Reception will be held on Thursday, August 18th, 2011 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Northern Trust Bank of Florida, 700 Brickell Avenue, Miami, FL 33131

Details TBA, Invitations will be mailed shortly

The A380 arrived in Miami on June 10th, 2011

The next big thing flew into Miami Friday. A double-deck behemoth with room for 526 passengers, the Airbus A380 touched down at 1:39 p.m. - one minute ahead of schedule.

The new plane on Lufthansa's existing daily flight between Miami and Frankfurt was greeted with fanfare. Two historic aircraft touched down in advance. Water cannons showered a welcome. Hundreds of spectators gathered inside terminals, at a nearby restaurant and along roadways to watch.

"This," said Miami-Dade Aviation director José Abreu, "is huge for us."

The arrival of the world's largest passenger jet places Miami in a small club of U.S. airports that are served regularly by the plane. That and other recent international flights continue to cement Miami's reputation as a gateway city to the United States and a major hub for Latin America and the Caribbean. Los Angeles and New York's JFK, San Francisco and Washington Dulles International airports all host regular A380 flights, though newcomers San Francisco and Washington just beat Miami in the lineup.

The plane, which first entered service in 2007, is typically used for long-haul flights to Asia, Australia, Europe and Africa. There are currently 49 in operation.

"They could literally choose from the entire planet and they have chosen to put their airplane here," said Stuart Klaskin, principal with Coconut Grove-based Jetstream Aviation Capital. "It's a big symbolic deal."

Said Jens Bischof, a Lufthansa board member who oversees sales and revenue management: "It's a no-brainer for us."

Germany is Miami's top tourism market in Europe, sending 332,142 overnight visitors last year who spent an estimated \$721.4 million. And Lufthansa executives said the airline has seen an average passenger increase of 12-16 percent to Miami over the past four years, despite the economic downturn. Previously, it was serviced by a 747 carrying 322 passengers.

[Read more](#)





Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast, Inc.

The Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast, Inc. Welcomes its New Board of Directors.

For its 20th birthday, the Italy-America Chamber of Commerce Southeast (IACCSE) welcomes a new board of directors. **Mr. Gianluca Fontani**, CEO and President of **Man Advertising, Inc.**, an Italian advertising company with offices in Florence and Miami, was elected President of the Chamber. He has served on the board for years, and brings not only experience in Italian trade, but many fresh ideas for promoting “Made in Italy” brands. As Executive Vice President, the Chamber has elected **Mr. Giancarlo Pelosi**, the managing partner of **Pelosi & Partners Law Firm**, with a licensed practice in both Italy and Florida. Mr. Pelosi is also the area Vice President for the Chamber’s Milan Desk, which opened its doors in October 2010. **Mr. Joseph Raia, Esq.** of **Gunster Law Firm** serves as Vice President, **Mr. Umberto Bonavita, Esq.** of **Robert Allen Law** serves as Secretary, and **Mr. Tommaso Cardana** of **Tomson Hospitality** is now the Chamber’s Treasurer. The other Directors of the IACCSE Board include: Mr. Costantino Cicchelli (Barba Skin Care), Mr. Giampiero Di Persia (Poltrona Frau), Mr. Luca Gregorio (MSC USA), Mr. Antonio Roca, Esq. (Roca Gonzalez PA), Mr. Francesco Secchiaroli (Capsec LLC), and Mr. Massimiliano Teia, Esq. (Oro-Life Florida).

Under the auspices and guidance of the **Italian Consulate of Miami**, of which the **Honorable Marco Rocca, Consul General of Italy**, serves as the Chamber’s **Honorary President**, the IACCSE, a registered non-profit organization, and the Italian consulate work closely together to foster trade between the Southeastern United States and Italy. The Chamber has grown substantially since its inception in 1991, a direct reflection of the rapidly expanding and increasingly prominent Italian business community in the Southeastern United States. Florida, in particular, represents the driving force of the regional economy due to its extraordinary geopolitical location, cosmopolitan and innovative environment, and role as a major international trade hub. The Chamber boasts a membership of more than 170 businesses, with offices in Miami, Florida, Charleston, South Carolina and Milan, Italy. The IACCSE is a member of the network of Italian Chambers throughout Italy and the world, and functions as the institutional liaison between businesses looking for partners, guidance in various markets, and the various regions and products from one of Florida’s main trade partners – Italy.

For more information about the Chamber, please visit our website at www.iaccse.com, or feel free to contact Executive Director Miriann Guazzini or Economic Development Director Francesca Tanti at (305) 577-9868 or info@iacc-miami.com.



Logica acquires Grupo Gesfor to strengthen support for European clients across Spain and LATAM

Logica, a leading European business and technology service provider, is today announcing the acquisition of Grupo Gesfor, a privately held Spanish consulting and professional services company founded in 1985. The acquisition will be financed out of existing debt facilities and is expected to be earnings accretive in 2012.



Around 1,200 Grupo Gesfor employees with strengths in areas such as security, business intelligence, HR consulting and enterprise content management will join Logica. Grupo Gesfor's presence in Spain and operations across Latin America will support our wider client base, particularly our many European clients already operating in these markets, and complement our existing presence in Iberia.

Logica will bring its strong capabilities in outsourcing and business consulting as well as global delivery to Grupo Gesfor's blue chip Spanish clients, which include BBVA, Santander and El Corte Inglés.

The Grupo Gesfor business to be acquired had revenue of €64 million (c. £55 million) in the year ended 31 December 2010. This addition will reinforce Iberia's position as the largest geography within the International cluster.

AZTEC Engineering Group, Inc ranked under the Top 10 South West Design Firms

AZTEC Engineering Group, Inc. , an affiliate of Typsa Group, was ranked under the Top 10 South West Design Firms.

TYPSA group is an independent consulting company in the fields of civil engineering, building technology and environment.

Since its establishment in 1966 TYPSA group has continuously participated in the development of all types of infrastructures and equipments, in Spain and all over the world, contributing with its work to create better living conditions for their citizens.

TYPSA group's international experience extends to more than 50 countries of all continents. At present TYPSA is carrying out 65 projects in 30 different countries.

TYPSA group has highly specialized multidisciplinary teams, out of a total staff of 1.800 professionals, more than 70% are engineers, architects or other university graduates.

AZTEC Engineering Group, Inc. has a regional revenue of 29.27 million dollars.



July 2011 Calendar

Combined European Chamber of Commerce Events

European Networking Cocktail

Date & Time: July 28, 2011 | 7:00 - 9:00 pm

Location: Ritz Carlton Key Biscayne

Cost: Members: Free | Non Members: \$20

RSVP: Please contact your respective Chamber by July 21, 2011

Individual Chamber Events

French American Chamber of Commerce

[Click Here for Upcoming Events](#)

German American Business Chamber South East Florida

[Click Here for Upcoming Events](#)

Italy-America Chamber of Commerce

[Click Here for Upcoming Events](#)

Spain U.S. Chamber of Commerce

[Click Here for Upcoming Events](#)

