



## In This Issue

- Selection Panel of the AmCham Belgium Award
- Committee in the Spotlight
- Member to Member Offerings
- Business and Investment News
- AmCham Activities
- Events Just Passed. . .
- Member Happenings

## Upcoming Events

September 4 - Business After Hours  
Sponsored by

**GRANDCASINOBRUSSELS**

September 10 - M2M Workshop organized by FULCRA on "Retirement Planning"

**FULCRA**

September 26 - 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala Celebration featuring AmCham Belgium US-Belgium Award

October 23-US Investor in the Spotlight Luncheon  
Sponsored by

## AmCham US-Belgium Award Selection Panel

A distinguished Selection Panel comprised of prominent leaders in the areas of politics, business and academia has chosen four nominees for **AmCham US-Belgium Award**. Chaired by **Guy Verhofstadt**, former Belgian Prime Minister, the panel includes: His Excellency **Sam Fox**, US Ambassador to Belgium; His Excellency Baron **Frans van Daele**, Permanent Representative of Belgium to NATO; Dr **Denise R Rutherford**, President of AmCham Belgium, Managing Director of 3M Belgium; Baroness **Mia Doornaert**, Diplomatic Editor of De Standaard; Baron **Paul Buysse**, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Bekaert and Professor **Emile Boulpaep**, President of the Belgian American Educational Foundation, Director of Medical & Graduate Studies, Cellular & Molecular Physiology at Yale University. To learn more about the high profile Selection Panel, visit our [website](#).

## Committee in the Spotlight

**The Legal and Tax (L&T) Committee meet at 12.30 on the third Friday of the month**, except for July and August. The diverse membership has both major service, and industry companies represented. The L&T Committee monitors the latest developments on issues of interest to the business community such as the Notional Interest Deduction and the Common Consolidated Corporate Tax Base. A powerful lobbying force, the L&T Committee actively participated in proceedings leading to the introduction of the U.S.-Belgium Income Tax Treaty. Meetings resume on September 19, with guest speakers Guido De Wit, Linklaters, and Arthur Kerrigan, European Commission, speaking on VAT Developments.

To learn more, please contact [Howard Liebman](#), Chair L&T Committee and Partner, Jones Day, or [Marcel Claes](#), Chief Executive, AmCham Belgium. To become a member of the L&T Committee you must be an employee of an AmCham Belgium member company.

## Member to Member Offerings

### Retirement Planning M2M Workshop with Fulcra International

Open exclusively to AmCham Belgium members, Fulcra International, is offering an interactive retirement planning workshop. This first Member to Member (M2M) event will take place on Wednesday, September 10 at Fulcra's offices, and is primarily aimed at those who have worked outside their home country. Fulcra's experts will assess the requirements and structuring of a secure and tax efficient income in retirement and calculate the projected retirement income for attendees. There will be two sessions of workshops organized: one from 12:15-14:00 p.m. and one beginning at 17.15. For more information, [click here](#). Please contact [Fulcra](#) directly to make your reservation.



November 4 – Joint Election Event with American Club of Brussels and the US Embassy

November 13 – Privacy Rights for Employees, a Human Resources Committee Conference Sponsored by



For all AmCham Belgium events, you may register [online](#), by [email](#) or send us a fax at 02/ 513 35 90.

Welcome to our new Members!

*Sustaining:*

DYMO

*Regular members:*

Dale Carnegie  
Hotel Bloom!  
Exhibition International  
Motorola  
The House of Sales  
Liège Airport  
Core Relocations  
Gilead Sciences

## Quote of the Month

"In summer, the song sings itself."

*(William Carlos Williams,  
American Poet  
1883 – 1963)*

---

## Business and Investment News

**A flurry of US acquisitions of Belgian companies by US groups has occurred despite the weak dollar.** Noteworthy examples include:

- Icos Vision acquired by KLA Tencor, San Jose CA
- Pro-Duo acquired by Sally Beauty Holdings(hair and beauty products), Denton, TX
- Phone House(retail of mobile phones) and part of the British company, The Carphone house, 50% which will be acquired by Best Buy, Richfield, MN
- Quadreon (IT services) acquired by Avenade (Accenture and Microsoft's joint venture).

Similarly, some Belgium companies are on the acquisition trail in the US. The best example is InBev who have agreed to acquire Anheuser-Busch, the brewer of the world's by largest volume beer: Budweiser, for \$52 billion. The combination of InBev and Anheuser Busch will make a clear number one brewer world wide, almost as large as the number two on all criteria.

---

## AmCham Activities

▶ **Change of last name: Sheila Rosseau.** Sheila has decided to revert to her maiden name. This change of name has been implemented in all chamber documents and mailings as of August 1, 2008. Please change your address books and databases accordingly: Sheila Rosseau, Senior Manager, [srosseau@amcham.be](mailto:srosseau@amcham.be).

▶ **AmCham Belgium welcomes Michiel Snoeck as our Editorial and Communications Intern.** Michiel is from Belgium and recently graduated with a masters in Journalism from Erasmus Hogeschool Brussels. He completed his undergraduate at Ghent University where he focused on Dutch linguistics and English Literature. We are happy that Michiel decided to join us for the summer.

▶ **Find out who networks in Brussels and where they go.** To read the results of AmCham Belgium's networking survey, [click here](#).

▶ **The Foreign Investors' Agenda (FIA) 2008-2009**, which includes AmCham Belgium's lobby recommendations, is in the making! If you have any particular recommendations to be included, contact [Marcel Claes](#) or [Sue Wheeler](#).

▶ **You can still update your company's inclusion in the online version of the 2008/2009 Annual Directory.** AmCham Belgium members receive a complimentary copy of the comprehensive directory of AmCham Belgium Members and US Companies operating in Belgium. It is also available for sale to non-members. For more information, contact Simon Andrew at [sandrew@amcham.be](mailto:sandrew@amcham.be).

## Contact Us

<http://www.amcham.be>

Editor: [Sven Vercalsteren](#)  
Assistant Editor: [Agnes King](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

---

## Events Just Passed. . .

**US Investor in the Spotlight Luncheon sponsored by Cisco, and held on June 24.** [Click here](#), to learn more.



**CEO Luncheon with Paul Laudicina, Chairman of the Board of Global Strategy Consulting, AT Kearney** on "World out of Balance, sponsored by AT Kearney, and held on July 2." [Click here](#) to learn more.



---

## Member Happenings

Catch up on the our latest member news from Accenture, Linklaters LLP Belgium, Baxter, ING, Interel and other AmCham Belgium members on our [website](#). Does your company want to inform fellow members of their latest happenings? Please send you information to [external@amcham.be](mailto:external@amcham.be).

---

## Our Strategic Sponsors 2008

AmCham Belgium would like to thank its strategic sponsors:

### *Diamond Plus Sponsors*



### *Diamond Sponsors*



### *Gold Sponsors*

Accenture • Center for Creative Leadership • Donaldson • Ernst & Young • ExxonMobil • Hotel Metropole • Pfizer • Procter & Gamble • Thompson Hine • Wyeth