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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!

**Group Patron Member:**  
**Starwood Hotels and Resorts**

**Regular Members:**  
**Clear Vantage and CU Factor**  
**Insights Belgium**  
**Schröder**

## Quote of the Month

## Prime Minister Van Rompuy at AmCham Belgium Annual Dinner 2009

Belgian Prime Minister Van Rompuy addressed a crowd of 120 business leaders and officials at AmCham Belgium's Annual Dinner, held at Le Méridien Hotel in Brussels on Monday, June 15.

Following opening remarks by AmCham Belgium President Scott Beardsley, Van Rompuy emphasized the importance of US investment to growth, employment and new business concepts in Belgium. Even with the current crisis, the Prime Minister was adamant about Belgium's position as an attractive investment nation. Although Belgium and the US have reacted differently to the economic crisis, they both share the same goal: to ensure this crisis never occurs again. After dinner, participants enjoyed an evening of high-level networking.

To read more about the AmCham Belgium Annual Dinner and the speech of Prime Minister Van Rompuy, click [here](#).



*Prime Minister Van Rompuy*



*120 participants enjoyed high-level networking*

**Photos: Philippe Veldeman Photo Brussels**

## Regional Elections: Focus on Innovation

On June 7, regional elections took place in Belgium and now the different governments are being formed.

In line with recommendations recently published in our ["Foreign Investors' Agenda Update 1: Focus on Innovation"](#), AmCham Belgium strongly encourages the new regional governments to stimulate an entrepreneurial culture, and the federal government to implement tax measures that encourage innovation. AmCham Belgium will continue to work with the Federal and Regional Governments to ensure Belgium becomes increasingly attractive for investment and job creation.

For more information about AmCham Belgium's lobbying activities, please contact Chief Executive Marcel Claes at [mclaes@amcham.be](mailto:mclaes@amcham.be) or Project

"Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success."

*(Henry Ford, American Industrialist, 1863 – 1947)*

#### Contact Us

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[Unsubscribe](#)

Manager Sue Wheeler at [swheeler@amcham.be](mailto:swheeler@amcham.be).

You can read the full recommendations in the AmCham Belgium "Foreign Investors' Update 1: Focus on Innovation" [here](#).

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## Obama announces nomination for Ambassador to Belgium

US President Obama has announced his intent to designate Howard W. Gutman as new Ambassador to Belgium.

Mr. Gutman is currently a partner at Williams & Connolly LLP and has been named one of "Washington's Top Lawyers" by Washingtonian Magazine. His background focuses on commercial litigation, including securities, partnership disputes. Previously, Mr. Gutman has served as a Special Assistant to F.B.I. Director William H. Webster, a position that focused on counter-terrorism and counter-intelligence.

The US Congress now needs to approve the nomination before Mr Gutman is officially confirmed new Ambassador to Belgium.

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## Annual Directory Update

AmCham Belgium is preparing its Annual Directory 2009/2010 and for this we need your up-to-date company information. A mailing has gone out, asking for you to review and return the information on your company. If you have not yet received this, please contact our Membership Coordinator [Simon Andrew](#).

AmCham Belgium's Annual Directory is *the* resource for doing business in Belgium as it contains detailed information of around 1.600 US companies and their key executives as well as all Chamber Members. Send your company information to Simon Andrew at [sandrew@amcham.be](mailto:sandrew@amcham.be) by Close of Business June 30, 2009. You can also buy our Annual Directory 2008/2009 now for a special fee by ordering via our [website](#).

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## AmCham Belgium launches new e-publication

Starting in September 2009, AmCham Belgium will launch a new monthly e-publication. It will include an extensive update on all AmCham Belgium's lobbying activities and events, as well as portrait articles of AmCham Belgium member companies.

In addition, the e-publication will include thematic articles about current issues of interest for foreign and local companies in Belgium, plus special advice on personal career development, and much more.

The new e-publication will replace the quarterly AmCham Business Journal (ABJ) which will no longer be published.

For more information about AmCham Belgium publications, please contact Communications Coordinator Sven Vercalsteren at

[svercalsteren@amcham.be](mailto:svercalsteren@amcham.be).

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## Staff changes at AmCham Belgium

AmCham Belgium is pleased to announce that as of June 2009, Ms. Dawn Smith will continue her work for AmCham as Administrative and Events Coordinator. Dawn Smith has worked for AmCham Belgium since December 2007 as Administrative Assistant.

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## M2M - Discount offers

Don't miss out on the latest [M2M offers](#)! AmCham Belgium's Member-to-Member (M2M) program is a special offer where members can promote their Belgian business services and products to the Belgian business community by offering exclusive discounts and promotions to AmCham Belgium members.

For more information, please contact [Simon Andrew](#).

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## Reminders

**Tuesday, June 23 from 8.30 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. POSTPONED.**

**"The Impact of the Global Economic Crisis on Belgian Companies: An Upsurge of Corporate Restructurings?"**

Please be informed that this event has been postponed.

*\*berwin leighton paisner*

**Thursday, June 25 from 6.15 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.**

**AmCham Belgium Young Professionals @ Microsoft**

AmCham's Young Professionals invite you to a special evening with the possibility to experience the innovative working environment of Microsoft first hand.

**Microsoft®**

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## Future Events

**Thursday, September 3 from 12.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m.**

**Young Professionals @ Noon Luncheon** – with Marc Swaels.

Managing Director of Korn/Ferry International Marc Swaels will host this Young Professionals @ Noon Luncheon.

 **KORN/FERRY INTERNATIONAL**

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## Partner News and Member Happenings

What's going on with fellow AmCham Belgium's members? Make sure to

check out our [website](#) every week to keep up-to-date with member happenings.

Have your company news in this section! Send it to us at [external@amcham.be](mailto:external@amcham.be).

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## Our Strategic Sponsors

AmCham Belgium would like to thank its strategic sponsors:

### *Diamond Sponsors*



### *Gold Sponsors*

Accenture • Baltimore Aircoil • Center for Creative Leadership • Donaldson • Ernst & Young • ExxonMobil • Hotel Metropole • Pfizer • Wyeth

If you wish to **enhance your visibility** to AmCham Belgium members and the US-Belgian business community, participate in our strategic sponsorship program. For more information, please contact [Sheila Rosseau](#).

**American Chamber of Commerce in Belgium ASBL/VZW (AmCham Belgium)**

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