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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!

### *Sustaining Member:*

**Arcelor Mittal**

### *Regular Members:*

**Be Welcome  
BusinessFruit  
CNA Insurance  
Engineered Pressure  
Systems  
SAM Headhunting**

### *Individual Member:*

## Enjoy AmCham's special opportunities for SMEs

As a member of AmCham Belgium, **small and medium companies (SMEs)** have access to a wide range of information and networking opportunities aimed at strengthening their business in Belgium. Learn more about the many services AmCham Belgium can offer your SME by clicking [here](#).

## Young Professionals Group turns into a Committee

Recognizing the importance that young employees play in guaranteeing a company's current and future success, AmCham Belgium "promoted" the Young Professionals Group to Committee status. Decided by the Board of Directors on February 18<sup>th</sup>, the change in status is meant to ensure the Chamber's youngest members play an increased role within both the organization and the Belgian business community.

## Launch of the LinkedIn AmCham Belgium group

**AmCham Belgium's LinkedIn** group is now up and running. This group is a member only platform where members can communicate between themselves and with the AmCham Belgium secretariat. In this forum, members will be able to start discussions on the Chamber's activities, make recommendations and also increase their network to other members of the Chamber.

For more information, please contact [Sven Vercalsteren](#) or [click here](#) to access to the group.

## AmCham Belgium's Annual General Meeting

AmCham Belgium will be holding its Annual General Meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2009, at the offices of Ernst & Young, De Kleetlaan 2, 1831 Diegem. Registration and coffee starts from 4.30 p.m. and the meeting will be opened promptly at 5.00 p.m. This member-only event is an excellent opportunity to meet members of the Board of Directors, review the past year and hear about planned activities and events in 2009. Prior [registration](#) for this event is compulsory. The meeting will be followed by Business After Hours and you will need to [register](#) separately for this event. Non-members are also welcomed at this Business After Hours.

## Third Party Publications

Interested in **sharing your business expertise** and the same time give

**Christina Hummer**

## Quote of the Month

"Never tell people how to do things. Tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."

*(George Patton,  
US Army officer,  
1885-1945)*

### Contact Us

<http://www.amcham.be>

Editor: [Sven Vercalsteren](#)  
Assistant Editor: [Flora Dewar](#)

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extra visibility to your company's know-how? Through our new website, we invite our members to submit relevant non-commercial reports, studies or articles of interest to the US-Belgian business community. These publications can relate to different topics and this service will be shortly made available on the new AmCham Belgium website in an easy searchable manner.

For more information, please visit the [Third Party Publications' page](#) or send your inquiries to [Sven Vercalsteren](#).

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## New feature on AmCham's Website for Committee Members

Committee members can now access **Committee documents** through the Chamber's [website](#).

Agendas, minutes and working documents are available on your committee page. Committee members need to log in, go to their committee page and there they will find a "committee documents" button, only visible to them.

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## Create a new account on AmCham.be

**Every employee of a member company** can now create **their own account** on the [AmCham Belgium website](#). This ability gives greater freedom and ability for individuals to access the Member Only section of the website. By creating this account, users from member companies can benefit from member rates while registering for an event. What an easy way to save money!

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## Reminders

**Thursday, February 26 from 12.00 - 2.00 p.m.**

**"Good Communications in Bad Times" Luncheon – Supported by Interel Public Relations & Public Affairs**

AmCham Belgium is organizing a special luncheon at the Hotel Bloom! to focus on the principles and practices of good communications in tough times.

**INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION [HERE](#)**

**Thursday, March 12, 2009.**

**Annual General Meeting followed by a Business After Hours – Sponsored by Ernst & Young**

Annual General Meeting from 5.00 – 6.00 p.m.

Registration and welcome from 4.30 p.m. Then, a presentation of AmCham Belgium's activities for 2008 and plans for 2009.

For AmCham Belgium members only.

**INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION [HERE](#)**

Business After Hours from 6.00 – 8.00 p.m.

Take part in our first Business After Hours Reception of 2009. Mix and mingle with AmCham members and Board members at this important networking event after the Annual General Meeting.

**INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION [HERE](#)**

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## Future Events

**Monday, March 30 from 11.45 – 1.15 p.m.**

**“Banks: Are they Long or Short of Umbrellas?” Navigating Through Economic Uncertainties Luncheon – Sponsored by KBC**

Luc Gijsens, Senior General Manager of KBC Bank, will address the issue of whether banks are becoming reluctant to lend or not and provide more insight in the financing possibilities that exist for businesses.



**Tuesday April 21 from 11.45 – 2.15 p.m.**

**Brussels meets Europe “New US Administration and Plans for Europe” with Jamie Shea, Head of Communications, NATO**

**Thursday, May 28 (time tbc)**

**“Surviving the Downturn and maximizing the Upturn”  
Navigating Through Economic Uncertainties Conference**

Come and listen to members of the FutureWork Forum discuss strategies to implement in this period of tough times.

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## AmCham Belgium supports the following events:

**Tuesday, March 10**

**Acerta International Information Session on “Salary Split: a curse or a blessing?”**

**Thursday March 12**

**The University of Chicago Belgian Alumni Club on “The real world of investing” with Eugene Fama Jr., VP Dimensional Fund Advisors**

**Thursday-Friday, March 26-27**

**European Business Summit 2009**

You can find more information on these events on our homepage.

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## Partner News and Member Happenings

To read about what's new with **Option SA/NV, Dow Corning, GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals, Atos Worldline** and other AmCham Belgium members, please [click here](#). Our members and partners are also organizing interesting events, e.g. **Acerta International's** Information Session, The University of Chicago Belgian Alumni Club and European

Business Summit.

Does your company want to inform fellow members of their latest happenings? Please send your information to: [external@amcham.be](mailto:external@amcham.be). And don't forget to have a look at our Partner News section on our homepage!

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## Our Strategic Sponsors

AmCham Belgium would like to thank its strategic sponsors:

### *Diamond Sponsors*



## McKinsey & Company

### *Gold Sponsors*

Baltimore Aircoil • Center for Creative Leadership • Donaldson •  
Hotel Metropole • 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](mailto:Sheila.Rosseau@amcham.be).

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