

## Newsletter Spring 2013

SABC & Member News SABC Welcomes New Members Upcoming Events Possible Closure of the Cons. Gen. of Switzerland Past Events

#### 2013 Platinum Members





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### Dear SABC Members & Friends,

The Swiss American Business Council is proud to introduce this newsletter as the newest communication tool for its members and friends. We hope this tool will become a great resource for promoting and exchanging information amongst our community and we strongly encourage our members to take advantage of this exclusive opportunity by submitting information to be included. The SABC Newsletter will be published 2 times a year (approx. mid May and Oct.) so plan ahead and let us know!! SABC members can submit information to be inputted into the newsletter to: events@sabcnow.com

### **Member News**

*Swiss International Airlines*, an SABC Platinum member, will again offer two flights from Chicago to Zurich on selected days during the summer starting June 1st, 2013. More details are available at www.swiss.com.

Andrea Luehmann Ltd. is our newest Platinum Member. Andrea Luehmann Ltd. a specialized accounting and tax firm. Located in Chicago, they are a boutique style firm with a 25vear track record of providing professional services to Swiss and other European owned companies and foreign nationals all over the U.S. Their service offerings include business startup assistance, multi- jurisdictional tax compliance and reporting, financial statement preparation and transfer pricing studies. In addition, they have certain staff members who have experience in managing financial operations on a day-today basis, establishing systems and controls and managing and mentoring your accounting staff. Using this approach, it essentially eliminates the need for a full-time senior financial officer, depending on the complexity of your business. They also have an established network of professional relationships in the legal, banking, insurance, human resource and distribution markets on both sides of the Atlantic. Please call their office to schedule a meeting with our team.

Andrea Luehmann, Ltd, 525 W Monroe St, Ste 2360, Chicago, IL 60661 Tel: 312-669-1120; e: info@luehmann-chicago.com www.luehmann-chicago.com

# New SABC Members - Welcome to our community!!!

The SABC extends a warm welcome to our newest corporate and individual members:





Bea 2 B Services Corp



BOSSARD Intelligent Solutions for High Productivity

Bossard North America. Inc.

Chalet Landhaus Inn New Glarus, WI



Air-o-swiss



LOGISTICS Weiss-Rohlig USA LLC

Weiss

TORNO

**Tornos Technologies** 

Röhlig

Wandfluh of America Inc.

**INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS:** 

Mr. Daniel J. Effrein Dr. Philipp Heck

### **Upcoming SABC Events**

Below is the updated list of SABC events scheduled. More detailed information about events will be posted 3 - 4 weeks prior to the event at <u>www.sabcnow.com/events.html</u>. So mark your calendars and official invitations will follow.

June 4th - SABC Presentation and Socializing with an Expert - Hosted at the NEW Tourbillon Store. Dr. Philipp Heck, Expert and Curator of Meteoritic Science at the Field Museum will discuss his expedition to the Antarctic and the donation of Meteorites that fell in Siberia last February. For more details, visit our web site and to RSVP for this event please send e-mail to events@sabcnow.com.

June 25th - SABC Panel Discussion - A Swiss view of

Urbanism and the Future of Cities: 5, 10, 50 years from now. Panelists include Tom Jacobs, Principal at Kuerck & Sexton, Hanno Weber, Hanno Weber and Assoc. This will be hosted at DePaul University, Driehaus Graduate School of Business, Downtown Campus.

July 17 - SABC Executive Roundtable and discussion -"What do Manufacturers and Service Providers need to know about the new Healthcare law?". Featuring Axis Benefit Consultants and hosted by Hegele Logistics.

August 1st - SABC <u>Member Exclusive</u> - Official Swiss National Day Reception hosted by the Consulate General of Switzerland and the SABC.

**August 7** - International Summer Social and Cruise on the Mystic Blue. The SABC is a proud co-sponsor of the International Trade Associations traditional collection of many international organizations and their members to gather and enjoy a summer social.

### Update on the Possible Closure of the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago

In the spring of 2012, the SABC was informed of the decision that the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago was to be closed by mid 2014 due to budget cuts. The SABC, in turn, took on a proactive effort to fight this decision. All our letters, and responses are available on our web site by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

On April 16th the motion was presented to the full National Council who voted 153 to 22 to keep the Consulate General of Switzerland in Chicago open. This was a great success and we can be very proud of our efforts and those of our partners who also voiced their opposition.

However, on May 13, the Foreign Relations Committee of the Council of States voted 5 to 3 in favor of the closure. This is a slight set back but the motion will be put in front of the entire Council of States on June 6th for vote.

We, the SABC, are working with our local partners as well as our network in Switzerland to form a final effort to inform the stakeholders of our opposition to the closure and to show our passion for the issue. We encourage the community to take on the effort and if we can supply you with any information, please contact us.

### Past Events

Jan. 16, 2013 - The SABC co-sponsored an event by the International Trade Association discussing the Global Trade Outlook 2013: Implications for an American Manufacturing Renaissance. An expert from Boston Consulting group presented his opinions and findings of the positive trends in the global manufacturing environment. A large attendance listened attentively and provided for an active discussion, underlining the interest in the topic. The presentation can be found by clicking HERE. February 19 - SABC partnered with <u>Austin Polytechnical</u> Academy

to highlight the nationally recognized **Austin Polytech program**. This is a small school focused on educating the next generation of leaders in advanced manufacturing. It has been recognized as a national model. It reflects the application of best European practice in US public education. This school has 60 manufacturing companies as partners and has been accredited by the National Institute for Metalworking Skills, and has been recognized by the Mayor of Chicago. We will followup on partnering closer with the Academy so stay tuned. If anyone is interested in the Austin Polytech presentation, please contact us at <u>events@sabcnow.com</u>.

March 20th - The SABC Annual Meeting 2013, generously hosted by the Consul General of Switzerland Martin Bienz was appreciated by all. The past efforts and the future vision of the SABC was presented and the Board of Directors for 2013 was voted in by the membership. The 2013 SABC Board of Directors can be found by clicking <u>HERE</u>.

**May 2** - The inaugural Membership Advisory Committee (MAC) met at the Rosewood Restaurant to discuss the past, present, and the future of the SABC. Eight members, including American Lamprecht, Tornos, Hegele Logistics, and Numerical Precision, participated in a very lively, insightful and productive discussion. Many of the new ideas brought to the table have already been implemented and will be rolled out soon. Thank you to all who participated. The MAC will meet again in the fall and all members are welcome.