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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!

### *Regular Members:*

**Advanced Bionics**  
**Aspria**  
**Executive Talent Search**  
**TORO Europe**

### *Individual Member:*

**Carla Guerra**

## Quote of the Month

"However beautiful the

## Annual General Meeting

President Scott Beardsley welcomed approximately 55 members to the **2009 Annual General Meeting** held on Thursday, March 12 at the new offices of Ernst & Young in Diegem. The directors reported on **2008's activities** including the Chamber's 60th anniversary celebrations, the launch of the *AmCham US-Belgium Award* and successful lobbying on the Notional Interest Deduction.

The AGM was followed by a Business After Hours, sponsored by Ernst & Young, attended by about 120 people.

## Welcome to the new Board Members

The Annual General Meeting confirmed the appointment of **8 new members** in the Board of Directors.

The new members are :

- Frank Aranzana, President at Cytec
- Kevin Bartlett, President at the International School of Brussels
- Koenraad Bostoen, Country Manager Belgium-Luxembourg at Pfizer
- Tod Carpenter, Vice-President and Managing Director EMEA at Donaldson
- Thomas Lowery, Vice-President and General Manager, Service and Solutions, Europe at Johnson Controls
- Marc Toledo, General Manager at Toledo Telecom
- William (Bill) Showalter, Senior Vice President, Finance - Europe, Africa and Middle East, Starwood Hotels
- Bart Van den Meersche, Country General Manager at IBM

## Extraordinary General Meeting

A proposal to approve modifications to AmCham Belgium's Articles of Association was put to the members at the Annual General Meeting. As the required quorum was not achieved, an Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) has been called on Monday, March 30, 2009 at 2.00 p.m. at KBC Bank, Havenlaan 2, 1080 Brussels. No special quorum is required for this meeting, which will last no more than 30 minutes. The EGM will immediately follow the lunch on Navigating through Economic Uncertainties, hosted by KBC Bank.

## News from the Legal & Taxation Committee

The European Commission has sent a letter to the Belgian Government concerning the complaint lodged by Luxembourg against the **Notional**

strategy, you should occasionally look at the results.”

*(Sir Winston Churchill,  
British Politician,  
1874-1965)*

## Contact Us

<http://www.amcham.be>

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**Interest Deduction (NID)**. The Government has 2 months in which to respond to the challenge and is currently preparing a proposal to defend its position. In view of AmCham Belgium's support of the NID, **Howard Liebman, Chair of the Legal & Taxation Committee**, will put together a **working group** to discuss the most efficient way for AmCham Belgium to assist in the defense of the NID.

For more information about the Legal & Taxation Committee, please contact [Sue Wheeler](#).

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## New AmCham Business Journal is out!



Discover how to advertise your company through online networking tools by reading the latest **AmCham Belgium Journal** on information technology.

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## Vacancy at AmCham Belgium!

AmCham Belgium is looking for a dynamic person to become its new **External Relations and Projects Intern**. If you know someone who's looking for an intern position, please pass on the [link](#)!

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## Reminders

**Monday, March 30 from 11.45 – 1.45 p.m.**

**“Banks: Are they Long or Short of Umbrellas?” Navigating through Economic Uncertainties (NEU) Luncheon – Hosted by KBC**

What financial possibilities exist for businesses today? Have banks become reluctant to lend? Luc Gijsens, Senior General Manager of KBC Bank, will give his views at this NEU luncheon.

**Monday, March 30 from 2.00 – 2.30 p.m.**

**Extraordinary General Meeting – Hosted by KBC**

Final discussion and approval of AmCham Belgium's new Articles of Association.

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## Future Events

**Thursday, April 16 from 3.30 – 7.30 p.m.**

**“Communications and Legal Aspects of Restructuring” A NEU Conference – Sponsored by Hill & Knowlton and Crowell & Moring.**

Speakers from two important global companies, each specialized in public relations and law, will come together to analyze step-by-step the different

aspects of restructuring.



**Tuesday, April 21 from 12.00 – 2.45 p.m.**

**“What does Obama mean for Europe: First impressions”**

**Brussels meets Europe Luncheon – A joint event organized by AmCham Belgium, the Bulletin, Beci and the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium.**

Jamie Shea, Director Policy Planning in the Private Office of the Secretary General at NATO, will speak about the new US government and its plans for Europe.



**Monday, April 27 from 6.00 – 9.00 p.m.**

**“How to thrive in difficult times – Adjust to change” A NEU Workshop – Sponsored by ING.**

Jill Adams, a Dale Carnegie Trainer, will lead a workshop as part of the Business solution program which Dale Carnegie is presenting this year.



**Thursday, May 7 from 6.00 – 8.00 p.m.**

**Business After Hours – Sponsored by Katoen Natie.**

Enjoy the second Business After Hours of 2009 where you can network during a visit of the Katoen Natie offices in Kallo.



**Monday, May 25 from 4.00 – 7.00 p.m.**

**“Surviving the Downturn and maximizing the Upturn” A NEU Conference.**

Members of the FutureWork Forum will discuss HR issues and which strategies to implement for your company and your staff to get ready for the change.

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**AmCham Belgium supports the following event:**

**Thursday-Friday, March 26-27  
European Business Summit 2009**

AmCham Belgium members can register with a **50% discount**. You can find more information on this event on our homepage.

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## Partner News and Member Happenings

What's going on at fellow AmCham Belgium's members? [Click here](#) to find out. Also make sure to check our supported and partner events on our homepage.

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*



## McKinsey&Company

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ExxonMobil • 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](#).

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