

## ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA Chicago e-Quarterly No. 3 / 2011

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"Ciao summer, servus fall",

We hope that you have been able to recharge your batteries with lots of sun and maybe some culture as well. This summer provided opportunities on both sides of the Atlantic to strengthen Midwest - Austrian cultural ties. Maestro Ricardo Muti brought his Chicago Symphony Orchestra to the Salzburg Festival. Austrian resident and conductor Maestro Carlos Kalmar and his orchestra dedicated a whole week to Austria at Chicago's Grant Park Music Festival. And one of Austria's most acclaimed installation artists, Mr. Alois Kronschlager, is creating a site-specific "Spire" in downtown Grand Rapids, MI.



Austrian - US business didn't seem to rest this summer: Austrian Fronius, one of the world's largest manufacturers of solar inverters, announced a new production and sales location in Portage, IN creating 500 jobs by 2016. Representatives of the influential Association of the Austrian Metalware and Machinery Industries visited their US counterparts in Washington D.C. and concluded that the current challenges for manufacturing in Europe and the US are much the same: how to gain access to innovation and qualified man power and how to cope with rising energy prices and stricter environmental standards. And our ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA offices in the US were busy preparing for the AUSTRIA CONNECT conference taking place in New York this September where over 100 representatives of US companies with Austrian capital will meet and exchange information.

Good grades for Austria: The OECD "Economic Survey of Austria" published in July 2011 concludes that "Austria has weathered the crisis better than other nations while maintaining a high degree of social cohesion." Austria's capital, Vienna, was rated as the "second best city in the world to live in," according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's August 2011 "Global Liveability Survey." However, the next few months will prove whether this good climate can be maintained in the face of new economic uncertainties worldwide. A lot has to do with keeping a positive attitude. Let's all look at the glass as being half full and not half empty.

Thank you for your trust in Austrian companies and for your partnership with ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA in Chicago.

All the best from all of us,

Franz Roessler and the team of ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA in Chicago

## **The Who's Who of ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA in Chicago**



Each individual team member covers one or more industries and is the point of contact for the following sectors:

- Environmental Technology, Construction and Infrastructure (Ms. Maja Seferovic)
- Paper, Printing, Packaging (Ms. Nancy Putz)
- Plastics (Ms. Sabine Miller)
- Machinery Sector, Metals and Metal Processing (Mr. Anders Benson)
- Automotive Sector (Ms. Margit Mills)

We also work with Austrian companies which have invested, would like to invest or require local support in the Midwest and other states: Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Tennessee and Wisconsin. Your key contact for state and regional economic development agencies is Ms. Nancy Putz; for Austrian subsidiaries, Ms. Sabine Miller.

## **Highlights from the Austrian Economic Scene**



### **Austria receives praise from OECD**

Austria is among the strongest of the OECD economies. [Learn more.](#)

### **Austrian growth forecast for 2011 revised upwards**

Strong expansion of foreign trade and investments result in an improved economic outlook. [Learn more.](#)

### **Austria's exports to the US explode in the first quarter 2011**

US - Winner in the race to foreign markets. [Learn more.](#)

### **Austria remains a popular business location**

80 new companies moving to Austria and foreign investment projects led to doubled job growth in the first half of 2011. [Learn more.](#)

### **Austria's most successful export companies honored**

2011 "Export Awards" rewards companies for their outstanding dedication and success on the international markets. [Learn more.](#)

### **Austria introduces a new criteria-based immigration scheme**

New regulations took effect July 1, 2011. [Learn more.](#)

### **Vienna in leading place for exhibitions**

Some of the world's largest conferences are held in Vienna every year. [Learn more.](#)

### **Vienna is the world's second most liveable city**

The Economist Liveability Ranking Report lists the world's best cities to live. [Learn more.](#)

## **Companies Making News on Both Sides of the Atlantic**



**Austriamicrosystems**, a global leader in the design and manufacture of high performance analog integrated circuits, acquires Texas Advanced Optoelectronic Solutions. [Learn more.](#)

**Austrian aviation expertise** for the Boeing Dreamliner 787: austriamicrosystems AG, Boehler Schmiedtechnik GmbH & Co KG, FACC and TTTech Computertechnik GmbH supply innovative components for the new wonder of aviation. [Learn more.](#)

**Checkfelix.com**, Austria's leading travel website, is bought by US-based travel search site Kayak. [Learn more.](#)

**dynaTrace**, an IT specialist and software maker, is acquired by US company Compuware Corp. [Learn more.](#)

**EPSILON Kran GmbH**, a subsidiary of the Austrian Palfinger Group and a manufacturer of truck-mounted timber and recycling cranes, becomes the preferred supplier for Caterpillar. [Learn more.](#)

**Fronius USA**, the US subsidiary of the Austrian solar component and automotive supplier, promises hundreds of jobs at their new US headquarter in Portage, Indiana. [Learn more.](#)

**Jenbacher**, a leading gas engine manufacturer, is highlighted by parent company General Electric at a presentation in Salzburg. [Learn more.](#)

**Johannes Kepler University (JKU)** in Linz, the largest academic institution in Upper Austria, is working with the US IT group Oracle to open a research

laboratory on the university premises. [Learn more.](#)

**Kapsch TrafficCom**, a supplier of superior Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITA) is selected as new provider for US toll agencies. [Learn more.](#)

**Voestalpine**, the Austrian steel giant, reports an increase in sales in the US by nearly 75%. [Learn more.](#)

Stay up-to-date on the Austrian business community in the US and visit us at [www.advantageaustria.org/us](http://www.advantageaustria.org/us) (click on "News" followed by "Local News").

## Maja's Eco Corner

Dear Eco Corner Readers,

It's hard to believe that summer is coming to an end! But that has not prevented us from getting all our ducks in a row and preparing for our upcoming greenbuilding and water quality events. We are excited about the prospects ahead and the projects we are working on. See for yourself - here's a first-hand peek at what's to come:



October 4-7: Austrian group pavilion at GREENBUILD 2011 in Toronto  
Thanks to the success of our participation at the GREENBUILD trade shows in the past few years, we were able to recruit 12 companies for our Austrian pavilion at this year's GREENBUILD 2011 trade show and conference from October 4 - 7th in Toronto. The current list of participants can be downloaded [here](#).

October 15-19: Austrian information booth at WEFTEC 2011 in Los Angeles  
As part of our environmental technology focus, our office will continue to bring leading Austrian water and wastewater companies to this most important trade event. So far, we have four companies signed up to participate at our information booth:

Innovum - [www.innovum.at](http://www.innovum.at)  
Innovum manufactures systems for electrokinetic water, wastewater and air purification.

Pantreon - [www.pantreon.com](http://www.pantreon.com)  
Pantreon's aim is to break new ground in membrane filtration for various liquids.

SFC - [www.sfc-group.net](http://www.sfc-group.net)  
SFC designs and supplies water and wastewater treatment processes as well as energy production processes for large-scale installations in municipalities and industries.

Wapotec - [www.wapotec.com](http://www.wapotec.com)  
Wapotec specializes in water treatment and hygiene offering unique solutions for municipalities.

Last but not least, the latest version of our greenbuilding publication "Austrian Sustainable Products & Technologies for North America" is now available. We have worked through the steamy Chicago summer months collecting updates and now it's time to unveil the results. This publication is a "must-have" for those looking for Austrian greenbuilding products, technologies and services. The purpose of this

directory and its distribution is to generate discussions and collaborations between leading Austrian greenbuilding suppliers and their counterparts in the US by introducing these companies to leading construction and sustainability professionals in the industry.

Please email us at [chicago@advantageaustria.org](mailto:chicago@advantageaustria.org) if you would like to receive a copy of this publication. Stay tuned...it will be available online shortly at [www.advantageaustria.org/us](http://www.advantageaustria.org/us).

Even though July and August are behind us, I hope you will enjoy the rest of the summer. And happy Labor Day to those of you in the US!

Until next quarter, stay green!

All the best, and best *green* regards,  
*Maja*

## Past Events

Read more about our activities by clicking on the following links:



### [June 1, 2011: Visit of Agricultural Delegation from Lower Austria in Chicago](#)

The group toured the CME, the world's leading and most diverse derivatives marketplace, and enjoyed the view at a luncheon hosted by Consul General Thomas Schnoell at his residence.

### [June 27, 2011: Visit to Austrian packaging manufacturer Alpla in Jefferson City, MO](#)

Consul General Thomas Schnoell, Trade Commissioner Franz Roessler and Honorary Consul General in Missouri Dieter Ungerböck, paid a visit to one of Alpla's dozen packaging production plants in the US.

### [July 26 - 28, 2011: Machinery Fact-finding mission to Washington DC](#)

A delegation from the Association of the Austrian Machinery & Metalware Industries and the European Engineering Industries Association Orgalime explore the future of manufacturing.

### [August 10, 2011: Austria Week at Grant Park Music Festival](#)

Austrian resident and conductor Carlos Kalmar and his Grant Park Orchestra dedicated a whole week to Austrian composers.

### [August 26, 2011: Visit to Tiger Drylac USA](#)

Austrian Trade Commission learns about the production of powder coatings at plant in St. Charles, IL.

## Upcoming Events



### **AUSTRIAN STAMMTISCH**

September 6, 2011, 6:30 - 9 pm

[Austrian Bakery](#)

2523 N. Clark Street, Chicago, IL

Austrians & Friends of Austria are welcome!

Save the date for future Stammtischs: October 4, November 7, December

### **Austrian-American Day**

September 26, 2011, noon - 1 p.m. @ Daley Plaza, Chicago, IL

Join the City of Chicago, Cook County and the Austrian-American Council of the Midwest in celebrating the 15th Annual Austrian-American Day at Daley Plaza in Chicago.

### **WEFTEC 2011**

October 15 - 19, 2011 @ Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, CA

ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA - the Austrian Trade Commission Chicago will organize an information booth and feature Austrian water and wastewater companies and their technologies.

### **Automotive Trade Mission to Volkswagen, Detroit, MI and the Ontario Region: "US Automotive Industry 2011 and Beyond"**

November 6 - 9, 2011

ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA - the Austrian Trade Commission Chicago will organize a trade mission to Tennessee and Detroit focusing on the economic outlook of the US automotive industry.

### **SAVE THE DATE: VIENNESE GALA BALL**

February 10, 2012 @ The Drake Hotel, Chicago, IL

## **ADVANTAGEAUSTRIA.ORG**



If you are interested in business opportunities with Austrian companies, please check [our website](#) frequently for updates and recently added company listings. Among the new additions you will find:

### **[ABA - Invest in Austria](#)**

Free advisory service for international companies interested in Austria as a place to do business.

### **[Educatio HandelsgmbH](#)**

Realization, optimization and evaluation of educational projects in the US.

### **[ISK Internationale Sprachkurse GmbH](#)**

Learn German in Salzburg: Provider of summer courses, business courses and private lessons.

[Liberty International Reise-GmbH](#)

Provider of professional travel services.

[Liogy Position](#)

Manufacturer of furniture and other interior accessories.

[Medicon Medical Consulting](#)

Planning and consulting services for medical laboratory diagnostics.

[MODUL - Tourism College](#)

Offering training and further education in the tourism and leisure sectors.

[Niederer Powertec GmbH](#)

Developer and manufacturer of impellers for snow blowers.

[TS Holz](#)

Manufacturer of machines, tools and parts for agriculture and forestry.

[Universität Wien](#)

Austria's largest teaching and research institution.

## New FRESH VIEW Magazines

The FRESH VIEW magazines are bilingual brochures which are published by ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA and introduce innovative Austrian companies and their products and services by sector. If you are interested in receiving a complimentary issue, please to contact us at [chicago@advantageaustria.org](mailto:chicago@advantageaustria.org) or click [here](#) to download the most recent copies.



New/Just published:

[FRESH VIEW on the construction industry of the future](#)

[FRESH VIEW on education in Austria](#)

## Austrian Students Available for Internships

Are you interested in employing Austrian students for an internship as part of their education? We have a number of resumes from Austrian business and law students who are looking for temporary, often unpaid internships in the United States. Please contact Sabine Miller at [chicago@advantageaustria.org](mailto:chicago@advantageaustria.org).



## Quick Links

[ADVANTAGE AUSTRIA - the Austrian Trade Commissions in the US](#)

[Austrian Consulate General Chicago](#)

[Austrian National Tourist Office](#)

[ABA - Invest in Austria](#)

[Austrian Embassy - Austrian Press and Information Service](#)  
[Center for Austrian Studies - University of Minnesota](#)  
[Center Austria - University of New Orleans](#)

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