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Embassy of Switzerland
Swiss Business Hub United Kingdom

SWISS BUSINESS HUB UK

Newsletter No 24 – August 2013

Dear Reader,

It is with great pleasure that the entire Swiss Embassy in London has welcomed Ambassador Dominik Furgler, who arrived here from Cairo at the beginning of July. Ambassador Furgler is no stranger to London or the Economics Department, having been the Head of the Economics Section from 1997-2001, and we are very much looking forward to working with him in the years ahead.

The last few months have been exceptionally busy for the Hub and whilst the sun was shining and summer finally appeared in the UK, the team ventured beyond London for numerous Swiss-related activities.

In the last newsletter we mentioned the involvement of Just Swiss in the Portsmouth Community Hub project; the project continues apace and last month, SBH UK head Thorsten Terweiden joined the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth and Joanna Demkow from Just Swiss for the “Topping out Ceremony”. The project will transform the local community and we are delighted to see Swiss expertise and building technology play such an integral role.

The Hub was also delighted to accept an invitation from the Agricultural and Horticultural Development Board, home to EBLEX and BPEX at historic Stoneleigh Park in Warwickshire to learn more about their activities. It was a highly informative day and we were excited to learn so much about the various activities of AHDB and the developments in the various UK meat sectors.

The Hub is working hard with Swisssenviro.ch, the Swiss Association for Environmental Technology (SVUT) and Presence Switzerland to finalise the remaining preparations for this year’s RWM and Water Event which will take place in September. A seminar about *Closing the Loop* has been organised alongside a Swiss Pavilion.

So without further ado, we hope you enjoy this edition of the Newsletter and wish you a lovely summer.

Best wishes,

Geraldine Mortby
Trade Officer Swiss Business Hub

UPCOMING EVENTS

SwissQ Consulting AG Product Management Festival
(16-17) 18-19 September 2013, Zurich, Switzerland

PRODUCT MANAGEMENT FESTIVAL

★ *Defining the future of product management* ★

Zurich, 18-19 September 2013

SwissQ Consulting AG would like to introduce a new conference on product management that will take place in Zurich, September 18-19. The Product Management Festival (PMF) is relevant for everyone who works on envisioning, defining and building products. The unique format promotes interaction and hands on learning, with both talks and workshops.

As part of an international cast of presenters, Lucie McLean from the BBC will be giving a workshop – she was responsible for the Mobile App for the London Olympics.

When asked what attendees can expect from her presentation, she said (full interview [here](#)):

„My session will give attendees a chance to review how they think about users in their product development - an opportunity for a quick audit and potentially some ideas for things to think about and do in the future. “

A special promotion has been offered to Switzerland Global Enterprise associates – please enter „Promo_SGE“ to receive a 10% discount when signing up [online](#).

INTERNATIONAL WINE TASTING NETWORKING RECEPTION

Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

DSTRKT, 9 Rupert Street, London W1D 6DG

BSCC members and friends are cordially invited to take part in the fifth edition of the annual International Wine Tasting Networking Reception organised in cooperation with the Council of Foreign Chambers of Commerce in the UK and [Nick Dobson Alpine Wines](#), and supported by the Swiss Business Hub UK.

Further information and details on how to purchase tickets can be found here:

<http://www.cvent.com/events/international-wine-tasting-networking-reception-fifth-edition/event-summary-7ee99f1855bf48fdb16186d42164ecd5.aspx>

Timber Expo 2013 – the essential UK event in low carbon construction and innovation



Timber Expo will be taking place at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) Birmingham this September. Now in its third year, over 5,000 visitors are expected at the UK's leading timber trade show including architects and designers, engineers and contractors, local authorities and a wide range of those working in the built environment.

“The 2013 show is shaping up to be tremendous in every way,” said Timber Expo Event Director, Loretta Sales “The show is nearly 80% sold out with an expected 170 companies exhibiting this year. The move to the NEC has grabbed everybody's attention and will make exhibiting and visiting very easy indeed. The content we have lined up is superb. TRADA have really pulled the stops out with the Timber Talks seminar programme and there will be something to appeal to everyone. The big boost for 2013 has been the level of overseas interest. Alongside an expanding European scene we are now hosting trade pavilions too. You won't find this much timber technology anywhere else in the UK.”

Timber Expo will take place at the NEC, Birmingham, 24-25 September 2013. For more information visit:

www.timber-expo.co.uk or email: loretta.sales@timber-expo.co.uk

German Embassy Career Fair 2013 – Information Day on German for Jobs

This year's German Embassy Career Fair will take place on 7th November 2013 between 12-6pm at the German Ambassador's Residence. Jointly organised with the German-British Chamber of Industry & Commerce, the fair aims to underline the importance of German language and modern foreign language skills for businesses.

The German Embassy is delighted to also work with their partners at the Austrian and Swiss Embassies and would like to invite companies and organisations from these two countries to participate in the German Embassy Career Fair 2013 by taking a complimentary stand and sending two representatives.

Companies interested in further information or participation details please contact: Ms Christin Stein in the Department for Culture and Education at the German Embassy T: 020 7824 1348 / E: ku-20@lond.diplo.de

TRADE SHOWS

Swiss Pavilion at RWM, 10-12 September 2013

Swissenviro.ch, with support from local partner Swiss Business Hub UK, is once again in the process of organising the Swiss Pavilion for RWM taking place at the NEC Birmingham in September. A Swiss Pavilion will be run for both RWM and the Water Event. For further information on how to participate in the Pavilion please contact Mr Urs Heutschi at info@swissenviro.ch

As last year, the Hub will host a seminar about Swiss waste management technology during the RWM trade show on Thursday 12 September. The seminar will be titled *Closing the Loop: Maximising the Recovery Potential of Resources from Waste* and run in the Energy from Waste Theatre from 9.45am until 12.10pm.

This seminar will be focusing on the highly relevant topic of energy from waste. It will look at how the recycling loop can be closed fully by applying state of the art technology, inspired by similar processes used within the mining industry.

The seminar will be part-sponsored by Presence Switzerland and the aim is to present and discuss how Swiss innovation in this field works and can be applied in the UK.

For more information about RWM please see [here](#)

PAST EVENTS

Medtech Insights UK seminar, 29 May 2013



©FDFA

Jon Wilks, UK HealthGateway during the UK medtech seminar

medtech
switzerland 

At the end of May more than 20 Swiss SMEs from all over the country attended a seminar on NICE evaluation and entering the UK medical technologies market. The Swiss Business Hub UK had proposed such an event to the export platform Medtech Switzerland because changes in the organisation of the NHS and new initiatives by the UK government are creating new opportunities for companies seeking to enter the UK medtech market.

Jon Wilks, Director of UK HealthGateway presented the fast changing landscape of the NHS. Thorsten Terweiden then outlined that the UK has one of the largest medical device markets in the world, valued at US \$8.9 bn in 2012 with an attractive outlook for future growth.

Next up was Gareth Davies from Ypsomed who gave an engaging overview of the Ypsomed success story of selling insulin injection pens and pumps into the UK market.

In the afternoon Dr Leeza Osipenko explained how overseas' medtech companies should engage with the National Institute for Clinical Excellence NICE.

For further information about Medtech Switzerland please click here: www.medtech-switzerland.com

For further information about NICE please click [here](#)

Resource efficiency event, 05 June 2013



©FDFA

Representatives of Swiss Waste Management companies during Resource Efficiency event 05.06.13

The Hub supported a seminar on the topic of the UK waste management & recycling sector, which was held at the Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz in Windisch/Aargau, Switzerland. The seminar looked into opportunities for Swiss companies intent on selling into the UK market. It was attended by one dozen representatives of Swiss waste management companies.

Ian Dudding, Senior Waste Engineer at the Chartered Institute of Wastes Management CIWM gave a complete overview of the UK waste technologies market. Dr Ute Fleck, Senior Sales Manager at Hitachi Zosen Inova AG provided some fascinating insight into the sales and acquisition process for large energy from waste projects which the company has secured and is currently bidding for in England.

The seminar was run by Swissenviro.ch, supported by UK Trade & Investment and the Schweiz. Verband für Umwelttechnik SVUT (Swiss Association of Environmentally Technology) and sponsored by the i2i events Group, the organisers of the RWM show (see info above).

For further information about the CIWM please click [here](#)

For further information about the SVUT please click [here](#)

BUSINESS INFORMATION

Global Innovation Index 2013 – Switzerland remains at the top

Switzerland retained its position as the world's most innovative country, according to the [Global Innovation Index 2013](#), published by Cornell University, INSEAD, and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Despite the economic crisis, innovation is alive and well across the world. Research and development spending levels are surpassing 2008 levels in most countries and successful local hubs are thriving. The GII 2013 looked at 142 economies around the world, using 84 indicators including the quality of top universities, availability of microfinance, venture capital deals - gauging both innovation capabilities and measurable results. Published annually since 2007, the GII has become a chief benchmarking tool for business executives, policy makers and others seeking insight into the state of innovation around the world.

For more information and the full report please click [here](#)

UK Construction Sector showing signs of Recovery

Whilst output in Construction fell nearly 5% in May compared to the previous year it is running 2.2% higher quarter-on-quarter, according to Office for National Statistics (ONS) data. The ONS said the total volume of construction output was 4.8% lower in May than the same month in 2012. When comparing the three months to May 2013, output was also down 4.8% on the same period last year. The ONS said this was driven down by a fall in public sector work (-18,1%) and commercial work (-10.1%). However, Simon Rubinsohn, RICS chief economist, said that if output in June matched May's level, then output over the second quarter would be 2.2% above levels in the first quarter. He said "If maintained, this will represent the biggest quarterly gain since the autumn of 2010. The key driver of the improving trend in construction this year has been the housing sector." (Source: Building Magazine page 16, 19.07.2013)

NEWS FROM SWISS COMPANIES IN THE UK

good day from Emmi wins Dairy Innovation Award

The seventh Global Dairy Congress was held in Lucerne on 19-20 June. One of the highlights of this traditional event is the announcement of the Dairy Innovation Awards. The wellbeing products launched by Emmi in Switzerland in mid-May under the good day brand won the category "Best new brand". In addition, the Emmi good day yogurt made it into the finals of the category "Best new yogurt"

For more information please see: <http://group.emmi.com/en/media-ir/media-releases/swiss/the-articles/newsid/good-day-von-emmi-gewinnt-dairy-innovation-award.html>

Nantwich International Cheese Awards Two golds and two bronze medals for Emmi cheeses and Gold for Emmi CAFFÈ LATTE Caramel New York Edition

The International Cheese Awards were held in Nantwich at the end of July. Emmi received a total of four medals. As an additional highlight, Emmi Caffè Latte Caramel New York Edition was also awarded gold.

The following cheeses received medals at the world's largest cheese show:

- GOLD Le Gruyère AOC Best Swiss Cheese Benoît Kolly, Le Mouret (FR)
- GOLD Bio Le Gruyère AOC Best Organic Cheese Pierre Buchillier, LesMoulins (VD)
- BRONZE KALTBACH Le Gruyère AOC Cheese made with unpasteurised raw milk Gérald Raboud, Courgenay (JU) / Emmi production facility
- BRONZE KALTBACH Emmentaler AOC Best Swiss Cheese Markus Hodel, Schlierbach (LU) / Emmi production facility

Othmar Dubach, Head of the Emmi Group's Cheese Division said: "We are pleased with this tremendous success of our own operations and our long-standing partners. These awards act as both a yardstick and motivation for us to continue to promote the best quality cheese in the future."

In addition to the traditional cheeses, Emmi also competed with its highly successful product Emmi Caffè Latte this year – and immediately won! Emmi Caffè Latte Caramel New York Edition, which is available for a limited period, was awarded the gold medal in the "Bottle/Carton of Flavoured Milk" category by the judges. To see the full press release please click [here](#)

SWISS announces new Gatwick-Geneva winter ski schedule.

The airline will operate flights to Geneva from the London airport from 14 December 2013 to 3 March 2014 on Mondays, Saturdays and Sundays.

All its Geneva flights will adopt a new pricing policy offering 'Geneva Economy Flex' which allows modifications for free or the 'Geneva Economy Light' which is cheaper and includes one carry-on baggage and no free alterations.

"The changes being introduced in the UK are a direct result of listening to our passengers in this key market to make the SWISS experience an enjoyable one. The new flights from London Gatwick also consolidate our position as the skier's airline," said Felix Rodel, the airline's country manager UK & Ireland.

Source: <http://www.traveldailymedia.com/193749/swiss-to-boost-gatwick-ski-routes/>

Just Swiss hands over an iconic glulam structure for Somerstown Community Hub



*Thorsten Terweiden (second from left) delivering his speech in the presence of the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth (third from right)
© City of Portsmouth*

On 17th July 2013 the Loard Mayor of Portsmouth Lynne Stagg hosted a Topping-Out ceremony at the **Somerstown Community Hub in Portsmouth**. The ceremony was put on to celebrate with community leaders, the construction and design team and the Swiss Business Hub UK completion of the state of the art timber structure supplied by Just Swiss.

Spanning over a busy road the 90 m long building will include health, community and youth centres as well as an area housing office. For the first time in decades it will also link Somerstown with the heart of the city. In his speech Thorsten Terweiden stated that “this project exemplifies two classic yet different Swiss qualities: precision and innovation” and congratulated the City of Portsmouth on the “holistic approach that is required to create the urban environments for the 21st century”.

In 2011 the manufacturer Just Swiss Timber Construction, exhibiting at the Ecobuild event under the aegis of the Swiss Business Hub –started the dialogue with BAM Design about the curved timber structure for this highly sustainable building in Portsmouth. Since then the two design teams have been collaborating to engineer and successfully deliver the 36m span glulam structure over the office space.

The building process is led by main contractor BAM Construction and is planned to be opened in summer 2014.

A full article can also be found here: http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/20694_30363.html

Engineering services giant Foster Wheeler officially opened its new offices in Middlesbrough

A plaque was unveiled by Middlesbrough Mayor Ray Mallon at the company’s new premises in the Centre North East building. It is part of a Switzerland headquartered engineering and construction group which employs around 13,000 people worldwide.

John Cumming, general manager, Teesside Operations, Foster Wheeler Energy, said: “We are pleased to continue our long-term relationship with the town of Middlesbrough and the North-east region. This move provides improved and expandable office facilities enabling Foster Wheeler to deliver high quality services to our clients.”

The Middlesbrough operation provides project management, process design, engineering design and procurement services for the refining, petrochemicals, chemicals, fine chemicals, power, utilities, pharmaceutical and food industries. (Source and full article: <http://www.gazettelive.co.uk/business/business-news/new-base-foster-wheelers-team-4569757>)

LATEST NEWS

150th Anniversary of Thomas Cook's first Tour of Switzerland

This year Interlaken will celebrate the 150th anniversary of Thomas Cook's first conducted Tour of Switzerland.

Interlaken Tourism and the Tourism Museum of the Jungfrau Region are devoting a small but select exhibition during the summer months to Thomas Cook and Jemima Morrell and will present the most important stops on the trip. In addition Interlaken Tourism is offering a walking tour around Interlaken "In the Footsteps of Thomas Cook & Jemima Morrell", which will throw light on further interesting aspects of tourism in days gone by.

For further information please see: <http://www.interlaken.ch/en/discover-interlaken/interlaken-holiday-destinations/holiday-in-boenigen/camping-campsites-boenigen/150th-anniversary-thomas-cook-exhibition.html>

DECC report encourages homeowners to improve energy efficiency to increase property value

Making energy saving improvements to UK properties could increase their value by 14 per cent on average - and up to 38 per cent in some parts of England - new research released by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) revealed.

For an average home in the country, improving its EPC (Energy Performance Certificate) from band G to E, or from band D to B, could mean adding more than £16,000 to the sale price of the property. In the North East, improved energy efficiency from band G to E could increase this value by over £25,000 and the average home in the North West could see £23,000 added to its value.

The report, which took into account over 300,000 property sales in England between 1995 and 2011, is the most comprehensive research in this area to date. It indicates that energy efficiency is now a key factor influencing the sale price of most residential dwellings in England.

For full details please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/energy-saving-measures-boost-house-prices>

POOL OF EXPERTS - NEWS

Arthur Broadhurst



© Arthur Broadhurst

Arthur Broadhurst is a director of Thornburn & Co Limited, chartered valuation surveyors in Manchester and specialises in valuations of real estate and machinery for financial accounting, insurance, acquisition and disposal purposes.

He has been involved in valuation assignments in many European countries and is a specialist to the insurance industry. A Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors he speaks at seminars and is co-author of Valuation: Principles into Practice.

There is a close connection to Switzerland. Arthur has a Swiss wife, dual British/Swiss nationality and worked in Berne and Fribourg for a number of years. He soon realised how popular he was with his Swiss colleagues as they used each occasion to practice their English.

As Honorary Consul for Switzerland in Manchester his role is to maintain and develop the historic business, science and cultural links between Switzerland, Manchester and the North of England and to make sure that Switzerland does not forget Manchester and vice versa.

For further information about Thornburn & Co please see www.thornburn-valuers.co.uk

David Franks



© David Franks

David Franks is the Managing Director of G.L.A.C.I.A (Global Logistics and Corporate Infrastructure Advisors) and has over 40 years of experience in retail food, restaurant and food manufacturing.

David is currently a consultant specialising in Small Medium Enterprises/start ups, helping companies with all the pitfalls and opportunities in the food industry.

David is currently on the Manufacturing Advisory Services list of consultants. David is an innovation coach and Growth Accelerator Coach, a government supported scheme. He has worked with some well known, and soon to be well known, household brands.

During the past year David has advised the following companies in all aspects of business development: Bespoke Hotels, Mirae Asset Management, Gourmet Hot Dogs, Primal Eelve, the Little Smoked Food Company, Sin, Fresh Eric's Cakes, Pijatya, Soho Sandwiches, Bims Sauces, G Puds, Glamour Puds, Bluebells Cafe and many more.

MISCELLANEOUS

SBH UK connects British vintage car expert with technical vocational college in Switzerland, 12 April 2013



©FDFA

Thorsten Terweiden and Bill Pullar with a Bentley at the Technical Vocational College Zurich

Back in April this year, Thorsten Terweiden, the Head of the Swiss Business Hub UK was invited to visit the Technische Berufsschule Zürich TBZ (Technical Vocational College Zurich). The Head of the automobile technology section at the TBZ, Mr Klaus Schmid kindly explained the impressive training programmes the college offers in the automotive field and gave a tour of the state-of-the-art workshop. Also present was Mr William (Bill) Pullar, one of the leading Rolls Royce and Bentley specialists in England, who regularly services and repairs British made vintage cars in Switzerland.

Back in September 2010, Bill Pullar had contacted the Hub with a proposal to set up a school for apprentices in Switzerland. He had explained his vision to us in the following words: „It will give young people a lifetime of skilled work in the Classic Car world and it will transfer the old skills to the young before the skills are lost forever.“ We liked this vision and connected Bill Pullar to Mr Schmid from the TBZ and the result was that the college offers so called “Working Saturdays“ since spring 2012. The Working Saturdays are workshops on maintaining classic cars, which proved hugely popular with the students.

The Hub is delighted with this Anglo-Swiss co-operation in the important field of vocational training and hope that many other colleges will follow suit. This co-operation is a great example for the dialogue which Switzerland is actively fostering in the field of skills and training.

We wish Bill Pullar and the TBZ future success!

The Technical Vocational College Zurich is a centre for automotive vocational training for the whole of Switzerland. Further information can be found [here](#)



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