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1. PRESIDENT’S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2003-2004

Dear AmCham Members,

Having now completed my two-year term as the President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary, it is with mixed emotion that I sit down to write my introduction to this year’s annual report. During this period I have written several letters in our publication the “Business Hungary” touching on a number of critical issues, both political and economical affecting the business climate under which our membership works in this country. Let me not repeat myself (even though it would make the writing of this introduction a lot simpler). It was with great pleasure, and I admit, also with somewhat of a surprise that I have received several supporting comments from our members and also from readers as far away as the United States and Brussels on some of the more controversial issues that I tried to champion during my term of office. One of these was a somewhat futile attempt to tone down the political debate between government and opposition to a level that was less likely to deter the faint hearted investor reading only the headlines. This attempt I admit was less than successful, although nevertheless absolutely necessary. In any case, FDI is once again on the rise and business delegations continue to come to Hungary looking for opportunities. We at the AmCham continue our work in meeting with these groups and individuals and encouraging them to join us in Hungary. So let us now see what we did accomplish…

The state of our organization is good! With our six hundred members representing the cream of the investment and business community in Hungary we are without question the preeminent business organization in the country. While our size and our list of members would have been sufficient to retain this position, and rest on a laurels, we have nevertheless this past year taken a very active position to live up to our vision “to be the leading representative for US and international business in Hungary and to promote the global competitiveness of the country” by issuing a number of position briefs on such critical issues as Education, Logistics, and Taxation, following a previous one on the investment promotion system. These summaries of some very professionally prepared studies, containing specific recommendations, have been extremely well-received and have been the subject of follow-up discussions with responsible Ministers, state secretaries and government officials. This work must continue and the responsible committees and individual contributors must be acknowledged. At the same time I would ask that more and more of our individual
members join the work through our committees so that the end product incorporates all the best ideas that are available within our Chamber.

There are two key efforts where the work must still continue. One is the area of corporate ethics and social responsibility, where the American Chamber of Commerce must clearly be in the vanguard and set an example for the rest to follow. Fair rules of competitiveness, the so-called “level playing field” is in all of our interest and as members of the EU it will also become the accepted norm of corporate behavior. The days of the “wild East” should be placed firmly behind us.

On the social responsibility side, beyond the standard issues of the environment, healthy workplace, education etc. I feel that we have still work to do in the area of “Equal Employment Opportunity” especially regarding the Roma minority in Hungary. Our organization representing US values is most qualified to take the lead on this critical issue.

So while we can all be proud of our accomplishments, there is still plenty of work for the future. I say thank you and farewell to fellow Board members, the staff and all my associates in the various committees who have worked so hard during the past years and wish them all continued success for the future.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Peter A. Hegedus
President

U.S. Ambassador George Herbert Walker III., with the Board of Governors of the American Chamber in 2003-2004
2. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Dear AmCham Members,

The more the Chamber expands its activities year by year, the more difficult it is for me to summarize them.

The past 12 months was again a special period to us. It started with the bad news that AmCham had suffered a financial loss in the calendar year of 2003. Zsigmond Bodnár, our Secretary Treasurer will explain this later, but basically: our income was USD based while all our expenditures were HUF based. This caused a significant loss for 2003. Our reserves helped us to survive that period and in 2004 we have increased our revenues and cut costs, which makes us able to start to rebuild our healthy reserves.

In these never experienced circumstances we had to provide you better services, more programs, and more effective lobbying.

I hope you remember our achievements, or if not, you can read them in the Annual Report and learn more about them from the Committee reports.

This year again, after a long time, we conducted a Membership Satisfaction Survey (MSS) with the professional help of Hoffmann Research International and AAM. Our Membership Committee Chair Mr. David Young will speak about it later, but let me briefly touch on that issue. On one hand we got a good mark on the results and overall rating of AmCham – which would make any other organization happy – but on the other hand it showed what our weaknesses are. Fortunately these are not fundamental problems so we can improve these relatively easily and without any major additional expenses. Our weaker points, according to the MSS are:

A lack of proper communication among the Committees, between the Committees and the Board and among the AmCham office and the Members. Therefore, the Board decided to create a new position within the AmCham staff, so since September 1 we have a person who is responsible for communication and marketing. In addition to that you will get new publications from AmCham: first of all, a quarterly AmCham Policy & Issue Report, which is an electronic, internal publication, will give you an update on the issues we are working on. So if you get it and find the topics interesting or you have other interesting issues, please do not hesitate to join our activists and be a topic leader yourself! The other new publication will be the annually printed “AmCham Priority Issues” which we print in a larger quantity and are
going to send to all government and party offices to show what are the major issues that AmCham plan to deal within the given year.

On behalf of all of you I would like to thank the outgoing Board members, especially President Peter A. Hegedus, for their work. He was the first president of AmCham who received two invitations in a row from the Prime Minister to accompany him on official Hungarian state visits to the United States. Under his leadership the Chamber went ahead again. We all asked and encouraged him to run again for the position of the President, but he decided not to. After many years at ABB and the last two with AmCham he certainly deserves some rest. We all wish him nice, quiet sunny days in Florida.

Mr. David McCall is the other outgoing Board member, who chaired our Environment Committee. David – with his down-to-Earth opinion – was a great asset to the Boards he served on. Thanks to him, there were a lot of environmentally friendly measures and solutions introduced in the AmCham office itself too. We hope very much that – although not as a Board member – he will continue his efforts aimed at a cleaner World.

Peter A. Hegedus receives the Foreign Minister’s Award for his work for Hungary’s International Relations, on August 24, 2004
There are two other outgoing Board members: Mr. Les Nemethy, chairman of our Competitiveness Committee and Mr. David Young, chairman of our Membership Committee. Unfortunately – due to the fairness of the upcoming election – I cannot not express here and now how much we all appreciate their contribution to the Chamber. I can only say: thank you Les and David for helping us so much in the past 2 years!

I would like to thank the other members of the Board: Therese Buchmeier, László Steiner, André T. Mécs, Zsigmond Bodnár, András Erkel, György Mosonyi, and last but not least István Szini for their enormous help.

I also owe thanks to all Committee chairs and members of AmCham committees. These teams are the backbone of this organization. Thank you for helping us!

2003/2004 was a historical year for AmCham, because finally we learned how to focus on crucial issues: we developed the series of Position Briefs and we focused on one single fundamental problem: how to improve the competitiveness of this country.

A small, but increasing number of experts from member companies took the time to help us in creating proposals which are long-term minded and very well founded.

Thanks to these proposals AmCham is invited to more and more meetings by the authorities, and government members are seeking for AmCham's opinion and according to the lobby study book at the Budapest University of Economics: AmCham is the most effective lobby organization in Hungary…

But some of us on the Board and in AmCham are still not satisfied with that. We see the enormous potential we have and at the same time we also see that all governments in Hungary since 1989 provide us plenty of shooting targets, measures which must be criticized by the business community. It is rather unfortunate that internal politics and the wish to get or to hold power are the driving factor for the majority of them rather than the national consensus for building a great country. In order to change this attitude the handful of AmCham activists are not enough! But if all of our members would participate in these lobby efforts – that would be a breakthrough! AmCham is a voluntary organization so we cannot offer you other bonuses, just the appreciation of the others and of those who came after us. They will be the ones who find here a better business environment and a more prosperous country. Please be more active and find some time for our common goal: “…to improve the national competitiveness of this country.”
Last, but certainly not least I would like to thank my other fellow staff members: Laci, Erika, Bea, Ildó, Ildi, Judit, Kati, Marci, Maurits, and Bandi for the outstanding work they have done in the office. No matter what task we get from the Board these young people try to fulfill them with full of enthusiasm and energy. Whenever we meet with other AmChams or other organizations they stand out with their knowledge and professional behavior. Every other Chamber leader is jealous of them. I certainly understand why…

Please join me and thank them and all the contributors for the past 15 years of constructive partnership.

Péter Fáth
Executive Director
As an organization dedicated to the development of international business with Hungary, AmCham considers as one of its most significant goals, the establishment of high standards of business conduct and principles of Good Corporate Citizenship. In this regard, AmCham takes an active and leading role in promoting business standards and principles by first, adopting its own code of business practices; second, encouraging AmCham members to adopt their own codes of business practice, and third, organizing programs and events that foster Good Corporate Citizenship.

**CODE OF BUSINESS PRACTICES**
Business activity should be based on honesty, integrity, fairness and social responsibility.

**SUCH ACTIVITY IS DEFINED BY:**

- Safe and healthy workplace;
- Fair employment practices;
- Responsible environmental protection;
- Compliance with relevant laws and the rule of law;
- Responsible treatment of customers and clients;
- Involvement and engagement in the community i.e. Good Corporate Citizenship.
4. CHAMBER ORGANIZATION

4.1. OFFICERS AND BOARD OF GOVERNORS

2003–2004

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4.2. COMMITTEES AND CHAIRPERSONS

ANDRÁS ERKEL • Communications Committee
Mission: To help create an overall communications strategy for AmCham, to coordinate the Chamber’s communications efforts. This communication has three main directions - one is between and within the Board of Governors, committees and staff, the second one is towards the members, and the third one is towards the general public.

LÁSZLÓ CZIRJÁK • Corporate Governance Committee
Mission: To improve education and increase awareness within the business community through promotion and accessibility to best Corporate Governance practices in order to improve the competitiveness of business in Hungary and increase their economic value.

CSABA RÉPÁSSY • Customs and Tax Committee
Mission: To identify and implement the changes needed in the Hungarian customs and tax legislation to help the Hungarian Government and the AmCham members. To identify the most important issues arising from the accession to the EU. To provide feedback on the technical problems of interpretation and implementation in order to improve the practice including follow-up.

THERESE BUCHMEIER • Education Committee
Mission: To work with educational institutions and their students, AmCham members and other companies to organize activities that polish professional skills, broaden professional and educational possibilities, and develop professional culture.

DAVID MccALL • Environmental Committee
Mission: To promote the establishment of sound environmental policies and practices among Government, NGO’s, and Businesses, which will benefit the development of Hungary.

KÁROLY FEKETE • Euro-Atlantic Committee
Mission: To promote Euro-Atlantic cooperation by becoming the prime discussion forum, the best source of reliable and practical information and an active contact point for members on all issues European and those related to the European Union in particular.

LÁSZLÓ POLÁK • Healthcare Committee
Mission: To work with the Ministry of Health and Family Affairs and the medical community to identify the changes needed in the Hungarian healthcare system and to help the Hungarian Government during implementation. Provide feedback on practical problems, interpretation and implementation for the benefit of the Hungarian healthcare system and AmCham members. Continuous project: Healthy Workplace Program.

STEWART OLDROYD • Information Technology Committee
Mission: To help other committees in their operations with IT ideas and processes. To help to develop AmCham Hungary’s web-site to one of the most successful websites in Hungary. To work with other committees, business associations and the Government to better understand the policies required to get closer to the E-Business Society.

DAVID YOUNG • Membership Committee
Mission: To increase the AmCham membership by targeting quality companies - with an emphasis on companies with a clear interest in the United States - to work for the retention of quality members; to assist the Board and AmCham committees in all areas related to membership with a view of extending the scope of our services and providing value for an increasing range of businesses in a market that faces dramatic changes after EU accession.

LES NEMETHY • National Competitiveness Committee
Mission: To stimulate thought and action in the direction of enhancing Hungary’s national competitiveness, within the framework of EU accession. Raise decision/makers’ awareness of the key areas influencing the country’s competitiveness: i.e.: Taxation, Educational issues, Logistics, and help the Hungarian Government lay the groundwork to make Hungary more competitive.

LÁSZLÓ STEINER • Political and Legislative Committee
Mission: To make recommendations to the Board with regard to the position of the Chamber on: 1 questions affecting the members of the Chamber relating to the adoption of laws and the exercise of rights, 2 other matters affecting the economic activities of the members. According to the guidelines set by the Board, the Committee cooperates with the Government and local governments to further improve the economic and legal environment affecting the business activities of the members of the Chamber.

PETER P. FREED • Programs Committee
Mission: To promote business a social networking between the members and the Hungarian business community.

GERGELY HORYÁTH • SME Committee
Mission: To organise Forums and Information flows to assist, advise and provide know-how sharing between AmCham members and selected Hungarian SMEs. To develop long-term links between large company members of AmCham and existing and new SME Members. To influence the development of Government policy relating to SMEs by regular contact with the Ministries of Finance and Economics and Transportation.
4.3. STAFF MEMBERS

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5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 COMMITTEE FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF HUNGARY’S NATIONAL COMPETITIVENESS

Chairperson: Les Nemethy, Euro-Phoenix Ltd.
Coordinator: Judit Nagy

The mission of the Committee for the Enhancement of Hungary’s National Competitiveness Committee (“Committee”) is to stimulate thought and action in the direction of enhancing Hungary’s national competitiveness, within the framework of EU accession. The degree to which Hungary enhances its competitiveness within the European Union and within the Central European region will have enormous impact on the ability of Hungarian companies to export, the attractiveness of the Hungarian business environment, which will influence levels of foreign and domestic investment and GDP growth and the standard of living of Hungarians.

The Committee has aimed to become a workshop for producing concrete recommendations and examples from international best practice to provide Government decision-makers with ideas and inspiration to augment Hungary’s international competitiveness. Our Discussion Papers and Position Briefs are mailed to dozens of senior Government officials, and the Committee, in conjunction with the Board, has been actively involved in lobbying for positive changes in the business environment. The issuance of each Position Brief has also been accompanied by a press conference, and extensive coverage in all the media. All Position Papers are available on the AmCham website (www.amcham.hu/Position Papers).

The Committee has been involved in four main areas: (a) taxation policy, (b) education, (c) logistics, and (d) attracting Foreign Direct Investment (FDI), all in the context of competitiveness. The Committee has produced Discussion Papers or Position Briefs in all of the aforementioned areas:

(a) Taxation Discussion Paper. The Committee has been involved in ongoing lobbying with respect to the taxation Discussion Paper tabled to the Government in 2002. The Committee feels, with some pride, that we have been a catalyst in the reduction of the corporate tax rate to 16%, with a commitment from the Government for further reductions. In addition, the Committee has met with many Government officials, including the Prime Minister and Minister of Finance,
to promote the need for a more business friendly taxation environment, including reduction of social security and payroll taxes and phasing out municipal taxes.

(b) Taxation Position Brief. In addition, in September, 2004, the Committee published its Taxation Position Brief. This was designed as an update to the 2002 paper, and to refocus the Government on this burning issue. Once again, main themes include concrete recommendations for how to eliminate local municipal tax, as well as to reduce payroll and social security taxes.

(c) Education. The Education Position Brief was released in January, 2004. The Position Brief focused on the need for Government to invest more in education, as Hungary wishes to position itself providing higher value added goods and service. There needs to be a better match between needs of the corporate sector and skills being supplied by the educational system, including vocational training. Particular attention must be paid to improving language, particularly English skills. Members of the Committee and the AmCham Board met with Bálint Magyar, Minister of Education, and his senior staff. The Minister supported our findings, and agreed to an ongoing dialogue.
(d) Logistics. The Logistics Position Brief was released in August, 2004. The Position Brief focused on the need for the Government to accelerate investment in infrastructure, particularly highways, as well as improving intermodal transportation. Greater private sector participation should be encouraged. The Committee presented its findings to a US Congressional Committee on Transportation visiting Budapest in August, 2004.

The extensive agenda set out above would not have been possible without the unflagging support of Committee members. AmCham would like to extend thanks not only the Committee members who contributed so much of their time, but also the consulting firms that provided much of the research, intellectual capital, and writing of the Position Briefs, namely:

- Taxation: Ernst & Young
- Education: PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Logistics: KPMG

5.2 COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: András Erkel
Coordinator: Márton Magócsi

The Communications Committee, established at the fall of 2002 is a relatively new AmCham committee. It was created because of the need to:

- do a general audit of AmCham’s Communications activities,
- improve the flow of information between committees, the Board and the Membership,
- advise the Board and other committees on communications and streamline AmCham’s overall communications efforts,
- create a centralized media offering for potential advertisers and sponsors.

The Committee held several meetings during 2003 and 2004. Besides the original goals, specific needs that were addressed during this time period included:

- AmCham Hungary’s 15th anniversary
- the publication of three position briefs

As AmCham Hungary is celebrating the 15th year of its existence in 2004, the Communications Committee initiated several sessions with current and former
AmCham board members, committee chairpersons and outstandingly active members to define how the Chamber should celebrate and let the members and the general public know about this special anniversary. Some of the most tangible results of these sessions are the slogan "15 years of constructive partnership in Hungary" that AmCham uses in its communications during the year and a history of the early years of the Chamber compiled by the Committee.

The three position briefs published in 2004 were publicized according to the guidelines the members of the Communications Committee suggested for the initial position brief.

The AmCham Office also created a centralized advertising and sponsorship offering, entitled "AmCham Sponsorship and Advertising 2004". This brochure is also available online at www.amcham.hu/promote/

A main goal of the Committee is the cooperation with and focus on other committees. After an introductory meeting with the other committee chairs last year, the basic notion was that ties among committees need to be strengthened; there is a need for some central communication strategy and for the improvement of communication within the organization. The AmCham Office is currently working on a set of "Committee Guidelines" to address these needs. The Committee hopes to continue its work with refreshed vigour in the coming year.

From left to right: Board Member István Szini with Senior Commercial Officer of the U.S. Embassy, E. Scott Bazek at the "REACH" Seminar on June 3.
5.3 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: László Czirják (iEurope Capital, LLC)
Coordinator: Ildikó Berka

The Corporate Governance Committee started to operate in late spring 2003. Immediately the Committee set its mission and objectives.

The Mission of Corporate Governance Committee is to improve education and increase the awareness within the business community through promotion and accessibility to best Corporate Governance practices in order to improve the competitiveness of businesses in Hungary and increase their economic value.

The objectives of the Committee are to:
- Effectively communicate to the business community best practices and the results and benefits of Good Corporate Governance
  - Meeting regulatory requirements;
  - Investors protection;
  - Successful business / worth more;
  - Makes business more effective;
  - Being transparent & ethical.
- Develop our own positions or set of standards on best practices and Good Corporate Governance.
- Provide information on Corporate Governance (website).
- Be a channel to Director’s Institutes or other organizations in Hungary or abroad and evolve to become a Directors Institute.
- Improve internal evaluation processes.
- Suggest how to improve internal operations and financial disclosure systems.

AmCham and this Committee believe that applying good corporate governance benefits all stakeholders in a company or organization, not the least of which is its owners. One specific documented benefit is a relatively higher company value attributed to firms with good corporate governance versus those that do not hold such characteristics.

The committee is currently working on a number of projects including:
- A review of the Code of Ethics of AmCham;
- The development of a Position Paper on Corporate Governance incorporating four identified focus areas – upon completion the Committee plans to distribute this Paper to AmCham members and to governmental institutions;
- The initiation, tendering and assisting in organizing a Corporate Governance Review
of AmCham itself. As part of the work of the newly formed Committee, the Board has determined that a review of the organization’s own corporate governance practices should be undertaken. The Board has tasked the Committee with developing a strategy for the promotion of best practice corporate governance principles and rules among the members of the AmCham and more broadly among Hungarian corporations. The review by a qualified professional of AmCham’s own corporate governance practice may help to raise awareness of corporate governance issues and set a good example which others may follow. The tender for the review was won by Weil, Gotshal & Manges. Initial review is ongoing; and

- The organization of events on Corporate Governance including seminars where leaders of multinational companies, academics and other community leaders can talk about their experiences in this regard. There were several events organized in 2004 to date on the Corporate Governance Topics including:
  - Business Breakfast Series with Ernst and Young on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act;
  - Speech by Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs at the US Department of State, J. Frank Mermoud, at the “Morning Seminar with CEU” titled “The Role of Government in Corporate Governance”.
  - Speech by the Dean of the Olin School of Business, Stuart Greenbaum, a well-known expert on corporate governance at the “Morning Seminar with CEU” titled “The Importance of Corporate Governance”.
  - Business Breakfast speech by Alan Patricof, Co-Founder of APAX Partners, Inc., titled “A Practical View on Corporate Governance”.

From left to right: Gusztáv Bienerth, former AmCham President, Peter A. Hegedus, AmCham President, László Czirják, former AmCham President, and H. E. George Herbert Walker III, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary
5.4 CUSTOMS AND TAX COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Csaba Répássy, Ernst & Young
Coordinator: László Metzing

The mission of the committee is to identify and implement the changes needed in the Hungarian customs and tax legislation to help the Hungarian government and the AmCham members, to identify the most important issues arising from the accession to the EU and to provide feedback on the technical problems of interpretation and implementation in order to improve the practice including follow-up.

The Committee worked on the basis of the working plan that focused on the following topics:
• Help AmCham members’ preparation for EU accession;
• Help AmCham members get direct connection to legislative and executive bodies;
• Respond to members’ upcoming complaints and requests.

Action plan:
• Organize seminars on tax and customs implications;
• Regularly invite and meet officials from the Ministry of Finance and from the Customs and Finance Guard (VPOP);
• Submit specific requests and suggestions to competent decision-makers to change regulations in the interest of the business community.

The committee had regular meetings during the year with the participation of invited guests and experts of selected topics who addressed general and specific issues as well.

In October the committee met with Márta Csiky, Deputy Director General of the Customs and Excise Department of the Ministry of Finance. She briefed the committee on the most pressing last-minute issues before EU accession. She touched on areas like Binding Tariff Information (BTI), customs quotas, community GSP system, customs free zones. AmCham’s monthly seminar in December was combined with a committee meeting where Ernst & Young’s experts informed participants on the most important changes of the tax laws for 2004. In accordance with the practice of the committee of organizing open „educational“ events for the entire AmCham membership, in January 2004, Vámőr Kft. gave a presentation on their experiences of post clearance audits from the point of view of the audited company.

In our March meeting we hosted Mr. Zoltán Pikler, Deputy Director of VPOP. Right before the EU accession, committee members had received an in-depth to-do-list. In April, the committee successfully lobbied for the interests of expats. A loophole in the VAT regulation would have required current and would-be EU citizen expats to
pay VAT for their personal belongings after the accession. Members of AmCham’s Customs and Tax Committee had intensive negotiations with the Ministry of Finance on the issue, and was able to have an amendment included in the law in the very last minute. The new law which was passed on April 19th says that private people are not obliged to pay VAT at the time of releasing their personal belongings put in temporary importation before the EU accession if their EU status is proven before releasing the goods in question. A declaration from the individual on the EU status will be accepted as supporting document if there is no reason to doubt the authenticity of this declaration. At the May meeting, committee members focused on the first experiences and problems of the accession. There were serious delay in several customs procedures, some of our members had serious losses but after some transition period circumstances substantially improved. Also at the meeting Mr. László Elkán of PricewaterhoseCoopers gave a presentation on VAT issues with special regard to EU rules and regulations.

In June Sára Beszteri, Director General of the Customs and Excise Department of the Ministry of Finance was our guest. She briefed the committee on the experiences of EU membership from the legislative point of view. She touched on areas from informatics platform changes to guarantees. She offered the opportunity to committee members to submit suggestions to the planned legislative changes due in the fall parliamentary sessions. After the meeting the committee sent several suggestions for consideration and will follow them up with the Ministry when their discussion starts in the legislative process. The committee continues its regular meetings; topics and invited speakers are always determined by committee members depending on their needs and current issues. The Committee Chair would like to thank all committee members for their valuable contribution to our efforts and successes. Also the committee is grateful to IBM for hosting a committee meeting during the past business year.
5.5 EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Therese Buchmeier (Institute of International Education)
Coordinator: Ildikó Bryják

During the past year, the Education Committee has continued to work towards its mission of cooperating with educational institutions and their students, AmCham members and other companies to organize activities that polish professional skills, broaden professional and educational possibilities, and develop professional culture. To fulfill that mission, the Committee has held monthly meetings and organized a series of events that are described below.

This year the Committee has initiated the following projects:

• The Committee is committed to improving the level and importance of scholarship programs and to supporting students in Hungary. In the 2003-2004 academic year, AmCham and Assist (American Secondary Schools for International Students and Teachers) awarded Timea Takács, a high school student from Southern Hungary, a full scholarship which allowed her to spend a year in the U.S. at Westover Academy, a prestigious Connecticut girls’ secondary school. “I am most grateful to Assist and AmCham – global circles of unity, to my parents and my Hungarian friends; and to all my American friends for making it possible for me to be a part of this circle, to be a part of this unity. I would like to thank again all the wonderful people at the AmCham for helping in the million following steps after I took the first one.” Timea Takács

• The sixth annual seminar on studying in the United States was co-organized by the Education Committee and the Fulbright Educational Advising Center during International Education Week in November. The purpose of this program was to promote the benefits of international education and exchange. At the seminar, participants learned about application procedures, admissions requirements, strategies for writing an American style CV and application essay, and computer-based standardized tests required for admissions to universities. They also received general guidelines and suggestions for funding foreign study. The AmCham Education Committee brought together a group of professionals in a lively and thought-provoking panel discussion on how international study experience helps the job search and promotes career development.
• The Education Committee organized its second seminar on “The Benefits of Internship Programs in the Current Global Economic Environment”. The seminar gave participants the tools necessary to set up successful and effective internship programs in their companies. During the event, representatives described their own methods of starting internship programs and finding students and showed how internship programs could save money, increase productivity without raising headcount, and offer excellent recruiting opportunities. By the end of the seminar, the audience had seen program models they could implement in their companies, and had an overview of the financial and legal ramifications of internship programs.

• AmCham published its third Position Brief: “Education as a pillar of Hungarian national competitiveness”. A project initiated by the Competitiveness Committee, Education Committee members worked closely with Position Brief authors to incorporate recommendations from the wider academic community and finalize the brief.

In the coming year, the Education Committee plans to continue running these successful events, as well as initiating a number of new programs.
The committee published an informative recycling pamphlet aimed at assisting ex-pats in major cities throughout Hungary find points to support their recycling efforts. The publication and distribution of this pamphlet was a joint effort of not only committee members, but also moving and relocation companies active in Hungary. The pamphlet was published in hard copy for all AmCham members, as well as distributed to newcomers to Hungary throughout the year. The pamphlet is also available on the AmCham website.

Following proposed changes in the Product Fee legislation, the committee issued a questionnaire to all AmCham members, and based on the responses from that questionnaire, prepared recommendations regarding the proposed changes to the Ministry for Environment and Water Affairs. We were pleased to see that several of our recommendations were part of the final legislation.

Efforts were made to ensure that AmCham members were made aware of changes in environmental legislation, in particular requirements for registration regarding waste flow.

Based on coordinative efforts with other committees and efforts by AmCham, a white paper entitled „Environmental Legislation and Hungarian National Competitiveness” was prepared and made available for AmCham members through the AmCham website.

In cooperation with AmCham EU, an informative discussion on REACH (Registration, Evaluation and Authorization of Chemicals) was held. The successful seminar was an active and constructive discussion with participation from industrial, political, and environmental representatives.

The Committee Chair would like to thank all the committee members for their valuable time, participation, and input during the past year, which helped turned our efforts and ideas into reality.
EU Commissioner Péter Balázs opening the cocktail reception that followed the Extraordinary Seminar on REACH legislation - with Károly Fekete, Chair of the Euro-Atlantic Committee and Péter Fáth, Executive Director - co-organized with AmCham EU on June 4, 2004

Wim Jetten, Director of EU Chemicals Management of Dow Europe and David McCall, AmCham Board Member at the REACH Seminar
5.7 EURO-ATLANTIC COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Károly Fekete
Coordinator: Judit Nagy

A short summary of committee activities: EU accession raises many questions for businesses in Hungary. Also, EU membership exerts a profound influence on how AmCham as a professional organization operates and what services it provides to members. The fact that Hungary is a member of the European integration called for an Euro-Atlantic Committee within AmCham. The Committee was formally established in May 2003. The prime objective is to address issues for the business community in association with accession and beyond.

The goal of the Euro-Atlantic Committee is to assume the following tasks:
1. To gather and disseminate EU-related information,
2. To organize EU-related events (seminars, workshops),
3. To promote, with the means it has, good Trans-Atlantic relations,
4. To define AmCham members’ interests concerning EU issues and channel those to local and Brussels officials, thereby influencing national level and EU policy-making,
5. To discuss and propose new AmCham services in the areas concerned,
6. To foster dialogue between:
   • AmCham – Hungarian officials working in Brussels,
   • AmCham – EU administration in Brussels,
   • AmCham – Interest representations in the EU, especially AmCham EU,
   • AmChams in Europe, especially those in the accession countries.

During 2003-2004 we regularly held committee meetings. These were held on average once a month, except for the summer period. Committee meetings very attended to varying degree, but it is fair to say that a major goal in the future would be to increase attendance from members. During the sessions and in between those committee members were active in various fields:

• We joined efforts with other AmCham organizations in the region (the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia) and we regularly publish a quarterly bulletin, ‘Destination: Lisbon’ (formerly titled ‘The Road to Brussels’).
• In late 2003 and early 2004 the Committee also distributed a monthly paper titled ‘EU Report’ - an important and representative new AmCham publication mailed to all members.
• We invited experts of European issues from a very broad range of expertise:
  - Mr. Tamás Kende, Professor of Law – on the EU Constitution and its consequences,
- Mr. József Veress from the National Development Office – on how to submit a successful EU tender bid,

- Ms. Judit Habuda, Director, PricewaterhouseCoopers (formerly Prime Minister’s Office) on how the Hungarian development plan was perceived in Brussels.

- The Committee took active part in organizing the AmCham lobby tours to Brussels in January and September 2004. The January event was an exceptional success; the September one is forthcoming. Over 30 AmCham members signed up for the two events. Committee Chair Károly Fekete addressed the tour participant in January and will do so during the September event, too.

- A separate lecture titled: “EU Accession: Your To Do List for 2004” was held in June 2004. On this occasion Committee Chair Károly Fekete and IT Committee Chair Mr. Stewart Olroyd (IBM Hungary) addressed the audience on what had changed after May 2004 and how executives should adjust.

The Committee supported a brand new AmCham service; EU Link launched in March 2004. This is a detailed, high quality, high value added daily electronic subscriber information service available exclusively to AmCham Hungary members. The portfolio of EU Link services comprises information, listings, full texts, issue monitoring, early warning and regular general and specific written materials, and on-site consulting on EU matters. The Committee hopes that this unique service will provide a major opportunity for members to know more on EU issues and benefit from information and analysis not available elsewhere.

In order to better service members, and to broaden the participant base of the Committee, we have conducted a mini-survey for all on the mailing list. We enquired about recipients’ expectations, preferences and concrete proposals in upgrading the efficiency of committee activities.
5.8 FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman & Secretary Treasurer: Dr. Zsigmond Bodnár (T-Mobile Rt.)
Coordinator: Erika Bosnyák

The Financial Statements indicate, that the AmCham organization accumulated and maintained healthy reserves during its fifteen years of operation. Although there is a significant change in the “Result after Taxes” line in our Balance Sheet, (+553 in 2002 versus –20 516 in 2003), the cash flow in 2003 was positive (HUF 3 731), increasing the cash position to HUF 65 187.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Deloitte and Touche for auditing our books. I would also like to thank Memolux Kft. for their professional work to keep our accounting up to the highest standards.

Please let me express my appreciation and thanks to the AmCham staff and members of the Finance Committee for their contribution in managing the Membership’s money professionally and efficiently.

Dr. Zsigmond Bodnar
Secretary Treasurer
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the members of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary

We have audited, in accordance with Hungarian Standards on Auditing, the Simplified Annual Report of American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary (the “Chamber”) for the year ended December 31, 2003, prepared in accordance with Hungarian accounting regulations and the 224/2000 (XI.19) Government Decree, from which the accompanying summarized financial statements (balance sheet, profit and loss account and informative data), included on pages 31-35 of this report, were derived. In our independent auditors' report dated March 19, 2004, we expressed an unqualified opinion on the Simplified Annual Report, prepared in accordance with Hungarian accounting regulations and the 224/2000 (XI.19) Government Decree, from which the accompanying summarized financial statements were derived.

In our opinion, the accompanying summarized financial statements are consistent, in all material respects, with the Simplified Annual Report, prepared in accordance with Hungarian accounting regulations the 224/2000 (XI.19) Government Decree, from which they were derived.

For a better understanding of the Chamber's financial position as at December 31, 2003, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, prepared in accordance with Hungarian accounting regulations, the 224/2000 (XI.19) Government Decree and of the scope of our audit, the accompanying summarized financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Simplified Annual Report from which the summarized financial statements were derived and our independent auditors' report thereon.

Budapest, March 19, 2004

Deloitte

TABLE 1
SIMPLIFIED BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003
(HUNGARIAN ACCOUNTING STANDARDS,
ALL FIGURES IN 000HUF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Fixed assets</td>
<td>40 050</td>
<td>31 368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Intangible Assets</td>
<td>9 207</td>
<td>5 402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Tangible Assets</td>
<td>22 575</td>
<td>18 598</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III Financial investments</td>
<td>8 268</td>
<td>7 368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Current Assets</td>
<td>69 146</td>
<td>71 250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Inventory</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Receivables</td>
<td>7 690</td>
<td>6 063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III Securities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV Cash and bank deposits</td>
<td>61 456</td>
<td>65 187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Prepayments</td>
<td>2 973</td>
<td>1 269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>112 169</strong></td>
<td><strong>103 887</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EQUITY AND LIABILITIES</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>D. Equity</td>
<td>34 558</td>
<td>14 042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Subscribed capital</td>
<td>2 426</td>
<td>2 426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Capital change</td>
<td>31 579</td>
<td>32 132</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III Tied up reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV Valuation reserve</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V Profit for the year from basic activity</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>-15 155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI Profit / (loss) for the year from Entrepreneural Activity</td>
<td>-421</td>
<td>-5 361</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. Provision</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F. Liabilities</td>
<td>16 296</td>
<td>25 646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II Long-term liabilities</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III Short-term liabilities</td>
<td>16 296</td>
<td>25 646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>G. Accruals</td>
<td>61 315</td>
<td>64 199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities &amp; Equity</strong></td>
<td><strong>112 169</strong></td>
<td><strong>103 887</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


TABLE 2
SIMPLIFIED PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003
(ALL FIGURES IN 000HUF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Net sales</td>
<td>34 278</td>
<td>55 959</td>
<td>90 237</td>
<td>54 432</td>
<td>30 774</td>
<td>85 206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Capitalized value of own performance</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Other income</td>
<td>4 722</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>5 244</td>
<td>1 007</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1 079</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Subsidies</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Income from Financial activities</td>
<td>9 764</td>
<td>561</td>
<td>10 325</td>
<td>2 795</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>3 059</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Extraordinary income</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Subsidies</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Membership fees</td>
<td>118 254</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>118 254</td>
<td>123 809</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>123 809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Total income</td>
<td>167 188</td>
<td>57 042</td>
<td>224 230</td>
<td>182 043</td>
<td>31 110</td>
<td>213 153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Material type of expenditures</td>
<td>75 363</td>
<td>27 384</td>
<td>102 747</td>
<td>98 585</td>
<td>20 230</td>
<td>118 815</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Personal type of expenditures</td>
<td>67 076</td>
<td>24 578</td>
<td>91 654</td>
<td>77 288</td>
<td>13 154</td>
<td>90 442</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 Depreciation</td>
<td>8 627</td>
<td>3 165</td>
<td>11 792</td>
<td>8 906</td>
<td>1 538</td>
<td>10 444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Other expenditures</td>
<td>6 445</td>
<td>1 944</td>
<td>8 389</td>
<td>9 442</td>
<td>1 547</td>
<td>10 989</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 Expense of Financial activities</td>
<td>8 117</td>
<td>392</td>
<td>8 509</td>
<td>2 977</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2 979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 Extraordinary expenditures</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>586</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Total expenditures</td>
<td>166 214</td>
<td>57 463</td>
<td>223 677</td>
<td>197 198</td>
<td>36 471</td>
<td>233 669</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Profit/loss before tax</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>-421</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>-15 155</td>
<td>-5 361</td>
<td>-20 516</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I Tax payable</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D Dividend</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E Profit/loss for the year</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>-421</td>
<td>553</td>
<td>-15 155</td>
<td>-5 361</td>
<td>-20 516</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
5.8.1 Notes to the Financial Statements (all amounts in 000HUF)

Before April 2002 a significant part of the invoices for the AmCham membership fees were not settled by the members, which thus had to be annulled and accounted as bad receivables. At the year-end evaluation a considerable amount was shown as provisions made in 100% for the receivables of membership fees overdue by 180 days (referred to Accounting Act as „value loss” from 2001). The AmCham accounted as accruals the part of its income deriving from the membership fees due the following year on the basis of the performance date indicated on the invoices.

A new invoicing order was set up on April 1st, 2002 to eliminate the above problem, thus complying more with the principle of reality. According to the new system, the AmCham sends a pro-forma invoice of the membership fees. Then it issues the ordinary invoice on the day the amount of the fee is credited, with the same date indicated for the issue and the performance of the invoice.

This causes a problem in the case of late payment, since the membership fee is paid after the period concerned begins, and so it is necessary to alter also the adjustment rule. According to the new adjustment rule effective from April 1st, 2002: adjustment and accounting as accruals the amount due the following year are made based on the period covered by the membership fee and not on the basis of performance. The membership fees paid in 2004, which partly cover the previous year, are accounted as income and accrued incomes and deferred charges in the 2003 Annual Report.

5.8.2 AmCham’s Revenue Structure in 2003

Less than 60% of the Chamber’s incomes is made up of membership fees (HUF 123 809). The membership fees for 2004 are indicated among incomes as deferred
incomes and accrued charges in compliance with the principle of accruals. 2003 membership revenue is lower than in 2002 due to major devaluation of the USD versus HUF. Forint based new Membership Fees were introduced in April 2003.

Additional revenues come from services provided to the members, professional events and other services connected to the basic activity (HUF 54 432).

Further sources of income are from activities concluded in the form of entrepreneurialship (as mandated by Hungarian Tax Law), resulting in a total income of HUF 30 774. Accordingly, AmCham separates its incomes deriving from its entrepreneurial activity from its incomes deriving from its basic activity. In 2003 the revenue-proportion of its entrepreneurial activities was 14,72% of all activities. Among other incomes there are the incoming amounts in order to maintain the Fund (HUF 586), the amounts of the subsequently deductible VAT (HUF 179) and other items (HUF 314). The incomes from financial operations represent exchange rate gains (HUF 1 218) and interest (HUF 1 834) of bank deposits. Also the interests on deposits related to donations to be transferred are indicated here.

There were no extraordinary revenue items in 2003.

5.8.3 AmCham's Costs Structure in 2003
Costs, which could not be directly connected neither to the basic, nor to the entrepreneurial activity, were divided in proportion of the business activity already referred to in 'Incomes'.

The material costs, as well as third party and other services, and the mediated services are shown among material-type costs. The most important increase in material costs is due to the fact that the Board decided to subsidize Business Hungary magazine by 500 HUF/copy. The personal-type payments include wages and social charges together with other personal type payments. The amounts of event services provided, but not invoiced to the members (HUF 1 029) are also indicated here.

Depreciation was divided according to the proportion of the basic and business activity. The most significant items of other expenditures in 2003 are: non-deductible VAT (HUF 6 025) and the book value of discarded softwares (HUF 3 174). Financial expenses include the financially settled exchange rate loss of the assets and liabilities (HUF 726) as well as an accrued exchange loss of USD deposits (HUF 2 219).

The Chamber had no extraordinary expenditures in 2003. The annual average statistical number of staff was 11 employees. The Chamber was not engaged in research and development activity in 2003. The Chamber did not have tangible assets directly serving environment protection purposes or dangerous waste in 2003.
5.9 HEALTHCARE COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Dr. László Polák (Johnson & Johnson Kft.)
Coordinator: Beatrix Kovács

During the period since the last Annual General Assembly (October 2003) the following objectives were fulfilled by the Committee:

- Since last October, 13 new member companies joined the Healthy Workplace Program (HWP). Until today all together 60 companies expressed their intention to be part of the initiative. As a motivation for being active member of the program the Healthcare committee established in 2003 the Healthy Workplace AmCham Award in three categories: (1) small- and (2) medium-sized companies and also for (3) corporations. The submitted applications were appraised by a third party committee including occupational health experts. The high number (34) and the quality of the applications showed a convincing resolution of the member companies to fulfill the program’s objectives. The high quality of the applications was proved by the high number of awards as well: in the category of big corporations and medium sized companies two winners were identified. The awarded companies were: Alcoa-Köfém Kft., Visteon Hungary Kft., EMA-Power Kft., National Instruments Europe Kft., and Emerson Process Management Kft.

- The committee continued its efforts of building effective contacts with the Ministry of Health and National Health Insurance Fund in order to assist its work. Therefore, the Pharmaceutical and the Medical device working groups prepared a white paper that was sent to the Ministry of Health and initiated a round table discussion concerning the transparent admission and reimbursement procedure regulation for new health technologies.

- As a result of this initiative the Ministry of Health together with the American Chamber of Commerce organized a round table discussion involving Health Ministry, National Health Insurance Fund, parliamentary parties’ officials, representatives of Hospitals’ Association, National Association of Medical Societies, Associations of Pharmaceutical and Medical device companies (see photo below). At the meeting the unanimous opinion was that a transparent reimbursement procedure regulation should be implemented which is in line with the European Council’s directive. Beside pharmaceuticals the decree should regulate the transparent admission of all Health technologies as well.

- In July 2004, AmCham Healthcare Committee’s representative as a result of the roundtable discussion was invited to a preparatory discussion organized at the National Health Insurance Fund’s office where the Health Ministry, National Health Insurance Fund, Medical device manufacturer’s representatives got involved in the formulation of the new decree which regulates the admission and reimbursement of new medical devices.
AmCham’s Healthcare committee is continuously monitoring the expected changes in the health care system and is firmly determined to be involved in all those legislative preparations, which affect the healthcare’s restructuring process and indirectly the healthcare industry’s business environment.

Dr. László Polák, Chair of AmCham’s Healthcare Committee, Péter Fáth, Executive Director of AmCham and Dr. Jenő Rácz, Deputy State Secretary of the Ministry of Health, Social and Family Affairs

H. E. George Herbert Walker III, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary with Dr. Pál Becker, Head of the Office of the President of the Republic of Hungary
5.10 INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Stewart Oldroyd (IBM)  
Coordinator: Márton Magócsi

AmCham’s IT Committee has become more and more active during the year. Stewart Oldroyd of IBM Hungary was appointed to chair the committee from the spring.

The IT Committee’s objectives are to:
• Serve the interest of the IT committee active membership;
• Operate democratically and professionally;
• Organize specialized events of value and relevance;
• Serve the interests of AmCham and Hungary;
• Promote the Best Use of ICT in Hungary;
• Act as a Good Citizen by addressing the problem of the Digital Divide (both between regions within Hungary and between regions in the EU).

The committee aims to attract and retain consistent, active membership, and achieve wide representation amongst members. It would like to interact and co-operate with other IT organizations, other AmCham committees as well as the AmCham EU.

5.11 MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairperson: David Young (Amrop Hever)  
Coordinator: Katalin Csúcsy

Mission statement: “To increase the AmCham membership by targeting quality companies; to work for the retention of quality members; to assist the Board and AmCham Committees in all areas related to membership with a view to extending the scope of our services and to providing value for an increasing range of businesses.”

The American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary has on the whole an active and vibrant membership. Events from the AmCham Ball to monthly lunches are well attended and committee participation is generally strong.

In recent years AmCham membership has stayed steady at around 600 members. We feel that this is a positive result, given the downturn in the world economy and the steep decline in foreign investment in Hungary over the past few years.
In 2003/2004, 84 new members joined the AmCham, in the following categories:
• Corporate: 17
• Business: 39
• Non-profit: 5
• Individual: 23

During the year we worked actively to recruit new quality members and emphasized recruitment in the Corporate and Business categories. We also instituted a retention program, through which we identify members who were not particularly active in AmCham events, contact them and invite them to attend specific AmCham functions.

In addition to recruitment and retention, the Membership Committee has improved its membership dues payment discipline. Also, we have introduced a new, enhanced membership category with an extended range of services, the Patron membership.

Our Patron Members are: ABB, AES-Tisza Erőmű Kft., ALCOA-KÖFÉM, EDS Hungary, GE Hungary, IBM Hungary, Masterfoods, McDonald’s, NextiraOne, Opel Hungary Powertrain, Oracle Hungary, SAP Hungary, T-Mobile and Vodafone.

In order to delineate the Chamber’s future roadmap, the Committee conducted a professional Membership Satisfaction Survey, including questionnaires, personal interviews and focus groups. We are positive that based on the results the Chamber will find the right path to follow and membership needs will be met even more. Many thanks for everyone, who participated in the survey! Special thanks shall go to Research International and AAM, who sponsored the survey through their professional input. Special thanks to many individuals: Mr. László Váradi, Mr. Patrick Vlaskovits, Mr. Mihály Varga K., Mr. Pál Osváth and Ms. Rita Csiszár, whose enthusiasm and energy contributed highly to our successful Membership Survey.
In order to reach a better understanding of the needs of our members, the AmCham recently initiated a membership satisfaction survey, conducted late spring 2004. The survey applied both quantitative and qualitative methodologies: a self-administered questionnaire was filled in by 156 members (approx. 25% of all members). In addition, 14 members coming from all membership groups were interviewed personally in face-to-face open discussions. Also, a smaller group of non-active members was interviewed in a focus group. The web-based questionnaire was hosted by AAM, the survey was conducted, supported, analyzed and presented to the Board by Research International Hoffmann Opinion and Market Research, with the help of AmCham staff and volunteers. The survey was initiated and coordinated by the AmCham Membership Committee.

**Overall Satisfaction: High**

83% of AmCham members are extremely or fully satisfied with AmCham services. Interviewed members mentioned that AmCham is definitely the best of its kind in the region and performs highly if compared to other chambers. The high scores correspond with the perception that AmCham is „a heavy-weight organization” among other industry, governmental or social organizations. Some two-thirds of members responding think that the activities of AmCham are very well known to the Hungarian business world.

![Satisfaction with AmCham Services in General](image-url)

- **Membership Total**: 4.13
- **Corporate**: 4.18
- **Business**: 4.10
- **Non-profit**: 4.17

*mean (1-5)*
5.12 POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (PLC)

Chairperson: László Steiner (Hungarian Interim Management Ltd.)
Coordinator: Beatrix Kovács

In the last year AmCham has been continuing the lobby efforts under the umbrella of the PLC, focusing on:
• Issuing and following up AmCham Position Briefs together with the National Competitiveness Committee,
• Competitiveness of Hungary,
• Collecting and expressing AmCham view related to draft laws,
• Communication to Government bodies.

PLC has contributed significantly to the preparation of the “WOODS Meeting” where the Board, the Committee Chairs and invited experts worked on strategic issues of AmCham.

All of these works were supported by the volunteer members of the PLC who contributed with not only their professionalism, but also with their international experiences to the Committee’s projects.

Above this, PLC has prepared process proposal to reinforce and restructure the lobby activity and lobby communication in order to make our tasks more effectively executed and internally more transparent for our Members. This process is currently being approved.

We are in continuous dialogue and have regular personal meetings with the leaders of the major ministries who count on AmCham as the most professional voice of the business society in Hungary.

AmCham PLC has supported the Healthcare Committee to develop a channel for dialogue to the Ministry. That was the first step; but efforts are made to have further development.
Ann Livermore, Executive Vice President of Hewlett Packard and General Manager of HP Services with David Young, AmCham Board Member, and Dominique Cappens, Sanmina-SCI Magyarország at the Global Leaders on the AmCham Podium on May 14, 2004

Mariann Hergovits, Partner of Ernst & Young with André T. Mécs, Second-Vice President of AmCham at the Global Leaders on the AmCham Podium on May 14, 2004
5.13 SMALL AND MEDIUM-SIZED BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Chairperson: Richard Pelly (GE - Budapest Bank), Gergely Horváth (GE - Budapest Bank)
Coordinator: László Metzing

During the 2003-2004-business year, the SME Committee has continued to pursue its 3 key objectives defined in early 2002, namely:

1. To organize Forums and Information flows to assist, advise and provide know-how sharing between AmCham members and selected Hungarian SMEs.
2. To develop long-term links between large company members of AmCham and existing and prospective SME members.
3. To influence the development of Government policy relating to SMEs by regular contact and lobbying initiatives with the Ministries of Finance and Economics and Transportation.

In keeping with the goals the committee has organized two well-attended seminars on topics of interest to the Hungarian SME sector. These seminars have been co-sponsored by AmCham member companies and have included eminent experts from the private sector. Participation at the seminars was free of charge and the events were conducted in Hungarian in order to appeal to a larger number of SME participants.

The first seminar took place in December 2003 and focused on the issues of credit and receivables management. Presenters covered the following topics: Receivable Financing (Citibank), Credit Reporting and Business Information (D&B), Receivables Management (Intrum Justitia), Factoring (Citibank), Legal (Dr. Gábor Tóth). The event was jointly sponsored by Citibank and Intrum Justitia with senior executives and specialists making short presentations on practical issues in the above mentioned fields. Judging by the Questions & Answers sessions after each presentation, there was widespread interest in the topics covered. We had over 90 participants, several of them delegated by non-member companies. Another seminar was organized in conjunction with Concordia Inc. titled “The Joyful Organization”. The seminar addressed the issues of joy and work, what makes an organization healthy, how managers' beliefs can lead to organizational health and diseases. The target group was SMEs and participants had several questions and raised exciting points for further consideration for the speaker.

At least one more workshop is planned for the autumn. The Committee plans to reach out to the countryside and organize a seminar in cooperation with one of the regional offices of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce.
Both Committee Chairmen, Richard Pelly and his successor, Gergely Horváth would like to express their appreciation to all Committee members for their support and active participation and would like to extend their thanks to the following speakers who contributed to the success of the seminars: Mr. Ottó Szeder (Citibank), Mr. Cesar Nassar (Intrum Justitia), Mr. Miklós Volner (Intrum Justitia), Mrs. Attila Nagy (Dun & Bradstreet), Mr. Ákos Németh (Citibank, GTS), Dr. Gábor Tóth and Dr. Imre Lövey (Concordia).

The Committee would also like to thank GE Hungary and Budapest Bank for providing the venue for the seminars.

A group of 16 recently promoted "flag-rank" officers (brigadier generals, rear admirals, or ‘one-star’) plus the staff of the National Defense University led by a "three star" Air Force general and a retired "four-star" Navy-Admiral visited the AmCham office on February 18, 2004.
6. AMCHAM FOUNDATION (ACF)

The Founder: Ádám Terták

Members of The Board of Trustees: Dr. Péter Komáromi, chairman
Zsuzsa Rajki and Mária Gordon, members

Supervisory Board: Dr. Géza Kajtár, chairman
Katalin Ertsey and István Gortvay, members

Secretary: Erika Bosnyák

FUNDRAISING:
The AmCham Foundation distributes funds through an open public tender. The public tender is annually announced in April, published in newspapers and online. The tendering notice and application form give detailed information on all the requirements necessary for a successful bid. The AmCham Board of Governors makes a recommendation, and the final decision is made by the Board of Trustees of the AmCham Foundation.

REPORTING:
It is the Foundation’s responsibility to make follow-up report to the contributors and to the public. To ensure full transparency the Foundation requires the supported organizations to give an account of the use of the donations.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:
Our complete Public Benefit Report is available on the AmCham website (www.amcham.hu/foundation) from September 1st, 2004.
## BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2003
(IN 000HUF)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nr.</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Previous Year</th>
<th>Current Year</th>
</tr>
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<tr>
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<td>A. FIXED ASSETS (2.-5.)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>IV. LONG TERM INVESTMENTS VALUE CORRECTION</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>I. INVENTORY</td>
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<td>II. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE</td>
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<td>III. SHORT TERM INVESTMENTS</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>IV. CASH &amp; CASH EQUIVALENTS</td>
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<td>21 003</td>
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<td>C. PREPAID EXPENSES</td>
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<td>III. RESERVES</td>
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<td>IV. VALUATION RESERVES</td>
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<td>18</td>
<td>V. CURRENT YEAR PUBLIC BENEFIT RESULT</td>
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<td>E. PROVISIONS</td>
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<td>21 141</td>
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<td>Nr.</td>
<td>Category</td>
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<td>Current Year</td>
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<td>A. Total Income of Public Benefit Activity</td>
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<td>1. Donation received for public benefit activities, operations</td>
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<td>a. from founders</td>
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<td></td>
<td>b. from government budget</td>
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<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>c. from local government</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>b. other (AmCham members)</td>
<td>44 153</td>
<td>19547</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>2. Donations received through tenders</td>
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<td>3. Income from public benefit activities</td>
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<td>4. Income from membership fees</td>
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<td>B. Income from Financial Activities</td>
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<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>C. TOTAL INCOME</td>
<td>48 279</td>
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<td>D. Expenditures of Public Benefit Activity</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>3. Depreciation</td>
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<td>4. Other expenses, costs</td>
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<td>5. Expenditures of financial activities</td>
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<td>19</td>
<td>6. Extraordinary expenditures</td>
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<td>E. Expenditures of Financial Activity</td>
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<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>1. Material type costs</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>2. Personnel costs</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>3. Depreciation</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>4. Extraordinary expenditures</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>F. Expenditures of all Activities</td>
<td>28 071</td>
<td>19 799</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>G. Result Before Taxation</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>H. Taxation</td>
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<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>I. Current Year Result (G-H)</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>J. CURRENT YEAR PUBLIC BENEFIT RESULT (A-D)</td>
<td>20 208</td>
<td>833</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The members of the Board of Trustees and secretary do not receive any compensation for their work, and they do not receive loan. The Foundation was registered at the Capital Court as a public benefit organization.

The Foundation maintains its accounting records according to the provisions of Act on Accounting on a double entry basis. Its Statement of Operations is based on a „total cost” method. The form of the Balance Sheet is a public benefit report. The Foundation is not involved in financial activities.

6.1 THANKSGIVING CHARITY DRIVE 2003

In 2003 four institutions benefited to a total of HUF 5.4 million, and several million forints worth of in-kind contributions from the AmCham Foundation Thanksgiving Charity Drive. The following organizations were chosen from a list of 62 applicants who responded to a public tender:

- **Gézengúz Alapítvány a Születési Károsultakért** (50 children): This foundation has developed a program, which could help treating disabilities in a very early age.
- **Pályaorientációs Alapítvány Rabindranath Tagore Tanoda** (25-45 children on a daily basis): The foundation helps mainly disadvantaged Roma students to catch up in education and helps them to overcome career-orientation difficulties.
- **Sztehlo Gábor Általános Iskola Gyermekotthon Lakásotthonainak Alapítványa** (46 children): The activity of the foundation is the preventive development and therapy of mentally and physically disabled children of school age.
- **Debreceni Csecsemőotthonért Alapítvány** (180 children): The goal of the foundation is to help children of baby age who live in state-care by creating better chances for their social adaptation.
6.2 EXTRAORDINARY CHARITY DRIVE 2004

In May, 2004 the AmCham Foundation helped the rebuilding of the children’s home in Velence - that had been seriously damaged in a fire in March 2004 - with five million forints in cash and some additional in-kind donations.

The donation, made possible by the generosity of AmCham members, was presented for Children’s Day at the Velence Elementary School, Students Home and Children’s Home for Academically Challenged Children to the head of the institution, Klára Malomvári. The AmCham Foundation’s donation will use for the complete reconstruction and refurbishing of the five bathrooms and lavatories in the institution.

The amount of five million forints was presented as part of the school’s celebrations for Children’s Day. The Foundation contributed to the festivities with two surprises: the winner of the TV show “Megasztár”, Veronika Tóth made a special appearance to sing for and with the children. The giant cake, courtesy of Budapest Marriott Hotel, was also greeted (and gobbled up!) with cheers and amazement.

The same week, on May 28, 2004, the AmCham Foundation, in cooperation with JohnsonDiversey Magyarország Kft. made another donation, in the value of 500 000 forints, to the ‘Sorsunk és Jövőnk’ Foundation in Diósd. This institution runs the Temporary Home for Families, providing a safe haven for disadvantaged families, ill-treated mothers and their children, as well as expectant mothers.

As a new initiative, the employees of the Budapest Marriott Hotel and Cisco Systems Hungary painted 23 classrooms on 15th and 18th June at the Children’s Home of Velence. Everyone received a lot: the feeling of being helped and helping.
6.3 THANKSGIVING CHARITY DRIVE 2004

The success and effectiveness of the AmCham Foundation Charity Drive is proven by the record number of tenders, 89 in total received by the AmCham Foundation in 2004.

This year the AmCham Foundation Board of Trustees, in association with the AmCham Board of Governors, have chosen to support the following three organizations:

1. Szent Márton Gyermekmentőszolgálat Közhasznú Alapítvány
   Ambulance service focusing on transporting infants and children in emergency cases or those with serious disabilities (needing artificial respiration). In order to improve their 5 year old pediatric ambulance service, a top quality American respirator is needed. At present, such a highly specialized ambulance unit does not exist in Hungary.

2. Nyíregyházi Down Egyesület
   This organization would like to implement the aimed frequency relaxation technique developed by NASA to help children with Down Syndrome. A light and voice information method and apparatus that strengthens and repairs the immune system and aids the self-curing abilities of the brain. One of the immediate applications is to help the mental development in children suffering from Down Syndrome, but future applications could also include flu-like diseases.

3. Kerek Világ Jóléti Szolgálat Alapítvány
   A transitional home that helps physically and mentally challenged children and their families who attend the Day-time Social Institute. All those who have encountered unforeseen problems, e.g. family illness, life crisis situations, daily long-distance travelling, are eligible to use these services for a period from one day up to two years. Under proper and competent care, the children are encouraged to be self sufficient and practise their socialization skills while their parents maintain supervisinal rights.

We are grateful to our supporters and volunteers!
Our success is based on the support of AmCham members; other donors and volunteers who give us support in-kind, cash, expertise and time. We thank all of them very much for their continuous help.
7. EVENTS SUMMARY 2003-2004

One of the main activities of AmCham is to promote business and social networking between its members and the Hungarian business community. During 2003-2004 the AmCham succeeded in achieving high attendance levels at its events and an increasing number of family programs and special functions.

Between October 2003 and September 2004, AmCham organized 145 events with over 4652 participants.

Apart from our regular monthly Business Forums and the Seminar & Cocktails, AmCham has also organized several extraordinary professional and social events, and introduced new events. In September, AmCham started the 3rd AmCham-CEU Academy course entitled “Marketing Redefined II”. The course follows on the success of “Marketing Redefined I” and “Monetary Policy and the Economy”, the latter of which attracted renowned guest speakers including Péter Ákos Bod, BKÁ Professor, Former Minister of Industry and Commerce, Former Governor of the National Bank of Hungary; (February 18); Péter Róna, CEO of Róna és Társai (February 24); Zsigmond Járai, Governor of the National Bank of Hungary (March 9); László Békesi, Ex-Minister of Finance; György Surányi, President of the Board of CIB Bank, Former Governor of the National Bank of Hungary.

György Mosonyi, AmCham Board Member with András Sugár, former AmCham President at the Business Forum on February 26, 2004

Gusztáv Bienerth as speaker at the AmCham Lobbying Study Trip to Brussels in January, 2004
In 2004, AmCham launched the AmCham Lobbying Study Trip to Brussels. This three-day program provides participants with an insight into the ways of effective lobbying in Brussels, as well as into the operation of several EU institutions. Based on the success of the first trip, AmCham organized the second trip in September and plans to organize additional tours in 2005.

AmCham is very keen on strengthening its relationship with other chambers and organizations. As a result, AmCham has had several joint events with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Joint Venture Association as well with guest speakers, including: Mr. Sándor Demján, Chairman of the National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers (VOSZ); Ms. Katalin Szili, Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly; Mr. Frits Bolkestein, European Commissioner.

Recognizing the importance of Corporate Governance, AmCham jointly organized and launched a 4-part series of Business Breakfasts with Ernst & Young on the topic: Sarbanes Oxley Act 404. The 3rd breakfast in the series will be held in October 2004.

In a series of leisure and family programs, AmCham organized the annual Thanksgiving Dinner in November 2003 and the AmCham-EDS Valentine’s Day Ball in February 2004, both of which attracted more than 300 participants. In June 2004, AmCham organized the annual Tennis Tournament, sponsored by Weber Shandwick / GJW, and on July 4th, AmCham invited members and their families to the Independence Day Celebration at the Corinthia Aquincum Hotel Budapest.

AmCham would like to thank all its members for their active participation during our events and ensure you that we will continue to strive to organize the most interesting and exciting events for our members.
Board Member David Young presenting AmCham’s farewell token to E. Scott Bozek, outgoing Senior Commercial Officer of the U.S. Embassy Budapest, at the Independence Day Celebration in 2004

AmCham - Weber Shandwick International Open Tennis Tournament in June 2004
7.1 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Total number of events: 145  
Participants: 4652

2003
October
1 Wednesday, **AmCham-CEU Academy**,  
CEU Graduate School of Business,  
1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 21.  
Topic: Marketing Redefined  
Speaker: Paul Garrison,  
Managing Director and Owner of Garrison Group
2 Thursday, **Executive Committee meeting,** 7:30am  
AmCham Conference Room
6 Monday, **Communications Committee Meeting,** 8:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

The Fifth Roundtable with the Government of Hungary co-organized with the Economist Conferences on September 18, 2003
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Customs and Tax Committee Meeting</strong>, 10am</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>AmCham Conference Room</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Topic: Last-minute EU accession issues</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Speaker: Márta Csiky, Director, Ministry of Finance</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>8 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Seminar sponsored by Ormai és Társai CMS Cameron McKenna</strong>, 4pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Gundel Restaurant</em></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Topic: Mediation, New Possibilities in Dispute Resolution</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><em>Speakers: Tim Hardy, Partner, Litigation Department, CMS Cameron McKenna, London; Dr. Tamás Engel, Senior Lawyer, Head of Litigation Department, Ormai és Társai CMS Cameron McKenna; Dr. László Szlávnits, President of the Budapest Attorney Mediators' Society</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Cocktail sponsored by Ormai és Társai CMS Cameron McKenna</strong>, 6pm</td>
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<td><em>Gundel Restaurant</em></td>
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<td>14 Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Education Committee Meeting</strong>, 8am</td>
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<td><em>AmCham Conference Room</em></td>
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<td>15 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Healthcare Committee</strong>, 3pm</td>
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<td><em>Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Healthy Workplace Award 2003 project</em></td>
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<td><em>AmCham Conference Room</em></td>
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<td>15 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>National Competitiveness Committee meeting</strong>, 7:30am</td>
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<td><em>AmCham Conference Room</em></td>
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<td>15 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Corporate Governance Committee Meeting</strong>, 7:30am</td>
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<td>20 Monday</td>
<td><strong>Euro-Atlantic Committee meeting</strong>, 4:30pm-5:30pm</td>
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<td>27 Monday</td>
<td><strong>SME Committee Meeting</strong>, 8am</td>
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Charity event organized by Pikler Emmi Institute supported by AmCham with the participation of Tony Curtis on October 30, 2003
28 Tuesday, **Annual General Assembly**, 3-6.30pm  
Budapest Marriott Hotel, Budapest Ballroom

28 Tuesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9am  
AmCham Conference Room

28 Tuesday, **Executive Committee meeting**, 9am-10am  
AmCham Conference Room

28 Tuesday, **Business Forum organized by The Canadian Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with AmCham**, 12pm  
Hilton Budapest WestEnd  
Topic: The economic situation of Hungary before the EU Accession  
Speaker: Sándor Demján, Chairman of the National Association of Entrepreneurs and Employers (VOSZ)

**November**

3 Monday, **Political and Legislative Committee meeting**, 5pm-6:30pm  
AmCham Conference Room  
Topic: Discussion on AmCham's future lobby strategy

4 Tuesday, **Executive Committee meeting**, 7:30am-8:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

4 Tuesday, **Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

6 Thursday, **Extraordinary Business Forum organized together with the Joint Venture Association**, 12pm  
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus  
Topic: The last Country Report on Hungary before the EU Accession (to be released on the previous day November 5th)  
Speaker: Mr. Jürgen Köppen, Head of Delegation of the European Commission to Hungary

10 Monday, **Communications Committee Meeting**, 8:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

11 Tuesday, **Education Committee Meeting**, 8am  
AmCham Conference Room

12 Wednesday, **Seminar sponsored by Concordia**, 4pm  
Gundel Restaurant  
Topic: The Joyful Organization - Understanding organizational Health, Diseases and Joy  
Speaker: Dr. Imre Lövey, Managing Partner and Founder of Concordia Inc.
12 Wednesday, **Cocktail sponsored by Concordia**, 6pm
Gundel Restaurant

12 Wednesday, **2-days Conference of "Piac és Profit" with the support of AmCham**, 10am
Balatonaliga, Club Aliga

17 Monday, **Euro-Atlantic Committee Meeting**, 4:30pm
AmCham Conference Room

18 Tuesday, **International Education Week**, 10am-4pm
House of Professors - Conference Room,
Ground Floor (1146 Budapest, Ajtósi Dürer sor 19-21.)
Topic: How Can I Study in the US? Information seminar on how you can pursue your college education in the United States

19 Wednesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9:00am
AmCham Conference Room

20 Thursday, **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8am-9:30am
AmCham Conference Room

24 Monday, **Communications Committee Meeting**, 8:30am
AmCham Conference Room

25 Tuesday, **Healthcare Committee**, 3pm-4:30pm
Meeting of the Advisory Board of the Healthy Workplace Award program
AmCham Conference Room
Topic: Preparation for the HWP Award tender 2004

25 Tuesday, **Thanksgiving Dinner**, 7pm
Budapest Marriott Hotel

*Peter Freed welcomes a special guest at our Thanksgiving Dinner in 2003*
25 Tuesday, **Education Committee Meeting**, 8am
**AmCham Conference Room**

26 Wednesday, **Healthcare Committee meeting**, 1pm-3pm
**AmCham Conference Room**

**December**
2 Tuesday, **European Workshop**
**Euro-Atlantic Committee meeting**, 5pm-7pm
Deloitte & Touche, 1051 Budapest,
Nádor u 21., Ground Floor, Room 7
**Topic:** The EU Constitution and European Business:
Concerns and Hopes
**Speaker:** Dr. Tamás Kende, Assistant Professor,
ELTE, Faculty of Law

3 Wednesday, **Corporate Governance**
**Committee Meeting**, 7:30am
**AmCham Conference Room**

5 Friday, **SME Receavables / Credit Management**
**Conference**, 9am-12:30pm
**GE Headquarters**
**Speakers:** Mr. Ottó Szeder (Citibank), Mr. Cesar Nassar
(Intrum Justitia), Mr. Miklós Volner (Intrum Justitia),
Mrs. Nagy (Dun & Bradstreet),
Mr. Ákos Németh (Citibank, GTS), Dr. Gábor Tóth

10 Wednesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9:45am
**AmCham Conference Room**

10 Wednesday, **Seminar & Cocktail**
**sponsored by Ernst & Young**, 4pm
**Gundel Restaurant**
**Topic:** 2004 Tax Laws, Trends, Regional Outlook,
personal Income Tax, Corporate Income Tax,
VAT and Other Taxes, EU Accession
**Speakers:** Róbert Heinczinger, Katalin Ágoston, Botond Rencz
- Ernst & Young

10 Wednesday, **Cocktail sponsored by Ernst & Young**, 6pm
**Gundel Restaurant**

11 Thursday, **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8am-9:30am
**AmCham Conference Room**

11 Thursday, **Environmental Committee Meeting**, 8.30am
**AmCham Conference Room**
12 Friday,  
**Education Committee Meeting**, 8am  
AmCham Conference Room

16 Tuesday,  
**Extraordinary Business Breakfast**, 8am  
InterContinental Budapest  
*Topic:* Hungarian Business Image in the U.S. at the threshold of EU-membership  
*Speaker:* Mr. András Simonyi, Ambassador of Hungary to the U.S.

18 Thursday,  
**Extraordinary Business Forum**, 12pm  
Budapest Marriott Hotel  
*Speaker:* Mr. Don Evans, Secretary of Commerce of the U.S.

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*Don Evans, Secretary of Commerce of the U.S. with András Simonyi, Ambassador of Hungary to the U.S. at the Business Forum on December 18, 2003*

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**2004**  
**January**

13 Tuesday,  
**Communications Committee Meeting**, 8:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

14 Wednesday,  
**Corporate Governance Committee meeting**, 7:30pm  
AmCham Conference Room

16 Friday,  
**Education Committee Meeting**, 8:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

18 Sunday,  
**Party for the American Football Finals**, 9pm  
AFC & NFC Conference Championship Games  
Box Utca Restaurant (1065 Budapest, Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út. 21.)
19 Monday, **Joint meeting with the representatives of the Healthcare and Political and Legislative Committees**, 8am  
*Topic: Discussion on the lobby strategy of the Healthcare Committee on the “Healthcare Technology-Assessment Institute”*
*AmCham Conference Room*

21 Wednesday, **Study Trip to Brussels, 3-day event**  
**Brussels, Belgium**  
Lobby possibilities in the EU - Brussels for Executives

21 Wednesday, **Customs and Tax Committee Meeting**, 10am-12pm  
*IBM Magyarországi Kft.*  
*Topic: Practical Experiences of post-clearance audits from the point of view of the audited company*
*Speaker: Gábor Frenyó, Nóra Juhász, Vámór Kft.*

26 Monday, **SME Committee Meeting**, 8am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

29 Thursday, **Conference on EU tendering in cooperation with Pénzforrás**, 9:00am-4:30pm  
*Radisson SAS Béke Hotel, 1067 Budapest, Teréz krt. 43.*

29 Thursday, **Education Committee Meeting**, 8am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

30 Friday, **Joint meeting of the Corporate Governance and Executive Committee**, 8:45am-9:45am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

**February**

1 Sunday, **Party for the American Football Finals - SUPER BOWL!**, 9pm  
*Box Utca Restaurant (1065 Budapest, Bajcsy-Zsilinszky út 21.)*

3 Tuesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9:00am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

3 Tuesday, **Morning Seminar in cooperation with CEU**, 8am-10am  
*CEU Graduate School of Business, 5th district, Nádor u. 21. Room # 301*  
*Topic: The Importance of Corporate Governance*
*Speaker: Dean Stuart Greenbaum, Olin School of Business*

10 Tuesday, **Euro-Atlantic Committee meeting**, 5:30pm-6:30pm  
*AmCham Conference Room*
11 Wednesday, Corporate Governance Committee meeting, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room

11 Wednesday, Joint Business Luncheon with the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, 12pm
InterContinental Budapest, Ballroom
Topic: Key issues in the workings of the Parliament on the eve of EU accession; getting ready for the European Parliament elections; the situation of democracy at present in Hungary
Speaker: Katalin Szili, Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly

14 Saturday, AmCham-EDS Valentine’s Day Ball, 7pm
Budapest Marriott Hotel

17 Tuesday, Education Committee meeting, 8:30am
AmCham Conference Room
18 Wednesday, **AmCham-CEU Academy - on Monetary Policy and the Economy**, 6pm
CEU Graduate School of Business, 1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 21.

20 Friday, **Conference with the Joint Venture Association**, 9am-1:30pm
MATÁV Head Office - Tölösi Conference Centre, 1013 Budapest, Krisztina krt. 55.
Topic: Competitiveness after our Accession to the European Union

23 Monday, **SME Committee Meeting**, 8am
AmCham Conference Room

24 Tuesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9am
AmCham Conference Room

25 Wednesday, **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8am-9:30am
AmCham Conference Room

25 Wednesday, **HR Seminar - The Benefits of Internship Programs**, 8:30am-12:00pm
CEU Graduate School of Business, 1051 Bp., Nádor u. 9., Popper room
Topic: The Benefits of Internship Programs in the Current Global Economic Environment

26 Thursday, **Business Forum**, 12pm
Budapest Marriott Hotel, Ballroom
Topic: Fiscal Challenges, short and mid-term plans of the ministry
Speaker: Mr. Tibor Draskovics, Minister of Finance
March
2 Tuesday, Executive Committee meeting, 7:30am 5 AmCham Conference Room
9 Tuesday, Education Committee Meeting, 8:30am 8 AmCham Conference Room
10 Wednesday, Corporate Governance Committee Meeting, 7:30am 12 AmCham Conference Room
10 Wednesday, Political and Legislative Committee meeting, 5:30pm 9 AmCham Conference Room
10 Wednesday, Healthcare Committee meeting, 3pm 7 AmCham Conference Room
Topic: Discussion on the Healthcare Technology-Assessment Institute & Preparation for the Roundtable Discussion on March 18
12 Friday, National Competitiveness Committee, 7:30am-8:30am 5 AmCham Conference Room
17 Wednesday, Membership Committee Meeting, 8am-9:30am 8 AmCham Conference Room
17 Wednesday, Seminar sponsored by K+F Kutatás-fejlesztési Tanácsadó Központ Kft. / Research-Development Consulting Center Ltd., 4pm Kempinski Hotel Corvinus
Topic: Conditions of obtaining Hungarian and EU subsidies
Speakers: Mr. Gyula Szegedi, Managing Director, State Subsidies, Hungarian Development Bank Ltd. – MFB Rt.; Mr. János Takács, General Director, Electrolux Lehel Refrigerators Ltd.; Mr. Sándor Lőrincz, Managing Director, K+F Research-Development Consulting Center Ltd.
17 Wednesday, Cocktail sponsored by K+F Kutatás-fejlesztési Tanácsadó Központ Kft. / Research-Development Consulting Center Ltd., 6pm 80 Kempinski Hotel Corvinus
18 Thursday, Roundtable discussion on the Healthcare Technology-Assessment Institute with the participation of Ministry representatives and the leaders of other professional organisations, 10am-12am Kempinski Corvinus Hotel
19 Friday, **Morning Seminar on the Role of Government in Corporate Governance**, 8am-10am
CEU Graduate School of Business, 1051 Budapest, Nádor u. 21. Room 301
**Topic:** The Role of Government in Corporate Governance
**Speaker:** J. Frank Mermoud, U.S. Department of State, Special Representative for Commercial and Business Affairs

24 Wednesday, **Customs Committee Meeting**, 10am-12pm
AmCham Conference Room
**Topic:** Last minute practical information and to-do list on EU accession
**Speaker:** Mr. Zoltán Pikler, Director, VPOP

25 Thursday, **SME Committee Meeting**, 8am-9:30am
AmCham Conference Room
**Topic:** Preparation for upcoming SME Committee events

25 Thursday, **Extraordinary Business Forum**, 12pm
Budapest Marriott Hotel
**Topic:** Current American Policy Issues and Overview of US-Hungarian Relationship
**Speaker:** His Excellency George Herbert Walker III, U.S. Ambassador to Hungary

29 Monday, **Euro-Atlantic Committee Meeting**, 5pm-6pm
AmCham Conference Room

30 Tuesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9:00am
AmCham Conference Room

April
1 Thursday, **Business Breakfast in association with Ernst & Young**, 8:30am
Le Meridien Budapest, 1051 Budapest, Erzsébet tér 9-10.
**Topic:** Sarbanes-Oxley Act 404; Bridge Your Financial Control Gap
**Speakers:** Alan Griffiths - Ernst & Young Partner; Assurance & Advisory Business Services; Dénes Doszpod - Ernst & Young Manager, Business Risk Services; Zane Jekabsone - Ernst & Young Senior Consultant; László Réthelyi - Ernst & Young Senior Consultant

5 Monday, **Political and Legislative Committee meeting**, 5:30pm
AmCham Conference Room
6 Tuesday, **Education Committee Meeting**, 8:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

6 Tuesday, **Business Luncheon with the Joint Venture Association**, 12:00pm  
Hilton Hotel - Dominican Restaurant,  
(Budapest, I. Óvármegyed/ Castle District, Hess A. tér 1-3.)  
**Topic**: Competitiveness and Growth in an enlarged Union: Seizing the Opportunity of the Internal Market  
**Speaker**: Mr. Frits Bolkestein, European Commissioner, responsible for the Internal Market, Taxation and Customs Union

14 Wednesday, **Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am  
AmCham Conference Room

14 Wednesday, **Seminar sponsored by F-Secure Corporation**, 4pm  
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus  
**Topic**: Data security and the real world - How the threats have changed in the past years and what have the consequences been in society? Which points are the critical factors in IT-dependant society and network attacks? How to be protected against these threats?  
**Speakers**: Mr. Mikko Hypponen, Director of Anti-Virus Research at the F-Secure Corporation’s Anti-Virus team; Mr. Juhani Kivelä, Regional Manager; Mr. Pär Andler, Marketing Director

14 Wednesday, **Cocktail Party sponsored by F-Secure Corporation**, 6pm  
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus

19 Monday, **Political and Legislative Committee meeting**, 5:30pm  
AmCham Conference Room

22 Thursday, **Executive Committee meeting**, 2:30pm  
AmCham Conference Room

22 Thursday, **Global Leaders on the AmCham Podium: Business Breakfast with Mr. Stacy J. Smith, Intel Corporation**, 7:30am  
InterContinental Budapest  
**Topic**: What about the Birds in a wireless World?  
**Speaker**: Mr. Stacy J. Smith, Intel Corporation

26 Monday, **Membership Committee Meeting**, 8:00am  
AmCham Conference Room
27 Tuesday, **Extraordinary Business Forum**, 12:30pm
Budapest Marriott Hotel
Topic: EU Accession: An Event of Great Historic Significance
Speaker: Dr. Pál Becker, Head of the Office of the President sitting in for His Excellency Ferenc Mádl, President of the Republic of Hungary

27 Tuesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room

28 Wednesday, **Euro-Atlantic Committee meeting**, 5pm
AmCham Conference Room

**May**

6 Thursday, **Business Breakfast in association with Ernst & Young (in Hungarian Language)**, 8am
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus
Topic: Sarbanes-Oxley Act 404; Bridge Your Financial Control Gap
Speakers: Alan Griffiths - Ernst & Young Partner; Assurance & Advisory Business Services; Dénes Doszpod - Ernst & Young Manager, Business Risk Services; László Réthelyi - Ernst & Young Senior Consultant

6 Thursday, **Membership Committee**, 7pm
AmCham Membership Satisfaction Survey, Special Panel Discussion with the AmCham Board
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus

12 Wednesday, **Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room

14 Friday, **Global Leaders on the AmCham Podium Business Breakfast**, 8:00am
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus
Speaker: Ms. Ann Livermore, Executive Vice President of Hewlett Packard and General Manager of HP Services

17 Monday, **Business Forum and Mixer with Trade Delegation from Greater Seattle**, 11:30am-14:00pm
Sofitel Atrium Budapest
Speaker: Bill Stafford, President, Trade Development Alliance of Greater Seattle; J. Shan Mullin/Lee Mullin, Partner & Chair of International Practice Group, Perkins Coie Law Firm
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<th>Date</th>
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<td>18 Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Education Committee Meeting</strong>, 8:30am</td>
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<td>AmCham Conference Room</td>
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<td>18 Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Political and Legislative Committee meeting</strong>, 5:30pm</td>
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<td>AmCham Conference Room</td>
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<td><em>Topic:</em> Discussion on lobby issues for the period of 2004-2006</td>
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<td>25 Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Board meeting</strong>, 7:30am</td>
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<td>AmCham Conference Room</td>
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<td>25 Tuesday</td>
<td><strong>Business Forum</strong>, 12pm</td>
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<td>Sofitel Atrium Budapest</td>
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<td><em>Topic:</em> Knowledge-based Economy in Europe:</td>
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<td>Past, Present and Future in Hungary</td>
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<td><em>Speaker:</em> E. Szilveszter Vizi, President of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences</td>
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<td>26 Wednesday</td>
<td><strong>Customs and Tax Committee Meeting</strong>, 10-12am</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>AmCham Conference Room</td>
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<td><em>Topic:</em> First customs-related experiences after accession; VAT in the EU</td>
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<td><em>Speaker:</em> László Elkán, PricewaterhouseCoopers</td>
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<td>27 Thursday</td>
<td><strong>Healthcare Committee</strong>, <strong>Medical Devices Working Group Meeting</strong>, 13:30pm</td>
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<td>AmCham Conference Room</td>
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<td>June</td>
<td><strong>Extraordinary Seminar and Cocktail, Seminar</strong>, 4pm-6pm, Cocktail: 6pm-7:30pm</td>
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<td>Sponsored by GE Kempinski Hotel Corvinus</td>
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<td>3 Thursday</td>
<td><em>Topic:</em> REACH - The New European Chemicals Policy</td>
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<td><em>Opening remarks:</em> H.E. George Herbert Walker, US Ambassador to Hungary</td>
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<td><em>Speakers:</em> Mr. Wim Jetten, Director EU Chemical Management, DOW Europe, Director EU Chemical Management, DOW Europe, Ms. Ann Condon, Director EHS Programs EMEAE, General Electric</td>
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7 Monday, **Membership Committee**
AmCham Membership Satisfaction Survey,
Special Focus Group Session
Research International Hoffmann office

9 Wednesday, **Corporate Governance**
**Committee Meeting**, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room

9 Wednesday, **Seminar sponsored by Title Insurance**, 4pm
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus
**Topic**: Title Insurance
**Speaker**: Andrew Jackson, Managing Director of International Title; Kevin T. Connor, Managing Partner, Komáromi és Erős Ügyvédi Iroda/Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP.

9 Wednesday, **Cocktail sponsored by Title Insurance**, 6pm
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus
11 Friday, Business Breakfast, 8am
Hotel InterContinental
Topic: Corporate Governance - A Practical View
Speaker: Alan Patricof, Co-Founder of Apax Partners, Inc.

16 Wednesday, SME Conference, 15:30–17:30pm
Budapest Bank Headquarters, 1138 Budapest. Váci út 188
Topic: The Healthy and Joyful Organization
Speaker: Dr. Imre Lövey,
Managing Partner and Founder of Concordia Inc.

19 Saturday, AmCham - Weber Shandwick
International Open Tennis Tournament, 8:30 am
Vasas Sports Club (1026 Budapest, Pasaréti út 11-13.)
23 Wednesday, **Marketplace Business Breakfast:**
Offshoring (globalization) of IT and business processes, 8:00am
InterContinental Budapest (1052 Bp., Apáczai Csere J. u. 12-14.)
Topic: Offshoring (globalization) of IT and business processes
Speaker: Mr. Atul Vashistha, CEO of NeoIT

28 Monday, **Executives and Hungary in the EU,** 4pm
IBM Hungary, Budapest, XI., Neumann János utca 1.
Topic: Executives and Hungary in the EU:
Your 'To Do' list for the rest of 2004
Speakers: Mr. Károly Fekete, Chairman of AmCham's Euro-Atlantic Committee;
Mr. Stewart Oldroyd, Director of Government Relations, IBM Hungary

29 Tuesday, **Education Committee Meeting,** 8:30am
AmCham Conference Room

30 Wednesday, **Customs and Tax Committee Meeting,** 11am
AmCham Conference Room
Topic: EU membership from the legislative point of view
Speaker: Sára Beszteri, Director, Ministry of Finance

**July**
1 Thursday, **Membership Committee Meeting,** 8:00am
AmCham Conference Room

1 Thursday, **Euro-Atlantic Committee Meeting**
AmCham Conference Room

4 Sunday, **Family Celebration of Independence**
**Day on the Fourth of July,** 9:30am-3:30pm
Corinthia Aquincum Hotel Budapest
5 Monday,
**Euro-Atlantic Committee Meeting**, 4pm-5pm
AmCham Conference Room
*Topic: EU public affairs strategy for AmCham Hungary in 2004-2005*

5 Monday,
**Political and Legislative Committee meeting**, 5:30pm-7pm
AmCham Conference Room

6 Tuesday,
**Board meeting**, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room

7 Wednesday,
**SME Committee Meeting**, 6pm
Margitkert Restaurant

14 Wednesday,
**Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room

**August**

11 Wednesday,
**Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am
AmCham Conference Room
17 Tuesday, **Business Breakfast with the U.S. Congressional Delegation on Logistics**, 8-9:30am  
*InterContinental Hotel Budapest*  
*Topic:* Hungary in the Center of Europe - Developments in Transport and Logistics  
*Speaker:* Mark Bownas, partner, KPMG

23 Monday, **Political and Legislative Committee meeting**, 5:30-7:00pm  
*AmCham Conference Room*

31 Tuesday, **Board meeting**, 7:30-9:30am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

**September**

2 Thursday, **Board meeting**, 7:30am-9:00am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

6 Monday, **Patron dinner with Chief Commissioner of Police dr. László Salgó**, 7pm-9pm

8 Wednesday, **Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

8 Wednesday, **Healthcare Committee, Healthy Workplace Working Group meeting**, 3pm-5pm  
*Topic:* Discussion on the evaluation and the ceremony of the Award tender for year 2004

8 Wednesday, **Seminar sponsored by Profiles International**, 4pm  
*Kempinski Hotel Corvinus Budapest*  
*Topic:* From Good Managers to Great Leaders  
*Speakers:* Mr. Bud Haney, President of Profiles International Inc., Mr. Ken Peek, Director of the Government Division of Profiles International

8 Wednesday, **Cocktail sponsored by Profiles International**, 6pm  
*Kempinski Hotel Corvinus Budapest*

14 Tuesday, **Education Committee Meeting**, 8:30am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

15 Wednesday, **Extraordinary Corporate Governance Committee Meeting**, 7:30am  
*AmCham Conference Room*

22-24 Wednesday, **EU Lobbying Study Trip to Brussels**  
*Brussels, Belgium*  
*The World of EU Lobbying*
8. AMCHAM IN THE PRESS

Business Hungary, magazine of AmCham is our primary channel of printed information to our members and also to key partners in the public sector. AmCham is proud to have such an excellent monthly, business publication as a membership benefit. AmCham acknowledges the work of all contributors.

Continuing the tradition of the past years, AmCham’s activities have received extensive and quality press coverage. Articles about AmCham’s lobbying efforts, spearheaded by the publication of 3 position brief since the last Annual General Assembly, about its events featuring distinguished speakers, about its charitable activities through the AmCham Foundation, as well as about its many other initiatives, such as the Healthy Workplace Project, were carried by numerous mediums. In addition to some television (Duna TV, Hír TV, MTV 1) and radio (BBC Rádió Magyar Adás, Gazdasági Rádió, Info Rádió, Kossuth Rádió,) coverage, AmCham was covered by national daily newspapers (i.e. Magyar Hírlap, Magyar Nemzet, Metro, Napi Gazdaság, Népszabadság, Világgazdaság), English language weeklies (i.e. the Budapest Business Journal, the Budapest Sun, the Budapest Times), several business weeklies and magazines (i.e. Elite, Figyelő, HVG, Magyar Gazdasági Magazin), news agencies (i.e. Interfax, MTI, Reuters), as well as by regional papers. In this chapter, we provide some of the important examples of this press coverage, grouped by the type of activity covered in the articles.

8.1 Lobbying

AmCham’s lobbying activities were covered throughout the year by various newspapers, including updates from MTI (the premier Hungarian news agency), Interfax, many of the country’s leading political and business dailies and weeklies (Magyar Hírlap, Magyar Nemzet, Napi Gazdaság, Népszabadság, Népszava, Világgazdaság, Figyelő, etc.), as well as Budapest’s English language weeklies. The two samples below are the Budapest Sun and the Budapest Business Journal.

Publication: Budapest Sun
Date: January 8, 2004

**Hungary’s AmCham heads for Brussels**

FROM running a tiny office on the second floor of a former workers’ trade union building on Dózsa György út in Budapest’s District VI in the early 1990s, the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary (AmCham) is gearing up to take on Brussels, the center of lobbying in the European Union.
“Successful corporate lobbying from May this year should be carried out in Brussels (alongside Budapest),” said Péter Fáth, Executive Director of AmCham.
“Companies in Hungary must prepare for this challenge and need to be pro-active in order to remain competitive,” he added, explaining that according to a survey in 2003 company executives believe that about 70% of all corporate decisions in Hungary will be made in Brussels.

Fáth added that AmCham members will have a competitive edge as the EU Committee of its Belgian affiliate has become a full-fledged independent chamber under the name AmCham EU. “This chamber has 140 members who are the biggest US investors in Europe.”

Fáth said that with the relationship between the Hungarian and Brussels units is excellent and members will be able to exchange the latest information directly quickly and accurately.

“The Economist magazine claims that the AmCham EU is probably the most effective lobby organization in Europe,” said Fáth, adding that the chamber is able to afford the best experts in all fields. Fáth said that as a preliminary step AmCham in Hungary is organizing a three-day seminar in Brussels between January 21-23 to introduce members to the world of EU lobbying.

Publication: Budapest Business Journal
Date: February 2, 2004

**New legislation seen bringing more transparency, if well implemented**

Excerpt

While welcoming the adoption of Hungary’s new Public Procurement Act, executives of concerned companies and government officials have identified possible problem areas concerning its implementation.

“The new law is expected to bring greater transparency, but a lot will depend on how it is applied in practice,” said Zoltán Szucs, co-owner of public procurement consulting firm AAM Consulting Rt.

“We successfully lobbied for certain issues to be addressed in the new law on behalf of our member firms. We would like to continue this in the case of the related decrees on the application of the law,” said László Steiner, first vice president of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary (AmCham).

Officials at the Justice Ministry said the first few decrees will be adopted shortly.

“A detailed list of rules for advertising a public procurement tender, along with model notices and an inventory and classification of goods and services that may appear in such tenders, will be among the decrees adopted soon,” said Anita Németh, head of
the European Union law department at the ministry. The new, fully EU-compatible law was passed at the end of last year. “Since the last modification of the procurement law in 1995, a number of loopholes have been detected in the regulations, which the new version addresses,” Németh said. Until May 1, the date of Hungary’s accession to the EU, the law’s application will be limited to procurements related to the EU’s cohesion and structural funds, while it will be fully applicable from that date onward. Concerning the application of the new law, executives and ministry officials foresee several problem areas.

Determining what comes under the new law will sometimes be complicated, Németh said. “Besides a detailed list of entities with public procurement obligations, the new law also introduces some general categories that describe the features of public entities,” she explained. “The aim is to prevent entities that are not on the list from bypassing the law. It may be necessary to consider carefully whether certain entities should apply the law or not.” Such consultations will be frequent in the next few months, because the law requires entities with public procurement obligations to register themselves with the Public Procurement Council, the independent watchdog reporting directly to Parliament, within 30 days of the new law coming into effect. (…) Entities will have to issue a public report about any modifications to a public procurement contract, and about the completion of a project carried out under such a scheme. As for possible penalties, a new element is that the Public Procurement Council will have the right to initiate the nullification of an already signed tender if the winner was selected unlawfully.

“Under the previous law, once the contract was signed between the winning bidder and the owner, the Public Procurement Council did not have the jurisdiction to cancel the contract, but merely to levy a penalty,” Steiner of AmCham said. “The available sanctions were insufficient to ensure compliance with the law. The new law seems to tackle this quite well,” he added.

8.2 Position Briefs

Position Briefs play a central role in AmCham’s lobbying and communications efforts. The Position Brief No. 2., “Education as a Pillar of Hungarian National
Competitiveness” was covered in over 10 publications in over 15 articles. AmCham’s Position Brief No. 3, “Logistics as a Pillar of Hungarian National Competitiveness” received similarly good press coverage. The publications ranged from MTI’s news bulletin to leading Hungarian and English language dailies and weeklies: the Budapest Business Journal, the Budapest Sun, the Budapest Times, Figyelô, Hír TV, Hungary AM, Hungary Around the Clock, Interfax, Magyar Gazdasági Magazin, Magyar Hírlap, Magyar Nemzet, Népszabadság, Metro, MTI, Világgazdaság, etc. AmCham went public with Position Brief No. 4, “Taxation as a Pillar of Hungarian National Competitiveness” on September 27. At the press conference most of the major dailies and two TV stations participated, we expect strong media coverage on the topic during the fall season.

Publication: Budapest Business Journal
Date: March 1, 2004

Studies propose making adult education more practical

The outdated curriculum of Hungary’s vocational and adult training courses may harm the country’s economic competitiveness, according to surveys conducted recently. “There is a gap between the local education system and the actual needs of the economy,” said Les Nemethy, a board member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hungary (AmCham). “At a time when Hungary strives to attract investments producing more added value, local education should be more market-responsive, rather than administratively controlled,” he added.

Nemethy spoke to the local press last week while introducing AmCham’s new position paper on the shortcomings of the local education system.

According to the study, which results from a survey of AmCham’s over 600 members, the outdated curriculum of training programs may result in investors turning to other countries in search of employees with the proper skills.

Among the major causes of problems, the study highlights a low level of education-related spending by the state and limited cooperation between schools and the business community.

“In the early ‘90s, 6.5% of the country’s GDP was spent on education,” Nemethy said. “Now it is dangerously low, around 4.5%, which is much lower in real terms than the EU average of 4.9%,” he added.

In order to improve the quality of training at schools, the study suggests facilitating the development of longer internship programs for students, and the incorporation of business education into curricula.
AmCham members originate from 22 countries and represent combined local investments of more than $17 billion. This figure accounts for approximately 60% of Hungary’s foreign direct investment. Getting up to speed A survey on vocational training conducted by the Hungarian-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce (MNIKK) last year, surveying 200 firms, yielded a similar conclusion.

“The training programs and the equipment used by schools are outdated, and no foreign language teaching accompanies the programs,” the study says.

The study recommended wider adoption of “dual training,” meaning that students should spend only 30% of their training time at the school, and 70% working as paid interns at a company.

“Currently, the length of internship programs is four weeks, which is not enough for anything,” said Mária Huber, responsible for training at the chamber. “We would support having up to a full year of paid internship. This would enable students to get a real insight into an area, and firms to recruit trained people easily,” she said.

In order to facilitate internship programs, the government has increased related tax incentives. As of this January, companies employing interns can deduct up to 20% of the minimum wage from their tax base. Previously, this amount was fixed at HUF 6 000.
8.3 Events

AmCham Events, featuring prominent speakers from Hungary and abroad, attract, apart from the interest of the business community, the attention of the press as well. Our events received welcome coverage from a wide range of leading nationwide and regional publications (the Budapest Sun, Elite, Interfax, Weekly Report, Komárom-Esztergom Megyei Hírlap, Magyar Hírlap, Magyar Nemzet, Metro, MTI, Napi Gazdaság, Népszabadság, Világgazdaság, etc.)

Publication: MTI-Eco
Date: February 26, 2004

Finance Minister Draskovics addresses AmCham
Budapest, February 26, 2004 (MTI-ECONEWS) - The Hungarian economy is fundamentally strong, exports have been rising and economic growth will be more dynamic this year, but the general government deficit and state spending must be curbed, Finance Minister Tibor Draskovics said at an event organised by the American Chamber of Commerce in Budapest on Thursday.

Mr Draskovics said the general government deficit, the current account deficit and the "deficit of credibility" must be reduced. In an effort to improve credibility and address economic problems, the government must stick to three principles: predictability, consistency and stability.

Mr Draskovics promised that the suggestions of the business sphere would not fall on deaf ears at the Finance Ministry.

"I came to here to offer an alliance between the government and the business community. This is an alliance which will help create a successful, growing and stable Hungarian economy," he said.

The government will begin reducing government along with government spending, Mr Draskovics said, adding that independent experts would be commissioned to determine the efficiency of the different institutions financed by the budget.

"Although the private sector underwent significant changes over the last ten years, the public sector has remained the same and is now in need of restructuring," Draskovics said. In order to make changes, the government should use similar methods as in the business sector, both increasing efficiency and productivity.

Mr Draskovics also promised that the government would assist the business sector with certain changes to the country’s sales tax. He announced that he had proposed amendments to regulations that would allow financial sector companies to outsource without any additional VAT burden. The proposed amendment will have to be approved by Parliament, he said.
8.4 Charity

Another aspect of AmCham which receives (and deserves) a place in the press is its Foundation. AmCham Members donate to children in need very generously each year through the AmCham Foundation. Stories about this activity were deservedly picked up and carried by many local and national newspapers, like the Budapest Sun, Budapesti Nap, Fejér Megyei Hírlap, Hajdú-Bihar Napló, Metro, MTI, Napló (Veszprém), and Népszabadság.

Publication: Budapest Sun
Date: April 1, 2004

AmCham aid

The American Chamber of Commerce (AmCham) Foundation has reacted to a recent tragedy which affected the children’s home in Velence on March 19 by pledging money to put the children back on their feet.

In a mere three hours, more than 200 children lost their home due to fire, though none were injured thanks to the efforts of volunteers, teachers, fire brigade and the town municipality.

The children’s home has several buildings and institutions that were burnt down.

This includes four children's and students' homes, where children under state care live, and where some also go for daycare.

Most of these children are mentally handicapped. Damages are estimated to be between HUF 30-50 million ($145 000-243 000).

The Board of the AmCham Foundation has decided to give Ft5 million to support the reconstruction and provide the fastest possible return of the children to their permanent home.

8.5 Further Coverage

The above are of course just examples related to some of the most prominent activities of the Chamber. Further presence in the press ranged from articles dealing with investments to articles on various economic subjects, where the representatives of AmCham were asked to offer their comments and views on a specific issue. At times, AmCham’s other activities were covered directly. Examples range from the Healthy
Workplace Program to an interview with AmCham’s Executive Director Péter Fáth. AmCham was also mentioned as an example in numerous articles, as well as in articles covering Hungarian-U.S. relations.

Publication: Metro  
Date: April 21, 2004

The number of healthy workplaces is on the increase

The agreement that AmCham Hungary, the Joint Venture Association and the Ministry of Health signed on Tuesday is part of an initiative to create healthy workplaces.

As part of the program, companies can apply for grants to support them in creating a healthy working environment, as well as awards for those doing the most for their employees’ health. The tenders will be announced in May.

Publication: MTI-Eco  
Date: March 25, 2004

US ambassador touts new American business investments in Hungary

The US company Beldon Cable will relocate its data transfer cable factory from the Netherlands to Hungary, US ambassador to Hungary George Herbert Walker announced at an AmCham business lunch on Thursday.

Mr Walker said that General Electric and Alcoa are both planning to continue expanding in Hungary. A total of six US companies have set up or begun construction on services centres in Hungary. These will provide jobs for 2,000 people.

Mr Walker also announced that the Texan firm National Instruments is planning further developments at its factory in Debrecen (Northeast Hungary). The factory in Debrecen accounts for 50pc of National Instruments' revenue.
9. LIST OF MEMBERS
AS OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2004

9.1 Patron

[Logos of various companies including ABB, nextiraOne, Vodafone, AES, OPel, SAP, ALCOA, ORACLE, Masterfoods, EDS, IBM, T-Mobile, McDonald's]
9.2 Corporate

- 3M Hungária Kft.
- Abbott Laboratories (Hungary) Kft.
- Accenture Kft.
- AEGON Magyarország Általános Biztosító Rt.
- Agribrands Europe Hungary Rt.
- Ahrend s.r.o.
- ALCOA Wheel Products Europe
- Allianz Hungária Biztosító Rt.
- American Airlines / Tensi Aviation Ltd.
- American Express Hungary Ltd.
- AT&T Global Network Services Hungary Ltd.
- Atel Csepeli Áramtermelő
- Aventis Pharma Kft.
- AVNET Kft.
- AVON Cosmetics Hungary
- Axelero Internet Szolgáltató Rt.
- Ballantine’s Hungary Kft.
- Bankár Holding Rt.
- Baxter Hungary Kft.
- Beneficial Rt.
- Berecz & Andrékő Linklaters
- BNP Paribas Hungária Bank Rt.
- Bristol-Myers Squibb Kft.
- British Airways
- British American Tobacco Hungary
- Brown-Forman Magyarországi Fióktelep
- Budapest Bank
- Budapest Marriott Hotel/Millennium Court
- Budapesti Elektromos Művek Rt.
- Carlson Wagonlit Travel
- Caterpillar Hungary Ltd.
- Central European Franchise Group
- Central-European International Bank Ltd.
- CFE Hungary Építőipari Kft.
- Cisco Systems Magyarország Kft.
- Citibank Rt.
- Coca-Cola Beverages (Magyarország) Kft.
- Coca-Cola Magyarország Szolgáltató Kft.
- Colgate Palmolive
- Columbian Tiszai Carbon Ltd.
- Computer Associates International
- Corinthia Hotels Budapest
- Danubius Hotel Management Rt.
- Danubius Rádió
- Deloitte Üzletviteli és Vezetési Tanácsadó Rt.
- Deutsche Bank Rt.
- DHL Magyarország Kft.
- Diageo Business Services Kft.
- Dow Hungary Chemicals Ltd.
- Dreher Sörgyárak Rt.
- Dresdner Bank (Hungaria) Rt.
- DuPont Magyarország Kft.
- E.ON Hungária Rt.
- EC Harris (Hungary) Kft.
- Economist Intelligence Unit
- Electro World Magyarország Kft.
- EMA-POWER Kft.
- EMC Magyarország Kft.
- Ernst & Young Tanácsadó Kft.
- Erste Bank Hungary Rt.
- Escort Defense Service Ltd.
- Euromedic International Kft.
- Europapier Hungária Kft.
- Euroweb Üzleti Kommunikációs és Internet Szolgáltató Rt.
- EXEL Szállítmányozási Kft.
- ExxonMobil Hungária Kft.
- Fisher Rosemount Magyarország Kft.
- Flextronics International Ltd.
- Forever Living Products Hungary Ltd.
Four Seasons Hotel Gresham Palace Budapest
Fresenius Medical Care Magyarország Egészségügyi Kft.
Ganz Meter Company Ltd.
Graphisoft R&D Rt.
Guardian Magyarország Kft.
HBO Holding Kft.
Hewlett-Packard Magyarország Kft.
Hilton Budapest
Hilton Budapest WestEnd
Honeywell Kft.
Hungarocamion Rt.
ING Bank Rt.
Intel Hungary
Inter.net Hungary Ltd.
InterContinental Budapest Szálloda Rt.
Intercooperation Marketing és Disztribúciós Rt.
Inter-Európa Bank Rt.
International Herald Tribune
Internet Securities Magyarország Kft.
Intrum Justitia Kft.
INVITEL Távközlési Szolgáltató Rt.
Jabil Circuit Magyarország Kft.
Janssen-Cilag Kft.
Johnson & Johnson Kft.
JohnsonDiversey Magyarország Kft.
KDB Bank (Hungary) Ltd.
Kempinski Hotel Corvinus Budapest
Kereskedelmi és Hitelbank Rt.
Keystone-Inc. Kft.
Kész Kft.
KLM Royal Dutch Airlines
Kodak Kft.
Komáromi és Erős Ügyvédi Iroda / Squire, Sanders & Dempsey LLP.
KPMG
Kraft Foods Hungária Kft.
Lay’s Hungary
Lear Corporation Hungary Kft.
LeasePlan Hungária Rt.
Leo Burnett Budapest
Lilly Hungaria Kft.
Lindab Butler Kft.
Magyar Posta Rt.
MALÉV Hungarian Airlines
Martonyi és Kajtár Baker and McKenzie Attorneys at Law
Matáv Rt.
McCann-Erickson Budapest
McKinsey & Company, Inc.
Medicover Egészségközpont Rt.
Microsoft Magyarország
MINOR Rendszerház Rt.
MKB (Magyar Külkereskedelmi Bank Rt.)
MOL Hungarian Oil and Gas Plc.
National Instruments Europe Kft.
Nestlé Hungária Kft.
Nike European Operations Netherlands B.V. Magyarországi Fióktelepe
Nokia Hungary Kft.
Novell Magyarország Kft.
NYK Logistics (Hungary) Kft.
Office Depot Hungary Kft.
OTP Bank Rt.
Paks Nuclear Power Plant Ltd.
Pannon GSM Telecommunications Rt.
Pepsi - Cola Company Hungary (FÁÚ Rt.)
Philip Morris Magyarország Kft.
Philips Hungary Kft.
Polar Mobil Kft. - SAAB Közép-Kelet Európai Regionális Központ
Porsche Hungaria Kereskedelmi Kft.
PricewaterhouseCoopers Kft.
Procter & Gamble
Radisson SAS Birdland Resort & Spa
Raiffeisen Bank Rt.
Remy Automotive Hungary Kft.
9.3 Business

- 31. ÁÉCS Kft.
- A.O. Smith Kft.
- AAM Vezetői Informatikai Tanácsadó Rt.
- ACCURAPID Translation Services, Inc.
- Achieve Learning Hungary Kft.
- ACI Medical Center Kft.
- Active International (AMS-CE/Group '92 H. Kft.)
- Adecco
- Adoc-Semic Kiadói és Nyomdai Kft.
- Aerolpex Kft.
- AFL - Hungary Kft.
- AFT Európa Kft.
- AGS Worldwide Movers
- AHICO-First American-Hungarian Insurance Co.
- AIG / Lincoln Central Europe
- AITIA Informatikai Rt.
- Aktív Faktorház Rt.
- Allianz Specialised Advisory Central Europe Kft.
- AM Design Kft.
- Amco Kft.
- American Appraisal Hungary Co. Ltd.
- Amrop Hever Group / Kohlmann & Young
- Amway Hungária Marketing Kft.
- Andrássy Hotel és Residence Izabella
- AP Aqua Rt.
- AP International Magyarország Kft.
- APT Vezetési Tanácsadó Kft.
- Aquastella Kft.
- ATCO Europe Ltd.
- Ateliers Pro Arts / A.P.A!
- Avantgarde Group Kft.
- AVAYA Hungary Ltd.
- AVIS/AGO Ltd.
- AXN Magyarország Kft.
- ÁNIT Management & Investment Consulting Ltd.
- Bank Hapoalim Hungarian Representative Office
- BAUSTAR Építőipari Szolgáltató és Kereskedelmi Kft.
- Bax Global Ltd.
- Bán, S. Szabó & Partners in cooperation with Gleiss Lutz
- BBDO Budapest Rt.
- BDO Kontroll Auditing and Tax Consulting Ltd.
- Berlitz Hungary Kft.
- Biggeorge's International Real Estate Consulting
- Bloomberg News
- Blue Business Interior Ltd.
- BMC Software Magyarország Kereskedelmi Kft.
- BpIYP Kiadó Kft.
- BPP International Hungary
- Brokernet Kft.
- Brunswick Hungary Llc.
- Budapest Business Journal
- Budapest Economics Ltd.
- Budapest Ragtime Band
- Business Lease Hungary Kft.
- Calyon Bank Magyarország Rt.
- Canor-International Kft.
- Cascade Engineering Europe
- Chemol Travel Utazási Iroda Kft.
- Clearwater Kft.
- CMA International (Hungary) Kft.
- Colliers International (Hungary) Ltd.
- Comgenex Inc.
- ConAction
- Concordia Szervezet- és Vezetésfejlesztési Kft.
- Continuum Consulting Bt.
- Copy General Kft.
- Corstjens Worldwide Movers Group Kft.
- Credit Suisse Life & Pensions Pénztársolgáltató Rt.
- Crossroads Advisors Kft.
- Cushman & Wakefield Healey & Baker Kft.
- Czipin & Proudfoot Tanácsadó Kft.
- Dale Carnegie Hungary Ltd.
- Dataplex Telekommunikációs Kft.
- DBM Hungary / Career Consultants Kft.
- DDB Budapest Kft.
- Delphi-Calsonic Hungary
- DEVELOR Tanácsadó Rt.
- DHL Nemzetközi Szállítmányozó és Logisztikai Kft.
- Dialog Plusz Számítástechnikai Kft.
- Docu Guard Kft.
- Dr. Pendl & Dr. Piswanger Int. Management Consulting Co.
- DTZ Hungary Kft.
- Duax Kft.
- Dun & Bradstreet Hungária Kft.
- Duna Elektronika Kft.
- EastEuroCo Kft.
- EETEK Hungary Kft.
- EF&EC Kft.
- Égon Zehnder International Kft.
- E-Group Magyarország Rt.
- El Paso Hungary Ltd.
- Elanders Hungary Kft.
- Emerson Process Management Kft.
- Emil Frey Import Kft.
- Entazisz Építőipari Fővállalkozó és Kivitelező Kft.
- Equality Consulting Ltd.
- Equant Hungary Kft.
- Equis Ingatlananácsadó Kft. / Equis Real Estate Consulting Ltd.
- ERECO Rt. (East-European Recycling and Environment Company)
- Estée Lauder Kereskedelmi Kft.
- EUrent Rent a Car Ltd.
- EuroMACC Kft.
- Euronet Banktechnikai Kft.
- Euro-Phoenix Ltd.
- Exact Hungary Ltd.
- Expeditors International Hungary Kft.
- Flott Invest International Ltd.
- Flying-Cargo Hungary Kft.
- Fox Autorent Kft.
- Főszer-Elektroprofil Kft.
- FreeSoft Rt.
- Garrison Group
- Gazella Kiadó
- Gibbs - Hungary Die Casting Kft.
- GlaxoSmithKline Kft.
- Gold Record Music Kft.
- Grafton Ltd.
- Greater Grace Christian Academy
- GTS-Datanet Távközlési Kft.
- Gundel Étterem
- H. Neumann International Management Consultants
- Hamilton International Tőzsdeügynökség Rt.
- Harbor Ipari Ingatlanfejlesztő Kft.
- HAY Group Kft.
- Hayhurst Robinson in Association with Mátrai Law Office
- Heliopharma Ltd.
- Hill and Knowlton Communications
- Hill International
- Holstein Genetika Kft.
- Horwath Consulting Kft.
- HR-COM Kft.
- HS Games Rt.
- HT Direct Kft.
- Hungarian Interim Management Kft.
- i-Cell Informatikai Fejlesztő és Szolgáltató Kft.
- Ideal Trade Kft.
- IDG Hungary Kft.
- IFUA Horváth&Partners Kft.
- IMMOMBILITAS Ingatlanforgalmazó Kft.
- Intercargo Hungary Kft.
- Interdean Hungária Nemzetközi Költöztető Kft.
- Interfax News Agency
- International Finance Corp.
- International Title s.r.o.
- Internationale Sonderbeilagen Magyarország Képviseleti Kft.
- Investlife European and Transatlantic Capital Investment Co. Ltd.
- is:energy Hungary Kft.
- ITT Flygt Kft.
- IVG Hungária Kft.
- Jádi-Németh Ügvédi Iroda in Association with Haarmann Hemmelrath
- Jones Lang LaSalle Kft.
- Juventus Radio
- K+F Kutatás-fejlesztési Tanácsadó Központ Kft.
- Karenowa Ltd.
- Kálmán, Szilasi, Sárközy & Partners Law Offices
- Kelen Hospital / Kórház
- Kirowski Fejlesztő és Szolgáltató Részvénytársaság
- Korn / Ferry International
- Köves és Társai Ügyvédi Iroda Clifford Chance Solicitors
- Kurt J. Lesker Company Central Europe
- KÜRT Computer Systemhouse Co.
LANTOS Financial Consulting & Foreign Trading Co. Ltd.
Lapcom Kft. (The Budapest Sun)
LicensePro Kft.
Linrea’S Ltd.
Logica Ltd.
Loranger Ipari Kft.
Malenco Ltd.
Malév Air Tours Ltd.
Marketlink Kft.
Marsh Kft.
Mastercard Europe Sprl Hungarian Representative Office
MD Consulting Hungaria Kft.
Medtronic Hungary Ltd.
MemoLuX
Menlo Worldwide Magyarország Kft.
Metrum Könyvszakértő Kft.
Mécs and Partners Kft.
Millward Brown Hungary Kft.
Miss Models Model Agency
Monor Telefon Társaság Rt.
Monsanto Kereskedelmi Kft.
Montana Information Technology and Communications Inc.
Motorola Kft.
MSD Hungary Kft.
MTG Metro Gratis Kft.
Multi-Lingua
Nagy és Pintér Law Office Hogan & Hartson
Nagy és Trócsányi Ügyvédi Iroda
Nemzetközi Magánkórház
NETI IT Consulting Ltd.
Neumann & Partners Vezetői Tanácsadó Kft.
Next - Consulting Személyzeti Tanácsadó Kft.
OCÉ-Hungária Kft.
Office Art and Design Kft. /Herman Miller/
Ogiva Informatikai Bt.
Olympus Hungary Kft.
ONLINE Üzleti Informatika Rt.
Oppenheim és Társai Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer Ügyvédi Iroda
Optik-Med és Bársony Lézer Centrum
Optimum4 Tanácsadó Iroda Kft.
Ormai és Társai CMS Cameron McKenna
P.U.B. Kft.
PanTel Telecommunications and Communications Company
PDI Hungary Ltd.
Personal Best Amerikai-Magyar Társaság
Petruzzi Kft.
Pfizer Kft.
P-Invent Kft.
Pioneer Hi-Bred Termelő és Szolgáltató Rt.
PKF Könyvvizsgáló Kft.
PMC Hungary Kereskedelmi Képviselete
PMD Kft.
Pogo Hungary Ltd.
Process Solutions Financial and Accounting Service Ltd.
ProfiPower Kft.
ProLogis Hungary Management Kft.
Rába Automotive Group
Reader's Digest Kiadó Kft.
Reál Group Cégcsoporth: Reál Véd Kft., Reál Group Consulting Kft.
Recruitment International
Réczicza White & Case LLP
RÉGENS Informatikai Rt.
RIM Hungária Kft.
Rio Grande Utazási Iroda / Greentrade Kft.
Riss & Partners Ltd.
- Ronaqua Gyártó és Kereskedelmi Kft.
- Rosenberger Magyarország Kft.
- Róna & Társai Rt.
- Sasvár Kft.
- Scala ECE Hungary
- ScanSoft - Recognita Rt.
- SEI Magyarország Kft.
- Semilab Semiconductor Physics Laboratory, Inc.
- Simonyi & Tóth KKT.
- SINCORD Kft.
- Sláger Rádió
- Solvo Biotechnology, Inc.
- Spencer Stuart Management Consulting Kft.
- Steelcase S.A. Magyarországi Kereskedelmi Képviselete
- Stratis Vezetői és Informatikai Tanácsadó Kft. - META Group Hungary
- Subway Sandwiches
- Suli-Host Kft.
- Sun Microsystems Hungary
- Sylvan Hungária Kft.
- Synergon Informatika Részvénytársaság
- Szecskay Law Firm - Moquet Borde
- Szofi Algorithmic Research Kft.
- Tapasztó Optic Ltd.
- TARGET Hungária Kft.
- Technotrade Finance Kft.
- TeleMedia Kft.
- TESCO International Cooperation and Consulting Services Company Ltd.
- TEVA Hungária Kft.
- TIG-RES Vállalkozásfejlesztési Rt.
- TMP/Hudson Global Resources
- TNS
- TNT Express Worldwide Hungary Ltd.
- Toi-Toi Kft.
- Transearch Hungary Kft.
- Trans-Europe Consulting Kft.
- Traubi Hungária Rt.
- Trust Hungary Rt.
- UTB Envirotec Kft.
- UUNET Magyarország Kft.
- VAR Kereskedelmi és Szolgáltató Kft. / VAR Trading and Solutions Ltd.
- Virányos Klinika
- VISTA Travel Ltd.
- Vogel Burda Communications Kft.
- VSDC Tréning Központ Kft.
- Weber Shandwick / GJW Political and Communications Consulting
- Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
- World Class International Tanácsadó (Magyarország) Kft.
- Wrigley Hungária
9.4 Non-profit

- 3TS Venture Partners Direct Trade Representative Office
- AFS Hungary Intercultural Programs Foundation
- America for the Hungarian Culture Foundation
- American International School of Budapest
- Budapest Stock Exchange / Budapesti Értéktőzsde Rt.
- CEU Graduate School of Business
- Children Cancer Foundation
- Corvinus University of Budapest
- Demokratikus Jogok Fejlesztéséért Alapítvány
- East-West Management Institute
- Foundation for Limbless Children
- Foundation for the Technological Progress of the Industry (FTPI)
- Freedom House Kht.
- Fulbright Bizottság
- Habitat for Humanity International Europe & Central Asia
- Habitat for Humanity Magyarország Alapítvány
- Happy Kids International Kindergarten
- Harris Health Services Hungary
- Horvát Idegenforgalmi Közösség Magyarországi Képviselete
- Hungarian-American Enterprise Fund / Magyar-Amerikai Vállalkozási Alap
- IBS - Nemzetközi Üzleti Iskolafenntartó Kft.
- Institute of International Education
- International Management Services Ltd.
- International Women’s Club Association
- Junior Achievement Magyarország Alapítvány
- Magyar Befektetési és Kereskedelemfelügyeleti KHT.
- Matáv Hungarian Symphony Orchestra / Telecommunication Musical Foundation
- Nemzetközi Gyermekmentő Szolgálat Magyar Egyesület
- Nonprofit Information and Training Center Foundation
- ÖKO-Pannon Kht.
- Project Hope
- Robert Triffin-Szirák Foundation
- Summa Artium Culture Promoting Public Benefit Company
- The Association of Strategy Consultants in Hungary
- The Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe
- United Way Hungary
- WWF – World Wide Fund for Nature
- YFU Hungary
9.5 Individual

- Alroy, Adam Y.
- B. Szabó, Gábor
- Balassy, Péter
- Bálint, Charles A.
- Bartis, Bela
- Báti, Ferenc
- Bodnár, Zsigmond
- Case, Herbert G.
- Chen, Sherry
- Collison, Charles
- Corcoran, Edward
- Dadi, János
- Debreczeni, Sándor
- Dixon, Ronald L.
- Dobson, Chris
- Drumgoole, Thomas
- Erkel, Andráš
- Essősy, Zsombor
- Evans, Edward E.
- Farago, John
- Fehér, Kornél
- Fekete, Károly
- Feuertag, Ottó
- Fodor, Peter A.
- Fodor, Zsuzsa
- Futász, Dezső
- Futó, Judit
- Garba, Ilona
- Gifford, Jonathan
- Gortvay, István
- Grosser Lagos, Enrique
- Hasbrouck, Judith D.
- Horváth, Gábor
- Horváth, János
- Horváth, Róbert
- Jókay, Charles
- Kard, Aladár
- Kelen, András
- Keller, Lajos E.
- Keresztes, David
- Kertész, Magda
- Kocsis, Beatrix
- Lakatos, Ibolya Sophie
- Lax, Tamás
- Lenoci, James
- Liptay, Gábor
- Lucas, Scott
- Lynn, Douglas G.
- Madacsi, Paul A.
- Márai, Mária
- McKinley, Williams, Jr.,
- Nemeth, Geza
- O'Connor, Daniel
- Ország, Attila
- Páday, András
- Radnai, László
- Radványi, Ildikó
- Réthy, Sándor
- Sahbaz, Osman
- Simkó, Péter
- Spinder, Stephen
- Szabó, Monika
- Szávai, Paul
- Székő, András
- Szendrey, Gábor
- Szendrey, Silvia
- Szepesi, István
- Szujó, Zoltán
- Szurgy, Árpád
- Trizna, Júlia
- Vadász, Gaston
- Vara, Anikó
- Várkonyi, Attila
- Vilmányi, Ágnes
- Vizel, Péter
- Vlaskovits, Patrick
- Warsmann, Hubert
9.6 Honorary

- Bienerth, Gusztáv
- Bina, Steven
- Blinken, Donald
- Boone, Theodore S.
- Brinker, Nancy G.
- Bush, Edward J.
- Czirják, László
- Hinkle, Larry
- Huebner, Charles A.
- Knuepfer, Robert C., Jr.
- Kraft, Péter
- Sanders, Ronald and Sarah
- Shade, Michael J.
- Simonyi, András
- Sugár, András
- Szablya, Helen
- Tufo, Peter F.