

In Kooperation mit



RIDE INTO THE FUTURE – STYRIA TO THE SOUTHEAST USA

US EXPERTS

PETER HASSLACHER | AUSTRIAN TRADE COMMISSION NEW YORK

Dr. Peter Hasslacher is an international business professional with management experience in the private sector as well as at Advantage Austria. He is currently the Austrian Trade Commissioner in New York since 2021. He previously served as Head of our Offices in Slovenia, Bosnia & Herzegovina and Croatia. Peter holds a doctorate degree from Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration and is fluent in several Slavic languages.



Languages: German, English, several Slavic languages.

ELIOT LEADEM | BUSINESS RELATIONS MANAGER, AUTOMOTIVE, AUSTRIAN TRADE COMMISSION NEW YORK

Eliot assists Austrian suppliers and manufacturers in the automotive & mobility industries to gain a foothold in the U.S. market. At the Austrian Trade Commission in New York City, he is engaged in consulting, project management, and market intelligence tailored to enhance bilateral business relations between Austria and the United States.



He has worked at the Austrian Trade Commission for 2 years and counts previous work experiences with the Virginia Economic Development Partnership and Germany Trade & Invest. Dedicated to building a stronger trade corridor between the DACH region and the United States, Eliot is passionate to develop international businesses specifically on the East Coast. A dual-citizen of the United Kingdom and the United States, Eliot calls the state of South Carolina home and holds a Bachelor of Arts from Wake Forest University.

Languages: English, German

TYCHO H. E. STAHL, PARTNER AND PRACTICE LEADER, GLOBAL COMMERCE PRACTICE, ARNALL GOLDEN GREGORY, LLP IN ATLANTA, GA.

Tycho Stahl studied at Harvard University and Georgetown University, has been a lawyer for over 30 years, and represents over 140 companies outside of Germany and other Central European countries in the USA.

- Customer and supplier contracts / general terms and conditions
- Formation formalities / choice of corporate form
- Labour and visa law
- Dealing with local partners: joint ventures, support measures, company acquisition, distribution structures
- Isolation of market entry and operational risk from the parent company and shareholders; product liability



Languages: German, English

KEN WALSH | SENIOR COMMERCIAL OFFICER, U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE, U.S. EMBASSY VIENNA, AUSTRIA



Ken Walsh began his tenure as the Senior Commercial Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Vienna, Austria on August 16, 2023. In this role he is responsible for promoting U.S commercial interests in Austria and encouraging investment by Austrian firms in the U.S. market. He is also responsible for managing commercial activities in Slovenia via a partner post relationship with the Department of State.

Immediately prior to his current role, he was the Senior Commercial Officer in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania managing commercial affairs in this key east African trading partner. He served as Commercial Consul and Principal Commercial Officer in Dusseldorf, Germany from 2015 to 2020 covering key industrial sectors including the healthcare, manufacturing, and chemicals portfolios – all important industries to the German economy. Ken also served as Commercial Attaché in Moscow from 2011 to 2014. His portfolio of responsibilities included the vital Russian oil and gas and agricultural machinery sectors.

Ken began his career with the U.S. Commercial Service in 2008 serving in the St. Louis Export Assistance Center. Prior to the Department of Commerce, Ken spent 13 years in Washington, D.C. as a trade association executive with several major national and international trade associations.

During his career, Ken received the State Department's Superior Honor, Meritorious, and Franklin Awards. Ken is active in the community and was the President of the Rotary Club of Capitol Hill and a member of the Parish Council of St. Matthews Cathedral in Washington, DC.

Language: English

MARTA HAUSTEIN | SENIOR COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST, U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE, U.S. EMBASSY IN AUSTRIA

Sector Manager for Life Sciences, Environment, and Energy

Marta has more than 20 years of experience working internationally with private companies, regulators, governments, and associations to promote trade and investment between Austria and the United States. Her contributions include introducing many new products and technologies to the market, strengthening vital intellectual property protections in Austria, eliminating barriers to trade, and supporting Austrian start-ups and investors in the United States. Her work is regularly recognized, most recently with the prestigious Gold Medal Award of the U.S. Department of Commerce for Personal and Professional Excellence (2019). Marta has a master's degree in international relations from the University of Geneva, Graduate Institute, and a bachelor's degree in political science from California State University Fresno.



Languages: German, English

ANDREA WIMPISSINGER | COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST, U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE, U.S. EMBASSY IN AUSTRIA



Sector Manager for Advanced Manufacturing, Aerospace/Aviation, Automotive, Construction & Design, Defense, Infrastructure, Ports & Rail, Safety & Security

Andrea draws from over 20 years of experience in government agencies as well as the private sector working with trade promotion, sales, EU policies and international business development in Belgium, the USA and Austria. Her most recent position before joining the U.S. Commercial Service was at the Swedish Embassy in Vienna as a Trade, Culture and Media Officer. In the USA, she also engaged in coaching and consulting activities in the international business arena.

Andrea holds a Master's Degree in Business and Trade ("Mag. Handelswissenschaften") from the Vienna University of Economics and Business. Additional credentials include: Certified Professional Business Coach, Energy Leadership Index Master-Practitioner, California Realtor and Group Fitness Instructor.

Born in Sweden, she grew up in Portugal, Brazil, and Austria. She speaks German, English and Swedish fluently. In her travels and studies, French, Spanish and Portuguese also became part of her linguistic skills.

Languages: German, English and Swedish.

ROBEE SALLEGUE | COMMERCIAL SPECIALIST, U.S. COMMERCIAL SERVICE, U.S. EMBASSY IN VIENNA



Robee has been serving in the U.S. Commercial Service for nearly 17 years. She initially held the position of Budget Analyst and then assumed the role of Commercial Specialist, now covering industry sectors such as ICT, Travel & Tourism, Education & Training Services and Consumer Goods.

Prior to joining the U.S. Commercial Service, Robee worked as a remittance coordinator for the Vienna subsidiary office of a known Philippine financial institution Metrobank. She also dedicated two years for volunteer work in Botswana, Africa.

Robee earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Derby and completed a management training program in Cleveland, Ohio. She also completed professional development courses at Middlebury Institute of International Studies and Copenhagen Business School. Robee speaks English, German and Filipino fluently.

Languages: English, German and Filipino

STEFAN HARRIGAN | METRO ATLANTA CHAMBER

Stefan Harrigan is Senior Manager for Global Commerce with the Metro Atlanta Chamber (MAC) where he supports foreign owned enterprises with their U.S. market entry and establishment. Prior to MAC, Stefan worked with the Georgia Dept. of Economic Development and the U.S. Dept. of State to support trade and investment between the U.S. and Europe. Stefan studied at Leiden University in the Netherlands, the Collège d'Europe, and the Fletcher School at Tufts University.



Languages: German, English and Dutch.

SERGIO DOMINGUES | MANAGING DIRECTOR STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA EUROPE OFFICE



In January 2024, Sergio Domingues returned to South Carolina's Europe Office in the capacity of Managing Director. Since 1975, the South Carolina Europe Office has served as the official extension of South Carolina's leading economic development agency, the Department of Commerce. From Munich, Germany, Domingues and the team work to recruit new businesses and help existing business grow.

From 2018-2023, Domingues served as Managing Director of the State of Georgia's Europe office based in Munich, Germany where he was charged with overseeing business recruitment and retention efforts for mainland Europe while supporting the state's trade and export assistance efforts. From 2019-2021, Domingues served as President of the Council of American States in Europe (CASE) and led the overhaul and relaunch of this association. CASE was founded in 1971 to promote the United States as a destination for foreign companies, and membership is reserved only for U.S. states with official representation in Europe.

Starting in 2021, Sergio joined members from business, government, and academia on Georgia Tech Europe's Advisory Board in Metz, France and worked to support its efforts on the ground as it marked its 30th anniversary in Europe.

Sergio previously served as Deputy Managing Director of the State of South Carolina Europe Office (2012-2018) to support the state's business recruitment and marketing efforts while reinforcing its existing industry and trade initiatives.

In the U.S., Domingues held various positions within the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the Association of American Chambers of Commerce in Latin America and the Latin America Trade Coalition. In Germany, Domingues held positions with Germany Trade & Invest and Germany's federal parliament (Bundestag) while in Berlin and the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs and Media, Energy and Technology in Munich.

Languages: English, German, Portuguese and Spanish.