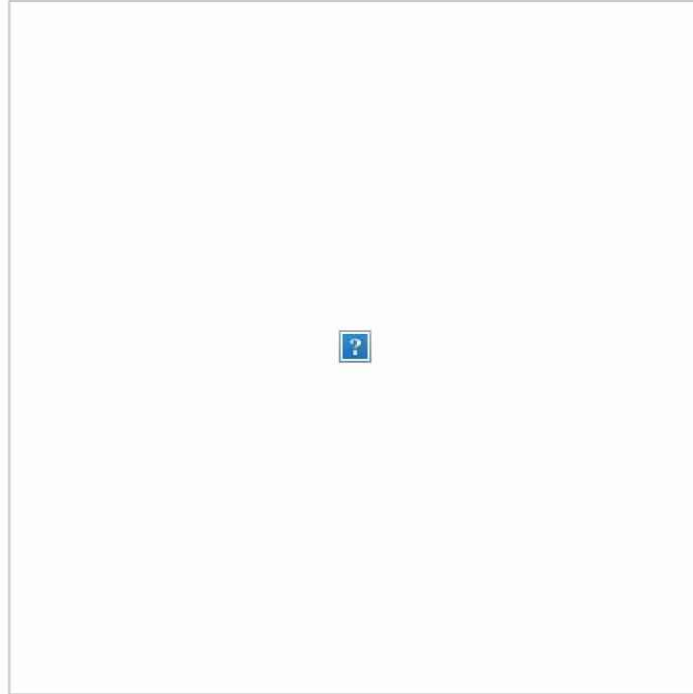
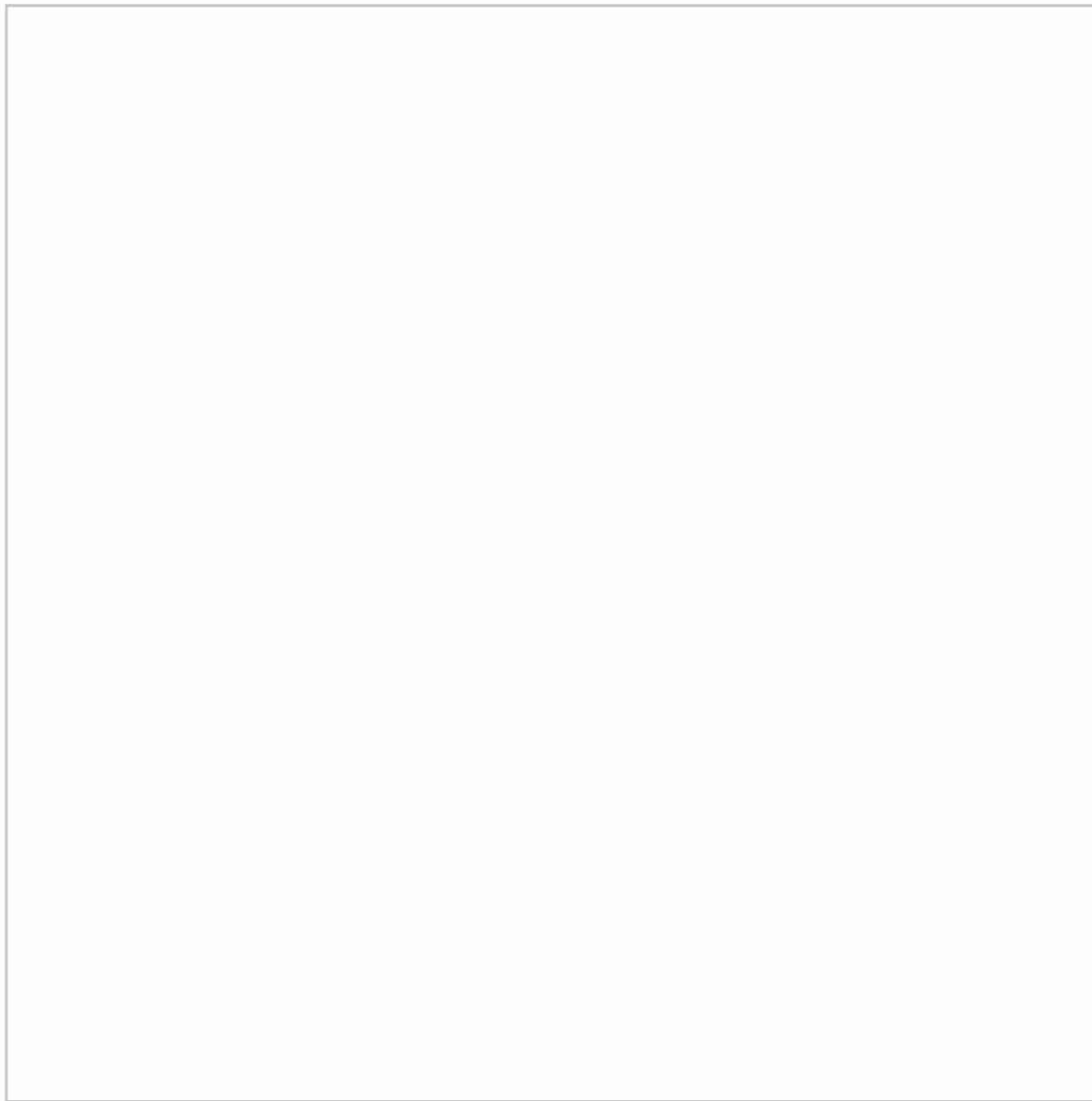


**From:** [Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Washington, DC](#)  
**To:** [Jayne Peters](#)  
**Subject:** The Delegation Debrief | March Edition  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 1, 2026 11:05:59 AM

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**Dear DGIC Friends,**

**Key insights, flagship convenings, and upcoming engagements are shaping the transatlantic business landscape this month. The latest [German American Business Outlook](#) highlights evolving business sentiment, investment priorities, and challenges facing companies operating across the U.S.-German corridor. We also invite you to contribute your perspective by taking part in the [AHK World Business Outlook survey](#), helping inform a global snapshot of business conditions.**

**In parallel, this month's German American Executive Summit brought together leaders from across the transatlantic community for timely discussions on economic cooperation, geopolitical developments, and future investment trends. Looking ahead, a series of upcoming programs will spotlight opportunities in the defense industry, global business expansion, and engagement with international financial institutions. Read on for key takeaways and ways to get involved.**

## Focus on Greater Washington

### **24,000 Jobs Supported by MD Economic Development Programs**

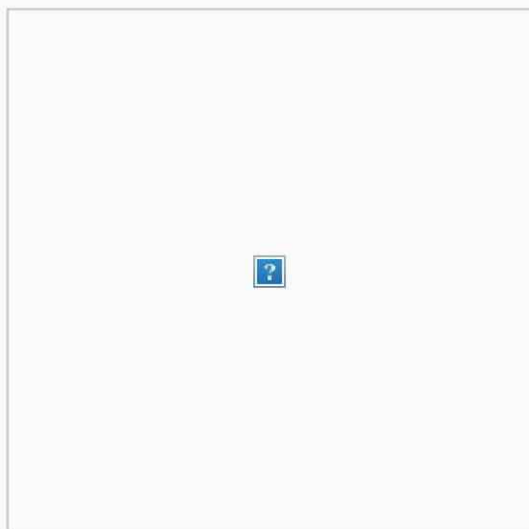
Governor Wes Moore announced that Maryland's Department of Commerce programs supported roughly 24,000 total jobs in FY 2025, including about 13,000 direct positions created or retained. More than 830 businesses participated in these initiatives, contributing nearly \$434 million in private investment across the state. Moore emphasized that these programs are driving business growth, supporting workers, and encouraging companies to expand within Maryland.

[Read more from Maryland Department of Commerce](#)

*Image courtesy of unsplash.com | Vitaly Gariev*



## Economic Policy Highlights



### **82% of German companies in the U.S. expect sales growth in 2026**

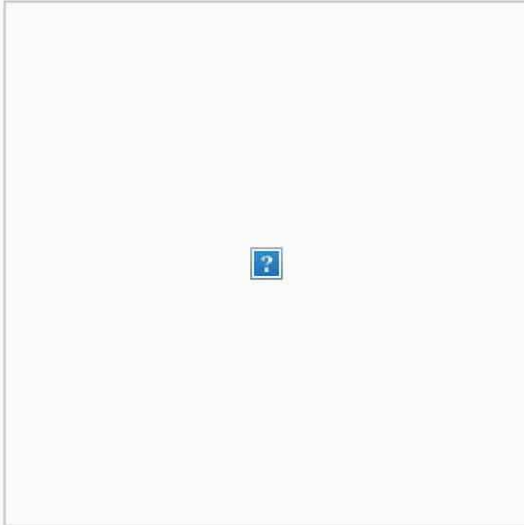
The newly released 2026 German American Business Outlook (GABO) offers a fresh snapshot of how German companies are navigating the U.S. market. A strong majority of firms anticipate sales growth in the year ahead, signaling renewed confidence despite a mixed performance in 2025. At the same time, the survey highlights a shift in business concerns, with political uncertainty and the financial effects of tariffs now topping the list of challenges.

Even amid these headwinds, German companies remain committed to expanding their footprint in the United States. A significant share plans to increase investment, with many preparing to commit substantial capital over the next three years.

Key priorities include workforce development and advancing digital capabilities, reflecting a focus on long-term competitiveness.

[View the Full 2026 GABO Results](#)

*Image courtesy 2026 GACC / Whitney Tucker*



## **AHK World Business Outlook**

The global economy is currently growing at only a moderate pace. Geopolitical tensions, increasing trade policy uncertainties and current conflicts – particularly in the Middle East – are increasing risks to international supply chains, affecting energy prices, and dampening investment activity. For many companies, this environment makes it difficult to plan their business activities.

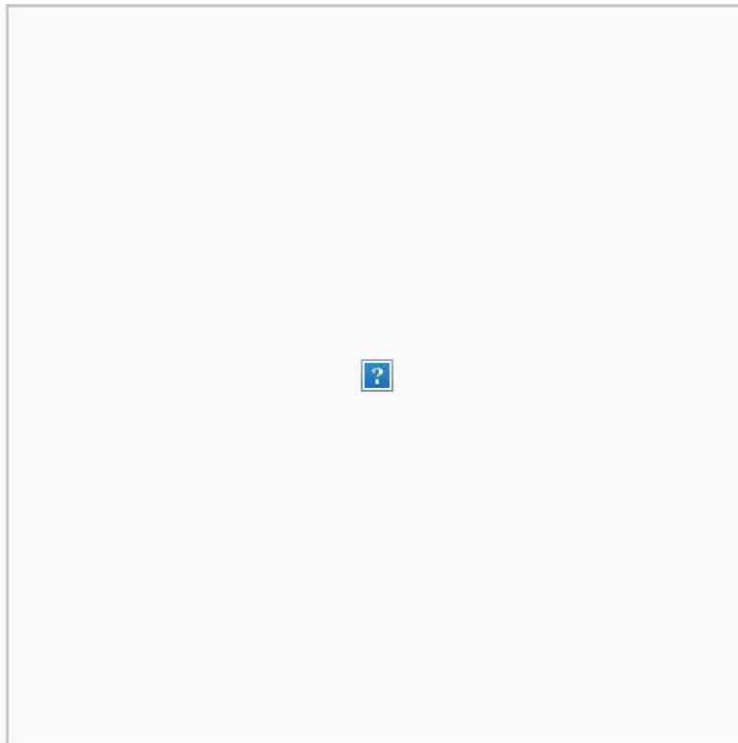
In order to better understand the current conditions, opportunities and challenges facing German companies abroad, the global AHK network regularly conducts a survey on the economic situation and future expectations. We cordially invite you to participate in this short survey. Your assessments will help us to gain a well-founded picture of the mood of the German economy abroad.

[Take the survey here. Participation takes only about five minutes and is possible until April 10.](#)

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Looking Ahead...

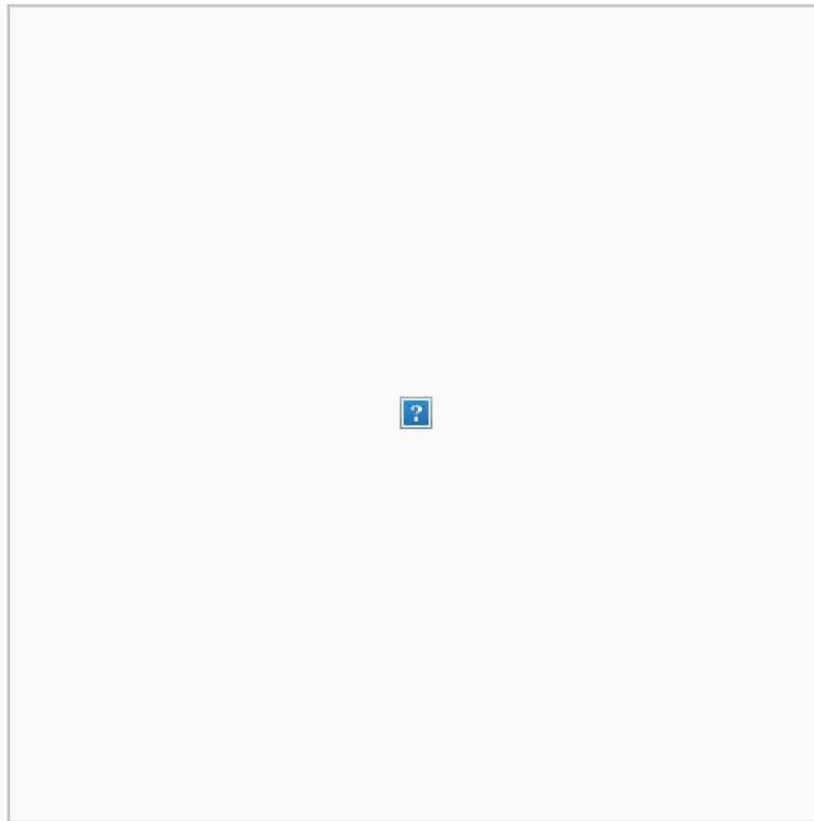


## **NRW Global Business April 17 | Washington, DC**

DGIC will organize a one-day program for NRW Global Business - the economic development agency of the German state of North Rhine-Westphalia (NRW) - on April 17, 2026, including an exclusive networking lunch with Head of the Investment Division at NRW.Global Business Michael Kordus. Contact us if you are interested in attending this event.

Invest in North Rhine-Westphalia, expand worldwide: The state-owned foreign trade promotion agency NRW.Global Business is the partner for all companies when it comes to investment projects and settling in North Rhine-Westphalia, developing growth markets and networking with international business partners. As Germany's leading business location, the state is in demand among foreign investors worldwide and is also home to numerous companies with global growth potential.

**For more information, email Daniela Berger-Huza**



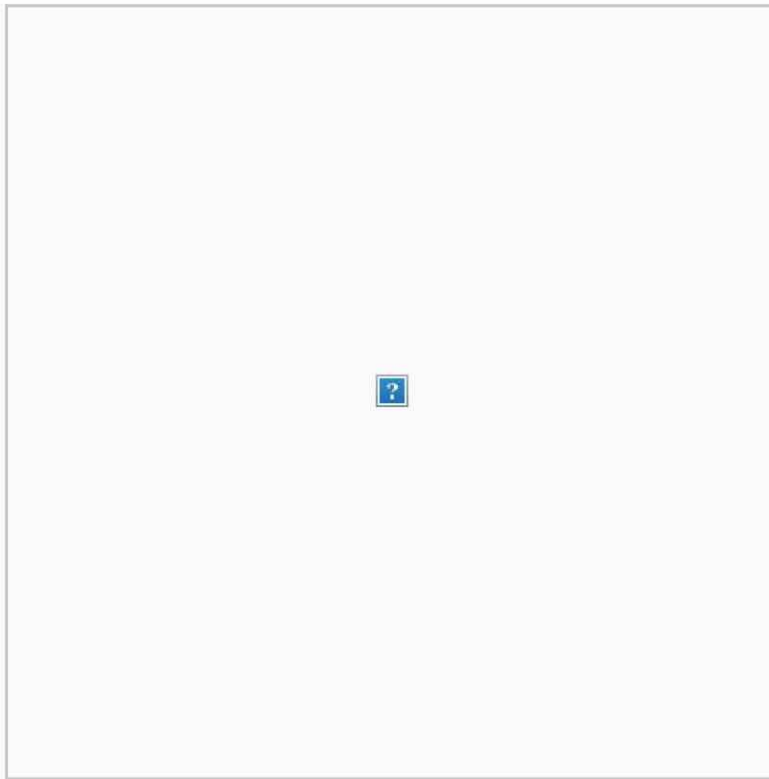
## **The WunderbarTogether Gala May 1 | Washington, DC**

Join us for the WunderbarTogether Gala on May 1, hosted by the German International School (GIS)! The WunderbarTogether Gala celebrates the remarkable partnership between Germany and the U.S., reflecting the spirit of the WunderbarTogether Campaign initiated by the German Federal Foreign Office and implemented by the Goethe-Institut in 2018. More than a celebration, the Gala is a powerful expression of the GIS mission: to educate and inspire globally minded students who bridge cultures, languages, and nations.

This year, gategroup will be honored with the Global Unity Award, celebrating the enduring partnership between global industry and international education. DGIC President & CEO Christoph Schemionek is also pleased to deliver welcome remarks at this year's Gala.

[About the Gala](#)

[Ticket Information](#)



## **Market Entry USA: Defense Industry May 18-22 | Washington, DC & Huntsville, AL**

The U.S. Business Development Mission is a targeted support initiative by the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (BMWE), designed for German companies offering technologies and solutions in the defense sector that are seeking to enter or expand within the U.S. market. The program is part of the “Security and Defense Industry” export initiative and is implemented under the Market Development Program for SMEs, with a primary focus on small and medium-sized enterprises.

There is particularly strong demand for solutions in areas such as sensor technology, electronics, cybersecurity, unmanned systems and drones, defense and aerospace technologies, communication systems, as well as advanced materials and manufacturing processes for military applications.

A central objective of the mission is to facilitate concrete business connections with potential U.S. partners. The program includes a business delegation visit to Washington, DC, and Huntsville, Alabama.

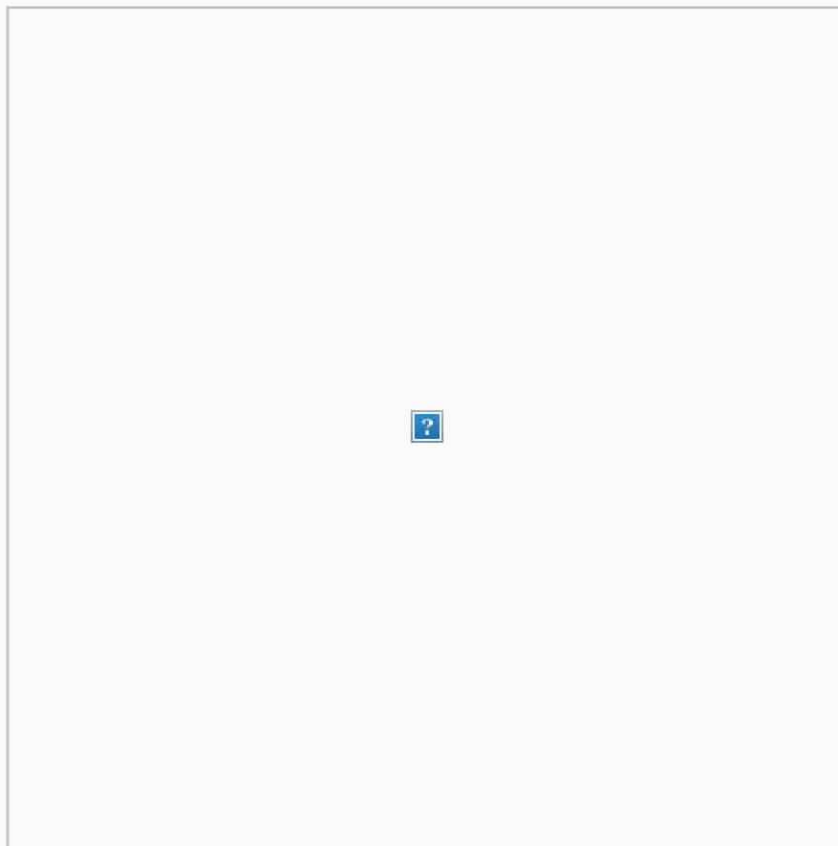
The initiative is being organized by the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in Washington, DC, together with the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern United States, in cooperation with SBS systems for business solutions GmbH. It is further supported by key German industry associations, including BDSV, BDLI, and UAV DACH, which provide technical expertise.

Through this initiative, BMWE aims to strengthen the international engagement of German companies by supporting the development and expansion of business relationships in the

United States. The program is designed to help identify market opportunities and establish a foundation for sustainable, long-term growth in the sector.

A total of thirteen German companies will take part in the mission.

[Meet the Companies & View More Information](#)



## **Business Mission: Project Opportunities with the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank June 15-17 | Washington, DC**

In partnership with Advantage Austria, we are pleased to organize an upcoming delegation mission to Washington, DC, centered on engagement with international financial institutions (IFIs).

This program will offer participating companies valuable insights into the procurement priorities, financing mechanisms, and strategic focus areas of institutions such as the World Bank Group and the Inter-American Development Bank.

Through curated meetings with procurement specialists and targeted networking opportunities, participants will gain a clearer understanding of how to position their capabilities for international development projects and strengthen their presence in global

infrastructure, sustainability, and innovation sectors.

The mission provides a unique opportunity to explore potential partnerships and receive practical guidance on navigating IFI procurement frameworks.

[More Information & Registration](#)

ICYMI



## **German American Executive Summit**

The German American Executive Summit convened leaders from across the transatlantic business community in New Orleans earlier this month, fostering meaningful

conversations, new connections, and forward-looking perspectives on German investment in the United States.

We were pleased to welcome Ambassador Jens Hanefeld of the German Embassy in Washington, DC, who underscored the critical role of transatlantic collaboration in an increasingly complex geopolitical environment. Matthias Amberg, Chairman of German American Chambers of Commerce, also reinforced the value of a strong and interconnected German American business network.

A central moment of the Summit was the unveiling of the latest German American Business Outlook (GABO), providing early insights into the sentiment and strategic priorities of German companies operating in the U.S. [You can view the GABO press release and full results on our website.](#)

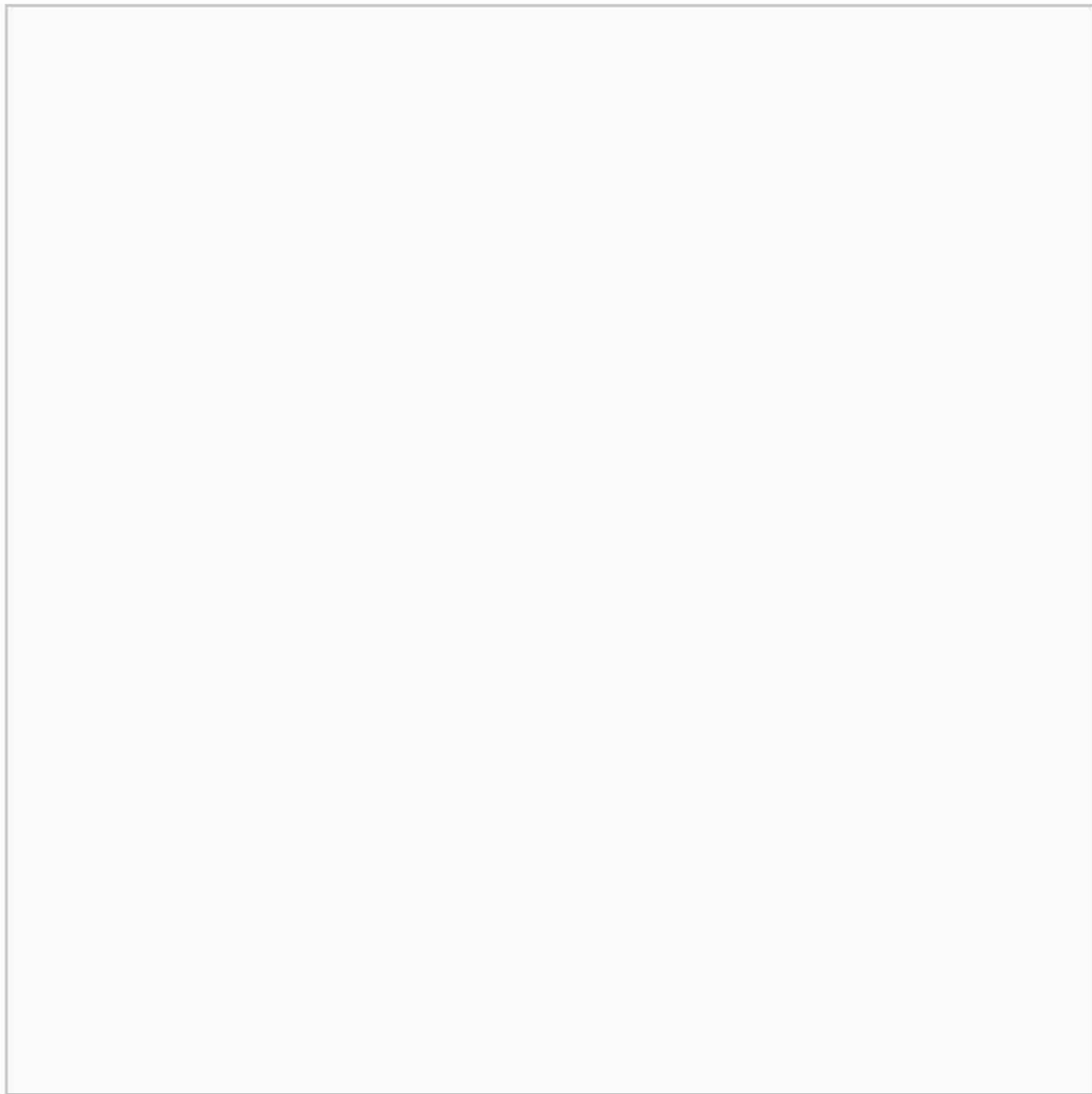
The event also recognized outstanding achievements through the German American Business Awards, honoring companies for excellence in:

- Innovation & Technology – [cellumation](#)
- Sustainable Growth – [Aurubis Richmond](#)
- Infrastructure and Connectivity – [DEUTSCHE LUFTHANSA AG](#)
- Investment of the year – [VETTER DEVELOPMENT SERVICES USA, INC](#)

Thank you to everyone who joined us in New Orleans and contributed to the dynamic exchange of ideas throughout the program.

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**Thank you to our Business Partners**



Learn more about our Business Partners:

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**Join DGIC's Business Partnership Program**

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**We'd love to hear from you! If your company has any exciting insights or topics you'd like us to cover in our newsletters, reach out to Jayne Peters!**

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