



German American
Chambers of Commerce
Deutsch-Amerikanische
Handelskammern

German American Chamber of Commerce
of the Midwest, Inc.

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Press Release

For immediate release

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German American Chambers of Commerce to honor outstanding transatlantic companies

Transatlantic business growing through companies excelling in innovation and services

Chicago, IL, October 05, 2016 – The German American Business Awards, extended by the German American Chambers of Commerce (GACCs), are one of the highest accolades in German American business, recognizing companies for their exceptional achievements in innovation and services. A total of five GACC Awards in two categories will be presented at our festive GACC Awards Gala at the InterContinental Hotel in Chicago on October 28.

Excellence in Services:

- Minodes GmbH
- Vetter Development Service USA, Inc.

Excellence in Innovation:

- FORCAM, Inc. (GACC Midwest region)
- Relution, Inc. (GACC New York region)
- VisiConsult X-ray Systems & Solutions GmbH (GACC South region)

“German-American business is growing steadily thanks to our dynamic network of outstanding companies. The GACCs serve as a catalyst for constant innovation and progress on both sides of the Atlantic, and we are proud to support business opportunities at the forefront of various industries,” says Martin Richenhagen, Chairman of the GACCs.

In the first award category, Excellence in Services, there are two winners this year as both stood out for providing services that add substantial value for their customers. Minodes GmbH prepares brick-and-mortar retailers for the continuously growing influence of e-commerce. Through analytical tools for the offline world in form of sensors, Minodes helps retailers to gain a better understanding of their in-store operations and their consumers, enabling them to enhance store productivity and efficiency. Minodes’ exceptional services have convinced clients to work with them on a global scale, including in the US, to implement best-practices across all markets and retail locations.



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Vetter Development Service USA, Inc. is a family-owned contract pharmaceutical development and manufacturing company. It has unique capabilities to assist companies in bringing new drugs to market, using their automated filling technology to package these new drugs with industry-leading quality control systems. Throughout the past decade, Vetter's supreme client-centricity has resulted in life-saving and life-improving products for both their US and global customers.

In the second award category, Excellence in Innovation, GACC Midwest will recognize FORCAM, Inc., a provider of best-in-class digital manufacturing solutions that offer greater resource efficiency, profitability, and productivity for manufacturers to compete in global trade. As a web-based company, they enable business leaders to access shop floor insights in real time from any location via any device. FORCAM's in-house Academy ensures proper understanding and usage of data to gain maximum productivity increases. The company is a key player in the field of Industry 4.0 that continues to enhance its smart manufacturing solutions.

Relution, Inc will be recognized as the most innovative company in the New York region. The company sells infrastructure software in the field of Enterprise Mobility Management and provides Chief Information Officers with one platform to coordinate all aspects of mobile app management. With their productivity-enhancing software and clients-first approach, the company is well positioned to drive innovation in the industry by continuously extending its product offerings based on new business requirements.

GACC South will honor VisiConsult, a global player in Non-Destructive Testing and Evaluation for quality control of industrial goods. As the leading supplier of X-ray based counter-terrorism devices for police and military forces operating in the field of bomb and ordnance disposal, the company helps to create a safer world. Offering high-end, customized inspection solutions, VisiConsult focuses on automation, new technologies and innovation. As such, the family-owned company developed an X-ray system that automatically counts surface mount device components on reels – a simple way for electronic manufacturers to save time and money in their assembly processes, while advancing their digitization and Industry 4.0 efforts.

“The GACCs are proud to honor these excellent companies, which underline the value German subsidiaries add to the US economy. 2016 was an exceptional year for transatlantic business, with outstanding events such as having the US as Partner Country at Hannover Messe, and we are proud to see our community generate jobs and growth both in Germany and the US,” says Mark Tomkins, President & CEO of GACC Midwest. As part of their mission, the GACCs are constantly striving to foster innovation through their progressive programs, such as the Smart Factory Industry Forum at the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute in Chicago, immediately preceding the Awards Gala.

In addition to the GACC Awards, GACC Midwest will honor their Chairman, W. David Braun, with the Niels Friedrichs Legacy Award for his loyalty, leadership and longstanding dedication to the German-American business community in the Midwest and beyond.



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About the German American Chambers of Commerce

The German American Chambers of Commerce (GACCs) with their main offices in Atlanta, Chicago and New York, as well as branches in Detroit, Houston, Philadelphia, and San Francisco, work together under the network of the GACCs. With approximately 2,500 members and an extensive national and international network, the GACCs are the first choice when it comes to business between the United States and Germany with their broad spectrum of activities and services. Other German American organizations and chapters are affiliated with the GACCs. Additionally, our liaison office in Washington, DC, the Representative of German Industry and Trade (RGIT), represents the interests of the German business community vis-à-vis both the US administration and other international organizations based in Washington, DC. AHKs are closely connected to the Chambers of Industry and Commerce (IHKs) in Germany. The umbrella organization of the IHKs is the German Association of Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK), which speaks for 3.6 million business enterprises in Germany and also coordinates and supports the AHKs. The German Chamber Network (AHK) provides experience, connections, and services worldwide through 130 locations in 90 countries.

www.gaccmidwest.org | www.ahk-usa.com

About the GACC Award Winners

www.minodes.com

www.vetter-pharma.com

www.forcam.com

www.relution.io

www.visiconsult.de