



German American  
Chambers of Commerce  
Deutsch-Amerikanische  
Handelskammern



VERBAND DER DEUTSCHEN MÖBELINDUSTRIE E.V.

# Transatlantic Interior Design & Furniture Forum

**MAY 12, 2:00 – 5:30 PM**

Location: GACC Midwest Office, 150 North Michigan Avenue, 35<sup>th</sup> Floor | Chicago, Illinois 60601

## Program

2:00 PM

### Welcome & Registration

2:15 PM

### Welcome Remarks

- **Mark Tomkins**, CEO @German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest
- **Dirk Schulz**, Deputy Consul General @German Consulate in Chicago

2:20 PM

### Keynote Presentation

„German Furniture Industry: Design Meets Quality“

- **Jan Kurth**, Managing Director @German Furniture Association
- **Alexander Oswald**, Head of Economics and Foreign Trade @German Furniture Association

2:35 PM

### Meet the Delegates: Short Presentations

- **Sturmius Neubeck**, Head of Sales @Feco
- **Oliver Kapp**, General Manager @Pareva
- **Michael Johner**, Owner & CEO @Konektra
- **Francesco Coccia**, Head of Sales @System 180

2:55 PM

### Panel Discussion: From Hybrid Work to Smart Spaces

„Key Market Trends in Office and Contract Furniture“

#### Panelists

- **Jan Kurth**, Managing Director @German Furniture Association
- **Anna Fesun**, Director of Business Operations North America @Walter K.
- **Byron Morton**, VP of Leasing @The MART
- **Cristiana Crin**, Founder / Principal Designer @Perpetuum Designers

Moderator: **Steve Kooy**, Director of Health and Sustainability @BIFMA

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3:40 PM

**Coffee Break**

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3:45 PM

**Meet the Delegates: Short Presentations**

- **Daniel Helmut Pinger**, CEO @TheNexxtWoodenCompany
- **Marc Reimer**, Sales Director Emerging Markets @Raumplus
- **Andreas Wimbert**, CEO @REME
- **Barbara Weinbaum**, Founder @Weinbaums

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4:05 PM

**Panel Discussion: Collaboration Before Contracts**

*"How Relationships Drive Projects in the U.S. Furniture industry"*

**Panelists**

- **Paul Heitman**, Director @Heitman Architects
- **Jeff Rothermich**, Managing Partner @Flat World Global Solutions
- **Muenuf Korkmaz**, Director International Project Development @EvansGC
- **Bertram Schwaderlapp**, Owner & President @TE&D Advisors

Moderator: **Abigail McFadyen**, Vice President @CBRE

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4:50 PM

**The GACC Office: A Tech-Enabled Hybrid Workspace in Action**

Office Tour with **Abigail McFadyen**, Vice President @CBRE

*Join us on the full project journey of the GACC Midwest office - from site selection to the creation of a modern, technology-enabled, flexible hybrid workspace tailored for collaboration and evolving workplace needs.*

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5:00 PM

**Open Networking Session**

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