

Transatlantic Cluster Initiative

About the Program



The Transatlantic Cluster Initiative brings together leading German and US industry clusters to promote knowledge exchange through content-driven encounters. The program is organized by the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest (GACC Midwest) and is supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy through the European Recovery Program.

The core program of the Cluster Initiative will connect German and American cluster organizations through targeted roadshow series in the US and delegation trips to Germany. The program establishes an exchange for best-practices focused on cluster management, internationalization, cluster policy, recruitment of a skilled workforce, technology development and transfer, and much more. As an increasing array of clusters join the Cluster Initiative, other opportunities for an ongoing dialog will be pursued.

Benefits of Program Partnership

- Establish transatlantic contacts to internationalize your cluster and its members/partners
- Benefit from best-practice exchange between cluster organizations in Germany and the US
- Gain visibility for your cluster: Your logo will be displayed on the Transatlantic Cluster Initiative website and the program's printed marketing materials (e.g. agenda, flyer) as well as via social media
- Opportunity to give a 10 min. introductory presentation at the U.S. roadshow on your cluster's capabilities
- Guarantee of five (5) spots on the delegation trip to Germany

Program Details

The ERP Program is funding a series of 4 programs, each focused on a different industry. Previous programs revolved around the topics of: Metalworking; Lightweighting Technologies and Materials; Health Care and Medical Technology, Industry 4.0, E-Mobility and Sustainability in Food Processing . Possible future themes to be addressed include: again Lightweighting Technologies and Materials, Transportation and Logistics; Health IT; Life Science; Start-ups, IT and Digitalization; Waste- & Water Management; and many more.

Each program will entail an industry specific roadshow in the US and a delegation trip to Germany. The roadshows in the US will include targeted industry events at 2-3 US locations, while the delegation trips will offer 10-12 select participants to explore Germany during an intensive 5-day trip.

Our Promotional Partners



U.S. Commercial Service supports the goals of this event, but does not endorse the specific products, or views of the participating organizations



Supported by

Program Partnership Details

GACC Midwest is looking to partner with representatives of US clusters, industry associations and economic development organizations. The partnership will entail the following:

- Host cluster representatives from Germany for at least one day of programming organized with GACC Midwest at partner location (host organization provides venue/marketing support for 80 people, AV, and catering)
- Additional financial support for the roadshow in the US (e.g. for transportation to site visits)

"The Transatlantic Cluster Initiative on the subject of "E-Mobility" facilitated excellent networking opportunities between leading German and American industrial clusters and market players in the mobility industry. The programs promoted not only the transfer of knowledge between delegation participants, but also with companies and institutions.

Northern Germany promoted itself as an outstanding mobility location in Europe. The Cluster Initiative enabled me to create substantial connections, promote international exchange and initiate approaches for collaborative projects."

Oliver Schrader, General Manager, Automotive Nord e.V.

Delegation Trip to Germany

- 5-day trip to Germany to explore the targeted industry
- Program fee: \$450*
- Participants are responsible for their own air fare to and from Germany.

**Program fee covers six (6) overnight stays, meals, cultural activities, entrance fees, and transportation as part of the program agenda while in Germany.*

"The GACC Midwest Transatlantic Delegation trip was a truly valuable experience for me. There is only so much that can be achieved through traditional research methods, yet first-hand experiences like these can make real differences in accelerating learning and business cycles.

Conversations I had with potential German partners and program participants are already proving very valuable. The US mobility industry needs more programs like this to foster partnerships and business opportunities to accelerate our progress."

Brandon Mendoza, Head of Product, New Mobility, Arity

About the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Midwest, Inc.

The German American Chamber of Commerce® of the Midwest (GACC Midwest), headquartered in Chicago with a branch office in Detroit, was founded in 1963. GACC Midwest is an integral part of the German Chamber Network (AHKs) with 140 offices in 92 countries around the globe.

Our continuing mission is to further, promote, and assist in the expansion of bilateral trade and investment between Germany and the United States, especially the Midwest. Our organization combines elements of a trade commission, a membership association, and a professional consultancy - quite a unique concept in international trade promotion.



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