BABA CEO Speaker Series: A Forum for Transatlantic Business Leaders

By Ben Cromer

BABA’s CEO Speaker Series events feature UK-US executives addressing key issues facing transatlantic business. On April 28, Craig Kreeger, Chief Executive of Virgin Atlantic Airways, provided the keynote address, “Trading Together Across the Pond: Growth, Innovation, and the Virgin Flair,” to an audience at the Airbus Experience Center in Washington.

In his remarks, Kreeger discussed his industry’s current business state and its role in greater UK-US relations, reinforcing that even when our markets fluctuate, there’s no denying that our economies and the trading we do across our regions will always remain strong.

[Continued on page 6]
From the President . . .

Dear Members:

BABA started 2016 by welcoming on post in January Her Majesty’s new British Ambassador Sir Kim Darroch. BABA executives were invited to meet with Sir Kim soon after his arrival and he confirmed the strength and importance of the Embassy and BABA relationship and welcomes our support on UK export targets.

We have already held a successful range of networking programs to benefit members and support UK and US transatlantic trade and investment. This included a Capitol Hill reception for the US Congressional UK and TTIP Caucuses; a Whisky Tasting social evening with Women in International Trade; our latest CEO Speaker series with Craig Kreeger, CEO of Virgin Atlantic; events for the UK Parliamentary Committee on TTIP and the UK House of Commons Defence Select Committee; and a Young Professionals social reception to meet the BABA Board of Directors.

At the same time our committees have been hard at work for members; for instance, our new Marketing and Business Development Committee is working to totally upgrade our Website as well as increase our social media coverage. Other committees, such as DATS, Trade and Policy, Financial Services, and Bioscience/Health/Pharma, have either organized recent events or are working on expanding and adding events. As always, we welcome and encourage members to join and participate in our committees.

I would like to finish by inviting everyone to attend our Members’ Appreciation Reception/Annual General Meeting on June 21, an important event on the BABA calendar.

So while we follow interesting developments in the US elections and the EU referendum, BABA will continue to hold appropriate programs for its members, encouraging members to attend/enjoy them as one of the many benefits of BABA membership.

Eamonn Cooney
President@babawashington.org

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Embassy Sees Washington Heating Up This Summer

Our summer is shaping up to be a busy one with several fantastic events already taking place.

First, the Invictus Games Orlando 2016 took place in Orlando, Florida. His Royal Highness Prince Harry was in attendance at the games. The Invictus Games are international sporting competition, bringing together more than 500 wounded, injured or sick armed services personnel and veterans from 14 countries including the UK and US. The games, held from 8 to 12 May, harnessed the power of sport to inspire recovery, support, rehabilitation, and generated a wider understanding and respect for those who serve their countries. For details, visit www.invictusgames2016.org.

Also in May, the British Embassy Open House, on Saturday 14 May, was a free, family-friendly event the Embassy hosts each year to offer visitors a rare look inside the Ambassador's Residence and Gardens. This year we celebrated the 90th birthday of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, the 70th anniversary of Winston Churchill coining the term “the Special Relationship,” and the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death.

EMBASSY NEWS

International Festival for Business Takes Flight in Summer 2016

What is IFB 2016? IFB (International Festival for Business) 2016 is a global marketplace for creating connections and doing deals. It brings together thousands of businesses from around the world for three weeks of events, networking, and deal-making.

Where does it take place? The festival takes place at Exhibition Centre Liverpool, a world-class venue situated in one of the most vibrant cities in Europe, from June 13-July 1. Why Liverpool? It is the perfect business destination with good communication and transport networks that makes it easily accessible from other parts of the UK as well as mainland Europe and beyond. It’s also a thriving port with long established links with trading partners from the rest of Europe, the Americas, Africa, and Asia and a cultural hotbed for music, sport and the performing arts.

Why attend? IFB2016 offers a range of opportunities — both formal and informal — for businesses to network and connect with one another. Amongst the most significant are the Business Club, the Business Brokerage Service, and Meet the Buyer. Business Club membership gives direct access to more than 15,000 registered members as well as a range of exclusive benefits, products, and services to aid companies in making the most of their participation at the festival. The festival is open to companies of any size from around Europe as well as further afield.

Raytheon Partners with Foundation to Offer Cybersecurity Scholarships

Raytheon Company (NYSE: RTN) and (ISC)2 Foundation will offer $90,000 in new scholarship programs and paid internships over three years to encourage women to pursue cybersecurity degrees.

“There is also a distinct gender gap between men and women when it comes to cyber career exposure and awareness,” said David Wajsgras, president of Raytheon’s Intelligence, Information, and Services business. “These new programs will encourage women to pursue exciting and challenging career opportunities in cybersecurity, which will strengthen both our economy and our national-security posture.”

Administered by the (ISC)2 Foundation, the annual Raytheon Women’s Cybersecurity Scholarship will award scholarships to two college students annually. Each scholarship will include a paid summer internship in Raytheon’s Intelligence, Information, and Services’ Cybersecurity and Special Mission area.

The (ISC)2 Foundation, the charitable trust formed by (ISC)2 in 2011, is a conduit for its members to empower students, teachers and the general public to secure their online life with cyber security education and awareness programs.

“The recent (ISC)² Global Information Security Workforce Study revealed a workforce gap in the information security field of 1.5 million in the next five years. We see that as an untapped market of potential information security professionals,” said (ISC)2 Foundation Director Patrick Craven. “With this partnership, the Foundation and Raytheon can actively support women who are focusing their studies on information security and give them the opportunity to gain valuable hands-on experience.”

For details about the scholarship program, visit www.isc2cares.org/scholarships/womens-scholarship.

For details about Raytheon, visit www.raytheon.com.

Sutherland Appoints Diversity Managers to Washington Office

Sutherland Asbill & Brennan LLP has appointed Tax Partner Vanessa A. Scott as the firm’s Chief Diversity Officer, and Lia J. Dorsey as the Director of Diversity and Inclusion.

Both Scott and Dorsey will be responsible for managing the firm’s continuing development and implementation of firm-wide strategic diversity initiatives and programs. Former Managing Partner James L. Henderson III will step down after four years as Chief Diversity Officer.

“We recognize that to provide our clients with the best solutions, it is imperative to build an inclusive environment that attracts and retains attorneys of the highest caliber,” said Sutherland Managing Partner Mark D. Wasserman. “These appointments underline our commitment to increasing diversity in the legal profession, and we are confident both Vanessa and Lia will steer us to continued success.”

Scott has more than 15 years of experience in employee benefits and matters related to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act. She is a former Chair of the Diversity Committee of the American Bar Association’s Section of Taxation as well as a former Chair of the Tax Section of the National Bar Association.

Dorsey previously served as Senior Manager of Client Service and Diversity at Sutherland, where she managed various firm-wide client service programs and initiatives that included developing and implementing several of the firm’s diversity and inclusion strategic initiatives.

To learn more about the firm’s diversity and inclusion efforts, visit www.sutherland.com.

PUBLICATIONS STAFF

Benjamin D. Cromer, Editor & Designer
Keith Harvey, Photographer

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Capitol Hill Reception for the UK Caucus/TTIP Caucus/All-Party Parliamentary Group

Featuring

HM Ambassador to the United States

Sir Kim Darroch

March 21, 2016


From left to right: Emonn Cooney, Sir Kim Darroch, and Mark Herlach.

Congressman Bill Keating speaks to guests while Congressman Wilson and Holding, along with Eamonn Cooney, look on.

From left to right: Representative Keating; Andrew Percy, MP; APPG; Representative Holding; Ambassador Darroch; Representative Wilson; and Eamonn Cooney.

Sir Kim (c.) with the the UK All-Party Parliamentary Group.

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers
Kreeger contrasted the strong UK-US economic ties to Virgin Atlantic’s joint venture (JV) with Delta Air Lines. “Our Virgin Atlantic and Delta joint venture is one such example of how companies are partnering together to disrupt traditional business models to help drive trade,” he said. He added that in the late ’90s, big airline alliances emerged, which was followed by the rise of low-cost airlines that are expanding beyond domestic routes to international travel.

In an era of fierce competition and consolidation, Virgin Atlantic saw the joint venture with Delta as “a new way to do business to maintain our footprint in the market. Now in our third year, the JV has bolstered our route network, bringing UK business and leisure travelers to 15 cities in the US and connecting them to over 200 destinations through Delta’s expansive network.”

From the transatlantic business perspective, Kreeger said the “Atlantic” in its name is never more relevant than today, given that transatlantic flights make up 70 percent of its business. In addition, the company is pleased with the success of its cargo business. As for the “Virgin flair” Kreeger referenced, he said “customers are at the heart of everything we do, and because of that, we continue to go out of our way to make their experiences that much more special. From a business standpoint, competition has forced us to be creative in the way that we run our business and find new ways to serve our customers.”

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers
Allison Shonerd, Derrick Walton, Emily Watson, and Karen Earhart, all with new member Western Union Business Solutions, with BABA President Eamonn Cooney (second from left).

Heidi and Quentin Whiteree (at left) with Ashley Craig and Kristy Balsanek.

Bob Stangarone and Caroline Harris (at left) from new member Stangarone & Associates with Carmie McCook and Stephen Poss (at right).

Heidi and Quentin Whiteree (at left) with Ashley Craig and Kristy Balsanek.

All BABA event photos can be viewed at [www.babawashington.org](http://www.babawashington.org)

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers
Burns Night Scotch Whisky Tasting

Hosted by

Arnold & Porter LLP

February 17, 2016

BABA and Women in International Trade (WIIT) held a joint event February 17 to enjoy a night of whisky tasting marking the annual celebration of Scotland’s national poet, Robert Burns. A variety of whiskies were offered from five different regions. On display were Glenmorangie, Auchentoshan, Aberlour, SpringBank, and Kilchoman. Guests learned about the associated characteristics and the key stages in the production process. Leading the presentation was Davida Connon, who was born and raised in Glasgow, Scotland, and became a Scotch Whisky Ambassador in December 2013. Since then she has been an enthusiastic whisky collector and runs a local scotch club, ScotchDC. It was a splendid evening and one we hope to repeat in the future!

All BABA event photos can be viewed at www.babawashington.org

Photos by Harvey & Harvey Photographers
Huckworthy Reports Recent Success Stories

Huckworthy LLC has just completed a busy season with a number of successful ventures. First, Boeing and Huckworthy have now been approved for the Department of Defense Mentor Protégé Program, which will result in continued product and service improvements for its government clients. The new agreement further consolidates the Boeing-Huckworthy relationship for the TRAVELLER line of products.

Huckworthy also was certified by the Small Business Administration’s HUBZone Program in the first quarter, allowing simplified purchasing for its government clients and greater access to its TRAVELLER line.

In addition, Huckworthy has signed partner agreements with US Space to become a technology and distribution partner for the TRAVELLER line. US Space has a long and trusted reputation working with DOD, intelligence, and civilian agencies, and the addition of Huckworthy’s TRAVELLER products further increases their ability to support them.

Finally, Huckworthy announced a major shake-up in the company’s pricing for TRAVELLER 4G-LTE, 3G, and Mesh Radio Tactical Networks, alongside its Tactical Wideband Antennas and Tactical Audio platforms.

“As Huckworthy continues to leverage the best in exclusive US and UK technologies to create integrated solutions for USG and the commercial sector, our relationships have allowed us to significantly reduce the end cost of these platforms – staying far ahead of the market in both value and performance,” the company said in a statement.

For more information on the company and its products, visit www.huckworthy.com.

Shakespeare Theatre Announces 2016-2017 Season

Shakespeare Theatre Company 2016–2017 season includes new debuts of both artists and works, as well as innovative adaptations and classic tragedies.

“This season is one of welcome debuts that I am delighted to share with our patrons,” says Artistic Director Michael Kahn. The 2016–2017 season opens with STC Associate Artistic Director Alan Paul making his Shakespeare debut helming the Bard’s most famous love story, Romeo and Juliet.

“Alan Paul gave us just a taste of his direction of Shakespearean verse this season with his extremely successful production of Kiss Me, Kate,” Kahn explained. “I’m certain his success directing musicals will yield a fresh take on one of Shakespeare’s most beloved titles.”

Next, taking the stage is the Tony® and Drama Desk Award-winning musical, The Secret Garden, written by Marsha Norman and Lucy Simon and directed by Seattle’s 5th Avenue Theatre’s Artistic Director David Armstrong. Kahn said this project follows on the heels of last year’s Women’s Voices Theater Festival.

“We want to continue the awareness that this festival offered,” Kahn explained. “The Secret Garden, written and composed by two talented female artists, will be our way of moving forward with the ideas of this season’s festival,” he said.

Mid-season, following its sensational Broadway and West End runs, Mike Bartlett’s King Charles III makes its regional theatre debut at STC under the direction of David Muse, Studio Theatre’s Artistic Director, and former STC Associate Artistic Director. In a world where the Queen is dead, and Prince Charles must take the throne, King Charles III transplants the dramaturgy of the Shakespearean history play to modern times and modern royalty.


For more information on the upcoming season, visit www.shakespearetheatre.org.

MEMBER NEWS

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BABA Event Listings, Committee Information, Photos & More!

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