



2009 ROUNDUP

As 2009 comes to an end, we want to thank you all for your involvement and participation in the Latin American Chamber of Commerce (Latcam).

The Chamber accomplished a number of key tasks in the past year:

- Launching of the annual Latin American Day, a conference and marketplace that will henceforth be organized in partnership with Osec on a yearly basis.
- Relaunching of Latcam's Young Professionals Chapter/Junta Joven in September 2009.
- Appearance of high-profile speakers including Daniel Vasella, CEO, Novartis and Peter Brabeck, Chairman, Nestlé SA
- Strengthening and growing relations with key partner organizations, especially Grulac – Heads of Latin American and Caribbean Diplomatic Missions in Switzerland, chambers of commerce in Latin America, and Osec. We organized two excursions for Grulac to Crypto AG and Alstom (Schweiz) AG, respectively. We also organized an event focused on business opportunities for Swiss companies in Chile on Osec's behalf.
- Despite the economic downturn, Latcam's membership grew slowly but steadily. This brought with it an increase in the amount of business-related queries received by Latcam's management.
- The secretariat continued to streamline the Chamber's databases and overall processes. Compared to 2008, we increased our membership income, sponsoring contributions and earned additional revenue on services we provided to third parties. Hence, we were able to complete the year firmly in the black.

On the personal front, we welcomed a number of new members to the board: Christian Gut, Credit Suisse, Luis Cantarell, Nestlé, Christoph Theler, ZKB; Claudio Boettcher, Zurich Insurance Company and Jürg Haller, UBS.

Sadly, we said goodbye to Hans Leuthold, who resigned from Credit Suisse, having reached the retirement age. Hans contributed greatly to the Chamber's activities, was always ready with support and provided a valuable sounding board on a variety of issues.

As the year draws to a close, we are already at work on the program for 2010. We have events on Colombia, Mexico and Peru in our pipeline for next year, and are working to mobilize an exciting roster of speakers.

We appreciated your support in 2009 and continued involvement, input and constructive feedback. We wish you and your families a happy holiday season, and a successful and prosperous New Year.

All the best,

Richard Friedl
President

Dorit Sallis
Executive Director