



NEWS American Chamber News

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERICAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN NORWAY

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Thanksgiving in Norway

*Thanksgiving Dinner, November 23rd, 2006
Grand Hotel, Oslo*

The annual Thanksgiving dinner, co-sponsored by ExxonMobil, Icelandair and Glitnir, was in keeping with American holiday traditions. Members came together to share an evening with authentic roasted turkey, stuffing and homemade pumpkin pie served with California wines. [Page 2](#)



New Corporate members

- Advokatfirmaet Steensrup & Storange
- BSFA
- Chrysler Norge
- Gambit & Knowlton
- Hard Rock Café
- Hess
- Hewlett Packard
- KPMG
- Kroll
- Motorola
- Oracle
- Oslo Relocation
- Otis
- Radisson SAS Scandinavia Hotel
- Sintef

Venture Capital Symposium



*Venture Capital Symposium, October 16th,
2006, Oslo City Hall*

By Managing Director, Mr. Jason Turflinger

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Kristin was working for Jason Tufinger, the Chamber's Managing Director, and provided much needed assistance in terms of day-to-day administrative tasks, monthly bookkeeping responsibilities, and preparation for periodic events, such as the annual general meeting. Her business education was truly tested, as she was involved in controlling the Chamber's previously outsourced bookkeeping function. Mark was particularly interested in getting real world experience with an IT start-up company. Thus, his interest and skill-set were a perfect match for Einar Aaland, CEO of SX Design, who needed assistance on a market research project covering SIP technology and specifically, IP telephony. In this regard, Mark was challenged to gather as much

free market intelligence as possible on the Internet in order to assist the Company's management in properly updating its presentation to potential investors. Charlene and Aurelia were interns in the finance department of FAST, which is headed by André Demarest, VP of Finance. Both were getting first-hand experience when it comes to meeting the accounting and finance related demands of a growing IT company. Also, as Charlene continued her internship with FAST and was able to get involved in other business areas, such as sales and marketing related initiatives.

André states that the "internship program as been a perfect solution for me and my company since part-time employees with the right skill-set represent a highly efficient and effective resource. Charlene and Aurelia like those before them have been real assets and I believe both have gained a lot of good experience in the process. For example, Charlene's position over two semesters covered concrete areas such as creating a customer database and billing system in Access, working on financial analyses in Excel, and preparing financial statements in Word. I'm more than satisfied with the results of the program and I fully expect FAST to continue with its participation in the future."

Where are the interns from the fall 2002 and how did the program help?

Michael Smith went from being an intern with D&T while studying abroad in Oslo to being offered an

entry level position with KPMG's audit practice back home in Vancouver. Frances Loftus interned at the Chamber in Oslo and used her experience to differentiate herself from her peers in pursuing a full time position in Toronto with Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade. Grant Ackerman used his internship experience with JPMorgan in Oslo to obtain a financial advisory position with TD Canada Trust in Victoria, British Columbia.

As Charlene Slivinski had the opportunity to be an intern at FAST in Oslo for two semesters, she gained not only experience in diverse areas such as sales, marketing and finance, but also exposure to high level members of management such as the CEO and COO/CFO. Both of whom were so impressed with her performance that they fully supported making an offer to her for a full time position with the company in Norway upon graduation from college in Canada. Her view is that "it's close to impossible to obtain a overseas position in an international company straight out of university, so this opportunity is one that most business graduates would only dream of getting after years of experience. In my case, the internship program clearly facilitated the recruiting process as I already has established positive working relationships as well as built confidence and trust within the organization for nearly a year."

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The annual Thanksgiving dinner, co-sponsored by ExxonMobil, Icelandair and Glitnir, was in keeping with American holiday traditions. Members came together to share an evening with authentic roasted turkey, stuffing and homemade pumpkin pie served with California wines. In the true spirit of the Thanksgiving holiday, AmCham's Executive Committee proudly selected CARE Norge as 2006's AmCham Thanksgiving Dinner charity partner. CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty with special empha-

sis on working with poor women. Thanks to prize donations, including two business class tickets to the US courtesy of Icelandair, a limited edition Motorola Dolce & Gabbana Razor mobile telephone, and weekend stays for two at both the Radisson SAS Scandinavia and the Rica Grand Hotel, proceeds of over 30,000 from the event went to this praiseworthy organization.

This AmCham Thanksgiving event will be remembered for the charitable prizes, the generosity of the members and guests and the great food enjoyed in a festive setting on the Grand Hotel.



Dinner participants enjoying the Thanksgiving dinner.

Business After Hours

BAH with Accenture and Eirik Andersen at Hammertson, Oslo, January 31

For the first Business After Hours of the year, AmCham members gathered at Hammertson's in Oslo. Mr. Eirik Andersen, Director of Marketing and Communication at Accenture in Norway, gave an insightful presentation and led a discussion on key findings on the challenges emerging for businesses and executives in high performance markets. Mr. Andersen highlighted

the growing concern of executives running global businesses in maintaining a common corporate culture. His findings were based on Accenture's annual survey, released at the World Economic Forum in Davos, identifying business priorities and major concerns of over 900 executives in the largest companies in the United States, Europe and Asia. After the presentation, members had a chance to discuss the findings while enjoying tapas and drinks.



The AmCham Team

Andrea Nahrgang Imbsen

Member Services Coordinator

Andrea joined the Chamber full time in August 2006, after serving as an intern for two years. Andrea holds a Bachelor in Science in Business Administration from the Norwegian School of Management in Oslo. Before moving from the United States to Norway in 2002, Andrea competed internationally in the sport of Biathlon and was a member of the US Army World Class Athlete Team. She retired from professional athletics as well as the US Army after the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah. As a former competitive athlete Andrea brings many desirable qualities to the Chamber, including determination, goal setting and personable demeanor are also assets for the Chamber. In addition to being a familiar face at AmCham events, she is a resource for the information and member assistance. Feel free to contact her in regard to Chamber related questions, or questions regarding AmCham members and partners at ani@amcham.no

Pål Hexum Solbu

Intern

Pål began his internship at the Chamber in 2006 after graduating from Augustana College in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Pål's ties to the United States were solidified when he moved to the US after being recruited to Augustana College on a track and field scholarship. He now holds a Bachelor of Business Administration and is currently studying for his Masters in the International Marketing and Management program at the Norwegian School of Management in Oslo. Pål brings many assets to the Chamber, such as a great attitude and a solid work ethic. Pål is currently managing the AmCham newsletter and also works at Chamber events. If you have any ideas for relevant newsletter material, please contact Pål at amcham@amcham.no

The American Chamber of Commerce in Norway

Developing Norwegian-American business relations since 1958.

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The victorious team from AIG, Steinar Kleven, James Paddon, Lars G. Østebø and Morten Jacobsen.

AmCham Annual Golf Tournament

Annual Golf Event August 17, 2006 Mikla-gaard Golf Club, Kløfta

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