



## REGION UK

# BCCG UK – 2016 REVIEW

*The year 2016 was quite an eventful year for all of us. Brexit campaigning cast its shadow over the first half of the year, whereas the consequences of the “Leave” vote and solutions to the problems connected to it were the dominant theme in the second half of the year. BCCG conferences provided for interesting opportunities for discussion and exchange. We now wish to look back on the events of the past year and very much look forward to welcoming our members and guests again, soon.*

On 4 February 2016, the BCCG hosted a conference titled “M&A transactions involving German Mittelstand companies – securing growth and continuity” and organised by sustaining member Luther. Not only are German Mittelstand companies important to the German and even world economy, but their unique character is also something investors need to be mindful of. This was the outline given by speaker Prof Dr Rau, which was followed by a lively panel discussion.

In June, Britain voted to leave the European Union. Later in the year, on 13 October, two sustaining BCCG members, Luther law firm and FrankfurtRheinMain GmbH, hosted a conference titled “The Future of London’s Financial Industry”, which featured an outstanding panel of experts from different backgrounds including politics, banking and law. The panel discussion focused largely on

London’s strength and attractiveness as a financial centre and whether it can be replaced by another city in Europe.

A further consequence of the Brexit vote has been the renewed focus on the skills Britain will need to grow once it leaves the EU. Particular attention has been paid to the skills and manufacturing capabilities that would be at the heart of a new industrial strategy. For this reason, on 26 October 2016, the BCCG, in co operation with two Parliamentary Groups, hosted an event titled “Brexit

and Skills Gaps: Learning from the German Model”. The event was aimed at answering how the UK can guarantee its future manufacturing base through well skilled employees while considering what Britain should seek to learn from the German system; how manufacturers and training providers interact; and what Britain might seek to emulate.



Following this, Private Banking SEB S.A. Luxemburg (SEB) and sustaining member Blick Rothenberg LLP hosted a seminar on 2 November 2016 titled “Global Employee Mobility and Taxation – Taxation challenges for employees of internationally operating organisations”, which focussed on the complex issue of taxation of mobile employees moving to the UK.

Closing the series of BCCG UK region conferences, sustaining members DAC Beachcroft and Deutsche Post UK hosted an event on 28 November organised by the BCCG subregion of Bristol. This conference dealt with the topic of “doing business with Germany after the Brexit decision” and also raised £ 1,000 for a local charity.

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