Dear Reader,

After receiving positive feedback on our relaunch of commerce germany, we plan on keeping every issue just as exciting. We’ll stick to a sleek, new look and a unique perspective on European-American affairs. But most importantly, our magazine will remain a place for members to hear from experts in the field, learn about key issues and make the voice of transatlantic business heard.

Our current issue focuses on a topic that’s on everyone’s lips: Workplace 4.0. Whether digitalization, globalization or individualization — our world is changing at breakneck speed. The big question is: What does all this mean for the way we work and do business? How should we as a society — and as companies — foster future talent? And what business skills are necessary to make the digital workplace a success?

Nobody knows what the future holds, but we’re convinced that the opportunities of digitalization outweigh the risks. This issue’s Cover Story is written once again by Stefan Theil of Handelsblatt Global Magazine and touches on how we can benefit from robots. In keeping with this topic, Stefano Scabbio of ManpowerGroup and Andreas Schwaiger of Texas Instruments describe how skills, talent and manufacturing will change in the future.

In our Policy Update, we showcase the results from a survey we conducted among American companies on technological change. For a closer look at our policy work, we present you with political voices and provide insight into our Social and Labor Affairs Policy Committee. But that’s not all. While digitalization requires flexibility and lifelong learning, transatlantic cooperation is also paramount to success. In this issue’s Viewpoint, Prof. Sabine Remdisch, Director at Leuphana University of Lüneburg and Visiting Researcher at Stanford University, examines the attitudes and mind-sets German companies can adopt to maximize their innovative potential.

Last, but definitely not least, Dr. Karen Donfried, President of the German Marshall Fund and former policy adviser to former President Barack Obama, talks in an interview about the liberal international order and current economic challenges. In addition, Dieter Weinand of Bayer AG provides more insight into the current state of transatlantic business.

Without a doubt: A great deal has been happening in the transatlantic partnership. Especially in these unsteady times, our commitment to building bridges, fostering dialogue and serving as the voice of transatlantic business remains unwavering.

Enjoy reading,

Bernhard Mattes