

## Chairpersons' and Representatives' Meeting at the 30th ISCC



Lively conversations at the Chairpersons' and Representatives' Meeting during the 30th ISCC

➔ **30th ISCC** During the 30th International Supply Chain Conference, more than a dozen BVL Representatives and Chapter Chairpersons came together at the invitation of BVL International to talk about the international activities of BVL and to discuss ideas for further growth. Three working groups focused on the themes of internationalisation, local activities, and communication and networking.

Together with the BVL staff, the honorary association officials developed a wide range of new ideas for the work of BVL International. One of the ideas is to identify local logistics-related events and to establish a small presence at these events, in the form of a guest presentation, for example, or a small trade fair stand, rather than staging our own events right away. During the meeting, the experiences of the chapters engaged in BVL activities "on the ground" were documented

and edited to supplement and optimise the frequently used "Guidelines for Chapter Founding". There was also major interest in the further training courses staged by BVL for blue-collar employees. The focus was above all on imparting logistics basics in English. Today, cross-border networking takes place almost exclusively via the Internet. In this regard, BVL Representatives and Chapter Chairpersons expressed major interest in having their own online communication options within the framework of BVL – dedicated sections on the BVL website that they can operate independently, for example. All attendees praised the BVL presence in the business network LinkedIn; this presence was only set up at the beginning of 2012 and already has around 500 followers.

[... more](#)

[... BVL International @ LinkedIn](#)

## Thoughts from the BVL Congress

➔ **BVL Blog** Professor Robert B. Handfield, Chairperson of the BVL "Carolinas" Chapter and author of the new study "Trends and Strategies", shared his views on the 30th International Supply Chain Conference in a recent post on the BVL blog. In his contribution, the author predicts logistics trends in 2014 and reports on companies who see innovation in

logistics and supply chain management as the driver of their success and who are already profiting from implemented innovations. His conclusion? Logistics is becoming more intelligent, networked, automated and in some cases even autonomous, making it a multi-billion dollar market with a bright future.

[Read the full blogpost](#)

## EDITORIAL

2013 will draw to a close in just under two weeks, and this year has been a double anniversary year for BVL International: the association celebrated its 35th birthday, and the International Supply Chain Conference took place in Berlin for the 30th time. The theme for the year and the slogan for the Conference was "Inspiration, Ideas, Innovation".

This anniversary year deliberately focused on themes connected to the future and that benefit our members, helping them to find the information they need, creating platforms on which they can exchange ideas on specialist topics, facilitating interaction with colleagues and providing wide-ranging support within the big BVL network. Our members help to shape the future of „their BVL“ in both a national context and on the international stage.

Three more foreign chapters were founded in 2013 – the Luxembourg, Carolinas and US Southeast chapters. All in all, 40 logistics experts are currently at the helm of the international chapters on an honorary basis or act as representatives, always in close contact and cooperation with their colleagues in Germany. The study „Trends and Strategies in Logistics and Supply Chain Management“ was published first in English and then in German! And last but not least, the BVL website and the English-language Log.Letter provide valuable information to members around the world on a regular basis. One of the goals for 2014 is to further expand this range of services.



Prof. Robert Handfield at the 30th International Supply Chain Conference

## Second US chapter – „US Southeast“ – founded



The team at the founding event (from left): Josip Tomasevic, Steven Markham, Peter Halpaus, Philip Heinrichsdorff and Prof. Dr.-Ing. Thomas Wimmer, Chairman of the BVL Executive Board

➔ **BVL International** The second chapter in the USA was founded in Atlanta in the state of Georgia under the name “US Southeast” on November 1. In true American style, the founding event took place right before a home game of the local “Atlanta Hawks” basketball team against the “Toronto Raptors” from Canada – in setting of the Philips Arena in the immediate vicinity of the CNN World News Center. The Hawks put on a superb performance, winning their game 101:95.

The election results of the Chapter Chairpersons were even more convincing, with all candidates – Steven Markham (BLG Logistics Group Atlanta), Josip Tomasevic (AGCO Holding) and Philip Heinrichsdorff (BMW, Spartanburg Plant) – winning by unanimous vote. Entrepreneur and German Foreign Trade and Transport Academy graduate Peter Halpaus provided valuable support during the creation of the new international chapter.

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## Content from Bremen for global chambers of commerce and industry

➔ **Publications** For the next issue of the special-interest journal “Plus” published by the German-Czech Chamber of Industry and Commerce, BVL International has put together a collection of facts and information on future challenges and opportunities in the logistics sector. The dissemination and promotion of logistics knowledge and

logistics topics in the public arena is one of the central activities of BVL – and the head office in Bremen is always happy to pass on the names of expert contacts to deal with inquiries from the international media or to handle these inquiries itself.

[... more \(in German and Czech\)](#)

## Supply Chain Day 2014 – enjoying the benefits

➔ **Supply Chain Day** In the coming year, the international “Supply Chain Day” will already be taking place for the seventh time. On April 10, 2014, tens of thousands of participants will once again take part in several hundred events. This is the day when event organisers from industry, trade, the service sector, research and academia open their doors to the public.

This day of action called into being by BVL in 2008 continues to make waves. In 2013, event organisers from Austria, China, Germany, Hungary, Russia and South Africa were involved in the international Supply Chain Day. This special day has multiple benefits for event organisers, who not only have an opportunity to promote their own image and raise their profile among the public at large but can also use it as a means of attracting future employees for the wide range of occupations in logistics and supply chain management. You can find all the key information on Supply Chain day in the FAQs on the website.

[... more](#)

## New to the team: Lisa Büttner

➔ **BVL International** On November 1, Lisa Büttner took the place of Gonca Efe-Şahantürk in the International Projects team. Before joining BVL, Lisa spent several years abroad, above all in Scandinavia. After achieving her Bachelor’s degree she worked in the international marketing department of a tourism association in Norrköping in Sweden. When she went on to study for a Masters degree in International Studies, she decided to enrol at Aarhus University on the Danish mainland. Together with Béatrice Cécé, Lisa Büttner will be responsible for expanding and further strengthening the international BVL network. Her initial focus will be on the two US chapters and the association’s presence in social media.



## Logistics delegation from Mongolia at the 30th ISCC

**Mongolia is a market of the future. The country is one of the ten resource-richest nations in the world. It is also enjoying high economic growth, and the World Bank forecasts up to 17 percent growth for 2014 – on a par with the figure in 2011, the year when German Chancellor Angela Merkel signed the first German-Mongolian Raw Materials Partnership in Ulaanbaatar.**

There are only around three million Mongolians, but their country is almost five times the size of Germany. Mongolia is still a developing nation. It is situated between the economic powers of Russia and China, has no access to the sea and faces huge challenges in the fields of logistics and infrastructure. This October, 17 Mongolians visited BVL Campus and the International Supply Chain Conference in Bremen.

The International Supply Chain Conference provided attendees with a range of outstanding opportunities to extend their knowledge and build new contacts. At the “Challenge Mongolia” event, participants had a chance to find out more about this market of the future and get to know the delegation – which was made up of representatives of the Mongolian Logistics Association, the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Ministry of Transport and the country’s leading logistics companies.

BVL International and Tobias Schauf as BVL Representative Mongolia were able to put this cooperation on a solid footing within an extremely short space of time, and everything is set to continue in this tempo: BVL Campus is planning a train-the-trainers programme together with the Mongolian Logistics Association in order to provide training for urgently needed experts in Mongolia – and has signed a memorandum of understanding with IIFC, the country’s biggest transport company and part of the Mongolian Railways. IIFC hopes to organise intensive further training in Germany for its management personnel so that it is better equipped to face future challenges in Mongolia and more attractive from the point

of view of potential international partners. A networking meeting for Mongolian and German logistics companies has already been planned for 2014 in Ulaanbaatar.



Author Tobias Schauf has a degree in Economics, is the BVL Representative for Mongolia, a lecturer at the German Foreign Trade and Transport Academy (DAV) and one of the consultants in the BVL “Seminars” unit. He is also the founder of the OstKontor company. Contact: tobiaschauf@gmail.com



Ischa Freimaak, literally It's a free market – that's what the gingerbread heart hanging around the neck of the Roland statue in the city center of Bremen says. It's the slogan of the traditional Bremen fair in the regional lower German language. The fair was duly enjoyed by all of the 16 Mongolian logistics managers visiting not only the 30th ISCC but also the BVL head office and BVL Campus in Bremen.

## Forum Automotive Logistics 2014

➔ **Start of the year** Car makers are seen as pioneers when it comes to internationalising their production operations and the associated value added chains. Staggered model phase-out and launch, differing local framework conditions, volatile markets and global supply relationships create major challenges for companies in the industry. Following the first successful event in 2013, BVL and the VDA German Association of the Automotive Industry have now sent out invitations to the second

joint “summit” of the automotive logistics sector. Over 600 participants are expected at next year’s event, the theme of which is “Flexibilisation of complex networks – international, intelligent, innovative”. The 2014 Forum will take place in Frankfurt from February 4 to 5. All the relevant information and the programme are available on the Internet as PDF downloads. The event language is German.

[... more](#)

[Programme download as PDF \(in German\)](#)

## More articles and publications on logistics in 2014

➔ **Knowledge and publications** Next year, BVL intends to further extend its range of international publications for its global membership. There was already a major focus on the association’s international activities in 2013 with an English-language version of the full “Report of the Board”, the free publication of the “Trends and Strategies” study and the increase in the number of international LOG. Letters to five issues a year.

The 2013 “Report of the Board” should be available in English as of February 2014. The roughly thirty pages of the report will look back at the “double anniversary year” with

the 30th International Supply Chain Conference and the 35th birthday of the association. In addition, four to six issues of the LOG. Letter will once again be published next year. Alongside information on BVL events and the work of the association’s bodies, the LOG. Letter will in future also feature a broader range of special-interest and further training articles on key interrelationships in logistics and supply chain management. These contributions in LOG. Letter will also keep members and employees of member companies up to date with the latest developments and best practices in the logistics sector.

## Logistics in the networked industry

➔ **Science** The 7th International Scientific Symposium (ISSL) on Logistics will take place in Cologne on June 4 and 5, 2014 under the heading “Logistics in the Networked Industry”. The programme committee is made up of Prof. Werner Delfmann, Prof. Michael ten Hompel, Prof. René de Koster and Prof. Herbert Kotzab.

The ISSL is staged by BVL every two years, and the focus is on themes from logistics science that are of key relevance for the real world. The programme will be available in the first quarter of 2014. The ISSL is always held in English.

[... more](#)

## First BVL International event held in Poland

➔ **BVL International** At the beginning of October, the first BVL International event was held in Poland in Katowice. As the local BVL Representative, Mr. Jan Brachmann of Seifert Logistics Polska introduced BVL and its services. Attendees came from the University of Economics, Ritex Trans, Emtor Logistics, Beton Johan Bartlechner, ANL, Azymut Consulting and Seifert Polska and were excited about the opportunities BVL can offer for international networking and knowledge exchange. The next event in Katowice is scheduled for mid-January 2014.



The first BVL International event in Poland

## IMPRINT

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