



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Spring Board to America

South Wales Chamber of Commerce is helping Welsh businesses look for new markets.

As part of the 9th annual Chambers of Commerce Business Week there has been a determination to find ways in which Welsh Business proprietors can access world markets for both Import and Export opportunities.

It follows the launch of the International Trade Gateway - an extension and re-development of the South Wales Chamber of Commerce (SWCC) International Trade web page on 1st July 2010.

This year's exhibition at the Celtic Manor saw the addition of an Innovation Theatre and a series of eight seminars designed to keep Welsh Business proprietors informed on key subject areas.

One of the seminars was hosted by Howard Thomas - a qualified Accountant, born in Newport that has forged a strong career in and around Silicon Valley, California.

Howard has his own consultancy and is Chairman of the Wales North American Business Chamber. He is keen to provide a conduit for those businesses in Wales wanting to gain access to a huge market place.

The contribution Wales has made to America in particular is quite significant and probably not fully understood or appreciated. Welshmen were at the forefront of establishing the coal, iron and steel industries in the US and also founded national named distillers such as Evan Williams and Jack Daniels.

Alongside Howard's event last week Graham Morgan Director of SWCC attended a reception at the US Embassy in London exploring UK and US trade links.

Graham Morgan said of his visit: "there was a real opportunity to identify other routes to the North American markets and more importantly companies with connections.

"There are approximately 200 companies in Wales that are linked to North America and our aim is to increase this by using the internationally recognised Chamber brand. A number of Welsh businesses have top quality products or services which make them capable of expanding into new markets outside Wales."

Keen not to miss any opportunities SWCC has secured an agreement with Howard Thomas to run two FREE sessions on Wednesday 6th October around Silicon Valley:

- Ethos Building, Kings Road, Swansea - run jointly by SWCC and West Wales Exporters, 9.30am for 10am start

- Bryn Meadows Golf Club (just outside Blackwood) - run in conjunction with Caerphilly Business Forum, 3.15pm for 3.45pm

Both events will be limited to 24 delegates - please book a space by calling 01633 242746.

Ends

Notes for editors

The South Wales Chamber of Commerce is the ultimate business network in South Wales and now incorporates the West Wales Chamber of Commerce. The chamber exists to provide a regional voice and offer support to businesses pan South Wales.

For more press information please contact Laurian Corner at the South Wales Chamber on 01633 242715 or laurian.corner@southwaleschamber.co.uk