

# THE CHAMBER

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## WHO WE ARE

The French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain is part of a network of 115 French Chambers of Commerce and Industry Abroad (FCCIA), which is the largest private French network in the world with a combined membership base of more than 23,000 companies.

We were the third French Chamber of Commerce to be set up abroad back in December 1883, after Montevideo in 1882 and Barcelona in 1883.

Today the largest Foreign Chamber in the UK in terms of both turnover and range of services offered as well as one of the top French Chambers worldwide, we count more than 600 member companies - ranging from SMEs and entrepreneurs to blue chip companies. The diversity and quality of our members - 50% of which are non-French nationals - largely contributes to our success and to the reputation we have acquired over the last 127 years of existence.

Our policy is guided by a Board of 12 Directors responsible for all major decisions concerning the Chamber's strategy. The Board is assisted by an Advisory Council of 60 councilors, helping to increase the visibility and the efficiency of the Chamber.

We are also a member of the Council of Foreign Chambers of Commerce (CFCC) in the UK, which is chaired by our Managing Director, Florence Gomez. The Council represents 38 bilateral Chambers in total and more than 10,000 foreign businesses with trading and investment interests in the UK.

## WHAT WE DO

Our main missions are to provide a platform for exchange and networking at the service of Franco-British firms in the UK, to promote our 600 members' interests to key decision makers and to help develop economic and commercial relations between France and the UK. Our Business Consultancy and Implantation departments provide both British and French companies with a large range of bespoke professional services.

The 40 events we organise every year, with personalities from the British and French political and business worlds, offer great opportunities for our members to develop their business and expand their network of contacts.

Additionally, the Forums and the Clubs we have launched over the past 2 years, focusing on issues or sectors such as Human resources, Climate change, Corporate social responsibility or the Luxury sector, offer our members dedicated platforms to exchange experiences at the highest level of management and to share best practices.

We take pride in the quality of our various publications, including our bimestrial magazine *INFO*, our members' directory, our business guides or e-newsletters. They all provide a wealth of information, help promote the interests of the Franco-British business community and provide extra visibility to our member companies.

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**127** years of experience      **300** French and British SMEs assisted  
**600** member companies      A Board of **12** Directors  
**75** patron members      An Advisory Council of **60**  
**50** events per year      A Multicultural team of **30**

## NETWORK WITH FRANCO-BRITISH DECISION MAKERS

The events organised by the FCCGB offer privileged contact and networking opportunities with personalities from the British and French political and business worlds, within the scope of prestigious events such as the Annual Gala Dinner; the "Dîner de la Rentrée", the Franco-British Business Awards, the Annual Financial Lunch or our Ambassador's briefs.

Our other events such as Business Club cocktails, Industry focused events, Regional events, CEO Breakfasts, or the very successful Member to Member cocktail attracting more than 300 participants every year, enable our members to develop their visibility and their business relations.

The French Chamber of Commerce also organises throughout the year various exclusive events for its Patron members which are always unique and of the highest calibre. Some of our past events include a Patron trip to Jersey, a visit to the Olympic Site and many dinners including one with French movie legend Bertrand Tavernier:

In addition the Chamber offers you the possibility to promote your company through sponsorship opportunities and entertain your clients through corporate hospitality at its various events.

### Some of our GUEST SPEAKERS in 2010:

Boris Johnson - Mayor of London, Patrick Kron - Chairman and CEO of Alstom, Helen Alexander - President of CBI, Mike Whitby - Head of Birmingham City Council, Senator Maclean - Minister for Economic Development of Jersey, Ivan Gazidis - CEO of Arsenal FC, H  l  ne Darroze and Raymond Blanc - Michelin starred Chefs, Bertrand Tavernier - Movie Director, Natalie Massenet - Founder & Chairman Net-a-Porter, etc.

### Some of our SPONSORS in 2010:

Air France, Alstom, Barclays, Cap Gemini, Cin  moi, Eurostar, Jersey Enterprise, Mazars, Nespresso, Peugeot, Soci  t   G  n  rale, Thales, Virgin Trains.

Contact: C  cilia Gonzalez, PR & Events Manager, (020) 7092 6641 or on [cgonzalez@ccfgb.co.uk](mailto:cgonzalez@ccfgb.co.uk).



## PROMOTE YOUR COMPANY AND GATHER INFORMATION ON GREAT BRITAIN

Our publications reflect and promote the interests of the Franco-British business community and allow member companies to increase their visibility through articles and advertising.

### Our publications:

- INFO magazine (bi-monthly)
- Franco British Trade Directory
- Member to Member benefits book (M2M)
- Business Guides:
  - Grande-Bretagne: L'indispensable
  - France: On the move!



### Our Newsletters:

- Chamber Monthly e-newsletter
- France-UK Express

#### Contacts:

Hannah Meloul, Corporate Communications Executive, (020) 7092 6647 or on [hmeloul@ccfgeb.co.uk](mailto:hmeloul@ccfgeb.co.uk)

Nick Kochan, Editor-in-Chief of INFO Magazine, (020) 8348 3738 or on [nkochan@ccfgeb.co.uk](mailto:nkochan@ccfgeb.co.uk)

David Lislet, Advertising & Sales Coordinator, (020) 7092 6651 or on [dlislet@ccfgeb.co.uk](mailto:dlislet@ccfgeb.co.uk)

## GET BUSINESS ADVISORY SUPPORT TO DEVELOP YOUR ACTIVITIES IN THE UK

Our bilingual team of experienced professionals assist French companies in every aspect of their development on the British market. We are here to listen to you and make sure we understand and meet the specific needs of your company.

### Our range of services include:

- Lists of prospective clients or partners
- Organisation of B2B meetings with selected prospects
- Market research, tailored to your needs
- Trade visits for groups of companies in the same sector of activity
- Full accounting support
- Payroll
- VAT management
- VIE hosting and coaching



#### Contacts:

Catherine Dujardin, Business Development Manager, (020) 7092 6626 or on [cdujardin@ccfgeb.co.uk](mailto:cdujardin@ccfgeb.co.uk)

Irène Engelhardt, Accounting & Business Support Coordinator, (020) 7092 6606 or on [iengelhardt@ccfgeb.co.uk](mailto:iengelhardt@ccfgeb.co.uk)



## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BUSINESS CONSULTANCY DEPARTMENT

This electronic quarterly newsletter, published in French, is sent to more than 4000 French SMEs and to the Chambers of Commerce in France and features:

- The latest news and developments in the British economy
- Relevant updates on the UK key industry sectors
- Articles and resources on specific legal and commercial issues, written by members of the Chamber who are experts in their field or sector of activity
- Testimonials from French SMEs which have successfully broken into the British market
- Information about business and networking events organised by the Chamber and its partners

Contact: Aurélie L'Hostis, Project Manager, (020) 7092 6629 or on [alhostis@ccfgb.co.uk](mailto:alhostis@ccfgb.co.uk)

## MEETING ROOMS

### Our Offer:

- Fully furnished and very quiet meeting rooms in a dedicated professional environment (from 9am to 5pm)
- Professional front desk reception with waiting area for visitors
- Broadband & Wi Fi Internet access
- Audio & Video Conferencing
- Plasma screens, drop down screen, projector; white board
- An address in the heart of London



### Our Rates:

ROOMS	MEMBER			NON-MEMBER		
	Hourly rate	Half Day	Full Day	Hourly rate	Half Day	Half Day
<b>Boardroom</b> (5m x 9.10m) <b>20 persons</b>	£65.00	£150.00	£245.00	£130.00	£300.00	£490.00
<b>Meeting room</b> (5m x3.20m) <b>8 Persons</b>	£40.00	£100.00	£165.00	£80.00	£200.00	£330.00

All above rates are exclusive of VAT.

Bespoke catering for breakfast, lunch or cocktail is available upon request

Contact: Nicole Joyce, Communication Officer, (020) 90972 6612 or on [njoyce@ccfgb.co.uk](mailto:njoyce@ccfgb.co.uk)

Our Chamber offers dynamic and business orientated Forums and Clubs that gather experts - drawn from the Chamber membership - around a particular issue or a sector of activity and that aim to give access to targeted information.

Headed by a Chairman, Forums meet regularly, inviting guest speakers, covering specific themes and communicating on their conclusions.

The French Chamber of Commerce in Great Britain hosts these meetings with an aim to offer members a free and unique opportunity to exchange experiences at the highest level of management and to share best practice with like-minded professionals.

They strive in the long term to help develop 'think tanks' and have an end goal of making direct representations of the French business community in both French and UK governments on business related issues.

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### **HR Forum, chaired by Karan Hutchinson, HR Director at AXA UK**



This Forum is directed at HR Managers, Directors and Advisors, as well as Managing Directors and other professionals specialised in employment law. Its objectives are to share experience and best practices in relation to specific HR themes, review the impact of employer legislation and ultimately lobby and influence future decisions.

*Topics covered in 2010: Attracting & Retaining Key Talent, Remuneration & Reward in the Current Environment, Employer Branding, Culture Change*

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### **Cross Cultural Relations Forum, chaired by Peter Alfandary, Deputy President of the Chamber, Partner & Head of French Team at Reed Smith**



This Forum is directed primarily at leaders from the Franco-British business community with first-hand experience in cross cultural management issues. Its objectives are to become a 'think tank' of best practice so as to facilitate a better understanding of business culture in France and the UK and to disseminate cross cultural know-how to the wider Chamber membership.

2010 saw the official launch of this Forum at the Résidence de France featuring high profile guest speakers debating Franco British business practices. The Forum has produced a guide aimed to assist cross-Channel business called 'Light at the end of the tunnel'. For more information on this guide, please contact [forums@ccfgeb.co.uk](mailto:forums@ccfgeb.co.uk).

*Topics covered in 2010: Context & Stereotypes, Spreading the word, Producing a guide.*

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**CSR Forum**, chaired by **Christophe Gasc**, BPM Alliance Manager, North East Europe, IBM UK.  
Deputy Chair: **David Glass**, Partner at Pritchard Englefield



This Forum dedicated to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is directed at Heads of CSR of large member companies of the Chamber. Its objectives are to promote awareness, to share best practices and to provide a better understanding of the French and British approaches to CSR policies. The official launch of this Forum was recently held at the Résidence de France in May 2010. It featured guest speakers from the House of Lords, the European Commission and high profile member companies.

*Topics covered in 2010: Cross-Channel CSR, case-studies*

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**Tackling the Crisis Roundtable Sessions**, chaired by **Arnaud Vaissié**, President of the Chamber, Chairman & CEO of International SOS



This Roundtable gathers business leaders from all sectors, from start-ups to large groups and provides them with an opportunity to not only share their experience of managing the crisis, but also to discuss issues affecting all businesses (level of the pound, difficulty in securing funding, longer decision-making processes etc.) and to learn of the diverse strategies adopted in this recent downturn.

*Topics covered in 2010: Global projects for 2010*

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## CLUBS AT THE CHAMBER

2011

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The Chamber now has 2 very dynamic clubs: the SME & Entrepreneur Club and the Luxury Club whose details you will find below:

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**SME & Entrepreneur Club**, co-chaired by **Cédric Filet**, CEO & Founder of Aldelia Ltd and **Nathalie Zimmermann-Nénon**, Director & Founder of NZ Consulting



The SME and Entrepreneur Club is designed to provide valuable input to start-ups or small businesses and is strictly tailored for members who have started their own company or are currently heading an SME in the UK. It provides a platform to exchange best practice and share practical information on challenges small businesses are currently facing. Key speakers from various



professional backgrounds are regularly invited to give advice and present case studies.

*Topics covered in 2010: Setting up your Back Office – Cash is King, Employment Issues Facing SMEs, The Olympics, Raising the SME profile for potential investors*

**Luxury Club, chaired by Thierry Outin, Managing Director of Hermès GB Ltd**



The Luxury Club has been designed to bring together the CEOs and Directors of our current member companies operating within luxury markets (from fashion labels, watch and jewellery makers and fine leather houses to gastronomic restaurants, 5 star hotels and art galleries). It is intended as a high profile, targeted networking platform, allowing for the exchange of experiences around topics relevant to the sector. The Club also holds 3 annual 'Dîners des Chefs' which are not only open to the Luxury Club's members of but to all members of the Chamber. The first of these prestigious events took place in October 2010 and featured the gastronomic talents of H el ene Darroze at the Connaught Hotel.

*Topics covered in 2010: Where is the Luxury Sector Going?, Luxury Distribution: The new challenge*

**And soon... a Climate Change Forum at the Chamber!**

2011 will see the creation of a Climate Change Forum which will bring together the top players from various sectors in order to create a synergy through knowledge sharing on the subject. Ultimately the Forum will aim to assist and shape the development of the crucial challenges of Climate Change issues through a highly targeted Franco-British think tank, the first of its kind.



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