

Make TTIP a truly SME-friendly agreement

Considering that SMEs are the backbone of the transatlantic economy, it is regrettable that currently only a fraction of European SMEs are doing business with the United States, and vice versa.

The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) must thus be designed and tailored appropriately to the needs of SMEs.

Therefore, a high priority should be accorded to: streamlining and reducing the administrative burdens associated with customs procedures; harmonizing standards; arranging mutual recognition of certification; taking steps to ease the movement of people; and offering tailored support for SMEs in achieving regulatory compliance.

“With TTIP breaking new boundaries in the field of transatlantic regulatory cooperation, it is more important than ever that negotiators think small first. This means that we need to strive for more coherent, more transparent and clear regulatory frameworks on both sides, paired with the right incentives and tools to make the transatlantic market more accessible for SMEs”, said Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES.

Due to their size, SMEs bear a disproportionately high burden to adapt their products to complex regulatory requirements.

Accordingly, it is all the more important to set the right framework in the TTIP for our small and medium enterprises, as negotiations are reaching a strategic moment.

Designed appropriately the TTIP can bring us a significant step closer to create the growth and jobs that our economies need to flourish.

Further information: Mr Dominic Boucsein Tel. +32 2 282 08 53 boucsein@eurochambres.eu
Press contact: Ms Sampaio Susete, Tel. +32 2 282 08 66, sampaio@eurochambres.eu
All EUROCHAMBRES' press releases can be downloaded from
www.eurochambres.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=153