



# CCE-R Newsletter

## (No.6 / December 2003)

### In this issue:

#### Editorial

#### The CCE-R Board informs

>> [more](#)

#### CCE-R Business Club

organized by **SIKA Romania SRL**

>> [more](#)

#### This Month's Member

**SIKA Romania SRL**

>> [more](#)

#### Legal&Financial issues

>> [more](#)

#### Business News

>> [more](#)

#### CCE-R Events Calendar

>> [more](#)

#### Become a CCE-R member

>> [Join now](#)

#### Contact us:

**CCE-R**

4-10, Drobeta Str., Apt. 1  
Sector 2, 020521 Bucharest

Tel/Fax: +40 21 212 2707

GSM: +40 745 635 383

E-mail: [ccer@fx.ro](mailto:ccer@fx.ro)

### Editorial of the month



Dear Members,

I have the honour to draft the editorial of our last CCE-R Newsletter this year. It has been another busy year for me due to various activities and forums organized by the Chamber of Commerce SEC, held in Switzerland and targeting Romania. Among them, in March, the Romanian Day organised by Forum Ost – West; in May, the Business Forum with HE the Ambassador Ioan Maxim and the Understate Secretary Mr. Adrian Mitu that took place in Zurich at SEC; we further had the pleasure to have HE Prince Radu

with us for a business forum at SEC Zurich; finally, the top event has just taken place these days, on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December, when HE the President Ion Iliescu took the occasion of his State visit to Switzerland to honour the business community with a Forum organized in Zurich. Further information on this visit and the good speeches of Minister Eugen Dijmarescu / Mr. Marian Saniuta, President of ARIS / Mr. David Syz, State Secretary SECO are available upon request in our office.

As we say in German "neue Besen kehren anders"- the new composition of the CCE-R committee under the President Kurt Habersatter has brought new ideas and moves to CCE-R. This will definitely develop further and I wish to express my thanks on this occasion to Kurt and his team for this great voluntary job. At the same time, I wish to thank the ex-president Serge Gonvers, who has done a great job and set the CCE-R's bases very well, so that the Chamber is now ready for future developments.

Another important aspect is that we have successful running counterpart chambers. Without maintaining a good basic network and a personal presence at various related associations and events we would feel lonely. However, this is not the case and all our members are always welcome to ask counterpart chambers for networking contacts which often exist among other members and committees. At the same time, I am very happy to transmit my thanks to both embassies in Romania and Switzerland for their support and teamwork on various occasions during the year.

I do look forward to a further exciting Chamber year 2004 at CCE-R and SEC considering the fact that, with the EU-extension, Romania is a more and more considered place for new investments with a pretty good future potential for both the local market and production for exports.

I wish all members and their families a Prosperous 2004!

Reto Iten

Chamber of Commerce Switzerland – Central Europe (SEC) - Zürich

## The CCE-R Board informs

### CCE-R Board Meeting – December 2, 2003

The CCE-R monthly Board Meeting took place on December 2, at the CCE-R's head-office. The meeting was chaired by Kurt Habersatter, *Holcim (Romania) SA*, President of the CCE-R. The following Board members attended the meeting:

- ✚ Hans Jürg Bangerter, *Swiss International Air Lines*;
- ✚ Peter Bayard, *Helvetica Profarm*;
- ✚ Jürg Hasler, *Swisspor*;

Dominique Petter, Counselor of the Swiss Embassy, also attended the meeting.

The Board established the events that the CCE-R would organize in January – February 2004. The rest of the events schedule will be completed in the next Board Meeting. The report made by the Embassy based on the CCE-R's members proposals for the agenda of the President Ion Iliescu's visit to Switzerland was also discussed.

The CCE-R website was one of the important topics approached in the meeting. *Red Point Software*, a CCE-R member, made a presentation of their proposal for the website. The Board will consider it along with ways to cover the costs and compare it with other options.

The four member companies acting in the accountancy field made their proposals to the Chamber for keeping the accountancy during the next year. The Board will soon analyse these proposals and select one of the bidders.

- ✚ **The next CCE-R Board Meeting will take place on January 14, 2003, 17:30, at Dominique Petter's residence.**

### Press Release – Swiss Embassy in Bucharest Romanian – Swiss Agreement for eliminating visas on a mutual basis

**Romanian and Swiss citizens will not need entry visas anymore when traveling to the other country. The agreement was concluded on December 15, 2003, in Bern, on the occasion of the President Ion Iliescu's visit at the invitation of Mr. Pascal Couchepin, the President of the Swiss Confederation.**

The agreement will come into force in thirty days after its reciprocal notification, most probably during the first quarter of 2004. The conditions to eliminate visas are that each citizen should have a valid passport and should stay in the other country no more than 90 days in a period of 6 months without having the possibility to obtain profit by working.

The European Union has eliminated visas for Romanians since January 01, 2002. By signing this agreement, Switzerland proceeds to harmonize its visas policy with the European one.

Romania and Switzerland signed in 1996 a Readmission Agreement that guarantees on a mutual basis the readmission of their own citizens who are illegally staying in the other country.

Bucharest, December 15, 2003

## The Chamber of Commerce Switzerland – Romania in the local press in Timis



As we have already informed you in the last Newsletter, our Chamber's visit to Timisoara was a very good occasion to network with the local authorities and investors.

We have recently received the articles published by the local press in Timis about this event. Echoes are very positive, the local authorities being most pleased to welcome for the third time the Swiss delegation and to discuss both about the existent Swiss investments in the area and the future ways to consolidate the Swiss – Romanian economic relations in Timis.

On this occasion, the visit of the Swiss Ambassador, His Excellency, Mr. François Chappuis, took place at the same time with the visit of the newly appointed German Ambassador, His Excellency, Mr. Wilfried Grüber. Both visits showed thus the interest that foreign investors have in this area.

We thank once again our member, *Helvetica Profarm*, for having very well organized the Chamber's business trip in Timis county.

[^ Back to Top ^](#)

### CCE-R Business Club

Each month, the CCE-R organizes a monthly meeting of its members, giving them the opportunity to receive more information on each other. These monthly meetings have been traditionally known as the "CCE-R Business Clubs".

### CCE-R Business Club, December 2, 2003



On December 2, 2003, the last CCE-R Business Club in 2003 took place. It was professionally organized by our member, *SIKA Romania SRL*, who hosted its guests in the Primavera Room, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

Ms. Ileana Nicolae, the General Director of SIKa, made a presentation of the mother company as well as of its Romanian subsidiary. The Power Point images that accompanied her speech showed suggestively SIKa's success story.

Apart from the CCE-R members and Ms. Dominique Petter, Counselor of the Swiss Embassy, the host invited guests of honour – applicator companies that collaborate with SIKa. The introduction of the applicator companies was made by Mr. Viorel Plesca, Director of the SIKa branch in Bucharest. On this occasion, he awarded these companies certificates of applicators proving that, after attending courses organized by SIKa, they are one of the best applicators in the Romanian construction field.

After the ceremony, the guests enjoyed the buffet and had the opportunity to network and to exchange experience. We thank SIKa for a very nice and well organized evening.

✚ **The next Business Club will be hosted by our member, *TOP SERVICES SRL*, on February 10, 2003, at the "Hilton" Hotel, 19:00.**

[^ Back to Top ^](#)

## This month's member / Company Profile

This column gives our members the possibility to present themselves to the other companies and to highlight important aspects of their activity. Our initiative goes together with the invitation for subscribing to this facility: **if you want to present your company to the other members in one of the next issues of the Newsletter, please contact us at [ccer@fx.ro](mailto:ccer@fx.ro).**

### SIKA Romania SRL

Sika AG, located in Baar, Switzerland, is a globally integrated company supplying specialty chemicals markets. It is a leader in processing materials as well as other products used in sealing, bonding, damping, reinforcing and protecting load-bearing structures in construction and industry.

The Sika story begins with a major feat of construction - the electrification of the St. Gotthard rail tunnel in Switzerland. When this project presented itself, the firm founded 1910 in Zurich by Kaspar Winkler, seized the opportunity to demonstrate its unique expertise on a high-profile construction project of international importance, using a new type of mortar to stop water infiltration. The contract marked a significant breakthrough for Sika, helping to establish its international reputation as a manufacturer of high-quality products.

The company grew to become one of the world's leading suppliers of construction chemicals, emphasizing on integrated system solutions. Diversification into the allied field of industrial adhesives followed in the early 1980s. Today these are the two pillars of Sika's business in specialty chemicals - the Construction Division and the Industry Division.

While on the technical side these two business areas are closely linked, on the commercial side they reduce the vulnerability to economic cycles because they depend on different markets.

With an international network of production and marketing companies, Sika has now extended its operations to over 60 countries around the world. This global market presence limits Sika's exposure to the effects of regional economic downturns. It also enables the Group to adapt its highly specialised know-how quickly and efficiently to local market conditions.

Subsidiaries in 64 countries worldwide and more than 8,500 employees link customers directly to Sika and guarantee the success of all of its business relationships. With this structure, Sika generates sales of more than CHF 2.1 billions annually.

Sika is a company with a strong innovative tradition, constantly striving for new levels of excellence. This means developing innovative technologies that will open up new opportunities for the company, its employees, and its partners in trade and industry.

#### Organization and Management

The Sika Group has a decentralized organization in which the operating units stay close to the customer and enjoy a high degree of entrepreneurial autonomy.

A transparent corporate structure supports faster decision making processes and shorter lines of communication. The company cultivates a cooperative management style to ensure that staff members with appropriate expertise participate in the decision-making process.

Personal initiative and creativity are fostered through the delegation of tasks, responsibilities and authority.

**In Romania**, Sika established its subsidiary in February 2002 with a young and motivated sales team, office and warehouse in Bucharest.

In 2002, Sika AG purchased the Addiment sector from Heidelberg Cement's Construction Chemical Business in Germany, closing a gap in its concrete admixtures business in Germany.

The German company covered Poland, Romania and Turkey and through representations many other countries. It was included in the scope of Sika's consolidation as of July 1, 2002 under the name Sika Addiment GmbH.

The international acquisition determined on the local level, in Romania, a merger process between Heidelberger Materiale de Constructii, the subsidiary company of the former Heidelberger Bauchemie, Addiment and Sika Romania, the already existing subsidiary of Sika AG.

The result was a new administrative structure: Sika Romania SRL with the Head Office in Brasov and Sales Office in Bucharest and a bigger market share: more than 30 % of the Romanian market of Concrete and Mortar Admixtures.

Similar to the mother company, Sika Romania is growing and developing fast: the latest event was in November 24<sup>th</sup> when Sika Romania celebrated the official opening of its sales office in Timisoara.

After all the restructuring process, Sika Romania is presently divided into two divisions: Construction and Industry with the following coordinates: 3 sales offices, 2 warehouses, 29 employees, 350.000 Euro share capital, 3.500.000 Euro turnover in 2003 supplying mainly big construction projects.



Sika's Romania markets fields for the Construction Division are:

- Core Construction
- Sealing & Bonding
- Waterproofing
- Industrial Flooring
- Repair & Protection
- Structural Strengthening

with the specific range of products: concrete and mortar admixtures, injection products and mortars for tunneling and mining, joint sealing products, sealants and adhesives, industrial flooring products, PVC membranes, anticorrosion protection, structural strengthening products, based on carbon fiber.

The Industry Division of Sika Romania concentrates his sales force on the following market segments:

- Automotive OEM / OES
- Transportation Industry
- Aftermarket Automotive
- Appliance & Building Components

*Among the main objectives of Sika Romania for 2004 we count the development strategy for a real distribution network and suppliers chains all over the country.*

*As for the administrative structure, another target for 2004 is to complete the process of implementing ISO Certification 9002 and 14000.*

*An important objective for the next year is also the construction of the Sika Romania's new head – quarter in Brasov.*

[^ Back to Top ^](#)

## Legal&Financial issues

At the most welcome initiative of the CCE-R's member, *Nörr Stiefenhfoer Lutz*, we present a new column concerning legal and financial matters, starting October 2003. Featuring important topics regarding latest legal and tax news, as well as financial ones, the column can be built based on your general interests too. Should you need certain information in this respect, please write to us at [ccer@fx.ro](mailto:ccer@fx.ro) and we will send your queries to our members acting in the field.

### Law on Product Liability Obligation

Law No. 449 on sale of products and the related guarantees was published in the Romanian Official Gazette (hereinafter referred to as the "Law") on 18 November, 2003. This Law can be numbered to the laws, which aim at the harmonization of the Romanian legislation with the European legislation. For these grounds, the Law enters into force only on 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2007. The purpose of said Law is to uniformly and modernly regulate the consumer protection. In consideration of the preliminary effects resulting from such legal regulation, especially for the industry, the provisions already stand there.

#### 1. Legal definitions

- *Consumers* are under the Law only natural persons, who act as particulars or as communities of natural persons (e.g. associations).
- *Products* are movable goods, their final destination being the individual or common consumption or use by the consumers.
- *Sellers* are natural or legal entities, which, within their object of activity, sell products to the consumers under a sale purchase agreement.
- *Producers* may be:
  1. entrepreneurs, who manufacture a final product or parts of it;
  2. the producer of raw material;
  3. the entrepreneur, who applies on its products its name, its brand name or another characteristics;
  4. the entrepreneur, who restores the products;
  5. the entrepreneur or the distributor, who changes the products characteristics by its business;
  6. the representative of an entrepreneur, who is not based in Romania, or in case there is no representative, the importer;
  7. the entrepreneur, who imports goods to become subject to sale or rent business or any other marketing forms, which are specific for distribution transactions;
  8. the distributor of imported goods, in case the importer is unknown, although the name of the producer is indicated;
  9. the distributor of products, in case the importer cannot be identified, provided that he does not inform the impaired person within 30 days starting from their request to give information about the importer.

According to the new Law on Product Liability Obligation there are basically two kinds of liabilities: the producer's liability and the seller's liability, which will be described in detail as follows:

#### 2. Seller's liability

The seller is obliged to supply the products to the consumer under the conditions provided by the sale-purchase agreement (in particular with regard to the quality and the use purpose). Thus, he is liable for any non-conformity between the provisions of the agreement and the real quality of the sold products at the time of the delivery.

In such a situation the consumer has the right to request the free repair or replacement of the supplied products. Furthermore, the consumer may ask for a decrease of the price or even for the cancellation of the sale-purchase agreement in case:

- a) the products have neither been repaired nor replaced;
- b) the repair has not been performed within a reasonable period of time;
- c) the repair proved to be substantially disadvantageous for the consumer.

However, the consumer may not ask for the cancellation of the sale-purchase agreement, as long as the non-conformity is unsubstantial.

The prescription period of the consumer's claim is of 2 years starting from the date of the delivery. However, the consumer has to inform the seller about it within 2 months starting from the assessment of the defects.

### **3. Producer's liability**

In case the seller is liable for non-conformity or a defect, which results from an act or an omission of the producer, he has a right of recourse against the producer.

It is to be noted, that the seller' liability is to be regarded as a guarantee for the consumer; in principle it is granted to the consumer, although the seller himself is entitled to recourse.

Furthermore, it has to be pointed out that the rights of the consumer under the law have to be exercised without impairment of other rights, which the consumer may invoke in accordance with the other legal regulations, which set forth the contractual or not-contractual liability.

### **4. Guarantees**

Under the Law the guarantees, which are in relation with the sale of products, are legally binding for the offerer (i.e. seller) within the statement of guarantee or the appropriate advertisement.

The rights of the consumer under the Law, as well as the identification data of the products, the warranty term, the kind of security of the warranty (i.e. maintenance, repair, replacement of the products), including the name and the address of the seller have to be mentioned in the statement of guarantee.

Warranties may not impair the legal rights of the consumers. The contractual clauses, which limit or waive the consumer's rights set forth therein, are null and void. However, the period of prescription of 2 years may be reduced through the agreement of the parties to at least 1 year in case of used products.

The competent authority for the observance of aforesaid regulations is the National Authority for Consumer's Protection. This will determine the offences against this Law and exercise specific sanctions correspondingly.

## **NÖRR STIEFENHOFER LUTZ**

Str. General C-tin Budişteanu,  
nr. 28 C, sector 1, Bucureşti  
Telefon: +40-21-312 58 88

Telefax: +40-21-312 58 89

E -mail: [nslbuc@noerr.ro](mailto:nslbuc@noerr.ro)

Internet: [www.noerr.de](http://www.noerr.de)

**All CCE-R members acting in the legal and financial fields are invited to contribute to this column.**

[^ Back to Top ^](#)

## Business News

### **President Iliescu In Switzerland**

President Iliescu visited Switzerland during December 14-15, 2003, at the invitation of his Swiss counterpart Pascal Couchepin. He also met with the president of the Swiss Bankers Association and with Romania's honorary consuls to Switzerland, D. Sturdza, P. Hiltbold and G. Barba. Meetings with Swiss M.P.s were also scheduled.

President Iliescu addressed a meeting of The Romanian – Swiss Economic Forum on the topic "Integration and Globalization – The Romanian Vision." (by Curierul National, 15 Dec. 2003)

### **Holcim Formally Concludes Privatization Processes Regarding Romanian Acquisitions**

Holcim Romania formally concluded the privatization processes regarding the companies taken over from The State within a ceremony held at The Privatization Authority.

"Fulfilling obligations and keeping promises is the foundation of any relationship based on trust. The confirmation we have received is proof of how honest and reliable this company is," president Kurt Habersatter said on the occasion. He added Holcim was one of the major investors in Romania, with over 250 million EUR committed so far to acquisitions, modernization, environment care and business development.

The company has recently inaugurated the most modern cement production line in Romania, at Alesd, following a 70 million EUR investment. Holcim has also opened its 7th ecological concrete station, a 1.5 million EUR investment.

Kurt Habersatter announced Holcim was planning to invest another 40 million EUR in Romania by the year 2006. The company so far has 3 cement factories, in Turda, Campulung and Alesd, a network of 13 concrete stations and 1,800 employees. (by Bursa, 15 Dec. 2003)

### **Heidi Sees Sales Up 15%**

Chocolate producer Heidi Chocolats Suisse Romania estimates its sales to go up 15% this year, and reach approximately \$5.5 million.

"We have already risen 10% in the first 11 months of the year compared with the same time last year and the year is not over yet. As you are well aware, the upcoming period is good for chocolate sales," Massimo Palumbo, Heidi's marketing manager said.

Heidi makes 1,000 tonnes of chocolate a year and plans to invest in a new productive line in 2004, though Palumbo says the exact amount of the investment has not been set yet. Such an investment is usually worth about half a million dollars.

"The product is already available on the Romanian market, it is no longer something new, only the productive system will be," Palumbo stated. Heidi has invested seven million dollars since entering the Romanian market in 1994.

The company has a factory in Pantelimon, which takes up 2,500 sqm and a powder milk facility in Timis County, the daily processing capacity of which reaches 75,000 litres. Heidi launched a new range of chocolate tablets, "Intense", which come in three flavours, early this week, but the investment was minimal, Palumbo explains. (by Ziarul Financiar, Dec. 04, 2003)

### **ABB Sees 30% Fewer Orders In 2003**

Swiss-Swedish ABB Group, one of the leading players on the domestic energy equipment and service market estimates its order volume on the Romanian market to be worth approximately 70 million dollars, down 30 percent from last year.

The group's officials had seen the decline of ABB's Romanian business coming, and provided for it in the

budget, targeting 65 million dollars for 2003, given that it is only natural for this kind of business to experience ups and downs, as they say. Furthermore, the market did not grow as expected, ABB's representatives added. ABB's operations on the Romanian market include those of the local branch - ABB Romania and those of the other companies of the group operating in Romania.

"ABB's Romanian operations are sound and stable. The yearly fluctuations in the volume of orders are only natural for this kind of business, if considering that major retooling deals may or may not be signed during a specific year. On the other hand, ABB sold its interest in ABB Rometrics through the global deal closed with Ruhrgas this year, and the company in Timisoara was logging about 5 million dollars in annual revenues," Peter Simon, ABB Romania's chairman told Ziarul Financiar.

ABB sold its metering operations to German Siemens Group for 244 million dollars in 2002, with the stakes taken over including the 60 percent ABB had in ABB Rometrics SRL Timisoara. ABB Romania's orders for this year account for approximately 28-30 million dollars out of the total 70 million dollar business.

"An increase in the day by day business (i.e. sales of electrical transformers and other electrical equipment) in our portfolio can be seen on a yearly basis, and this business has now come to account for one third of the total. Unlike rehabilitation projects, which fluctuate in a company's portfolio year by year, the day by day businesses see a linear growth, which induces stability. The market of such equipment has a great deal of potential and is growing, we can feel it," Simon says. He expects ABB's order volume to amount to 60-70 million dollars in 2004.

The global energy service and equipment market, which players estimate to be worth 500 million dollars a year, sees ABB, Siemens, Alstom, Schneider or Moeller on top, joined by other international players such as General Electric, Honeywell (US), Itochu (Japan) or Swiss VaTech Group over the last few years. (by Ziarul Financiar, Dec. 04, 2003)

#### **Peter Simon, A.B.B.: Lot of room for improvement**

"One thing that must be dealt with in Romania, as in The European Union, is bureaucracy, because there is bureaucracy in E.U. member countries, too, but in Romania particularly there is a lot of room for improvement", said Peter Simon, president of A.B.B. Romania and member of The German Investors Council.

German investors in Romania believe there are far too many legal changes and that such legal instability greatly affect business continuity, according to a poll made among 1,000 German companies operating in Romania. "Nearly 3 quarters of the German investors believe the business environment in Romania is definitely much better than it was in the past, but not everything is great and there is great need for improvement", Simon said.

Slow reform, slow privatization and double standards for State-owned companies and private companies are the main grievances of the German investors in Romania. Among the reasons that prompt German investors to bring their money here are the large market, Romania's orientation towards The E.U. and especially cheap labor, well trained professionals and political stability. "German investors believe Romania is in fact much better than its image", Simon added.

(by Romania Libera, Dec. 09, 2003)

#### **Raiffeisen Bank and ABN Amro on top**

Raiffeisen Bank and ABN Amro Bank are still progressing at the fastest pace of all banks in terms of banking assets. The data supplied by the National Bank of Romania (NBR) show the two came out second (910 million euros) and third (845 million euros) in the ranking of the banks controlled by foreign investors operating on the Romanian market at the end of September. As a comparison, both banks were managing 802 million euros and 744 million euros in assets respectively at the end of H1.

Whereas most of ABN Amro's assets can be very well linked to corporate clients, a market segment the Dutch bank is still loyal to Raiffeisen Bank's asset growth can be explained by its aggressive exposure on the retail market.

The most active bank of those controlled by foreign investors is still BRD-Groupe Société Générale, which did not manage to post more than 8% growth in assets to 1,910 million euros in the third quarter, though.

Far behind ABN Amro, as their assets are about half of those of the Dutch bank are the banks in the so-called second batch: Alpha Bank - 479.4 million euros and 3.4% market share in late September, Citibank - 444.2 million euros and 3.1% market share and HVB Bank - 416.7 million euros and 2.9% of the market.

Most active foreign bank branches in Romania were, as shown by the NBR data, ING Bank Romania, whose assets went up from 569.7 million euros to 684 million euros from July through September and Banca di Roma, yet far behind the Dutch bank.

Banca Comerciala Romana (Romanian Commercial Bank - BCR) remains the top bank in the Romanian system in terms of assets, with 33% market share. Casa de Economii si Consemnatiuni (Romanian Savings Bank - CEC) claimed a position among the top financial institutions due to its about one billion-euro assets.

The banking system has been faced with a steep profit decline this year because the shrinking margins were not fully offset by the increase in the business volume. Those that gained the most this year were the banks that focused on retail, as the great demand for loans was rather quickly met.

Even though the profit decline is expected to maintain over the next few years, the banks operating in the Romanian banking system keep devising strategies meant to increase their exposure on the market, as they are still making far more money from investments in Romania than in the neighbouring countries.  
(by Ziarul Financiar, Dec. 16, 2003)

#### **Scheele: Romania to Receive 1 Bln. EUR non-reimbursable in 2006**

The European Union's financial support to Romania will increase over the next 3 years and reach 1 billion EUR worth of non-reimbursable funding in 2006, according to Jonathan Scheele, head of The European Commission Delegation to Bucharest.

He made this remark during a press conference occasioned by the signing of PHARE financing memoranda through which Romania received 276.5 million EUR worth of pre-accession support.

Of this total, 265.5 million EUR will go to the national component of the PHARE, while 11 million EUR will go to a cross-border cooperation program developed in partnership with Hungary and Bulgaria. (by Gardianul, Dec. 03, 2003)

#### **Economic growth: 4.5%**

Romania will conclude this year with a 4.5% economic growth, generated especially by foreign direct investments and privatization progress, according to The Economist Intelligence Unit.

Bulgaria's 3.1% economic growth will also be above the European average for this year. Poland is likely to close 2003 with 3.3% advancement and 2004 with a 4.3% growth.

The Commonwealth of Independent States will dominate its neighbours with a 6.2% growth, which, however, may decrease to 4.7% in 2004 because of a downward trend of the international oil price. (by Gardianul, Dec. 03, 2003)

[^ Back to Top ^](#)

## The CCE-R Events Calendar

**This calendar informs you on the next CCE-R events and is constantly up-dated.**

### **Events to be organized by the Chamber of Commerce Switzerland – Romania in January – February 2004**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Day</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Place</b>
<b>January 2004</b>	<b>January 14</b>	Board Meeting	Dominique Petter's residence
<b>February 2004</b>	<b>February 10</b>	Board Meeting	CCE-R's office
	<b>February 10</b>	Business Club organized by TOP SERVICES	The HILTON Hotel

✚ Board Meetings are only for the Board Members.

[^ Back to Top ^](#)

**This is a monthly Newsletter, released at the end of each month. Should you have any suggestions concerning it or should you want to contribute to its realization, please send us your proposals at:**

**CCE-R; Contact person: Gentiana Bulau**  
4-10, Drobeta Str., Apt. 1; RO-020521 Bucharest  
Tel. / Fax: +40 21 212 27 07; GSM: +40 745 63 53 83  
E-mail: [ccer@fx.ro](mailto:ccer@fx.ro)

## Become a CCE-R Member

If you want to help our Association grow, one of the best ways is to make it known and accessible. Invite interested companies to become members of CCE-R. They may fill in this form and return it to the head-office of the CCE-R.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

You are kindly requested to fill in the application form in block letters

COMPANY DATA		
Full Name		
Scope of Activity		
Registered Address		
Mailing Address (if different from above)		
Phones	#1	#2
Fax	#1	#2
E-mail	Website	
Reg. Com. No.	Fiscal Code	
Bank		
Account No.		
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE COMPANY		
Full Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Mr.	<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.
Position		
Direct Phone	Direct Fax	
Mobile Phone (optional)	E-mail	
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (optional)		
Links with Switzerland		
Specific interests within the CCER		
Any other relevant information		

Signature and stamp

CCE-R 4-10, Drobeta Str., Apt. 1, Sector 2, 020521 Bucharest Tel/Fax: +40 21 212 2707 GSM: +40 745 635 383 E-mail: [ccer@fx.ro](mailto:ccer@fx.ro)

[^ Back to Top ^](#)