

AmCham Human Resources Conference 2006



Robert Šimončíč, General Manager of Microsoft Slovakia and President of AmCham Slovakia officially welcoming participants to the HR Conference



Robert Cortenraad, Vice President Human Resources, Oracle Corporation



Vladimíra Josefičová, HR Executive Manager and Member of the Management Board, VÚB



The 5th Annual HR Conference of the American Chamber of Commerce in the Slovak Republic was held on October 31, 2006, in Radisson SAS Carlton Hotel, Bratislava. This year's conference attracted approximately 100 CEOs, HR managers and consultants who gathered to discuss the strategic role of human resources. The conference focused on "Maximizing the Strategic Impact of HR in a Dynamically Changing Environment", and featured many interesting Slovak and international speakers.

Participants were welcomed by Jake Slegers, Executive Director of AmCham Slovakia, and by Robert Šimončíč, President of AmCham Slovakia and General Manager of Microsoft Slovakia. Robert Cortenraad, Vice President for HR of Oracle EMEA, addressed the issue of Change Management and HR in his opening speech, with some examples from the Oracle experience. This was followed by a presentation on "The Role of Leadership & Change Management in Organizational Development" by Igor Šulík, Partner of the consulting group AJG – Amrop Jenewein Group. Mr. Šulík outlined the main organizational assests necessary for change management, the skills that the change leaders should possess, and the basic rules of successful change management.

Vladimíra Josefičová, HR Executive Manager and Member of the Management Board of VÚB, introduced the topic of "Setting up Long-term HR Strategy and Becoming the Strategic HR", which was accompanied by many useful examples from her practice. It was particularly interesting to compare the approach of VÚB and Oracle towards change management, since "the banking sector is very conservative compared to the IT sector

in terms of HR." The next speaker, Steven J. Kelly, Partner of KNO Worldwide, presented a more complex, theoretical approach when reflecting on "Solving Complex Organizational Problems: The Evolving Role of HR".

During the lunch break, the participants had a chance not only to enjoy the food and refreshments, but also to indulge in the personal discussions with speakers and networking. They then gathered in the conference room to listen to the presentation of Daniel Laco, Executive Director of FBE Bratislava, who focused on the specific topic of Six Sigma. The presentation of Mr. Laco was followed by a case study entitled "Adapting to Change – From German Call Center to European Business Center" by Veit V. Dangler, General Manager of DELL's European Business Center and Peter Klein, Senior Marketing Manager of DELL EMEA. A very original case study on "Scouting, Managing and Coaching a Hockey Team" was presented by one of the most famous personalities of the Slovak ice-hockey scene. Ján Filc, Head Coach of Slovakia's gold medal Hockey Team and Member of the Executive Committee of the Slovak National Ice Hockey Federation captivated the attention of all attendees with many interesting HR-related stories from the sports environment.

The AmCham office sincerely hopes that all who participated in the AmCham HR Conference 2006 found it beneficial and interesting; we are already looking forward to welcome HR experts and managers to a similar conference next year. AmCham would like to express special thanks to the two sponsors of this year's event – VÚB and Oracle, as well as to all who provided us with useful comments and ideas.

Igor Šulík, Partner in AJG - Amrop Jenewein Group



Steven J. Kelly, Partner, KNO Worldwide





Jake Slegers, Executive Director of AmCham Slovakia



Veit Dengler, General Director of DELL Slovakia



Ján Filc, Head Coach of Slovakia's gold medal Hockey Team and Member of the Executive Committee of the Slovak National Ice Hockey Federation



Daniel Laco, Executive Director of FBE Bratislava



Peter Klein, Senior Marketing Manager, DELL EMEA



Lubomír Ochotníčky from Ochotníčky and Partners



Sean Andrews, Senior Manager – Corporate Governance Advisory, KPMG



Vladimíra Josefičová, HR Executive Manager and Member of the Management Board, VÚB and Igor Šulík, Partner in AJG - Amrop Jenewein Group discussing and sharing knowledge

Attendees of the conference listening intently





Robert Šimončíč, General Manager of Microsoft Slovakia and President of AmCham Slovakia; Steven J. Kelly, Partner, KNO Worldwide and Jake Slegers, Executive Director of AmCham Slovakia



from left: Robert Cortenraad, Vice President Human Resources, Oracle Corporation and Peter Lieskovský, HR Director, Oracle Slovensko



from left: Radovan Čechvala, ASBU Manager and Petr Mičev, Solutions Sales Manager from Oracle Slovensko



Registration of attendees



Mrs. Josefiová addressed the issue of "Setting up Long-term HR Strategy and Becoming the Strategic HR"



from left: Igor Šulík, Partner in AJG - Amrop Jenewein Group, and Stanislav Žák, Agency Manager, Amslico AIG Life



A drawing from business cards of those who attended: a Connex Hotel Voucher, a Management Publication and a Six Sigma Publication



Photo: Andrej Klížan

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