

BLBA Newsletter Edition XIII



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President's Message | Ignace Hindrick



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Dear BLBA-members,

India is becoming the **3rd largest economy in the world**. The EU is looking for closer cooperation. End of February, Mrs. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the **European Commission**, came with a huge delegation on a 2 days bilateral visit. Her discussions with Indian officials focused on enhancing trade and investment partnerships and addressing key global issues, marking an important chapter in the India-EU relations.

A few days later, a **Belgian Economic Mission (BEM)**, presided over by HRH Princess Astrid of Belgium, visited New Delhi and Mumbai. We have an impressive list to share: 330 delegates, 9 seminars and conferences in New Delhi, 37 agreements signed between Indian and Belgian partners, meetings with the Hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. Piyush Goyal, bilateral talks with Hon. Minister of External Affairs Dr. Jaishankar and a high-level meeting with HRH Princess Astrid and the Belgian ministerial delegation with Hon. PM Mr. Narendra Modi.

BLBA was the local coordinator for VOKA's **seminar "Unlocking India: technical and regulatory insights for business"** organized for the delegates of the BEM at Shangri-la Hotel in New Delhi. VOKA is Flanders' biggest network of enterprises representing 18.000+ businesses, 65% of the private employment and 70% of the added value.

Based on the company profile and sector of our members, VOKA had invited 20+ BLBA members to attend their seminar and interact with the delegates and speakers.

Mr. Rajiv Dhawan, Senior Advisor, TCR Group for India and Director Magotteaux Industries and **Mr. Vivek Sehgal**, Chief Officer Middle East & Asia, Tractebel shared their experiences of setting up and running an entity in India. I had the honor to conclude this interesting seminar attended by Flemish Minister President Mr. Matthias Diependaele, acting CEO & COO of Flanders Investment and Trade (FIT) Mr. Piet Demunter and HE Ambassador Mr. Didier Vanderhasselt.

We at **BLBA** will keep on promoting business and trade between companies from Belgium, Luxembourg, and India through a privileged networking platform for business interaction and knowledge sharing. We are also in touch with both the Embassy of Belgium and Luxembourg and their Trade Offices to learn about their priorities and focus sectors and to plan joint-activities.

This newsletter gives you a glimpse of our past events and news from BLBA members.

BLBA has a series of exciting activities for the year 2025/26 in the pipeline. Check your inbox for updates or get in touch with our secretariat at info@blbanewdelhi.org. And of course, a new financial year means that we are looking forward to your renewed membership, interaction, and participation!

I am excited to see what we can achieve together in the coming months.

With warm regards and thank you for your continued support!



It is my pleasure to extend warm greetings to BLBA's members and friends, through this latest edition of our newsletter. As we move through 2025, we are excited to witness the continued growth and deepening of India's bilateral ties with Belgium and Luxembourg, anchored significantly by the recent Belgian Economic Mission to India.

During the past year, BLBA has striven to strengthen bilateral trade, investment, and cooperation between our countries, through several knowledge-sharing, interactive and networking events, as detailed in this newsletter. The coming year promises even greater opportunities.

BLBA's role in facilitating business connections, providing valuable insights, and supporting our members' ventures is more important than ever. Through our continued efforts, we aim to create new avenues for cross-border partnerships and innovation.

In the coming months, we have exciting events, seminars, and networking opportunities lined up. I encourage you all to engage actively, share your experiences, and make the most of these opportunities to connect with fellow business leaders, entrepreneurs, and policy-makers. Together, we can continue to foster a robust and resilient ecosystem for Belgian and Luxembourgish businesses in India, and for Indian businesses in Belgium and Luxembourg.

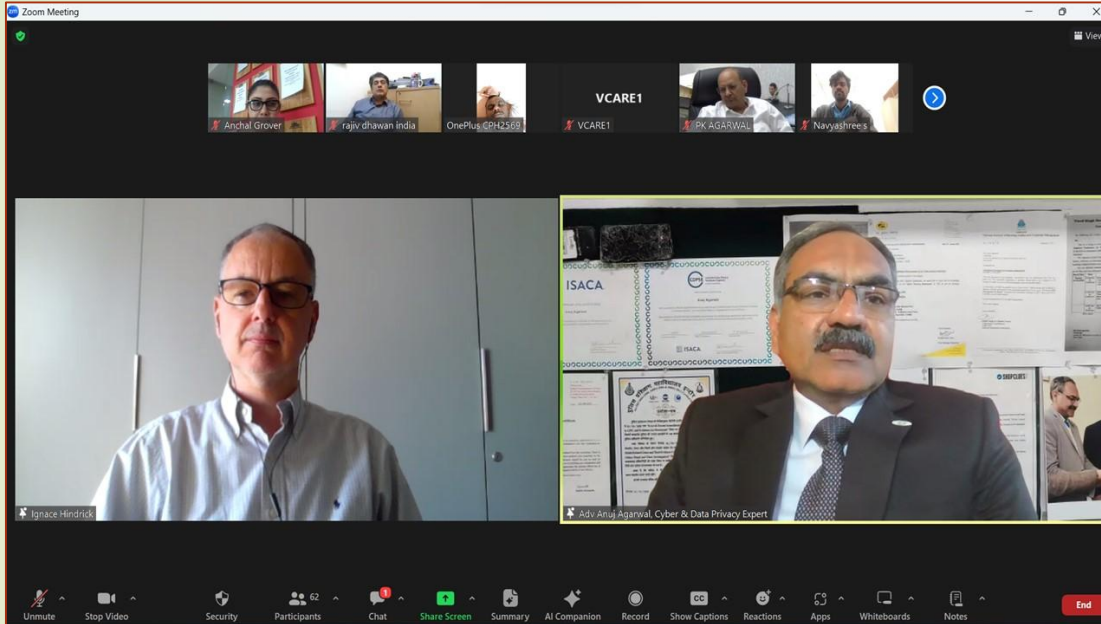
I would like to thank you for your continued support and commitment to BLBA. We look forward to another year of collaboration, growth, and success!

A SNAPSHOT OF OUR PAST EVENTS

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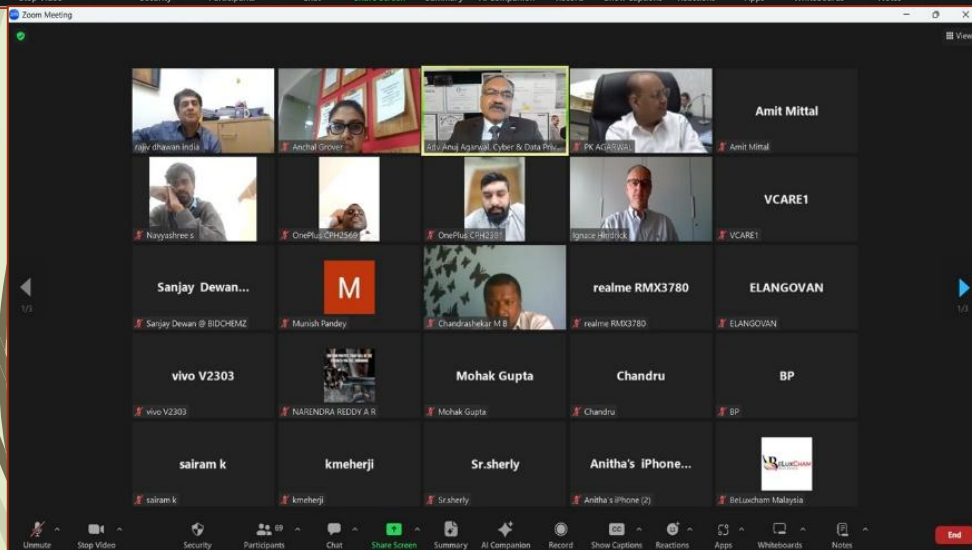
All Things Cyber Security & Its Challenges for Enterprises - February 2024

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BLBA was delighted to host an informative webinar with 75+ active participants on Cyber security. Our sincere thanks to Mr. Anuj Agarwal, **Chairman of the Centre for Research on Cyber Crime and Cyber Law** for his exceptional presentation. His insights and expertise made a significant impact.

This webinar highlighted a strong cybersecurity strategy, discussed the security posture against malicious attacks on enterprises or users' systems, and shared how we can keep our sensitive data safe with due diligence and preventive measures.





WEBINAR  **BLCCJ** BELGIAN-LUXEMBOURG
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
IN JAPAN

Business impact of generative AI
Conversation with B12, leading AI company in Belgium



 **B12**

Michel Herquet
AI Expert and Managing Partner

With a strong emphasis on a business-oriented approach, the Belgium-Luxembourg Chamber of Commerce in Japan (**BLCCJ**) organized 2 webinars on the latest technologies: **A.I. and ChatGPT.**

They kicked off with a webinar on **the hot topic of generative A.I.**, presented by **Michel Herquet**, founding partner of **B12 Consulting**, Belgium's pioneering company in **A.I. technology.**

Our **BLBA** members could join for an **insightful discussion** and explore the practical business implications of generative A.I. and its impact on the global and local economy.



BLBA New Delhi in collaboration with the [Belgo-Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry](#) had the pleasure of hosting a very insightful hybrid seminar on "Doing Business in India and Belgium - Mastering Cross-Border Joint Ventures".

Mr. Frank Haak - Senior Advisor Global Trade Solutions at BNP Paribas Fortis opened the session with an introductory note.

Our sincere gratitude to our speakers **Mr. Bhushan Trivedi** - AVP Europe, Invest India, **Dr. Munish Sabhrawal** - Managing Director of Transaction Advisory Services Nexdigm, **Mr. Anshuman Choudhary** - Partner Risk Advisory at Deloitte Belgium, **Ms. Babette Desfossez** - Investment and Trade Commissioner for Flanders (FIT) and **Mr. Guillaume de Bassompierre** - Trade & Investment Commissioner (AWEX) for sharing their valuable insights.

BLBA is profoundly grateful to our event co-sponsors [Nexdigm](#), [DMH Business Advisors](#), [Invest India](#), and our platinum members [PPS International](#) and [MARINE SOLUTIONZ](#) for their support.



IDCBS and BLBA New Delhi, organized an interactive session on the Union Budget 2024/25 in collaboration with knowledge partner, **Deloitte India**. The expert speakers explored the intricacies of the budget and its implications for various sectors.

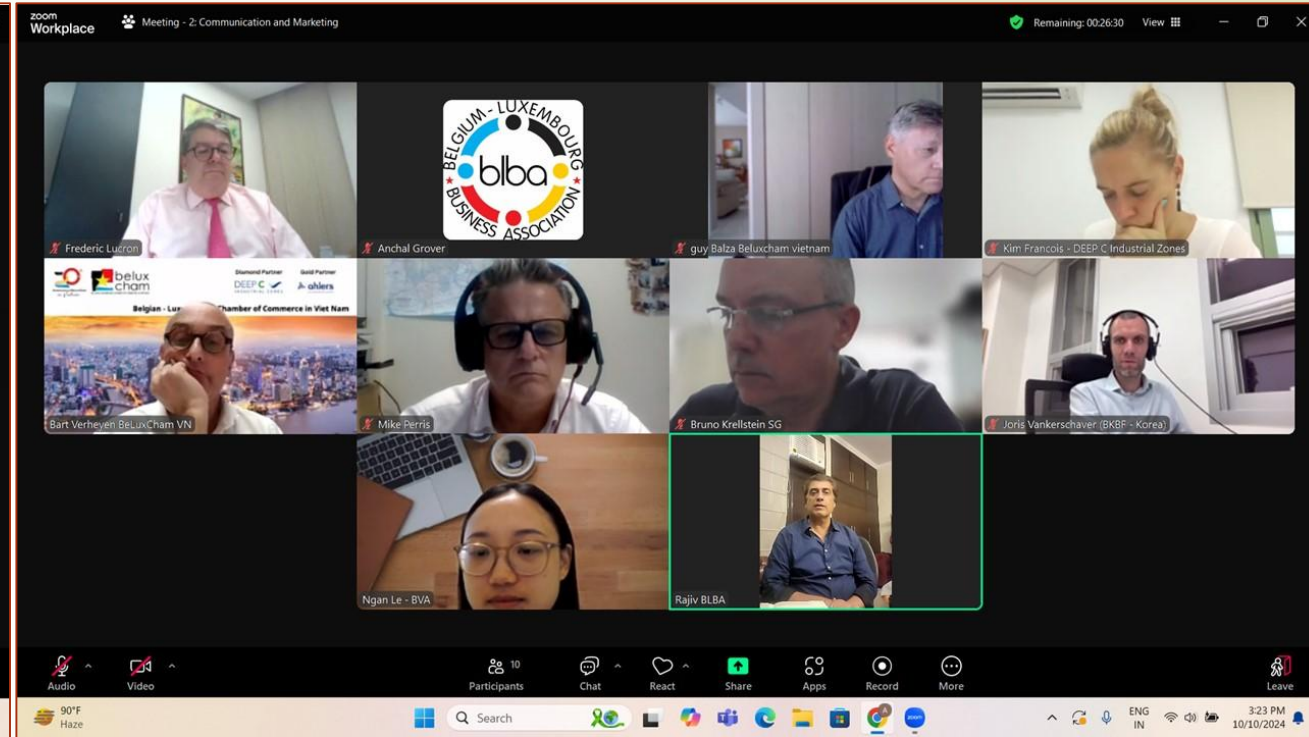
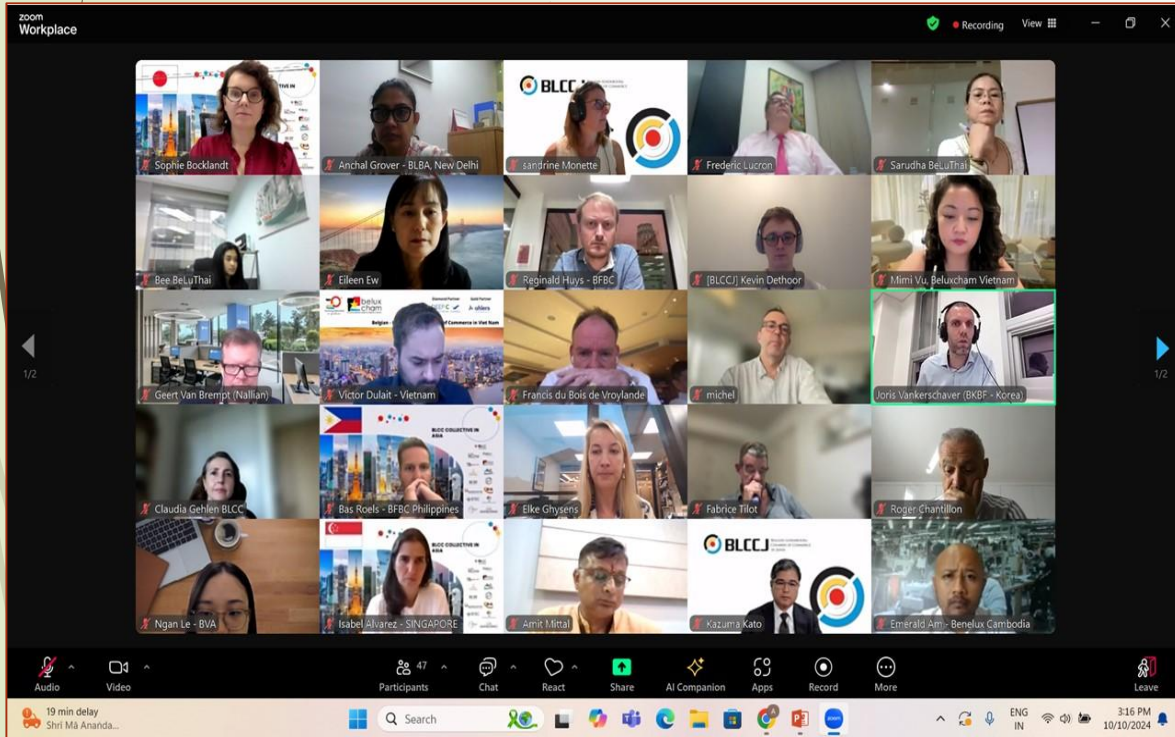


On 30th September 2024, BLBA held its **9th Annual General Meeting** at India International Centre in New Delhi. We shared an overview of the previous activities and the events in the pipeline.

The **BLBA Elections** for the Executive Board were held during the same meeting.

BeLux Asia online board exchange - October 2024

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This online networking event was an excellent opportunity to connect and exchange ideas with **board members from the other 14 BELUX Chambers in Asia.**



The seminar "**Best Practices for Entering into a Joint Venture**" with our knowledge partner [Obhan & Associates](#) was a great success. The panel focused on structuring concerns, contractual protections, specifying the laws that will apply if a dispute arises, managing funds across borders, etc. with numerous examples and case studies.

New Year Soirée - January 2025

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Valuable connections have been built during our **New Year soirée**. We thank our event sponsor Ms. [Shefali Sewak](#) - Sewak & Associates - for her valuable support.

VOKA Seminar “Unlocking India: technical and regulatory insights for business - March 2025

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During the Belgian Economic Mission to India, BLBA had the opportunity to support VOKA with the organization of their seminar "Unlocking India: technical and regulatory insights for business". Expert speakers and business leaders shared their insights, perspective, and knowledge on navigating the taxation and regulations landscape and unlocking opportunities in India.

Mr. [Rajiv Dhawan](#) (Senior Advisor, TCR Group for India) and Mr. [Vivek Sehgal](#) (Chief Officer, Middle East & Asia, Tractebel) were panelists together with Mr. Peter Vyncke (Owner Vyncke NV) and Mr. Ward Claerbout (Agristo NV).

BLBA President Mr. [Ignace Hindrick](#) concluded the session.

Based on their company profile and business sector, VOKA had invited 20+ BLBA members for this seminar.



Platinum Members

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Corporate Sponsors

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Marine Solutionz Group is a leading **offshore and maritime solutions provider**, founded by experienced Master Mariners with deep-rooted expertise in global energy logistics. Since 2009, we've evolved from a crew manning and ship management agency into a diversified group serving the marine, offshore oil & gas, energy, aerospace, and defence sectors. Our core strengths include design, supply, and maintenance of offshore cargo transfer systems such as Single Point Mooring (SPM), LNG Ship-to-Ship transfers, FPSO operations, and small-scale LNG solutions. Through **MSZ Offshore**, our dedicated service arm, we offer expert technical support, inspection, and lifecycle management of marine assets.

We also operate a cutting-edge precision machine shop, enabling high-accuracy CNC machining and fabrication. **Avenir Maritime**, our offshore logistics and chartering arm, provides agile, end-to-end ship operations and cargo movement solutions - especially critical in volatile freight markets.

With a presence across India, Dubai, and Singapore, our group companies - Marine Solutionz, MSZ Offshore, S2 Shipping, and Avenir Maritime - deliver seamless, integrated solutions trusted by clients worldwide.



MarineSolutionz



MSZ Offshore

PPS International Pvt. Ltd., an ISO 9001:2015 certified partnership firm since 2003, is an independent company based out of Greater Noida (close to New Delhi). We are an engineering company engaged in the manufacturing of very high technologically oriented components for **railway / metro application**, particularly used in 3 phase rolling stocks and 25 kV OHE traction. Our main aim has been to introduce only high-tech components / equipment which are either not available in the country or if it can bring value addition to the country.

The year 2024 has been a remarkable year not only in terms of overall business growth but also the addition of 100% indigenously developed systems like the Retractable Rigid Catenary System (RRCS) and Platform Screening Doors (PSD) in particular, which has taken our industry reputation to greater heights.

Another feather in our cap is the latest addition to our growing list of indigenous systems. They provide a barrier between the track and the platform for passenger's safety, as it opens only when there is a train stopped at its correct position. This is being manufactured 100% in India under "Make in India" initiative in technical collaboration with Bharat Electronics Ltd. (BEL) for installation at Bhopal and Indore metro.



R K Dewan & Co. stands as a leading Intellectual Property Law Firm in India, offering a comprehensive array of services across the full spectrum of IP rights. For over 80 years, our firm has been a pioneering force in the field of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), establishing itself as one of the most respected and reliable IPR law firms in India. Founded by Mr. Raj Kumar Dewan in 1942, the firm has grown into a global IP powerhouse, delivering superior legal services to clients across all sectors of industry and technology.

As an ISO 9001:2015 certified law firm, R K Dewan & Co. has consistently demonstrated its commitment to excellence and quality. Our clientele includes over 5,500 corporate and individual clients, including leading Indian companies, multinational corporations, and Fortune 500 companies. We serve a broad spectrum of industries such as software, electronics, telecommunications, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, automobiles, FMCGs, specialty chemicals, agriculture, textiles, entertainment and many more.

At R K Dewan & Co., we pride ourselves on offering an extensive range of intellectual property services, seamlessly integrating both domestic and international practices. Our areas of expertise encompass:

- Patent Prosecution & Litigation
- Trademark Registration & Enforcement
- Designs and Copyright Protection
- IP Commercialization & Valuation
- Anti-Counterfeiting and Enforcement Actions



R. K. DEWAN & Co.
ADVOCATES, TRADE MARK
& PATENT ATTORNEYS
INDIA

BLBA Executive Board

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Ignace Hindrick
President



Shefali Sewak
Vice President



Amit Mittal
Treasurer



Rajeev Dhawan
Director



Aditya Sinha
Director



Pavan K Agarwal
Director



Abhimanyu Mathur
Director

Permanent invitees to the board

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Patrick Govaert
Economic Counselor
Embassy of Belgium



Babette Desfossez
Trade & Investment
Commissioner for Flanders



Guillaume de Bassompierre
Trade & Investment
Commissioner for Wallonia -
Brussels Economic
Representation



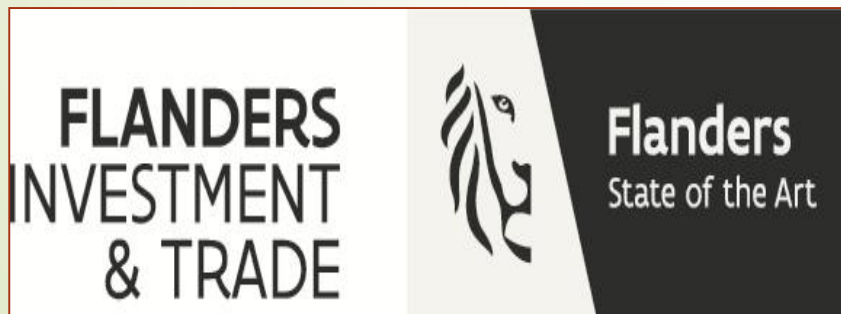
Steve Hoscheit
Economic and Commercial Counsellor
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg



Jill Engel
Deputy Head of Mission
Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

BLBA Patron Members

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Why become a BLBA member?

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Gain multiple **benefits** and **advantages** from a BLBA membership

- Privileged access to Indian, Belgian and Luxembourg business- and government leaders.
- Visibility through participation in BLBA conferences, seminars, and events.
- Cross-industry interaction, networking, and meeting with sector peers.
- BLBA as a forum for the promotion of your organization.
- Special member rates to events.

Belgium Luxembourg Business Association Secretariat



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For any query related to membership or events, please contact the BLBA Secretariat