



Deutsches Wirtschaftsbüro  
German Trade Office  
Taipei  
德國經濟辦事處

International Trade Bldg. | 19F-9 | No. 333 | Keelung Rd. | Sec. 1 | Taipei 11012 | Taiwan

## Press Information

### German Trade Office Taipei

The German Trade Office Taipei (GTO) was established by the Association of German Chambers of Industry and Commerce (DIHK) as the Delegation of German Industry and Commerce in 1981 to promote economic relations between Taiwan and Germany and to represent the interest of German business in Taiwan. The GTO is the first point of contact in Taiwan for German companies, provides information on Taiwan and Germany, informs about investment opportunities in Germany and arranges seminars, networking events and symposia.

### DEInternational Taiwan Ltd.

DEInternational Taiwan Ltd., the service unit of the GTO, organizes business delegations and market survey trips, represents German trade fair companies and offers bilateral market entry support as well as recruiting, training, office-in-office and other value added services.

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### GTO Outlook 2019 & Wirtschaftsstammtisch

#### **Senior German representatives share their outlook on Taiwan's politics, economy, and industries for 2019.**

The German Trade Office Taipei hosted its annual GTO Outlook event, which brought together members of the Taiwanese-German business community, including business partners, experts, and professionals from different industries to discuss and evaluate on Taiwan's economic perspectives in 2019. The discussion was followed by the Wirtschaftsstammtisch, a traditional networking event that provided opportunity to meet new contacts and network among the German-Taiwanese business community.

Mr. Axel Limberg, Executive Director and Chief Representative of the German Trade Office Taipei welcomed over 110 guests at the event, including the four speakers of the event who elaborated on the outlook of various industries:

- **Dr. Thomas Prinz, Director General of the German Institute Taipei**
- **Mr. Erdal Elver, President & CEO of Siemens Limited Taiwan**
- **Mr. Michael Grewe, President & CEO of Mercedes Benz Taiwan Ltd.**
- **Mr. Dick Hsieh, President & Managing Director of Merck Ltd.**

In his presentation, Mr. Limberg referred to the GTO Business Confidence Survey conducted in November 2018, which showed that the business climate in Taiwan is still regarded as positive, but also revealed challenges, particularly in regards to the recruitment of professional staff.

Mr. Limberg thus stated: "The majority of German companies still face a shortage of qualified staff. Based on the results of our Business Confidence Survey, we recommend an active dialogue between the Taiwanese government and the industry, in order to implement a system of dual vocational training, which would be able to ease current recruitment problems."

He further noted that the focus of the German Trade Office Taipei in 2019 will not only be the further improvement of GTO services but also smart machinery and energy transition as in previous years, in order to strengthen and highlight German quality and the quality label Made in Germany. Furthermore, he pointed to several upcoming projects, including the Traction Battery Storage and Charging Infrastructure Delegation to Germany in July and an Offshore Wind Energy Delegation to Taiwan in September.

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