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IACCGP
ITALY-AMERICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF GREATER PHILADELPHIA

**BUILDING BRIDGES
MAINTAINING TIES
PROMOTING GROWTH**

February 2015 Issue

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Firsttrust Bank

New initiatives

**Regional Dinner Series:
La Regione Emilia
Romagna @ Gran Caffè
L'Aquila - March 19th, 2015**

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We welcome Firsttrust Bank as our newest Board Member of the Chamber.

Firsttrust Bank is a financial institution with branches located throughout the Delaware Valley, Lehigh Valley and Southern New Jersey.

In 1934, during the Great Depression, Samuel A. Green founded the First Federal Savings and Loan Association of Philadelphia, which became Firsttrust Bank in 1987.

Based on family values, the main aim of this institution was to serve people by recognizing leadership in each other, both customers and the community.

Over the years, Firsttrust Bank earned recognition from the major credit rating agencies as one of the strongest Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation insured banks in the United States.

Today, the third generation of the Green family still considers the commitment to community as the cornerstone of the Firsttrust Bank, and continues the tradition by providing high quality financial services to its customers.

For further information, please visit the website www.firsttrust.com.

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Life Science Events in Philadelphia you should not miss!

The Greater Philadelphia life science cluster is a wide sector that involves the entire process of health care development, including 15 leading life science companies, 197 hospitals, three pharmaceutical schools, more than 15 major health systems, four National Cancer Institute-designated cancer treatment centers and four children's hospitals.

This region offers the 5th largest R&D hub in US thanks to the presence of six important Medical Schools investing in health innovation as well as the most efficient Research Organizations within the Country.

As representative of the high quality health care development, the city of Philadelphia will host two important events concerning medical science sector. The Pennsylvania Convention Center will present the American Association for Cancer Research Annual Meeting 2015 (April 18-22, 2015) and the 2015 American Transplant Congress (May 2-6, 2015).

The American Association for Cancer Research (AACR) Annual Meeting 2015 will provide a unique opportunity for cancer researchers from all over the world to meet, interact and share their insights as well as to inquire about the latest best discoveries in every area of cancer research. The meeting theme- "Bringing Cancer Discoveries to Patients"- will have the aim to highlight the essential link between cancer discovery and treatment as well as the importance of research as the most powerful tool for the progress toward cancer cures. For all the investigators who are interested in the cancer research environment, the Annual Meeting is a must-attend event.

The 2015 American Transplant Congress (ATC) is considered the most important educational event in the field of basic and clinical transplantation, as the Joint Annual Meeting of the American Society of Transplant

Surgeons (ASTS) and the American Society of Transplantation (AST). The main purposes of this Congress are to provide a forum for exchange of new scientific and clinical information and ideas relevant to solid organ and tissue transplantation as well as to promote discussions about socioeconomic, ethical and regulatory issues. Scientific material will be actively presented through oral abstracts, workshops, and presentations as well as small group sessions. All surgeons and physicians operating in the solid organ and tissue transplantation field are strongly encouraged to attend this Congress.

[AACR Annual Meeting](#)

[American Transplant Congress 2015](#)



Discover Modena

The City and Province of Modena, in the Emilia-Romagna Region of Italy is truly unique. With both a vast medieval history and a thriving industry-based local economy, Modena is the exemplar of a modern Italian city. Just a train ride from the famous Italian industrial triangle of Milan, Turin, and Genoa, Modena is brimming with economic potential and opportunity.

Modena is an ancient city known to have been established since at least the 3rd century BCE. With Etruscan beginnings, the city was a hub of military and political activity since its founding. Despite a devastating flood in the 7th century CE, the city was restored to a fuller extent, becoming both the seat of the archbishop and a duchy.

With such a history, it may come as no surprise that one of the greatest sites to see in Modena is the Ducal Palace, seat of the Este Court from the 17th to 19th

centuries. The Palace is now home to the Accademia Militare di Modena, an extensive military museum. Apart from the Ducal Palace, the city hosts three UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including the Piazza Grande (Grand Plaza), The Cattedrale Metropolitana di Santa Maria Assunta e San Geminiano (The Metropolitan Cathedral of Saint Mary of the Assumption and Saint Geminianus) and the Torre della Ghirlandina (the Cathedral's Belltower).

Modena's nickname is the "Capital of the Engines", as almost all major Italian car brands had their headquarters located in or around the city at some point in time. Ferrari even has a car named after the city, the "Modena 360". Aside from the automotive industry, however, Modena is a center for many other sectors. The city is constituted of cooperatives in many industries, food and construction being the most prominent. This cooperative foundation dates back to the 19th century when the Laborers Cooperative was formed, and continues to be a unique and functional aspect of the Modenese economy. According to the Modena Chamber of Commerce, from the 2013 to 2014 period, there were consistent positive trends in the city's economy, with a steadily increasing presence of Modenese brands in the local and even national marketplace (+18.8%). Ever promising for International businesses is also the increased presence of international brands and their sustaining role in the Modenese economy, the number of which rose by 52% in 2014. With this promising economic record of performance, Modena could offer a rare commercial opportunity for both Italian and International businesses alike.

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