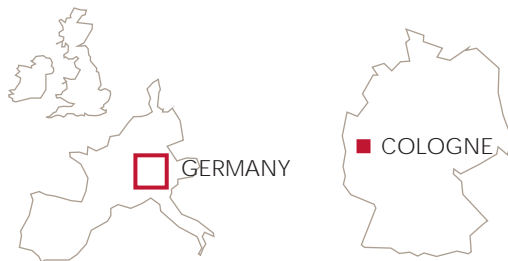




AMB GENERALI
Asset Managers

PERHAPS IT'S JUST AS WELL CLAUDIA STEIGER LIKES ICE HOCKEY: AS HEAD OF ACCOUNTING AT AMB GENERALI'S FAST-MOVING ASSET MANAGEMENT START-UP IN COLOGNE, SHE ALWAYS HAS TO BE READY TO PLAY THE POINT, MAKE CHECKS AND CHANGE ON THE FLY. THE SHIFTS CAN BE HECTIC, BUT SHE GETS AN ASSIST FROM SUNGARD'S V3 – AND THERE'S ALWAYS THE SHARKS GAMES TO LOOK FORWARD TO IN THE WINTER



routing and booking of all trades processed by the asset management company.

Claudia joined AMB Generali from German private bank Salomon Oppenheim – her first job. "After 14 years at the bank, there was a moment when I thought: 'Do I want to stay here for the rest of my working life?' It was a now-or-never decision."

Her years at Salomon Oppenheim gave Claudia a "big picture" view of the financial services industry. Rather than focusing only on equities or money market instruments, she had the opportunity to work with a wide range of products. "I gained a lot of experience in the investment field, which has helped me to do my job at AMB Generali," says Claudia.

INTEGRATION

AMB Generali's portfolio comprises mutual funds, third party mandates and financial investments of the Generali Group, as well

As one of the first people to join German fund management company AMB Generali Asset Managers when it was set up in 1999, Claudia Steiger has seen the company grow from just five employees to having a 105-strong workforce that manages 64 billion euros in assets.

"Working at a start-up company is very interesting. We didn't have any processes – either good or bad – and were able to use our imagination to create something very new," she says.

Claudia is head of book-keeping and accounting at the asset management firm, which is a subsidiary of Italy's Generali group, a global insurance and financial products company.

With a team of 15 people based in AMB Generali's regional competence center in Cologne, she is responsible for the order

HOME LIFE

FAMILY: Single.

HOME: Dueren, one hour's drive from Cologne. "Cologne has a very young population, so there is plenty to do from a cultural, sports and music point of view. Everything is possible here."

PASTIMES: "In summer I enjoy my garden and in winter I watch the Cologne Sharks ice hockey team. It's a tough sport and great to watch."

VACATION: "I like to take short trips to different European towns and I plan to visit the U.S. and Canada soon."

CURRENT DREAM: "I love the job I am doing now. For me, the most important thing in life is to be close to your family and be happy and healthy. Also to have as much fun as you can!"



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as company pension funds. It handles more than 100,000 customer deposits.

In 2003, the Austrian and Dutch subsidiaries of Generali Group transferred the management of their investment portfolios to the Cologne competence center. It now handles the portfolios of these companies as well as the German and Swiss companies.

“The main focus of our work at the moment is to consolidate and harmonize accounting processes for all of the portfolios we handle so we can be as efficient as possible,” says Claudia. “To do that, I have to talk to the key players in the company in each country. That means I often have to travel, so I see the airport a lot.”

Claudia describes her working life as varied and challenging. As a regional center, the Cologne office has to deal with financial regulations in the different countries it serves. “With our European clients we have to consider what the regulators in those countries are doing. Because regulations are constantly changing in the investment management industry, it is a challenge. But you have to learn and take the business forward.”

Investment funds in different countries are subject to legal and tax restrictions, depending on the structure of the portfolios. Claudia's team monitor these restrictions and must provide the appropriate documentation to meet the legal and tax requirements in the different countries it serves. Acting on behalf of other companies in the group is a great responsibility, she says.

THE SYSTEM

SunGard's V3 fund accounting solution underpins the work of Claudia's team.

“I used V3 at Salomon Oppenheim, so was familiar with the system and thought it was very good. Because we were working in

WORK LIFE

HOURS: 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: “Our offices are five minutes' walk from Cologne Cathedral, right in the center of the city.”

OFFICE: “I have my own office, but the door is always open.”

VIEW: “I can see the cathedral and also a park. If I want to take a break for five minutes, I just look out of the window at the lovely view.”

DESK HYGIENE: “It isn't messy, but if you walked in here you'd know that someone is not sleeping on the job!”

DRESS CODE: “We have a combination of formal and smart casual dress.”

PERSONAL ORGANIZATION: “I prefer a good old paper scheduler like a Filofax – that way you don't have to remember to synchronize all your data.”

a new environment, the implementation was very easy,” she explains. Acting as a central database, V3 has helped Claudia to harmonize processes for the book-keeping and position-keeping of the entire company.

Working at AMB Generali is “no nine to five” job, she says. “We have to work hard and it is important for me to be able to motivate my team, because I cannot go it alone in this work.”

Despite the hard work, Claudia enjoys the atmosphere at the asset manager, which, as a young company, has an open and non-hierarchical structure. “If you want to get something done, there are not a lot of steps you have to go through. And we also have a lot of fun.”

THE SUNGARD SOLUTION: V3

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