

NEWSFLASH

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Lily Hui, Howard Weiner and Alan Weiner of Holtz Rubenstein Reminick LLP with Ray Mack (second left)

Memorable International Conference in Sydney

Initial feedback from members indicates a highly enjoyable and worthwhile conference. Following some wild weather preceding the conference, Sydney presented its stunning views under a blue but chilly sky. We had over 90 delegates and a total of around 160 including accompanying persons and children. Unsurprisingly, considering the travel distance for many members, the delegate number was lower than last year but with almost the same number (but of a different mix) of firms represented.



Ray Mack and Demetris Demetriou of DFK Demetriou, Trapezaris Ltd.

Gala Dinner Group Photo

Copies of the group photo taken at the Gala Dinner will be sent to each attendee in due course.

2007 DFK Awards

At the closing dinner of the conference the President presented the Regional Firms of the Year Awards to this year's winners:

The Americas: Holz Rubenstein Reminick LLP, USA

Europe Middle East & Africa: DFK Demetriou, Trapezaris Ltd., Cyprus

Asia-Pacific: Oswin Griffiths - DFK Ltd., New Zealand



David Griffiths and Navin Patel of Oswin Griffiths - DFK Ltd. being given their award by Ray Mack (dressed in the fancy dress sporting icon theme)

The Ken McQuillan Award is presented, when felt appropriate, to a member to recognise "outstanding service to DFK in the spirit of the late Ken McQuillan. That spirit defined as "a cheerful willingness to be involved in the work and social activities of the association". This year it was awarded and the popular recipient was Alan Weiner of Holtz Rubenstein Reminick LLP, NY, USA



Alan Weiner with the Irish Waterford Crystal Ken McQuillan Award

Mark Lamb organised another much enjoyed Golf tournament at which Australia/New Zealand defeated the Rest of the World. The individual best score was achieved by Chris Coulton (Coulton, Isaac Barber, Sydney).



Welcome to new Members in Vietnam and the USA

Members have elected CA&A Consulting and Auditing Company of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, as a Correspondent Member. We were delighted to formally welcome the firm's managing partner, Nguyen Luong Nhan, at the Sydney conference.

DFK USA has elected Mellott & Mellott P.L.L. of Cincinnati, Ohio. The firm has 7 partners for whom Don Mellott acts as Contact Partner.

January 2008 European Members Meeting Confirmed for Rome

Following some difficulty locating a suitable hotel at an acceptable cost, I can confirm that the meeting

will take place at the Rome Cavalieri Hilton www.cavalieri-hilton.it

The European Members at their meeting in Sydney decided to hold the January 2009 European meeting in Istanbul.

The Network Issue

This was the major topic on the agenda of the Board of Directors meeting held in Sydney. As a result of analysis of the criteria and legal advice taken in both the UK and the USA, the Board took the view that DFK International does not meet the Network criteria, except in respect of those firms that include DFK in their name. The board unanimously voted in favour of DFK remaining an "association" rather than being classified as a "network".

Based on examples issued by IFAC, an association can however include a grouping of firms who meet the network criteria, provided the distinction between independent association members and network firms is clear. It is proposed to offer firms currently including DFK in their name the option of retaining the DFK name and hence being classified as a network firm and accepting the obligations, or dropping the DFK name and being classified as an independent member of the association. Although not required under the Members' Agreement, the Board felt this matter is of such importance that all Full Members should be invited to express their support or otherwise on the Board's proposal. I will therefore shortly be circulating a detailed explanatory note plus supporting documents to all Full and Correspondent Members. A ballot paper will be attached for those who vote on behalf of their country.

Raphael Mendels replaces David Griffiths on Board and Executive Committee



Raphael dressed as an Australian icon at the Gala Dinner

DFK Australia/ New Zealand elected Ray) Raphael Mendels, DFK Laurence Varnay, to take over from David Griffiths, Oswin Griffiths - DFK, whose term had expired, as their nominated member on the DFK International Board.

The International Board at their Sydney meeting elected Raphael to also replace David on the Executive Committee.

Kevin Arnold starts with DFK International

Kevin Arnold, the new Executive Director, is now fully “on board” and had the opportunity to meet delegates at the Sydney conference. We are now having a hand over process which is planned to culminate on 24 September when Kevin will formally take over. I leave the association at the end of September. Kevin’s email address is karnold@dfk.com



Simon Fraser and Kevin Arnold outside Russell Square House

Apologies to Johan Daams, Foederer DFK

In the photograph of the EDMC in the last edition we listed Johan Dens rather than Johan Daams as a member. Apologies to both the Johans.

Call for Registrations for European Management Development Seminar and Business Development Seminar

Both these seminars are taking place in Hotel Berlin, Berlin www.hotel-berlin.de 20-22 September. If those who have “committed” to send delegates have not yet registered them, please complete the registration form and return to vward@dfk.com. We would like to attract additional delegates for both seminars and ask all European members to consider whether they have at least one member who would benefit from one of these seminars. Full details available from Vanessa.



Reminder for Contact Partners

- **Audit Quality Review Programme Questionnaires** A number of questionnaires are still outstanding. Please return your firm’s questionnaire to afawcett@dfk.com **as soon as possible.**

World Directory Amendments

- Change of Contact Partner for Alexander Sloan, Glasgow, UK
- New office for Rickenbach & Partner in Geneva, Switzerland
- Change of address for Robson Taylor Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors, Bristol, UK

Future Events and Conferences

- **DFK/UK Annual Conference 2007** will be held **27-28 September 2007** at **The Belfry, West Midlands, UK**
- **DFK/USA Annual Conference 2007** will be held **22-25 October 2007** at **Laguna Niguel, CA**
- **Asia-Pacific Conference** will be held **31 October-3 November 2007** in **Singapore**
- **DFK Canada Annual Conference 2008** will be held **5 - 7 June 2008** at the **Hotel Palace Royal, Quebec City, Canada**
- **DFK International Annual Conference 2008** will be held **16-19 July 2008** at the **Sofitel Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**

Please note:

All Future conferences and meetings can be viewed on the DFK website, Members’ Area under “Events & Conferences”.

Simon Fraser

