

GGI ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL CONFERENCE
29 NOVEMBER – 02 DECEMBER 2018
PHUKET, THAILAND



Hosted by:



strategy613

JW Marriott Phuket Resort & Spa
231 Moo 3 Mai Khao, Talang, Phuket 83110, Thailand
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Dress Code: Smart Casual

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DELEGATE PROGRAMME

Thursday, 29 November 2018

06:00 – 12:30	OPTIONAL Game of Golf at Mission Hill Golf Club <i>Meeting Point: Hotel Lobby</i>
18:00 – 19:30	GGI Hospitality Desk Open <i>Hotel Lobby</i>
19:00 – 21:00	Welcome Cocktail Reception <i>Lotus Pond</i>

Friday, 30 November 2018

08:30 – 17:30	GGI Hospitality Desk open <i>Hotel Lobby</i>
11:30 – 18:00	OPTIONAL: Elephant Care and Feeding at the Elephant Rescue Sanctuary <i>(For Accompanying Persons only)</i> <i>Meeting Point: Hotel Lobby</i>
09:00 – 17:30	Conference in the Hotel <i>Salon C</i>
09:00 – 09:10	Presidential Welcome Claudio G. Cocca
09:10 – 09:20	Official Opening of the Conference Pierre Hagmann <i>Counsellor & Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Switzerland in Thailand</i>
09:20 – 09:30	Welcome from the Host Firms Piyasak Chotipruk, Paul Gambles & Joe Horn-Phathanothai
09:30 – 10:30	Keynote Speech: “Global rebalancing – Asia-Pacific and its opportunities in the resources markets” Juerg Kiener
10:30 – 11:00	Coffee Break <i>Salon A&C Foyer</i>
11:00 – 12:00	Keynote Speech: “SUPERCREATIVITY™: Augmenting Human Creativity James Taylor in the Age of Artificial Intelligence”
12:00 – 12:20	GGI Regional Management Report Peter Kaeser
12:20 – 12:30	Upcoming GGI Conferences & Events Peter Kaeser
13:00 – 14:00	Lunch <i>Marriott Café</i>

14:00 – 15:30	<p>Practice Group Meetings Round I</p> <p>Debt Collection, Restructuring & Insolvency Practice Group Dr Attila Kovács <i>Salon E</i></p> <p>Leadership & Transformational Change Special Interest Group Chaitanya Kumar <i>Rawai</i></p>
15:30 – 16:00	<p>Coffee Break <i>Salon A&C Foyer</i></p>
16:00 – 17:30	<p>Practice Group Meeting Round II</p> <p>Auditing, Reporting & Compliance Practice Group Uday Ranpara <i>Salon E</i></p> <p>Business Development & Marketing Practice Group Alan Rajah <i>Rawai</i></p> <p>M&A Practice Group Joe Horn-Phathanothai <i>Salon D</i></p>
19:00 – 22:30	<p>Informal Dinner <i>Beach Front by the Main Pool</i></p>

Saturday, 1 December 2018

08:30 – 10:30	<p>GGI Hospitality Desk open <i>Hotel Lobby</i></p>
09:00 – 10:30	<p>Workshops & Practice Group Meetings Round III</p> <p>ASEAN Economic Community: the key to lifting barriers in SE Asia, Paul Gambles or just another failed customs union? <i>Salon E</i></p> <p>COMBINED International Taxation (ITPG) Ashish Bairagra & & Indirect Taxes Practice Groups Aditya Kumar <i>Rawai</i></p> <p>Understanding GGI (compulsory for all new GGI firms & candidate firms) Peter Kaeser <i>Salon D</i></p>
11:45 – 21:30	<p>ALL-DAY Group Excursion (includes lunch and dinner)</p> <p><i>Altogether we will enjoy an afternoon of sea cave exploring literally inside Phang Nga Bay's marine geology, including the caves and hidden lagoons that John Gray found in 1989. Great nature and wildlife surrounds you. Lunch and dinner will be served aboard the boats.</i></p> <p><i>All Accompanying Persons are also included in this adventure. Dress Code: Casual (Please bring sunscreen, mosquito repellent, sunglasses, swimsuits and beach towels.)</i></p>

Sunday, 2 December 2018

09:30 – 13:00

GGI Asia-Pacific Regional Council Meeting (Council Members only)
Kamala

Check-out by 12:00 noon.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Juerg Kiener



Juerg is presently the Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer at Swiss Asia Capital (Singapore) Pte Ltd and has more than 40 years' experience in the banking industry, with extensive knowledge in the private banking, asset management and securities industries. Juerg has gained considerable global investment experience, having taken up positions in Zurich, Geneva, Johannesburg, London, Guernsey, Hong Kong and Singapore with two leading Swiss banks, Credit Suisse and Union Bancaire Privee, and has been instrumental in establishing the Private Banking offices in Asia and as a CIO for both. For the past 18 years at Swiss Asia Capital (Singapore) Pte Ltd, his investment emphasis has been on hard-rock mining, particularly precious metals. His specialty is targeted at investing in late development-stage and producing resource companies for portfolio inclusion into in-house funds and tailor-made investment structures like managed accounts/bespoke mandates and investment certificates.

Global rebalancing – Asia-Pacific and its opportunities in the resources markets

The crisis of 2008 has not been resolved but has been papered over with additional debt and a massive transfer of wealth to the global elite, creating a massive income gap and undermining social stability. Most of the money in the western economies has not been reinvested in the economy but in additional investment leverage, social benefits and additional military spending, whilst the eastern nations have been working on more independence and the buildup of the largest economic trade zone with a population of over 4.5 billion people. That trade zone has, due to population growth and capital investments, velocity of money and as such a certain wealth creation. Long-term planning instead of short-term political benefits is moving money into that trade zone and is undermining today's fragile global USD reserve currency system.

Today, we are facing globally an environment of misallocation of capital, disruptive technologies and global competition undermining profit margins at the same time as deflationary and inflationary pressures are emerging. The corporate, private and government sectors in western economies are facing debt problems with no real GNP growth, while the eastern trade zone faces corporate and private debt problems but continues to benefit from better demographics and better government balance sheets supported by higher savings rates.

These massive problems will create certain additional certainties and volatility globally, and the required restructuring will shift power and benefits accordingly.

Central Asia is what the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) believes is all about the one necessary ingredient for control of Eurasia. China's strengthening military position in the East is just one aspect of how the world is changing. We also see our stance on trade as surely further incentivizing China and other countries to transition from USD-based trade to something else. As we noted recently, America's ability to penalize other countries, via measures that include sanctions as well as tariffs, stems from the dollar's role as the major reserve currency. We firmly believe that China will insist that Gold will become an integral part of a new global monetary system based on sovereign currencies, which will virtually eliminate the dollar's role in much of the world.

James Taylor

James Taylor M.B.A. F.R.S.A. - who started his career managing high profile rock stars - is now an in-demand keynote speaker and internationally recognised leader in business creativity and innovation. For over 20 years, he has been advising CEOs, entrepreneurs, educators, governments and leaders from Silicon Valley to Singapore on how to build innovative organisations, unlock creative potential, and increase productivity.

As the founder of C.SCHOOL™ and the host of multiple global summits, he has personally interviewed over 500 of the world's leading creative minds including Silicon Valley tech CEOs, New York Times bestselling authors, and artificial intelligence pioneers. Hundreds of thousands of people in over 120 countries have learned about creativity and innovation through his online courses, videos, media interviews and keynote speeches.



His clients have included Fortune Global 500 companies, government policy-makers, industry associations, and he was recently the subject of a BBC documentary about his life and work. He was awarded the S.D. Southern Prize from Canadian energy services company ATCO and named 'ONTRAprenuer of the Year' from US business and marketing automation leaders ONTRAPORT.

James is also a Fellow of the Royal Society of the Arts (F.R.S.A.), whose Fellows have included global innovators and leaders including President Benjamin Franklin, Sir Tim Berners-Lee, Bob Dylan, Adam Smith, Nelson Mandela and Professor Stephen Hawking.

SUPERCREATIVITY™: Augmenting Human Creativity In The Age Of Artificial Intelligence

Business is changing at the speed of light. Today exponential technologies such as artificial intelligence and machine learning are creating new disruptive business models almost overnight. In this new world, one where McKinsey & Co predict that 45 percent of jobs will be automated in the next 20 years, there is one distinctly human competitive advantage you and your people must leverage – your creativity. You will learn:

- What disruptive technologies such as artificial intelligence mean for you, your team and your industry.
- Which job roles in your industry are most at risk from automation?
- Why China's richest man believes 'creativity' is the most important skill you need to develop to survive and thrive in the age of disruption.
- The simple five step process for developing your creative thinking skills.
- How to lead innovative teams and foster a creative culture to increase innovation ROI.
- How to use the new science of 'Augmented Creativity' to generate, evaluate, develop and implement more ideas, more quickly.

PRACTICE GROUP MEETINGS, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS & WORKSHOPS

Friday, 30 November 2018, 14:00 – 15:30 pm

Debt Collection, Restructuring & Insolvency Practice Group

Dr Attila Kovács

Our meeting will provide participants with a deeper insight into the more than 10 years operation, objectives and structure of the Practice Group, as well as previous and recent projects, in order to express the firm intention of the Chairpersons of the PG to better involve the member firms of the Asia-Pacific region and specialists in this field of law. The process of collection of claims and receivables, and advising of clients in bankruptcy or reorganisation matters, requires not only the work of lawyers, but the very active involvement of accountants, tax advisors and auditors in order to complete successful projects that help the clients to save as much as possible from the company's assets and business.

Beside this, the meeting will be dedicated to discussion about regional regulations, and further possibilities and challenges of regional co-operation between GGI member firms in order to enhance business opportunities and success stories.



Leadership & Transformational Change Special Interest Group

Chaitanya Kumar

In this age of constant change, most businesses struggle for survival, leaving aside the growth aspect. As business consultants, industry and organisations expect us to guide them constantly to keep them on a path of growth and innovation. However, in order to do that, it is of utmost importance that, first, we as consultants are able to ensure consistent innovation and progress in our own practices. In order to ensure that, the upcoming Leadership and Transformational Change workshop in Phuket would aim at "Making your Practice Future-Ready!". In this session, we will be covering the following topics:

- Forecasting the future;
- Developing leadership pipelines;
- Empowering Teams;
- Fostering creativity and innovation; and
- Eliminating competition through collaboration.



In order to make the session more productive, it would be great if everyone comes ready with their notes on the current challenges they are facing in the above areas and how they have planned or would plan to cover the same.

Friday, 30 November 2018, 16:00 – 17:30 pm

Auditing, Reporting & Compliance Practice Group

Uday Ranpara

IFRS-15: REVENUE FROM CONTRACTS WITH CUSTOMERS. IFRS-15 focuses primarily and more precisely on performance obligation, i.e either satisfied over time or satisfied at a point in time. A significant level of emphasis has been placed on CONTROL rather than on the elements of RISK & REWARD. The (revised) standard, above all, imparts more efficacious guidance on certain matters, for instance:

- Separating elements;
- Allocating the Transaction Price;
- Licence Options;
- Contract Modifications;
- Contract Cost; and
- Repurchase Arrangements.



IFRS-15 entails an application of Core Principles categorised into a 5-step model. Compliance with the revised standard will, as per the recommendation of the Board, turn out to be more efficient in terms of: Implication of Greater Consistency, Comparability across the Industry and Capital Market, and so on.

Business Development & Marketing Practice Group

Alan Rajah

Artificial intelligence is here to stay. It has proven itself as a valuable and effective way to perform routine tasks in a variety of industries. Whilst AI may not have fully integrated itself into the day-to-day running of your business just yet, it does not mean that it will not become a vital tool to help relieve some of your most labour-intensive responsibilities.

It is expected that, by 2020, accounting tasks, including audits, payroll, tax, and banking will be fully-automated with the use of AI-based technologies. So, how will AI impact the profession?

Automation is certainly freeing people from performing manual checks and increasingly this is allowing in-house professionals to widen their roles.

GGI delegates will have the opportunity to discuss how much, or little, they are using AI currently, what their fears and concerns are, and the benefits of AI during an open discussion.



M&A Practice Group
Joe Horn-Phathanothai



“Technology in M&A”

This is an interactive session, where participants can showcase any good new tech they are using. Frankly, a lot of M&A bankers still use Microsoft Excel for spreadsheets, Microsoft PowerPoint for presentations, and Bloomberg for information. With the exception of datarooms having gone virtual, many of us pretty are much doing what we were in the mid 90’s.

Joe will showcase two techs they use in his firm: one is a CRM software they designed, which is currently hosted by Salesforce; and another is an intel software called Datarama which maps the connectivity between corporates, people, etc.

Saturday, 1 December 2018, 09:00 – 10:30 am

Workshop: Understanding GGI (compulsory for all candidates and new members)

Peter Kaeser



An interactive overview offering a better understanding of the daily life of GGI, membership criteria, selection of members, conferences, workshops, practice groups, the charter, and the functioning of Head Office, Regional Offices and the Executive Committee.

This Workshop is interesting for new and first-time attendees, as it provides participants with an in-depth view of daily operations as handled by GGI management, strategic outlooks and future plans. Clearer insight into the structure and functioning of GGI can also result in expansion of your business since it provides you with the ability to explain the benefits of GGI better to colleagues in your firm as well as your clients.

Workshop: ASEAN Economic Community: the key to lifting barriers in SE Asia or just another failed customs union?

Paul Gambles



Will the Asean Economic Community's ambitious 2025 Blueprint become a reality? Will the AEC bring prosperity to businesses across South East Asia?

Paul Gambles, Managing Partner of MBMG Group, will run a workshop to explore the possibilities.

Based in Bangkok for over 20 years, Paul is a Thai SEC licensed Securities Fundamental Investment Analyst and Investment Planner. He is a regular commentator on Asian and global economics on Bloomberg TV, CNBC and Channel News Asia.

Combined Practice Groups: International Taxation & Indirect Taxes

Ashish Bairagra



“Interplay of the PE concept under Direct and Indirect Tax laws”

In the simple world of economic trade, the concept of a permanent establishment (PE) is pretty much limited to these two words. In the complex world of tax laws, the concept of PE varies from country to country, depending on their definition of PE in local laws and the DTAA's which that country has assigned, as well as the numerous court decisions on PE. In the highly complex cross-border and digital world of tax laws, the concept of PE is still evolving and hence we will discuss the interplay of the PE concept under Direct and Indirect Tax laws with the group of participants from different countries.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

Thursday, 29 November 2018, 06:00 am – 12:30 pm

OPTIONAL: Game of Golf at Mission Hill Golf Club

18 holes. Caddy and golf cart are compulsory (1 golfer, 1 cart). The fee also includes one transfer each way for the group, from and to the hotel. Please note that caddie tips, rental clubs, rental shoes and golf balls are not included in the rate.

USD 175.- per person

Friday, 30 November 2018, 09:30 am – 17:30 pm

OPTIONAL: Elephant Care and Feeding in Phang Nga (for Accompanying Persons only)

For Accompanying Persons only. An eco-tourism experience, that is harmless to the elephants. These elephants have been rescued from logging and mistreatment to have a better life. Elephant circus tricks are prohibited. At this camp, you will have the opportunity to spend some exclusive time with this gentle giant animal.

USD 95.- per person

Saturday, 1 December 2018, 11:45 am – 21:30 pm

OPTIONAL: ALL-DAY Group Excursion (includes lunch and dinner)

Altogether we will enjoy an afternoon of sea cave exploring literally inside Phang Nga Bay's marine geology, including the caves and hidden lagoons that John Gray found in 1989. Great nature and wildlife surrounds you. Lunch and dinner will be served aboard the boats.

All Accompanying Persons are also included in this adventure.

Dress Code: Casual (Please bring sunscreen, mosquito repellent, sunglasses, swimsuits and beach towels.)

FREE OF CHARGE ONCE PRE-REGISTERED. Please reconfirm with the GGI Hospitality Desk if you are planning to join us on this adventure.