

The bimonthly newsletter of
BKR INTERNATIONAL,
the premier association of
independent accounting
and business advisory firms.

VOLUME 39 • NO. 3
May/June 2017

IN THIS ISSUE:

Letter from the Chair

1

Member Profile: RT LLP
(Singapore, Singapore)

2

Member Profile: DMLO CPAs
(Louisville, Kentucky, USA)

3

BKR in the Press

4

Niche News

4

Member News and Notes

5-7

Meeting/Telemeeting

Schedule

8

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



As many of our members from around the world conclude yet another busy season, BKR's annual regional meetings are set to begin, giving us the perfect opportunity to gather together with colleagues to discuss new ideas, solve problems, and address the challenges we all encounter in our practice.

First I will be travelling to Singapore to join my fellow BKR members for the joint Asia-Pacific/EMEA Regional Meeting, making this the second joint regional meeting we have held to date! Beginning on May 6, the three-day event offers a variety of business sessions that are sure to engage all of us, while still allowing plenty of time to take in the sights and enjoy the exotic cultural experiences that this unique venue has to offer. Your Worldwide Board will be meeting there as well so that we can plan new member initiatives for the coming fiscal year, as well as finalize the agenda for our upcoming Annual Worldwide Meeting this October in London.

Just a few weeks after Singapore, I will make my way to Louisville, Kentucky, USA, for the Americas Regional Meeting, June 3-6, where members will "Race to Excellence" by collaborating to improve our practices and service our clients. To top off the robust business agenda, attendees will have ample opportunity to experience the warm southern hospitality, unique themed museums, and one-of-a-kind experiences for which Louisville is famous.

BKR's regional meetings provide an ideal environment for our members to explore new management strategies and opportunities to work together in a fun and dynamic setting. I strongly encourage all of you to attend, as it will greatly benefit your firm.

Getting to know each other better in person is the best way to facilitate doing business together afterward.

Complete details about both meetings can be found at <http://www.bkr.com/save-the-date.php>. Also, learn all about our two host firms, **RT LLP** (Singapore) and **DMLO CPAs** (Louisville), on pages 2-3.

In other news, I am pleased to announce that BKR launched a new database of firm specialties that is now part of the worldwide website. All member firm contact partners have been asked to select the areas in which their firm has significant experience and knowledge from a list of 35 industries. As a result, you can now easily search for the top industry expertise offered by other BKR members anywhere in the world! To access the database, simply go to <http://bkr.com/findFirm.php>, and scroll down to "Browse by Specialty."

Last, but certainly not least, it is not too early to begin making your plans for our flagship event of the year, BKR's 2017 Annual Worldwide Meeting, which will be held at the InterContinental Park Lane in London from October 21-24. Be sure to check the BKR website on a regular basis for updated information on the meeting and social events. Best of all, each BKR firm gets a free registration, which includes all sessions, materials, group meals, and social events!

As always, if you have any suggestions for how we can add more value to your membership, I would be happy to hear from you.

I look forward to seeing you all very soon!

Kind Regards,

Jacqueline Wolfovski

HOST FIRM

MEMBER PROFILE: RT LLP (SINGAPORE, SINGAPORE)

With humble beginnings dating back to 1978, **RT LLP** has transformed itself into a giant in the market, making positive, significant impacts in the Singapore accountancy sector.

In addition to providing statutory audit and advisory services by RT LLP, Chartered Accountants, RT Group has five other business entities. The transformation is radically made with the key reason to serve its clients and partners well.

RT LLP, Chartered Accountants is primarily the audit and assurance-focused business entity. It is regulated by the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) as a public accounting practice. ACRA is the regulatory arm of the accountancy sector in Singapore. The partners, who are all practising public accountants, take care of the statutory audit needs of our clients. RT LLP, Chartered Accountants also houses transactional services, which include reporting accountants for capital market listing, financial due diligence, special purpose audits, and compliance audits for regulatory purposes. RT LLP, Chartered Accountants is one of the few public accounting firms in Singapore that audits public-interest entities (PIE). There are more than 800 public accounting firms in Singapore. Therefore, RT LLP, Chartered Accountants prides itself as the pinnacle of the crowd, and its audit standards are of the highest quality, because it is directly monitored by ACRA.

The RT Group focuses on providing professional services through RT Advisory and RT Academy.

RT Advisory provides a spectrum of professional services to clients from their cradle, to expansionary needs and also to their cessation. These professional services include incor-

poration, corporate secretarial, taxation (corporate and personal, local, and regional), outsourced financial reporting and management, valuation, litigation support, investigative accounting, and internal audit, to name a few.

RT Academy caters to the learning and development needs of its clients in three areas, namely financial, legal, and digital. Each area is headed by experienced and esteemed individuals in their respective field of work. For example, the Legal Chair is from the School of Law, Singapore Management University. In addition, RT Academy publishes articles and research papers about the three areas in order to contribute to thought leadership.



The RT team at the Singapore Prestige Brands Award 2016 Dinner: Alden Ch'ng, Darryl Wong, Michael Ong, Jessie Goh, Ravi Arumugam, Josephine Lim, Muhammad Aidil, Chiang Fock Pong, and Su Chun Keat

RT was recognised by the *Singapore Business Review* as the “Best Restructuring in the Year” in the accounting sector in 2015, an accolade that solidifies its position as one of the leading firms in Singapore, servicing a spectrum of clients in various industries, both those listed in capital markets and private companies.

RT was also given the “Accounting Services Award” in the *Singapore Business Review* National Business Awards 2016 on June 28, 2016. The award was given to RT based on the uniqueness and innovation of RT’s expansion plans in the region through the RT ASEAN Network.

RT was awarded the coveted “Singapore Prestige Brand Awards 2016 – Promising Brands” on September 1, 2016. This award was given to RT due to its uniqueness in service and brand offerings.

RT is heavily supported by various government agencies, trade associations, and professional accounting bodies because of its excellent contributions as a locally branded firm to the accounting fraternity.

RT continues to influence local and global direction through its leadership, who are positioned as thought leaders in the industry.

Mr. **Ravi Arumugam**, CEO and managing partner of RT Group and RT LLP, serves on the Corporate Governance Committee, Continuing Professional Education Committee, and is a panel member of the Disciplinary and Complaints Committee. He is also a board member and treasurer of ISCA Cares, the charity arm of the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants, and a board member with a government statutory board.

He was a committee member of the ISCA Auditing and Assurance Standards Committee, and was a facilitator with the ISCA Public Practice Programme. In the past, he served as a committee member of the Financial Statements Review Committee. He also served as a panel member of the Disciplinary and Complaints Committee, a committee under ACRA.

With thought leaders within the company, as well as the support from various agencies, RT will continue to make giant steps in the market.

Contact Ravi Arumugam at ravi@rtasean.com or the firm’s executive director, Mr. **Chiang Fock Pong**, at chiangfp@rtasean.com with any queries about service offerings.

HOST FIRM MEMBER PROFILE: DMLO CPAS (LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY, USA)

DMLO CPAs is a Louisville original, founded in 1975 by Joel Deming, Bill Malone, John Livesay, and Armand Ostroff. The order of our firm name was chosen in the same manner post positions are determined in the Kentucky Derby; the group was relieved when it did not result in the initials, MOLD! Rather than seeking rapid growth with a goal of becoming one of the largest firms in the nation, we are focused on being the best in our region, in ways that really matter, not just size or profit. Much of our energy is directed toward creating a culture where people feel valued, heard, and can answer the question “why?,” and in making a real difference in the lives of our clients and the community.

With 13 directors, almost 50 CPAs, and 90-plus total employees, DMLO is one of the largest Louisville area accounting firms as ranked by *Business First*. Our services include assurance (audits/reviews/agreed-upon-procedures/employee benefit plan audits/Medicaid cost reports), outsourced accounting services, business and personal tax and tax planning, startup ventures and emerging business guidance, estates and trusts, wealth advisory services, cost segregation analysis, business valuations, litigation support, and forensic accounting. Industry niches include manufacturing and distribution, construction, real estate, hospitality, long-term care, not-for-profit organizations, service businesses, medical/dental practices, and financial institutions/credit unions.

Our firm is the source of leaders in the profession and in our community. DMLO directors and professionals serve or have served on the board of the Kentucky Society of CPAs, as well as on numerous committees. Director and former President **Jennifer Hughes** is a member of BKR International’s Americas Regional Board, Director **Jeff Calderon**

chairs its Business Development Practice Group, IT Director **Bob Daugherty** chairs its Technology Practice Group, and Marketing Director **Delene Taylor** chairs its Marketing Practice Group. Both Bob and Delene will be speaking at the upcoming Americas Regional Meeting.

DMLO has been recognized nationally multiple times with the *When Work Works Award*, honoring employers who have created effective workplaces based on six components: autonomy; work-life fit; supervisor support for work success; satisfaction with earnings; benefits and opportunities for advancement; opportunities for learning; and a culture of trust – all factors associated with employee health, well-being, and engagement. With two-thirds of the score determined by the results of a confidential employee survey, we are very proud to be one of only eight Kentucky winners and to be ranked in the top 20% of employers nationwide! Flexibility is a key differentiator and one of the most valued benefits at

tion style, motivation, and end goals. Our iGen Committee meets throughout the year with our president for the sole purpose and focus of brainstorming and recommending ways to ensure that we remain relevant to and engage younger generations. Some of the activities and initiatives that appeal to this group are: Dress For Your Day (jeans), young professional mixers with banks and law firms, outings to Keeneland Racecourse, firm Happy Hours, Flex Fridays, a co-ed kickball team, busy season Battleship and cornhole contests, March Madness, standing desk area, weekly fresh fruit deliveries, Popcorn Wednesdays, Float Fridays, Health & Wellness challenges (Humana Go365 app), a private lounge for our nursing mothers, and an annual Halloween event.

With “More Than the Numbers” as our tag line, and “DMLO Cares” a big part of our brand, giving back is something that we do day in and day out – it’s an integral part of our identity and culture. While we don’t serve for recognition, we have been honored the past two years by *American Business Journal’s* Partners in Philanthropy awards program for being among the **Top 10 most generous companies** in the \$10 million-\$50 million category. The firm directly contributed more than \$79,000 to charities (not including employee donations) last year, and employees logged more than 2,500 hours of volunteer service. We celebrate our anniversary each summer with a **DMLO Day of Service**, in which employees spend the day serving in a variety of ways with nonprofits we’ve partnered with. Our efforts have benefitted more than 85 local charities in the past year alone.

We look forward to welcoming BKR to our amazing city at the Americas Regional Meeting in June! We hope you will connect with us online: [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Pinterest](#), and [Glassdoor](#).



The DMLO team supporting colon cancer survivor and firm partner Jennifer Hughes on National Dress in Blue Day

DMLO. By not just encouraging, but expecting, a culture of flexibility, we make it possible for employees to meet constantly evolving demands, and achieve a rewarding and effective work-life integration.

We boast great generational diversity at our firm, and are very aware of the need to understand and embrace the differences in perception, approach, work and communica-

BKR IN THE PRESS

BKR International has once again placed sixth in the 2017 *International Accounting Bulletin* rankings for global associations. Download the association fee rankings at <http://www.bkrema.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/20170215-IAB-Rankings-Associations.pdf>.

BKR International and **Blick Rothenberg** (London) were featured in the CCH Daily article, "Internationally Mobile Workers Risk Being Hit by Double Tax Bill." Read the article in full at <https://www.cchdaily.co.uk/internationally-mobile-workers-risk-being-hit-double-tax-bill>. Further, **Mark Abbs** (London) and BKR were featured in the article, "Tax Laws Are Not Keeping up with Our Globally Mobile Workforce: New Research." Read the piece at <http://www.startupsmart.com.au/advice/growth/young-entrepreneurs/tax-laws-are-not-keeping-up-with-our-globally-mobile-workforce-new-research>.

BKR and Worldwide Executive Director **Maureen Schwartz** were featured in the February 2017 edition of *Public Accounting Report* and its *2017 Directory of CPA Firm Associations and Networks*, available at http://bkr.com/cmsAdmin/uploads/par_02-17.pdf and http://bkr.com/cmsAdmin/uploads/par_02-17_directory.pdf, respectively.

Maureen Schwartz was interviewed for the *CPA Practice Advisor* article, "3 Ways Accounting Firms Can Embrace Artificial Intelligence," available at <http://www.cpapracticeadvisor.com/news/12315913/3-ways-accounting-firms-can-embrace-artificial-intelligence>.

Maureen was also featured in the *AccountingWEB* article, "3 Essential Qualities of Highly Successful Independent Firms," at <http://www.accountingweb.com/practice/practice-excellence/3-essential-qualities-of-highly-successful-independent-firms>.

NICHE NEWS

Business Valuation

Chair – Baria Jaroudi (Houston)

The Business Valuation Practice Group held a teleseminar on March 22. **Dan Korsman** (Minneapolis) presented "Exploring Methodologies and Discount Rates in Valuing Intangible Assets," and participants earned one hour of CPE credit. The next teleseminar will be held on June 28.

Forensic Accounting/Litigation Support

Chair – Marnie Silver (Toronto)

The Forensic Accounting/Litigation Support Practice Group held a telemeeting on March 6. Chair **Marnie Silver** led a discussion about how a practice is structured, including integration with other practice areas of the firm, and how a litigation/forensic practice

area markets its services (i.e., what has [not] worked well and how social media is used). The group's next telemeeting will be held on June 19.

Marketing

Chair – Delene Taylor (Louisville)

The Marketing Practice Group held a teleseminar on March 28. Guest Speaker Lee Frederiksen presented the findings from Hinge's "2017 Research Insights for Accounting Firm Marketers and Business Development Professionals." Members from the Business Development Practice Group were also invited. The Marketing Practice Group will hold an in-person meeting and group dinner on June 12 in Las Vegas, Nevada, in conjunction with the AICPA Engage Conference.

WORLDWIDE BULLETIN

is a publication of
BKR INTERNATIONAL

WORLDWIDE CHAIR

Jacqueline Wolfovski
Exponens Conseil & Expertise
11, avenue d'Eprenesnil
Chatou Cedex, 78401
France
Phone: 33 1 30 09 89 00
Fax: 33 1 30 09 88 88
E-mail: jacqueline.wolfovski@exponens.com

WORLDWIDE EXECUTIVE OFFICE AND AMERICAS REGION

Maureen Schwartz
BKR International Executive Office
19 Fulton Street, Suite 401
New York, New York 10038
USA
Phone: 1-212-964-2115
Fax: 1-212-964-2133
E-mail: bkr@bkr.com

David Goldner, Chairman
Gross, Mendelsohn & Associates, P.A.
(Baltimore)
E-mail: dgoldner@gma-cpa.com

ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

Grant Allsopp
Walker Wayland
60 Castlereagh Street
Level 11
Suite 11.01
Sydney, N.S.W., 2000
Australia
Phone: 61 2 9951 5400
Fax: 61 2 9951 5454
E-mail: grant.allsopp@bkrasiapac.com

Sunny Ma, Chair
Shanghai JaHwa CPAs (Shanghai)
E-mail: sunny.ma@newjahwa.com.cn

EMEA REGION

Tim Morris
Blick Rothenberg LLP
16 Great Queen Street
Covent Garden
London WC2B 5AH
United Kingdom
Phone: 44 20 7544 4840
Fax: 44 20 7935 6852
E-mail: tim.morris@bkremea.com

Arcangelo Agogliati, Chairman
Borioli & Colombo Associati, Tax Advisers
(Milan)
E-mail: arcangelo.agogliati@borioli-colombo.it

NEWSLETTER STAFF

Editor: Jeremy Jarrell
Contributing Editor: Belinda Rivera

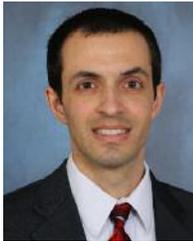
SUBMISSIONS

BKR welcomes news and articles from member firms, committees, and task forces, which can be submitted via e-mail, fax, or mail to BKR's Executive Office.

MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, USA

Rotz & Stonesifer, PC is pleased to announce that **Elijah Green** has accepted a position as manager with the firm. Elijah graduated from Shepherd University in West Virginia with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. In addition, he recently obtained his Master of Business Administration from George Washington University in the District of Columbia. Elijah's areas of practice will include accounting, financial statement preparation, and individual and business tax preparation. He is a member of the American Institute of CPAs, as well as the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Elijah Green

Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

Rudler, PSC is pleased to welcome new team member **Jane Frances**, CPA, who has joined the firm as tax manager. Jane brings years of accounting experience to the tax team from roles in large public accounting firms and private industry. She enjoys working with closely held businesses and building relationships with the owners to provide quality tax and bookkeeping services. Jane serves as treasurer on the Board of Cincinnati Center of Autism.



Jane Frances

Houston, Texas, USA

On February 3 in New York, **Briggs & Veselka Co.** client Ramaco Resources, Inc. (NASDAQ: METC) completed an initial public offering of its common stock and began trading on the NASDAQ Global Select Market, one of the few companies in the coal industry to do so in recent years. The listing comes after a Form S-1 Securities and Exchange Commission filing late last year, which indicated the IPO was an effort to raise funds to fully develop the

company's projects. According to the filings, the company plans to spend \$106.5 million through December 31, 2018, to optimize an estimated 240 million tons of recoverable low cost metallurgical coal reserves at its four properties in central and southern West Virginia, southwestern Virginia, and southwestern Pennsylvania.



Laura Freudenberger and Kevin Chesser, audit shareholders at Briggs & Veselka Co., attending the closing bell ceremony for Ramaco Resources, Inc.

Adam Dimmick, shareholder at Briggs & Veselka Co. CPAs and head of the firm's construction practice, assumed a position on the board of the Houston chapter of the Construction Financial Management Association (CFMA). Adam will oversee the monthly chapter events and programs for more than 200 members of the CFMA, in addition to continuing his efforts as the membership committee chair.



Adam Dimmick

Louisville, Kentucky, USA

Deming, Malone, Livesay & Ostroff, PSC is pleased to announce that Manager **Nick Porter** has been awarded the Accredited in Business Valuation (ABV) Credential by the AICPA. Nick is a member of the firm's Forensic Accounting, Litigation Support & Business Valuation niche, as well as the Wealth Advisory Group. With more than



Nick Porter

nine years of experience practicing public accounting in Kentucky, Nick provides business valuation services to small, closely held businesses and family limited partnerships, and is a trusted advisor to high net worth families. Nick earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Economics from Centre College and is a graduate of Focus Louisville and Ignite Louisville.

Mt. Arlington, New Jersey, USA

On December 2, **Nisivoccia LLP** employees who wore jeans to work donated to the not-for-profit DASI organization. On January 16, employees who participated in Denim Days donated to the not-for-profit Mount Olive Pantry Partners in Compassion, Inc.

In December, Nisivoccia LLP employees participated in a gift drive for Homeless Solutions in Morristown, New Jersey.

On December 3, "Team Nisivoccia" assembled packages for the "Adopt a Unit for the American Red Cross" event.

On December 7, the firm hosted a seminar for local not-for-profit organizations. **Christopher Perrotta**, CPA and principal in the Not-for-Profit Group at the firm, moderated the seminar.

On January 26, **Harlene Stevens**, CPA, presented at the Morris County Chamber of Commerce Lunch and Learn on how to minimize taxes.

On February 20, Nisivoccia LLP employees who wore jeans to work donated to the New Jersey Special Olympics.

On February 1, the firm hosted a "Planning for Retirement: Saving, Succession Planning and Tax Strategies" seminar, given by Tax Partner **Marcia Geltman**, CPA, **Glenn Schwier**, CPA, JD, and **Damien Paumi**, CFP, AIF, CRPC.

On February 8, **Steve Van Houten**, human resources director, Chris Perrotta, CPA,

Continued on page 6

MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued)

Continued from page 5

and **Laura Lampron**, marketing director, visited Fairleigh Dickinson University to speak to *Beta Alpha Psi* business honors students.

Nick Sarinelli, partner, shared his knowledge of tax deductions in his article, "Business Meals and Entertainment," in the February issue of *Metropolitan Builders & Contractors Association of New Jersey Onsite* magazine.

Nisivoccia LLP was named as one of the 2017 Best Places to Work in New Jersey by *NIBIZ*. This makes the fifth consecutive year that the firm has earned this distinction.

Rose Jacobsen, **Mark Cuozzo**, and **Caitlin Jannucci**, all accountants at Nisivoccia LLP, received news in February that they passed all four parts of the CPA exam.

On March 17, employees who wore jeans to work donated to a friend of one of its employees whose one-and-a-half-year-old son has been diagnosed with Tay-Sachs disease.

On March 1, Nisivoccia LLP employees **Robert Charlton**, CPA, partner, and **Ryan Hynson**, CPA, were nominated for the Sussex County Chamber of Commerce "Quality in Business, Quality in Living" awards.

On March 3, Nisivoccia LLP hosted a Certified Municipal Finance Officer roundtable.

On March 21, **Jenna Bauer**, CPA, and **Valerie Dolan**, CPA, partner, spoke at Redwoods in Chester to the Morris County Tax Collectors.

On March 30, Marcia Geltman spoke at the Karen Ann Quinlan "Do Well By Doing Good" seminar.

New York, New York, USA

Anchin, Block & Anchin LLP once again has been named one of the Best Companies to Work for in New York State according to the New York State Society for Human Resource Management's annual awards program. Anchin has made this list every year since the program's inception 10 years ago and is only one of four firms to receive this

recognition each year.

Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom

UNW LLP is toasting a busy year, having delivered 10 transactions in just 10 months.

Working with local innovative businesses on finance-raising projects, UNW's corporate finance team has helped secure six-figure investments for ROXOA Group, Fine EquinlTy Ltd, and Orchidsoft Ltd, and recently helped Activ Technology secure a £500k investment from FW Capital.

UNW has also acted for clients on a national scale, supporting Healthpoint Limited through a £6.5m management buy-out by private equity house Maven Capital Partners. The Blackpool-based healthcare product supplier will use the capital from the buy-out to accelerate their new product development and to support organic growth.

The team also advised on a variety of disposals, including the sale of Rook Matthew Sayer to Connells Group, Romag to Clayton Glass, and ForSkills to national awarding organisation NCFE, whilst also assisting local marketing and creative agency Drummond Central during their acquisition of digital specialists CoalFace. UNW also recently provided support and advice to Sherburn Minerals through their sale to Breedon Group PLC, the UK's largest independent construction materials company, for an eight-figure sum.

The team was led on the 10 deals by UNW Corporate Finance Partners **Paul Kaiser**, **Neville Bearpark**, and **John Healey**.

Paris, France

Exponens Conseil & Expertise has announced the merger of the accounting firm, Raimbault Chaugny, based near Paris, into its practice. **Sylvia Leca**, partner and accountant at Exponens, who has been based in Paris, will take over the management of the new site along with **Jean-Marc Raimbault**, who will continue to work with existing clients.

Exponens has further announced that Apreialis, an actuarial consulting firm established 20 years ago, has joined the firm.

D&Cmf, a major player in the accounting profession within the Paris area, has also joined Exponens Group and will be led by **Olivier Geoffray**, a chartered accountant, who becomes a partner of Exponens as part of the merger. Olivier is a graduate of the ISG and holds a master's degree in business law in Paris. He has extensive financial experience at EY and has continued for more than 25 years in the financial services industry of the Société Générale Group, of which he was previously deputy general secretary of the Retail Banking and International Financial Services division, in charge of compliance and operational risks projects.

D&Cmf (Deontology and Compliance of Financial Markets) specializes in the delegated execution of permanent controls (RCCI, RCSI) and periodical ethics-compliance of internal control on behalf of companies approved by the ACPR that do not have internal functions.

BKR International Worldwide Chair **Jacqueline Wolfovski** was quoted in the *International Accountancy Bulletin's* recent French



Olivier Geoffray



Keith Hanson of Fine EquinlTy (left) with UNW Corporate Finance Partner Neville Bearpark (centre) and Jane Siddle from NEL (right)

Continued on page 7

MEMBER NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued)

Continued from page 6

edition. She was interviewed at the French Institute of Professional Accountants' (OEC – Ordre des Experts Comptables) annual congress.

Paris, France

Fidance, a finance consulting firm, has joined **SFC Group**. Founded in 2007 by Audrey Barros, Fidance joined SFC Group as a specialized finance department on September 30. Fidance enables the company's head and clients to have an expert guiding their choices in terms of investment strategy and financing.

In October, Transaction Services reinforced the support provided by the firm. Managed by **François Laporte**, partner, chartered accountant, and statutory auditor, Transaction Services is a new center of expertise. Its mission is to support its customers and partners in the search for a company to be acquired or in the transmission of their activity.

As part of the development of its Paris offices, SFC Paris teams, formerly located near Place de la République, moved on March 13 to new, more modern premises close to the Gare Saint Lazare.



SFC Group's new offices in Paris

Watch the latest SFC Group videos. Episode 8: Comment prévenir les risques professionnels? is available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JizBHYQWOk>. Episode 9: Comment optimiser sa fiscalité grâce à la location meublée? is available at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CRk7exNaY00>.

Phoenix, Arizona, USA

Schmidt Westergard announced that

Howard Rosen was interviewed for the *Accounting Today* article, "The No. 1 Reason Small Business Clients Leave," available at <https://www.accounting-today.com/opinion/the-no-1-reason-small-business-clients-leave>.



Howard Rosen

St. Louis, Missouri, USA

Conner Ash P.C. is honored to be named one of the "Best Accounting Firms" by *Small Business Monthly*.

Congratulations to **Brian Hantsbarger**, CPA, on being named one of the "Top St. Louis Accountants," also by *Small Business Monthly*.

Nikki Corder joined the Support Department as a receptionist/administrative assistant. Nikki is a graduate of Truman State University.

Andy Datillo, CPA, joined the Assurance Services Department as a manager. He has worked extensively with manufacturers and distributors, not-for-profit entities, and labor organizations. Andy received his Bachelors of Science degree in Accounting and Masters of Accountancy degree from Missouri State University. He has more than eight years of professional experience assisting a wide variety of clients in solving their accounting problems and providing audit and tax



Brian Hantsbarger



Nikki Corder



Andy Datillo

services.

Ross McKinstry joined the Assurance Services Department as a staff associate. Ross graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Accounting degree from University of Missouri – St. Louis.



Ross McKinstry

John Kitners joined the firm as a staff associate in the Assurance Services Department. John graduated from Maryville University with a degree in accounting.



John Kitners

Mollie Reagan joined the firm in 2015 as an intern in the Tax and Business Services Department. In January, Mollie was promoted to a full-time staff associate. Mollie graduated from Springhill University with a Bachelor of Science degree in accounting. In December, Mollie completed her Master of Business Administration from University of Missouri – St. Louis.



Mollie Reagan

Topeka, Kansas, USA

Mize Houser & Company P.A. is now ranked the 12th largest firm in the Midwest according to *Accounting Today*. The firm is also the only Kansas accounting firm in the top list of Midwestern firms. In addition, Mize Houser is ranked #24 in the publication's Beyond the Top 100: Firms to Watch list. Selection criteria are based on several factors, including performance and growth. With locations in Topeka, Lawrence, and Overland Park, Kansas, Mize Houser enjoyed a 7.19% increase in growth in 2016 with total revenues of \$26.4 million.

Mize Houser & Company P.A. has also received other awards, including *Inside Public Accounting's* (IPA) Top 200 Firms.

MEETING/TELEMEETING SCHEDULE

2017

May 1	Assurance Services Practice Group Telemeeting*
May 2	Firm Administrators Practice Group Telemeeting*
May 3-5	Leadership Institute - Session 4 Hilton Metropolitan New York, New York, USA
May 6-8	JOINT ASIA-PACIFIC/EMEA REGIONAL MEETING Mandarin Orchard Hotel Singapore, Singapore
May 8	International Tax (Americas) Committee Telemeeting*
May 9	Technology Practice Group Telemeeting*
May 9	Retirement Plan Auditors Practice Group Dinner Meeting Gaylord Opryland Hotel Nashville, Tennessee, USA
May 10	Future Leaders Practice Group Telemeeting*
May 11	High Net Worth Families/Estate Planning Practice Group Telemeeting*
May 15	SALT Practice Group Telemeeting*
May 16	Manufacturing Practice Group Telemeeting*
June 3 June 3-6	Governmental/Not-for-Profit Accounting and Auditing Practice Group Meeting AMERICAS REGIONAL MEETING The Brown Hotel Louisville, Kentucky, USA
June 12	Marketing Practice Group Meeting and Dinner MGM Grand Las Vegas, Nevada, USA
June 19	Forensic Accounting/Litigation Support Practice Group Telemeeting*
June 21	Real Estate and Construction Practice Group Telemeeting*
June 22	Affordable Housing Practice Group Telemeeting*
June 28	Business Valuation Practice Group Teleseminar*
July 11	Human Resources Practice Group Telemeeting*
September 13	Marketing Practice Group Telemeeting*
September 19	Real Estate and Construction Practice Group Telemeeting*
October 21-25	ANNUAL WORLDWIDE MEETING InterContinental London Park Lane London, United Kingdom
November 10 [TBD]	U.S. Tax Workshop Hilton Chicago O'Hare Airport Chicago, Illinois, USA
December 4	Managing Partner Roundtable Meetings Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

2018

April 27-30	ASIA-PACIFIC REGIONAL MEETING Shangri-La at the Fort Manila, Philippines
May 19-22	AMERICAS REGIONAL MEETING Casa de Campo Resort La Romana, Dominican Republic
May 26-28	EMEA REGIONAL MEETING St Raphael Resort Limassol, Cyprus

* Held at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time except where noted.