

Network News

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Asia-Pacific Conference 2024



The Russell Bedford International Asia-Pacific Conference 2024 was held in mid-July at The Westin Yokohama, Tokyo, Japan.

Ahead of the conference, Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International, met with member firms and their teams in Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong, and Japan.



Discussions related to key topics such as the future of the profession, leadership in accountancy, attracting and retaining the best talent, developments technology and sustainability.



Stephen said, "the meetings were both productive and enjoyable, and I am grateful for such hospitality throughout, along with each firm's ongoing support to the global network."



Day one of the conference featured sessions which looked at Japan's increasing labour shortage, as well as how to navigate the challenges in adopting new technologies.



Delegates also got to enjoy enhanced networking opportunities with firms across the region as the day concluded with a delightful dinner at the Iron Bay Restaurant.



Day two of the conference featured interviews with each firm from across the region, providing useful insights into different economies, practice updates, current challenges and future plans. The day also included a look at a roadmap for achieving compliance excellence for small and medium practices.



Roundtable discussions during the business programme addressed best methods for leveraging business intelligence as accountants, and finished with exploring business development opportunities.



To close the conference, delegates enjoyed a memorable evening aboard a traditional Yakatabune boat in Tokyo Bay, with a fantastic dinner cruise, stunning city views, and entertainment.



We are very thankful to all our attendees and speakers for their contributions to another successful Asia-Pacific conference.

Stephen Hamlet commented, "In a region with such diversity, it is always a pleasure to see our people come together; building relationships, learning from each other, and sharing experiences. This is what Russell Bedford is all about. Our Asia Pacific region continues to grow from strength to strength."

Russell Bedford members are invited to visit the [EVENT PAGE IN THE MEMBERS' PORTAL](#) to view the speaker presentations and photos.

Texas CPA firm Matos & Jawad PLLC Joins Russell Bedford International



Russell Bedford International is pleased to announce the addition of Matos & Jawad PLLC to the global network. Located near Houston, Texas, the CPA firm brings a wealth of expertise in international business advisory and accounting services.

Established in 2019, Matos & Jawad specialises in guiding foreign high-net-worth individuals, corporations, investors, start-ups, small businesses, and entrepreneurs in establishing and managing their financial and accounting needs in the United States. The firm's services include bookkeeping, tax, and advisory support, delivered by a team of over 20 professionals, including three partners.

Matos & Jawad has a roster of over 1800 clients across industries ranging from restaurants, franchises, and retail to health services, manufacturing, real estate, construction, transportation, utilities, and professional services. Their multilingual team serves clients globally, from Canada, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia-Pacific.

Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International said that "the appointment of Matos & Jawad strengthens our expertise in supporting inward investors to the USA and reinforces our commitment to providing top-tier advisory and accounting services worldwide."

David Matos, Partner at Matos & Jawad stated "We are delighted to join Russell Bedford International. Our shared values of professionalism, responsiveness, and quality will enable us to make significant contributions to this vibrant and growing network."

BSP Group Named As Russell Bedford Zurich Firm



Following a merger, Russell Bedford now has a four-partner firm in Zurich, Switzerland.

Global professional services network Russell Bedford International has announced the restructuring, expansion, and renaming of its Zurich member firm as the result of a merger.

The audit practice KBT Revisions AG, represented by partner Sandro Müller, has been a Russell Bedford member firm in Zurich since 2016. The practice has now merged into BSP Group, which has been confirmed as Russell Bedford's new Zurich member.

This consolidation has created a four-partner practice with a portfolio of over 120 audit clients under one roof.

BSP Group was originally founded in 2012 by Stephan Bertschi and Andrin Steinmann and provides services including accounting, payroll, tax, and audit. Following the merger, BSP Group is now a four-partner firm.

Commenting on the restructuring, Russell Bedford International CEO, Stephen Hamlet, said “The merger of KBT Revisions AG with BSP Group presents an excellent opportunity to strengthen the audit company’s presence in the Zurich area as well as further enhance the Russell Bedford brand within the region”.

Sandro Müller, Partner at BSP Group said, “We are thrilled that our group has been confirmed as Russell Bedford’s Zurich member and we look forward to guiding our expanding organisation through a successful transformation to ensure continued growth”.

Taking The Lead At The International Accounting Awards 2024



We are thrilled to announce that Russell Bedford International CEO, Stephen Hamlet, was named Accounting Leader of the Year at the International Accounting Awards 2024.

The Accounting Leader of the Year award recognises exceptional and inspiring leaders in the accounting profession, who are dedicated to leading in professional standards and are advocates for continuous learning and growth.



Judges for the award commented that “this accounting leader has taken his network from strength to strength over a period of seven years. In this time the network has doubled in size, added 40 new countries to the group’s global presence, and increased its people by 70%.”

“Travelling widely across the 110 countries where this network is present, this accounting leader demonstrates his enthusiasm for people development and relationship building, through his deep cultural engagement with this network’s member firms.”



“This Accounting Leader also has a passion for helping the development of the next generation of accountants. He plays a vital role in his network’s annual Young Partners and Managers events and initiatives, speaking with these future leaders in the profession about their careers, developments within accountancy, as well as at the network’s annual ‘taking you further’ day, where its core values are celebrated.”

Adding to our celebrations, Russell Bedford International received a ‘Highly Commended’ accolade in the category of Network of the Year. This award highlights networks that have demonstrated strong revenue growth, development of an international brand, and delivered outstanding quality and agility in the global accountancy profession.

The 14th Annual International Accounting Forum & Awards, held on 20th June at the Park Plaza, Victoria, saw senior leaders from top accountancy firms, international networks, and associations collaborate on the key themes impacting the sector, the opportunities for growth, and to celebrate excellence in the field.



Attendees engaged in thought-leading panels, insightful presentations, case studies, and Q&A sessions covering topics such as strategic synergies, opportunities in private equity, digital technologies, and staff retention.



Reflecting on the event, CEO Stephen Hamlet said “the International Forum and Awards is a fabulous occasion. It provides a tremendous opportunity to collaborate on the key themes impacting the profession and to recognise all the outstanding work that has been done. It was an absolute honour to be presented with this year’s Accounting Leader award. I am grateful to my colleagues and to all those who have supported me, and continue to support me, at Russell Bedford and throughout my career.”

[FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL ACCOUNTING FORUM & AWARDS 2024 AND SEE THE WINNERS HERE.](#)

Check out our video: International Tax & EMEA Conference 2024 in Marrakesh



The Russell Bedford International Tax & EMEA Conference 2024 was a tremendous success.

Watch the overview video of the event [here](#).

The Russell Bedford International Tax & EMEA Conference 2024 was held in early June at the Radisson Blu Hotel Carré Eden in Marrakesh, Morocco.

Ahead of the conference, Russell Bedford International CEO, Stephen Hamlet and Member Relations Manager, Kathryn Davis visited the host firm, El Maguiri & Associés in Casablanca, to learn more about their practice and meet their impressive teams.



Day one of the conference featured a full programme including sessions on modern leadership, creating psychological safety in teams, the latest trends in cyber security, and how to win audiences and build business relationships through effective storytelling.



The day ended with networking over cocktails at sunset and a delicious dinner at the wonderful LaÔ rooftop restaurant.



On day two, speakers held discussions which addressed the solutions to challenges in the accounting profession and key tax developments.

There were also breakout sessions which explored key themes such as new dimensions in sustainability reporting, the tax implications of global employee mobility, and how HR data can drive business decisions.



The grand finale was nothing short of spectacular - an unforgettable trip to the Agafay desert and the breathtaking Le Bedouin luxury camp.



Delegates were delighted by the traditional dancers and exquisite cuisine, and danced the night away following an exhilarating fire display.



Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford, said the conference “was a fantastic celebration of the strength of our growing network and demonstrates the value in us coming together to share our expertise. We are grateful to our amazing speakers and teams for their contributions and look forward to future collaborations.”



We extend a huge thank you to all attendees, speakers, and participants for contributing to another amazing event. Check out our [EVENT OVERVIEW VIDEO](#), [MORE PHOTOS](#), AND [SPEAKER PRESENTATIONS HERE](#).

Russell Bedford Taps Gen-Z Minds For Future Strategy



Taking part in the 2024 Company Case Challenge run by the American Business School of Paris, a team of six of the best international business studies students answered a challenge that Russell Bedford set for them regarding the accounting network’s continuing development.

Competing with students working on various issues faced by other global brands such as Orange, Estée Lauder and Dolce & Gabbana, the team dedicated eight weeks of their studies, from February to April 2024, to analysing the challenge, researching opportunities, and identifying potential new strategies for adding more internationally-minded CPA firms to the growing Russell Bedford network.

Thanking the team for their dedication and their innovative ideas, Russell Bedford’s network development director, Kempton Bedell-Harper, commented: “The future is already here today in the minds of the next generation, and this was a great opportunity for Russell Bedford to benefit from the insights of those destined to be global business leaders one day. It was also a privilege for our organisation to be selected as one of the international brands participating in this year’s Company Case Challenge.”

Pascale Ginet, head of corporate relations and career development at ABS Paris, added: "Our students and their tutor Charles Baker were delighted to have the chance to contribute to the future growth strategy of the Russell Bedford organisation. The Company Case Challenge is designed for students with an excellent academic profile and gives them the opportunity to work on a real-life business case that will enrich their professional experience and boost their ability to think on their feet. Congratulations to all the participants for their quality work! We would like to thank again the corporate partners who made this possible."

The American Business School of Paris is a leading intercultural business school in France with students of more than 80 different nationalities. Its mission is to empower future international business leaders to acquire the necessary skill-set to think independently and creatively, address complex business issues, and successfully collaborate in multicultural teams. They study 100% in English.



Country Key Features Guides



Through our partnership with the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD), one of the world's leading authorities on cross-border taxation, we aim to provide businesses and individuals with key tax data related to doing business in over 100 countries, via our Country Key Features guides.

We've now updated the guides with the latest data for 2024.

[Click here to view](#)

Member Firm News

- FBL, Quebec, Canada, forms a strategic alliance with human resources firm Altifica. [Read more](#)
- Van der Meer Accountants move to a new office in Groningen, Netherlands [Read more](#)
- El Maguiri & Associés now have a second office in Casablanca: 13 Rue des Tabors, Oasis.
- HBS, Munich, Germany celebrate their 50th Anniversary

If your firm is celebrating a milestone, please get in touch.

Webinar Recordings

Thank you to those who attended some of our recent webinars. We hope you found them useful.

For members who were unable to attend, please see the links below where you will be able to access the recording for each webinar.

[Audit Quality - Root Cause Analysis](#)

[How To Attract Great Clients And Lose Less-Great Ones](#)

[How To Make Your Practice More Efficient With Integration And Automation](#)

Forthcoming conferences

41st Annual Global Conference

The 2024 Russell Bedford Annual Global Conference will be held on 23 - 27 October in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Registration is now open. Please visit the Events Page on the Intranet for details.

Managers & Young Partners Meeting

The 2024 Russell Bedford Managers & Young Partners Meeting will be held on 25-26 November in Naples, Italy. Information regarding the registration process will be shared in due course.

For further details about upcoming Russell Bedford conferences and to register, please visit the Events page on the intranet.

Global Accounting Update

A round-up of updates and commentary on new standards, regulations and ethical issues

Read [here](#).

Russell Bedford - key facts and figures 2023

- **40 years** of global service
- **Top 20** global accounting network
- **USD 835 million** global fee income
- **1000 partners** and over **9,900 staff**
- Some **375 offices** in more than **110 countries**

For previous editions of Network News, visit our [Network News](#) webpage.