

# Expanding Your Horizons World

# **Local Knowledge Global Presence**



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### About Us

We bring together accountants, lawyers, tax and business advisors to refer clients, share knowledge and have fun. Yes really, fun.

We've been supporting high-quality professional services firms for more than 60 years, so we know what we are talking about when it comes to cross-border business

What DFK stands for is a dedication to providing the best possible services to our members and their clients. And doing so in a sustainable, community-focused way.





## Global Coverage











# **Executive Director**

#### **Martin Sharp**

I love working with DFK. I'm not an accountant, nor a lawyer, and I had no idea that these people could be such good fun to work with. They deal with serious business, but know how to kick-back and have fun when the work is done. They really care about their clients and doing a good job for them, and that's what really inspires me to work with them. Working with people all over the world and helping them find solutions is tremendously satisfying. I have been doing the job for more than 10 years and made friends in countries as far afield as Argentina, Australia, Canada and Cyprus, to name just a few.

I also have the privilege of working with a fantastic team of dedicated individuals who all share our objective of supporting member firms. They take ownership of their responsibilities and we are all aligned to our values of respect - for clients, colleagues, and communities. We all work equality, diversity, and inclusion. a culture that celebrates promoting challenges difference. prejudice, and ensures fairness.



Martin Sharp has been Executive Director of DFK for more than 10 years. He thrives on helping member firms find solutions for their clients' cross-border needs

DFK member firms serve a growing business community. They offer a full-service suite, minimising the tax exposure of clients, adhering to all local and international tax laws, and serving the personal and business needs of a wide variety of businesses from SMEs to multi-nationals.

## DFK History

#### 1960s

DFK Founders meet at the *Cercle de l'Union Interalliée* in Paris in 1962 to establish an international organisation aimed at bringing together like-minded professionals to serve clients with crossborder interests.



#### 1970s



Coverage expands to cover most major economies in the world. The group adopted the name **D**ouglass **F**.M. Richard **K**idsons , recognising the central role of the founders.

#### 1980s

DFK International established as a Dutch Vereniging with its executive office in London, moving to Russell Square in 1989. By this time, DFK had members in more than 50 countries worldwide with small independent firms joining, as well as larger national groups of multiple firms in the larger countries coverage.



# **Expansion Continues**



#### 1990s

The decade sees huge growth to more than 145 member firms in 69 countries. Members meet at amazing destinations around the world to exchange ideas and best-practice at national, regional and global conferences.

#### 2000s

As we celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, DFK members and the executive office, continued to embrace technology to increase the efficiency of client support, with many adopting cloud solutions such as Xero and Office 365.



#### 2020 & beyond



With membership continuing to grow, we're still going strong, servicing over 220 member firms around the world. Although our conferences having taken time-out for the pandemic, they remain legendary in the hearts of our members.

#### **Our Leaders**



**President DFK International** 

Harriet Greenberg, a partner at leading New-York firm Friedman LLP since 1985. As DFK International President, she leads the Board of Directors and sets the tone for DFK. Harriet stands for equality, diversity, and inclusion, promoting a culture that celebrates difference, challenges prejudice, and ensures fairness.



**Past-President DFK International** 

Roland Graf is a partner at Munich-based firm Peters, Schönberger & Partner. He has been involved with DFK for more than 15 years as a member of the International Tax Committee, the EMEA Executive Committee and International Board of Directors. He was DFK President from 2017 to 2020.



**Vice-President EMEA** 

Anne Brady is a director with Crowleys DFK in Dublin. She is a well-respected member in the accounting community in Ireland and has been actively involved with DFK for more than 20 years. Anne has played a leading role in developing the DFK Young Professionals programme and a champion of DFK firms large and small.



**Vice-President Americas** 

Paul Panabaker is a partner Davis Martindale in London, Ontario. He conceived and developed the now registered trademarked "Accountants with personality!". An avid traveller (and ardent Toronto Raptors fan), he is actively involved with DFK International and has made valuable business contacts throughout the world.



**Vice-President Asia-Pacific** 

Paul Fiumara is a partner with Brisbane-based firm Hirn Newey. He is a regular presenter at national and international conferences on the latest developments in Information Technology business and taxation. He is also the lead guitarist in DFK's own Rock Band, helping DFK raise the roof at venues around the world.



DFK member firms offer a wide range of professional services to help your business grow and thrive, locally, nationally and globally.

Just some of the services offered by our members:



#### **Business set up**

Starting a new business? We'll get you established on the road to success.



#### **Monthly accounts**

Account set up and world-class bookkeeping services from Xero Certified Gold Partners.



#### **Advisory services**

Budget, cash flow management, and business planning - your business in a nutshell.



#### **Business** coaching

Accountability and support from the team who knows you inside out.

# Some of our Members







DFK's largest firm (by revenue)
Friedman LLP is headquartered in
Manhattan and has locations
throughout New Jersey and Long
Island, as well as in Philadelphia,
Los Angeles and China. Friedman
LLP has been serving the
accounting, tax and business
consulting needs of public and
private companies since 1924.

DFK's largest firm (by locations)
Alfa is a nationwide firm in the
Netherlands with over 30 offices
and more than 1000 employees,
but with an office right around the
corner. With broad financial
knowledge and knowledge of
individual industries. Wherever
you are, Alfa are always nearby.

DFK's largest firm (by people)
Peking CPAs is a nationwide firm in
China with over 15 offices and
more than over 1300 employees.
The firm is one of the top 20 CPA
firms in China and specializes in
audit of State Owner Enterprises
and privately held companies and
has been a member of DFK since
2015.



Estudio Sambuccetti y

Asociados in Buenos Aires has been a member firm of DFK International since 1994. It's a relatively small firm with 2 partners and 10 staff, but shares DFK's commitment to quality and client support.

J P Magson in Kampala, Uganda has been a member firm of DFK International since 2011. The firm was awarded DFK EMEA Firm of the Year in 2018 for its active involvement in DFK and consistently reliable support for referrals. AJC is an advisory and accounting firm established in Vanuatu since 2003.

AJC offers a diverse range of services, including Audit and Accounting, incorporation of local and offshore companies, corporate secretariat and support to investors.

# What's in it for you?

Members of DFK are passionate about giving great service to clients of other member firms that need cross-border services.

Unlike some of the larger networks, our association welcomes member firms that wish to remain fully in control of their own affairs. Nor do we insist on common branding and we do not require member firms to change their operating or legal name.

Most of our member firms are independently owned small to medium-sized accountancy, tax, legal and business advisory practices that provide services to local, national and international clients.

Members of DFK benefit from connections and friendship with like-minded professionals around the world and they are able to ensure that they can give great service to clients that are seeking international accounting, tax, legal and business advisory services.

The main benefits of membership are as follows:

- Worldwide coverage with over 200 high-quality professional member firms in more than 90 countries
- The opportunity to work with partners dedicated to achieving consistent professional and ethical services who share enthusiasm for fully understanding client objectives and delivering effective advice
- Enhanced reputation in the local marketplace through membership with one of the world's leading associations of professional service firms
- Opportunities to build relationships and share knowledge with colleagues in global, regional conferences and local meetings
- Share knowledge and best practices at committees and special interest groups
- Listing in our World Directory
- Use the DFK brand in marketing material to promote the firm's global connections
- A dedicated online members' website (intranet) that provides technical resources and other support services to member firms
- Access to the knowledge and skills of over 10,000 people that work in DFK member firms worldwide

While we cannot guarantee that your firm will be the recipient of inbound referrals, especially in the short-term, most of our members have found that the long-term relationship with DFK is highly beneficial to their business, especially in being able to support local clients that are seeking international services.

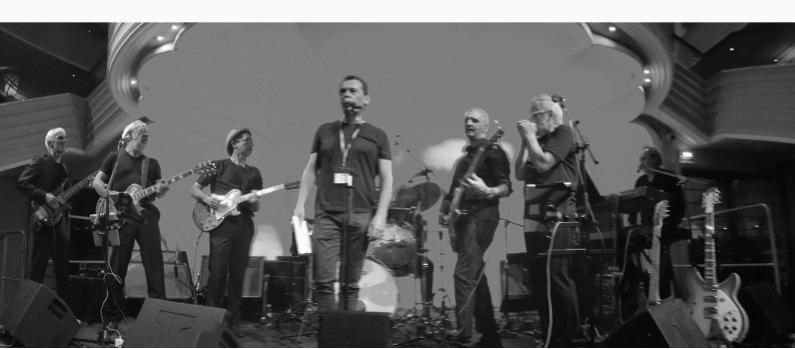


## Kicking Back

We bring together accountants, lawyers, tax and business advisors to refer clients, share knowledge and have fun. Yes really, fun.

DFK International is perhaps the only global association of professional service firms with its own Rock Band

While DFK members deal with serious business in a serious way, they know how to kick back and relax. Our conference parties are legendary.





## "Expanding Your Horizons"

#### **DFK International**



We help independent professional service firms give better support to their clients. Call us any time or drop us an email. We'll get back to you and let you know the steps to realise new global opportunities

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