



# DFK ASIA PACIFIC ANNUAL CONFERENCE

23 Nov – 25 Nov 2022 | Phuket, Thailand





November 2022

Dear DFK Delegates,

## WE ARE BACK!!!

Welcome to the DFK Asia Pacific Annual Conference. This is the first conference our region has held post-covid, and I am so pleased that you have chosen to join us at the wonderful Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket resort.

The theme of this year's conference is '**Getting the band together**' in reference to our group meeting again for the first in-person conference since 2019. These days, we're still troubled by a lingering global pandemic, and we may feel as if we're still sailing against a storm after a great flood—and we don't know how much longer the uncertainty of the storm will last. What we do know is that there are still opportunities for our region, and we need to take care of ourselves and each other because we're much stronger together to face the chaos of the unknown.

The fact that so many of us are meeting in Phuket, thousands of miles away from home indicates that we want to do something about the challenges we are all facing. We are interested in moving forward and making a difference, learn from each other, discuss and network with one another. As a group we need to discover what changes we need to make in our firms to embrace the new challenges and adapt to what has become the new norm. The world is desperately looking towards our region to provide the necessary support in managing the challenges ahead and I know we are ready to support one another. We will also explore how firms within DFK International are collaborating and creating opportunities for each other and what you can do to support your DFK peers.

We hope you will use the conference as an opportunity to learn from each other, share knowledge and best practices but as always more importantly we encourage you to relax, make some new friends and enjoy your time in Phuket, Thailand! As with all our conferences, this event connects DFK members from around the Asia Pacific region and beyond and we hope you make the most of the networking opportunities. On behalf of The DFK Asia Pacific Executive Committee we look forward to welcoming you all to the conference.

Best regards,

*Paul Fiumara*



**Paul Fiumara**

Vice President  
DFK Asia Pacific

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*\* Correct at time of going to press on 16 November 2022*

# ASIA PACIFIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



Paul Fiumara  
(Australia)  
Vice President



Emma Tran  
(Hong Kong)  
Executive Officer



Gary Nugent  
(Australia)



Greg Berry  
(Papua New Guinea)



Leong Kok Tong  
(Malaysia)



Jamshid Medora  
(Singapore)



Ashutosh Pednekar  
(India)



T.C. Ma  
(China)



Jill Santos Cua  
(Philippines)



# ASIA PACIFIC OFFICE HOLDERS

Year	Vice Presidents	DFK Asia Pacific Executive Committee members						
1994	Jerry Lee	John Mann	Uday Chitale	Ooi Chee Kun				
1995	Jerry Lee	John Mann	Uday Chitale	Ooi Chee Kun				
1996	Jerry Lee	John Mann	Khoo Pek Ling	Andrew Ma				
1997	Jerry Lee	Les Hirn	Khoo Pek Ling	Andrew Ma	Uday Chitale			
1998	Jerry Lee	Les Hirn	Khoo Pek Ling	Andrew Ma	Uday Chitale			
1999	Jerry Lee	Les Hirn	Khoo Pek Ling	Andrew Ma	Uday Chitale			
2000	Jerry Lee	Les Hirn	Khoo Pek Ling	Andrew Ma	Uday Chitale			
2001	Jerry Lee	Michael Gray	Ashutosh Pednekar	Andrew Ma				
2002	Jerry Lee	Michael Gray	Ashutosh Pednekar	Andrew Ma				
2003	Jerry Lee	David Griffiths	Ashutosh Pednekar	Andrew Ma				
2004	Jerry Lee	David Griffiths	Ashutosh Pednekar	Andrew Ma				
2005	Uday Chitale	John Mann	Ooi Chee Kun	Young-Il Ko	Ragu Kannan			
2006	Uday Chitale	John Mann	Ooi Chee Kun	Young-Il Ko	Ragu Kannan	David Griffiths		
2007	Uday Chitale	John Mann	Ooi Chee Kun	Young-Il Ko	Ragu Kannan	David Griffiths		
2008	Uday Chitale	David Griffiths	Ooi Chee Kun	Young-Il Ko	Ragu Kannan			
2009	Uday Chitale	David Griffiths	Ooi Chee Kun	Young-Il Ko	Ragu Kannan			
2010	Uday Chitale	David Griffiths	Ooi Chee Kun	Stephen Bushell	Ragu Kannan			
2011	Navin Patel	Stephen Bushell	Ooi Chee Kun	Tetsuaki Inoue	Ragu Kannan	Andrew Ma		
2012	Navin Patel	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Tetsuaki Inoue	Pham The Hung	Andrew Ma		
2013	Navin Patel	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Tetsuaki Inoue	Pham The Hung	Andrew Ma		
2014	Navin Patel	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Pham The Hung	Andrew Ma		
2015	Navin Patel	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Pham The Hung	Andrew Ma		
2016	Navin Patel	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Pham The Hung	Andrew Ma	Zhang Bo	
2017	Paul Fiumara	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Pham The Hung	Zhang Bo		
2018	Paul Fiumara	Stephen Bushell	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Leong Kok Tong	Zhang Bo	Greg Berry	
2019	Paul Fiumara	Gary Nugent	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Leong Kok Tong	Zhang Bo	Greg Berry	Jill Santos
2020	Paul Fiumara	Gary Nugent	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Leong Kok Tong	Zhang Bo	Greg Berry	Jill Santos
2021	Paul Fiumara	Gary Nugent	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Leong Kok Tong	T.C. Ma	Greg Berry	Jill Santos
2022	Paul Fiumara	Gary Nugent	Ashutosh Pednekar	Jamshid Medora	Leong Kok Tong	T.C. Ma	Greg Berry	Jill Santos

## ASIA PACIFIC CONFERENCE LOCATIONS

1991	Singapore	2007	Singapore
1992	Brisbane	2008	Ho Chi Minh City
1993	Tokyo	2009	Beijing
1994	Sydney	2010	Perth
1995	Bali	2011	Bali
1996	Jaipur	2012	Bangkok
1997	Kuala Lumpur	2013	Chennai
1998	Hong Kong	2014	Xian
1999	Auckland	2015	Penang
2000	Taiwan	2016	Cebu
2001	Singapore	2017	Hong Kong
2002	Manila	2018	Osaka
2003	Bangalore	2019	Singapore
2004	Shanghai	2020	—
2005	Kuala Lumpur	2021	—
2006	Seoul		

## REGIONAL FIRM OF THE YEAR WINNERS

2013	AMA CPAs Ltd	<b>Hong Kong</b>
2014	DFK Vietnam	<b>Vietnam</b>
2015	J K Medora	<b>Singapore</b>
2016	M P Chitale	<b>India</b>
2017	Acyatan & Co., CPA	<b>Philippines</b>
2018	Sino-bridge China Consulting Ltd	<b>Hong Kong</b>
2019	DFK Gooding Partners	<b>Australia</b>
2020	—	
2021	—	



# GENERAL INFORMATION

## VENUE

The DFK Asia Pacific Annual Conference will be held at The Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket.

Address: 390 Moo1 Srisoontorn Road, Cherngtalay, Thalang, Phuket 83110

Telephone: +66 (0) 7636 2999

Hotel Contact: Reservations [dtlprsvn@dusit.com](mailto:dtlprsvn@dusit.com)

## BREAKFAST

Delegates staying at the conference hotel will have breakfast included in their accommodation package if booked using the DFK booking link and the location will be designated by the hotel - please check with hotel staff when checking in.

## FEES

### Delegates:

Included in the fees:

- Welcome Reception
- 2 days of conference sessions
- 2 days of lunches on Thursday and Friday
- Gala Dinner

### Guests:

Included in the fees:

- Welcome Reception
- Gala Dinner

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

### Optional Dinner:

- Dine Arouds [19:00 – 23:00] (Dutch Treat on the evening) Pre-registration required.

## DRESS CODE

### Dress Code:

- Business sessions – Business Casual (no ties or jackets required).
- Drinks & Dinners – Smart Casual with comfortable shoes.
- Welcome reception (On the Beach) – Smart Casual with appropriate beach footwear.



# CONFERENCE AND BUSINESS PROGRAMME

This is just a guide to the sessions and may change on the day.

★ Sign-up in advance required

★ By invitation only

## TUESDAY 22 November

19:00-22:00



### Emerging Leaders Dinner ★

**Offsite Location** (Meet in the Hotel Lobby at **18:45**)

Please note this Emerging Leaders Dinner is reserved for registered participants Only. Please contact Emma Tran, DFK Asia Pacific Executive Officer at [etran@dfk.com](mailto:etran@dfk.com) if you have any questions.

## WEDNESDAY 23 November

09:00-17:00

### DFK Emerging Leaders Meeting ★

**Dusit Hall, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**

12:00-13:00

### DFK Asia Pacific Executive Committee Lunch ★

**Location TBC, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**

13:00-16:00

### DFK Asia Pacific Executive Committee Meeting ★

**Suriyan Room, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**

19:00-21:00



### Welcome Reception ★

**Casuarina Beach, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**

Please note this Welcome Reception and Dinner is reserved for registered participants only. If you have not signed up and wish to join, please contact Emma Tran, DFK Asia Pacific Executive Officer at [etran@dfk.com](mailto:etran@dfk.com) as soon as possible.

DFK Asia Pacific would like to thank our Conference Sponsors:





## THURSDAY 24 November

The day's session is in the **Dusit Laguna Hall** at the **Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**

09:00-09:05	<b>Opening Address/ Housekeeping</b>
09:05-09:10	<b>Welcome from DFK Asia Pacific Vice President</b> <b>Paul Fiumara</b> , Vice President, DFK Asia Pacific & Partner at DFK Hirn Newey, Brisbane, Australia
09:10-09:40	<b>DFK International Update</b> <b>Bill Wright</b> , Executive Director, DFK International, London, UK
09:40-09:50	<b>Welcome Remarks from our Thai Host Firm:</b> <b>Benoit Meneau</b> , Partner, Plizz & Co, Bangkok, Thailand
09:50-10:30	<b>Setting up a foreign business in Thailand</b> <b>Nopkasem Jotidilok &amp; Phattanan Pinsawat</b> , Ministry of Commerce, Thailand
10:30-11:00	<b>Business in Thailand - Conclusion</b> <b>Benoit Meneau</b> , Partner, Plizz & Co, Bangkok, Thailand
11:00-11:30	<b>Morning Tea</b>
11:30-12:15	<b>Getting Your Team Back Together</b> <b>Wendy Jeffery-Lonnie</b> , HR Director, DFK Gooding & Partners, Australia
12:15-12:45	<b>The Pathway to Partnership</b> <b>Angela Yu</b> , Director – Audit & Assurance / Asian Business Relationship, CIB Accountants & Advisers, Sydney, Australia
12:45-13:45	<b>Lunch</b>
13:45-14:30	<b>Doing Business with The United States</b> <b>Adnan Islam</b> , Partner, Marcum, USA
14:30-15:00	<b>Electronic signature &amp; Blockchain integration -CryptoESIGN</b> <b>Ragu Kannan</b> , Partner, KVA Chartered Accountants, Hyderabad, India
15:00-15:30	<b>Afternoon Tea</b>
15:30-16:00	<b>Accounting Firms and Their Technology Post-Covid</b> <b>Daniel Richardson</b> , Director, FGS Advisors, Australia
16:00-16:30	<b>Cimplico Product Demo</b> <b>Daniel Richardson &amp; Marco Fiumara</b> , Directors, Cimplico, Australia
16:30-17:00	<b>Adventure Through Ladakh – A Journey of Discovery</b> <b>Ashutosh Pednekar</b> , Partner, MP Chitale, India

★ Sign-up in advance required

★ By invitation only

19:00-23:00

### Optional Dine Arounds★

**Offsite Location (Meet in the Hotel Lobby at 18:45)**



**To offer you a taste of the local restaurant scene and take advantage of another networking opportunity, we will be offering delegates a selection of restaurants to go to with a more intimate group**

*Please note this Informal Group Dinner is reserved for registered participants only. If you have not signed up and wish to join, please contact Emma Tran, DFK Asia Pacific Executive Officer at [etran@dfk.com](mailto:etran@dfk.com) as soon as possible.*

## FRIDAY 25 November

The day's session is in the **Dusit Laguna Hall** at the **Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**

09:00-09:15

### Paul Fiumara,

DFK Asia Pacific VP & Partner, DFK Hirn Newey Pty Ltd, Brisbane, Australia

09:15-09:30

### New Firm Welcome

**Prakash Thapa**, Managing Partner, P.J.P.N & Co, Kathmandu, Nepal

09:30-10:30

### Future Leaders of DFK

**Emerging Leaders Speakers** Stephen Bushell & Wendy Jeffery-Lonnie

10:30-11:00

### Morning Tea

11:00-11:55

### DFK Referrals and Successes Case studies

Moderated by **Bill Wright**, DFK International Executive Director, London, UK  
Panel speakers:

- **Marco Vermin**, DFK EMEA VP and Partner, Alfa, The Netherlands
- **Nigel Jacobs**, DFK Americas VP and CEO, Taylor Leibow, Canada
- **Paul Fiumara**, DFK Asia Pacific VP & Partner, DFK Hirn Newey Pty Ltd, Brisbane, Australia

11:55-12:00

### Closing remarks - Paul Fiumara

DFK Asia Pacific VP & Partner, DFK Hirn Newey Pty Ltd, Brisbane, Australia

12:00-13:00

### Lunch

12:00-16:00

### DFK Executive Board Meeting (Lunch included)★

**Suriyan Room, Dusit Thani Phuket**

19:00-23:00

### Gala Dinner ★

**Dusit Laguna Hall, Dusit Thani Laguna Phuket**



**We hate to say goodbye but if we must, we will do it in style! Join us for a celebration of the week and enjoy some dinner and dancing!**

*Please note this Gala Dinner is reserved for registered participants Only. If you have not signed up and wish to join, please contact Emma Tran, DFK Asia Pacific Executive Officer at [etran@dfk.com](mailto:etran@dfk.com) as soon as possible*

# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

★★ GUESTS

★★★ NEW MEMBER FIRM

## AUSTRALIA



Michael Gray  
**DFK Gray Perry**  
Adelaide, Australia



Brittany Morgan  
**DFK Hirn Newey**  
Brisbane, Australia



Gavin Johns  
**DFK Hirn Newey**  
Brisbane, Australia



Paul Fiumara  
**DFK Hirn Newey**  
Brisbane, Australia  
★★ Marco Fiumara



Melissa Walton  
**DFK Everalls**  
Canberra, Australia



Jason Griffiths  
**DFK Everalls**  
Canberra, Australia



Cheree Woolcock  
**DFK Benjamin King Money**  
Melbourne, Australia



Daniel Shaw  
**DFK Benjamin King Money**  
Melbourne, Australia  
★★ Antonia Glover



Kevin Adams  
**DFK Benjamin King Money**  
Melbourne, Australia



Gary Nugent  
**DFK Nugents**  
Melbourne, Australia



Dalton Gooding  
**DFK Gooding Partners**  
Perth, Australia



Heidi Daniel  
**DFK Gooding Partners**  
Perth, Australia



Stephen Bushell  
**DFK Gooding Partners**  
Perth, Australia



Stephen Gibb  
**DFK Gooding Partners**  
Perth, Australia



Wendy Jeffery-Lonnie  
**DFK Gooding Partners**  
Perth, Australia



Abdullah Chowdhury  
**CIB Accountants & Advisers**  
Sydney, Australia  
★★ Samia Chowdhury



Angela Yu  
**CIB Accountants & Advisers**  
Sydney, Australia



Deepak Sachdev  
**CIB Accountants & Advisers**  
Sydney, Australia

## AUSTRALIA



Faizal Ajmat  
**DFK Laurence Varnay**  
Sydney, Australia



Janelle Yi  
**DFK Laurence Varnay**  
Sydney, Australia



Tony Nguyen  
**DFK Laurence Varnay**  
Sydney, Australia



Kathal Spence  
**DFK PA Partners Pty Ltd**  
Perth, Australia



Arshad Muhammad  
**DFK PA Partners Pty Ltd**  
Perth, Australia

## CANADA



Nigel Jacobs  
**Taylor Leibow LLP**  
Canada



Paul Panabaker  
**Davis Martindale**  
Canada  
★ ★ Blake Martindale

## CHINA (INC. HONG KONG)



T.C Ma  
**Sino-bridge China Consulting**  
Hong Kong, China  
★ ★ Polindy Chin

## INDIA



Ketna Kanodia  
**KVA**  
Hyderabad, India  
★ ★ Mohit Gupta



Ragunathan Kannan  
**KVA**  
Hyderabad, India



Sai Sowrab Kesani  
**KVA**  
Hyderabad, India



Shubham Agarwal  
**KVA**  
Hyderabad, India



Anagha Thatte  
**M. P. Chitale & Co**  
Mumbai, India



Ashutosh Pednekar  
**M. P. Chitale & Co**  
Mumbai, India  
★ ★ Sharmila Pednekar  
★ ★ Rati Pednekar

## INDIA



Harnish Shah  
**M. P. Chitale & Co**  
Mumbai, India



Murtuza Vajihi  
**M. P. Chitale & Co**  
Mumbai, India

## INDONESIA



Anwar Setyabudi  
**Anwar & Rekan**  
Jakarta, Indonesia

## NETHERLANDS



Marco Vermin  
**Alfa Accountants & Advisers**  
Wageningen, Netherlands

## NEPAL



Nirdesh Shrestha  
**PJPN & Co**  
Kathmandu, Nepal



Prakash Thapa  
**PJPN & Co**  
Kathmandu, Nepal

## NEW ZEALAND



Anit Patel  
**DFK Oswin Griffiths Carlton**  
Auckland, New Zealand

## SINGAPORE



Jamshid Medora  
**DFK J K Medora PAC**  
Singapore  
★ ★ Zerín Medora



Wikky Goh  
**DFK J K Medora PAC**  
Singapore



Philip Teo  
**NLA DFK Assurance PAC**  
Singapore

## PHILIPPINES



Jan Derick Bajao  
**JSC & Co**  
Manila, Philippines

## THAILAND



Benoit Meneau  
**Plizz (Thailand) Co., Ltd**  
Bangkok, Thailand



Nantide Sangyalaw  
**Plizz (Thailand) Co., Ltd**  
Bangkok, Thailand



Suppaluk (Viewvy) Thitiprasert  
**Plizz (Thailand) Co., Ltd**  
Bangkok, Thailand

## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



Rahul Doshi  
**N R Doshi & Partners**  
Dubai, United Arab Emirates

## UNITED KINGDOM



Bill Wright  
**DFK International**  
London, UK  
★★Katrina Wright

## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



Adnan Islam  
**Marcum LLP**  
New York, USA



Eddie Wong  
**Marcum LLP**  
New York, USA



Joy Pan  
**Marcum LLP**  
New York, USA



Vincent Xiao  
**Marcum LLP**  
New York, USA



Maggie Chiang  
**Marcum LLP**  
New York, USA



Raymond Cheung  
**Geffen Mesher**  
Oregon, USA

## VIETNAM



The Hung Pham  
**DFK Vietnam**  
Hanoi, Vietnam

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FGS Advisory is a consulting business to Accounting Firms and SMEs, based in Australia. They are passionate about efficiency, and they make their clients more efficient using modern technology and by simplifying processes. As a Xero implementation partner, they have undertaken over 300 implementations of the Xero platform and add-ons around Australia. With the ongoing development of cloud technologies, FGS has developed the complete package for setup, training, and support for every element of an accounting practice in the cloud. <https://fgsadvisory.com.au/>



Based in Brisbane, Australia and born out of the need to solve an efficiency problem in data conversion, Cimplico (pronounced simply-co) has evolved over time into a multi-product software company providing technology solutions to accounting firms globally. Cimplico believes the future of accounting is in utilising the best of technology to free-up resources, allowing accountants to focus on delivering exceptional value to their clients. Their mission is simple -

make software that is powerful and intelligent to unburden accountants from the complicated and mundane. Seeing the frustration expressed by accountants worldwide with lengthy checklists, outdated interfaces, and cumbersome spreadsheets, Cimplico has taken on the challenge to produce the world's best cloud-based solution to simplify the preparation of compliance accounting workpapers. <https://www.cimplico.com>



# CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE

The following maybe updated prior to the event where necessary. For all external meals and tours please meet in the hotel foyer at least **15 minutes** prior to scheduled time, unless stated otherwise.

★ Indicates by Invitation Only

★ Indicates Sign-up in advance required

## TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER

19:00-22:00 **DFK Emerging Leaders Dinner** ★ *Offsite Location*

## WEDNESDAY 23 NOVEMBER

09:00-17:00 **DFK Emerging Leaders Meeting** ★ *Dusit Hall*

12:00-13:00 **Asia Pacific Executive Committee Lunch** ★ *Location TBC*

13:00-16:00 **Asia Pacific Executive Committee Meeting** ★ *Suriyan Room*

19:00-21:00 **Welcome Reception** ★ *Casuarina Beach*

## THURSDAY 24 NOVEMBER

09:00-17:00 **DFK Asia Pacific Conference - Day 1** *Dusit Laguna Hall*

19:00-22:00 **Informal Dine Arouds** ★ *Various Locations*

## FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER

09:00-12:00 **DFK Asia Pacific Conference - Day 2** *Dusit Laguna Hall*

12:00-17:00 **DFK Executive Board Meeting** ★ *Suriyan Room*

13:00-19:00 **Free Afternoon**

19:00-23:30 **Gala Drinks & Dinner** ★ *Dusit Laguna Hall*





# DFK ASIA PACIFIC ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023



**Auckland, New Zealand  
November 2023**



Check the DFK International members site for  
Further information or email: [etran@dfk.com](mailto:etran@dfk.com)



**MARK YOUR 2023 CALENDARS!**