

## **Press Release**

### **The Institute of Internal Auditors Singapore Annual Conference and Leadership Forum To Feature Engaging Sessions On Governance, Risk, and Control**

Singapore, 7 October 2014 – Internal auditors have to keep up with the pace of change in Asia and the rest of the world if they are to advise the C-suite on sound governance, risk and controls today in the achievement of strategic and business goals. Various parts of Asia have been affected by civil unrest, stock market volatility and changes in government this year, bringing home the importance of corporate governance and risk management to companies that are dependent on regional and international commerce.

The Annual Conference and Leadership Forum of The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Singapore which has been held since 1981, will gather Chief Audit Executives (CAE) and internal auditing practitioners from Singapore and around the Asia Pacific region. Themed “At the Forefront of Governance, Risk, and Control (GRC)”, this year’s event showcases a lineup of distinguished speakers and senior executives from leading companies who will share current issues and best practices impacting the internal audit profession today. It will also be an excellent forum that facilitates exchange of views and innovative ideas on how the Internal Audit (IA) profession can add value to the organisations that they support.

Three hundred professionals with internal audit, finance and risk remits are expected to attend the event, to be held from 15-17 October at Marina Bay Sands, Singapore. The three-day event will also cover topics such as money laundering, whistleblowing, data protection, and social media among other topics. The conference starts with the “Leadership Forum” on 15 October which will be officiated the Guest of Honor, Mr Bobby Chin, Chairman of NTUC Fairprice Cooperative Ltd.

The annual conference comes at a time when internal auditors face new complexities in their role. There are numerous challenges that the Internal Audit profession face in today’s business environment. Beyond assurance, internal auditors are now expected to provide an advisory role to the organisation in managing enterprise risk. This includes areas such as business continuity management which helps the organisation to deal with events such as cyber-attack, disease outbreak or natural disaster. Says Mr Eric Lim, President of IIA, “Internal auditors can help organisations maneuver their way through the changing business landscape. As an independent and objective function, IAs give management and the audit committee the assurance that an organisation’s processes and control systems are adequate and effective. This year’s Annual Conference and Leadership Forum emphasizes the role of internal audit in an organisation’s governance, risk and control framework.”

He further elaborated that “Staying up-to-date about GRC enables professionals to take the lead in addressing the effectiveness of GRC in organisations. In doing so, internal auditors can enhance the effectiveness of the board and management in delivering the performance expected by stakeholders.”

The event will also feature the top students of the SMU-IIA Internal Audit Elective. In 2013, Singapore Management University and IIA collaborated to develop an Internal Audit Elective module, which attracted strong interest from undergraduate students. Ms Lee Ching May Christabelle and Ms Tan Yu Ching completed the elective with outstanding results. In recognition of their excellent work, they will

be awarded The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Singapore Outstanding Student Award during the Annual Conference.

### **Engaging Sessions With Distinguished Speakers\***

As proven by events in Hong Kong, we live in a rapidly changing world where organisations are exposed to internal, regional and global risks. Organisations have to find ways to constantly adapt and manage change in order to succeed in an extremely complex environment. In **“Effective Internal Audit in Organisations that Thrives on Change”**, Uantchern Loh (Chief Executive, Singapore Accountancy Commission), will share key insights on how internal auditors can help the organisation navigate its path to success.

HR managers and board members can look forward to Ms Wong Su-Yen’s session (Chairman of Singapore for Marsh and McLennan Companies) on **“The Future of Talent Management”**. Ms Wong will share valuable insights about talent management. This is in line with the increasing demand on the IA professional and their roles in the organisation.

Says Mr Lim, “We want to raise awareness of the importance of IAs in engaging stakeholders. It’s critical for IAs strengthen their relationship management skills. IIA will provide the required training and educational resources to IA professionals to develop their skills and keep abreast with developments and best practices.”

With corruption becoming a bigger concern among local companies, Mr Stefano Demichelis (Associate Managing Director, Investigations & Disputes, Kroll Singapore) will speak on **“The Old-New Emerging Match: Internal Audit Versus Corruption. What Can Be Done?”**

With the establishment of the Do Not Call registry, organisations are concerned as to how this will impact their business. Against the backdrop of individuals and companies running foul of the Personal Data Protection Act<sup>1</sup>, Mr Francis Lim, Partner, Corporate, Lee & Lee, will discuss **“The Personal Data Protection Act & Its Implications For Your Organisation”**.

The increasing political and economic dominance of emerging markets, the rapid rate of urbanisation, the web of 80 billion connected devices are just some of the factors changing the world as we know it. In **“Fast-Forward to 2020: New Trends Transforming the World as We Know It”**, Manoj Menon (Senior Partner, Frost and Sullivan) will give companies a clear view on how these global trends shape the world and impact companies.

Other sessions worth noting include:

- Ms Hue Dang, Head of Asia, Association of Certified Anti-Money Laundering Specialists (ACAMS) on **“Anti-Money Laundering: Governance, Risk and Compliance Framework”**
- Mr Marcel Hujiskens, Managing Director, XS Control Asia Pte Ltd on **“Latest Highlights on Fraud Risk in IT”**
- Mr Rajeev Kadam, President, Global Head Internal Audit, Olam International Ltd on **“Enterprise Risk Management: Delving Into Olam International’s Experience”**

---

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/property-agent-to-be/1374896.html>



- Mr Cedric Dias, Digital Director/Head of Social Media, Havas Media; and Mr Shelby Sekar, Social Media Manager, Havas Media on **“Social Media: The Opportunities and Risks to an Organisation”**

The event is supported by the ACCA, CPA Australia, the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants, the Singapore Accountancy Commission, and the Securities Investors Association (Singapore). For more information about the event and to view the agenda, please visit the IIA website, [www.iaa.org.sg](http://www.iaa.org.sg).

Journalists and bloggers who wish to cover the event can contact Rachel Malaguit at +65 96438179 or Nelly Ng at +65 62227359.

\*Agenda is subject to change.

###

### **About the Institute of Internal Auditors Singapore**

The Institute of Internal Auditors (IIA) Singapore is a professional organisation dedicated to the advancement and development of the internal audit profession. Established in 1976, members of IIA Singapore belong to a global community of more than 180,000 professionals in over 190 countries who share a common vision to advance their professional growth in internal auditing and add value in their organisations.

Our 2,300 members work in internal auditing, accounting, risk management, governance, compliance, internal control, information technology audit, education, and security.

<b>Contact Information</b>			
<b>Media Contacts:</b>			
Nelly Ng	IIA Singapore	+65 62227359	nelly.ng@iaa.org.sg
Safina Samian	Cohn & Wolfe for IIA	+65 97611336	safina.samian@cohnwolfe.com
Rachel Malaguit	Cohn & Wolfe for IIA	+65 96438179	rachel.malaguit@cohnwolfe.com