Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants
香港會計師公會

Forensics Interest Group (ForensIG)

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Seminar

Blockchain Technology and Cryptocurrencies: Fuelling Financial Evolution or Illicit Activities?

Programme code: SCPD18050702

About the topic

Blockchain technology has provided the foundation for the creation and development of digital currencies. Cryptocurrencies, like Bitcoin, are digital assets that work as a medium of exchange that use cryptography to secure their transactions. While these currencies provide alternative channel for people to settle their transactions, their safety and integrity have been questioned. Also, as there are no comprehensive regulations on cryptocurrencies, they are popular on the dark web, which enables criminals to conduct illegal transactions, including the sale of narcotics and money laundering activities.

In this seminar, a panel of experienced practitioners, including the moderator, will share with you how blockchain technology and cryptocurrencies work, as well as discuss whether these technologies are fuelling legal innovation or facilitating illicit practices. The panel will also talk about the future regulation of cryptocurrencies.

About the event

Date & Time 7 May 2018, Monday
1:00 – 2:00 pm

Venue HKICPA training centre
27th Floor, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East, Wanchai

Fee HK$150 per person for ForensIG members
HK$250 per person for Non-ForensIG members
Priority is given to ForensIG members. Not a ForensIG member? Click here to join ForensIG. If you are a non-member of the Institute, please register as a new web member first before completing an online registration as a ForensIG member.

HKICPA CPD credit 1 hour (subject to actual attendance)

Language English

Competency Forensic accounting*

Rating Intermediate level*

Application deadline **4 May 2018**

* Please refer here for descriptions of the various ratings.

Rundown

12:30 pm	Registration (Sandwiches and drinks provided)
1:00 pm	Introduction
1:05 pm	Panel discussion
1:50 pm	Q&A / Discussion
2:00 pm	Closing

Panellists

Shannon M. Argetsinger
Director, Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations Limited

Jean-Louis van der Velde
Chief Executive Officer, Bitfinex

Chair/ Moderator

Guy Norman
Member, ForensIG Management Committee, and Partner, Forensic & Dispute Services, Deloitte & Touche Financial Advisory Services

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About the panellists

Shannon M. Argetsinger, Director, Alvarez & Marsal Disputes and Investigations Limited

Shannon Argetsinger is a Director and the Head of AML Services for Asia with Alvarez & Marsal's Disputes and Investigations team based in Hong Kong. He brings over 25 years of investigative experience while working for local and federal U.S. law enforcement agencies.

He acquired vast international investigative experience during his career with the U.S. Government and was posted at the U.S. Consulate General for Hong Kong and Macau between 2009 and 2016. While working in Hong Kong, he initiated, facilitated, and supported numerous complex investigations. Throughout his career, he worked on numerous investigation involving BSA/AML and CTF components. He also conducted/took part in numerous investigations involving OFAC and FinCEN listed entities. Moreover, he successfully planned, coordinated, and conducted numerous trainings attended by law enforcement officials on several topics, to include but not limited to, anti-money laundering and financial investigations.

While posted in Hong Kong and working for the U.S. Government, he served as an advisor to the U.S. Consul General for Hong Kong and Macau on counter-narcotics and money laundering matters, and conducted high level briefings for various U.S. Government team members as well as foreign government counterparts.

Jean-Louis van der Velde, Chief Executive Officer, Bitfinex

A technologist and serial entrepreneur, Jean-Louis speaks five languages and has amassed 30 years of experience in the international high tech industry followed by a gradual move towards international finance and Fintech.

Jean-Louis left his native country of the Netherlands in 1985 to attend university in Taiwan and has lived in Asia ever since.

Since arriving in Asia he has been the co-founder of a number of IT companies ranging from hardware design and development to software and has been at the center in the early development of a number of key technologies through his businesses (embedded systems, video streaming, IPTV, digital TV, web based applications and digital marketing). During the dot-com days he was a regular speaker at technology conferences on open source technologies as the co-founder of one of the most advanced embedded linux companies at the time. He has occupied senior management positions in a number of large private and public corporations in IT, distribution, manufacturing and still serves as an executive director in a Chinese automotive group and a Hong Kong based VC.

In early 2013, Jean Louis joined to become CEO / co-founder of Bitfinex and structured the holding (DigFinEx) focused on developing and investing in new Fintech and big data related technologies, implementing a strict set of AML/KYC rules with a self developed system and successfully works with banking partners, regulatory and law enforcement to work on innovation and new developments in the Fintech space. Jean Louis is also CEO of Tether, a new frictionless payment clearing system in beta testing developed by a team of experts.

Jean-Louis is also a lecturer at National Taiwan University of Science and Technology (NTSTU) and guest lecturer at Taiwan University (Blockchain and Regulation).

Jean-Louis attended National Taiwan Normal University from 1985 to 1988.

Registration

- Complete online registration by 4 May 2018.

Contact Sheri Tam at 2287 7067 for enquiry.

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Event Code: SCPD18050702

Finance & Operations Department
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Fax no: 2893 9853

ForensIG seminar - Blockchain Technology and Cryptocurrencies: Fueling Financial Evolution or Illicit Activities?

7 May 2018
(Reply by 4 May 2018)

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Handled by: .....

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Please "✓" as appropriate

Admission Fee: ❑ HK$150 per person (ForensIG members) X _____ person(s) = HK$ _____
❑ HK$250 per person (Non-ForensIG members) X _____ person(s) = HK$ _____

Payment Method:

❑ Cheque (no._____) payable to "Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants" or "HKICPA"

❑ VISA / MasterCard ❑ BOC HKICPA UnionPay card

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Notes:

1. Enrolments are accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Telephone reservations will not be accepted.
2. Full payment must be made before applications will be processed. Application by fax will ONLY be accepted when payment is made by credit card. Cash is strictly NOT accepted.
3. The closing date for enrolment is 4 May 2018.
4. Confirmation of enrolment will be sent to you via email. You can check your enrolment status at "MyCPA" at www.hkicpa.org.hk
5. In normal circumstances, the seminar fee is non-refundable or non-transferrable upon receipt of payment by HKICPA. Should the seminar be cancelled or postponed due to unforeseeable circumstances, refund will be made according to your payment method. For credit card payment, refund will be made directly to your credit card account. For cheque payment, refund will be mailed to your correspondence address.
6. For credit card payment, the card should be valid with expiry date at least 1 month from the date of event.
7. Bad weather arrangement: The seminar will be cancelled if typhoon signal no. 8 or above / black rainstorm warning is hoisted, as announced by the Hong Kong Observatory, at or after 10 a.m. on the date of the event. In the event of cancellation due to bad weather, the admission fee will be refunded.

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