

Network News

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Asia Pacific Conference 2026

Russell Bedford International recently welcomed member firms from across Asia Pacific to Bali for its 2026 regional conference, hosted by local member firm Russell Bedford SBR.



CEO Stephen Hamlet and Chair Daniel Ryba opened the conference, before Stephen presented *Unlocking Potential: Your International Network*, exploring how the network is supporting firms in today's rapidly changing environment.



Quality and consistency across the network were also firmly on the agenda. Director of Professional Standards Helen Bimbassis led a session on *Empowering Progress*, exploring how a strong approach to quality can support firms as they adapt, grow and respond to change.

Syahril Ramadhan of PPATK, Indonesia's financial intelligence unit, then examined the country's evolving AML/CFT/CPF landscape. Using regional case studies, he explored its wider relevance across Asia Pacific, including the risk spectrum and common control failures affecting firms.



Day two began with practice and regional update interviews hosted by Stephen Hamlet, giving firms the opportunity to share developments from their respective markets. The discussions covered economic conditions, changes across the profession, firm performance, recruitment and retention, evolving service offerings, the adoption of technology and AI, and successful collaboration across the network.



Business and mindset coach Raimonda Gecaite followed with an engaging session on resilience, exploring how professionals can maintain their wellbeing and achieve peak performance during periods of sustained pressure.



The afternoon turned to technology and collaboration. Justin Woods examined how firms are putting artificial intelligence to work in practice, while Associate Director of Network Engagement, Kathryn Davis explored how member firms can work together more effectively across borders.

The conference concluded with a session on succession planning led by Gavin Foo and Peter Shields, encouraging delegates to think strategically about leadership transition, future growth and the long-term legacy of their firms.



Reflecting on the event, Stephen commented:

"I arrived in Bali at the end of a few weeks travelling across Asia, from Seoul to Colombo and Kuala Lumpur, and I heard the same message everywhere I went. Our profession is not disappearing, it is evolving. AI will continue to automate routine work and analyse data faster than any of us can, but the firms that thrive will be the ones who adopt technology while strengthening the human skills valued most by clients. That is what I saw at our Asia-Pacific Conference, and it is why the relationships we build across our network matter so much."



Delegates also enjoyed time together away from the sessions, with dinner and drinks on both evenings providing plenty of opportunity to swap ideas, compare notes on their own markets and connect in person with colleagues they usually meet on screen.



We extend our thanks to Russell Bedford SBR for hosting, and to every speaker and delegate whose contributions made the conference such a success.

Conference presentations and additional photographs from the event are available to members via the [intranet](#).

TSG Your Trusted Accountant joins Russell Bedford International in the United States



Russell Bedford International is pleased to welcome **TSG Your Trusted Accountant**, headquartered in Westbrook, Maine, as the newest member of its global network.

Founded in 2012 by CEO Tabitha Swanson, the firm has grown from a team of just three people to more than 30 professionals. Today, it is recognised as the largest 100% woman-owned accounting firm in Maine and has earned a reputation for combining technical excellence with an exceptional workplace culture.

Ranked #8 in Maine Best Places to Work and #23 in Accounting Today's Best Small Firms to Work For in the United States, TSG Your Trusted Accountant is guided by a simple mission: building a place people want to work and providing growth to clients and staff. Earlier this year, the firm expanded beyond Maine with the acquisition of its first office in neighbouring New Hampshire, marking an important milestone in its continued growth.

Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International, said:

"We are delighted to welcome TSG Your Trusted Accountant to Russell Bedford International. The firm has achieved impressive growth while building an award-winning culture that clearly puts both its people and clients first. Their collaborative approach and people-first ethos make them an excellent fit for our global network, further strengthening our presence in the United States."

Tabitha Swanson, CEO of TSG Your Trusted Accountant, commented:

"We were looking for an international network that would help us further strengthen the support we provide to clients with cross-border matters, give us access to specialist expertise where needed, and create valuable learning opportunities for our team. We're delighted to be joining Russell Bedford and look forward to collaborating with like-minded firms around the world."

Young Professionals Centre of Excellence



We recently held our first session for the Young Professionals Centre of Excellence on **Thriving with AI: your Assistant not your Successor**. We extend our sincere thanks to Chris Bor and Graziella De Martino for launching the Centre with such an insightful and interactive session.

For those who were unable to join us, or for anyone who would like to revisit the content, the webinar recording and presentation slides are available [here](#).

To join the Young Professionals Centre of Excellence, members should visit their [Intranet profile](#) and select the Centre from the Centres of Excellence drop-down list. If you do not yet have Intranet access, please contact [Gemma Benson](#).

Russell Bedford Cares supports Venezuela earthquake relief



As part of the Russell Bedford Cares programme, Russell Bedford International has donated **£5,000** to the [Disasters Emergency Committee \(DEC\) Venezuela Earthquake Appeal](#) in response to the devastating earthquakes that struck the country on 24 June.

The network's £5,000 donation will be matched by the UK Government, enabling Russell Bedford International to provide **£10,000** of emergency humanitarian support through the appeal.

The twin 7.2 and 7.5 magnitude earthquakes struck within seconds of each other, causing catastrophic damage across Caracas and the surrounding region. More than **2,200 people have lost their lives**, over **10,500 have been injured**, and almost **96,000 buildings** are believed to have been damaged or destroyed, leaving millions of people in urgent need of assistance.



The DEC brings together 15 leading humanitarian charities to coordinate emergency relief, ensuring funds are directed where they are needed most. Organisations including the **Red Cross**, **UNICEF**, **Action Against Hunger**, **Oxfam** and **Christian Aid**, working alongside trusted local partners, are providing emergency shelter, food, clean water, medical care and other life-saving support across the affected areas.

Russell Bedford International also extends its thoughts to everyone affected by the disaster, including the family and friends of colleagues at Russell Bedford Venezuela.

Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International, said:

"When disasters of this scale occur, it is difficult to comprehend the devastation facing those affected. Our thoughts are with everyone in Venezuela who has lost loved ones, homes and livelihoods, including the family and friends of our colleagues in the country. By supporting the DEC appeal, our donation will be matched by the UK Government, allowing us to provide £10,000 of emergency humanitarian support through trusted organisations delivering vital emergency assistance where it is needed most."

The Ibero-American Transfer Pricing Committee

The Ibero-American Transfer Pricing Committee has published '**Intra-Group Services in Ibero-America**', bringing together the perspectives and practical experience of its member countries. This publication provides a regional overview of the transfer pricing treatment of intra-group services, highlighting the significance of these intercompany transactions and the key aspects that tax authorities commonly assess during audits and tax examinations.

We invite you to explore this publication and share it with your colleagues, clients, and professional network. We trust it will serve as a valuable resource for gaining a deeper understanding of the challenges and best practices surrounding intra-group services across the Ibero-American region.

Read the publication in Spanish [here](#).



Webinar Recordings

If you were unable to attend our live webinars, recordings are available on our [Events Page](#) by scrolling down to 'Past Events'. Each recording includes a short summary to give you a quick overview before watching.

For easy access to our most recent webinar recordings, see below:

Thriving with AI: your Assistant not your Successor

Free AI Tools Accountants Can Use Today

ISQM: Testing Operating Effectiveness

Forthcoming conferences

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



43rd Annual Global Conference

The 2026 Russell Bedford International 43rd Annual Global Conference will be held from 21 - 25 October in Los Angeles, USA. Registration is currently open. Please visit our members [Events page](#) for more details.



Managers & Young Partners Conference

The 2026 Managers & Young Partners Conference will be held in Athens, Greece from 22 - 24 November. Registration opens in September.

Russell Bedford - key facts and figures

- **More than 40 years** of global service
- **Top 20** global accounting network
- **Over US\$1 billion** global fee income
- **Over 1000 partners** and over **11,000 staff**
- **Almost 400 offices** in more than **100 countries**

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