Spring Update for Accountants

15–17 March 2018
The Belfry, Birmingham

EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT
save £100 on bookings before 22 February
ACCA UK’s Spring Update for Accountants provides a relaxed environment in which to update your skills, benefiting from the experience of your peers as well as from that of our expert speakers. Delegates can attend 11 out of 29 sessions – mix and match between business and finance, taxation and law and professional development to gain maximum benefit from the conference while fulfilling your annual CPD requirements.

**KEY FEATURES**

**convenient**
A great way to gain 21 verifiable* CPD units in one event, minimising the time spent out of the office.

**informative**
Reference material from all 29 sessions to take away and refer to after the Update has finished. Soft copies are now sent out after the event.

**INFORMATION**

**venue details**
The Update will take place at The Belfry in Birmingham. Accommodation is of a four-star deluxe standard. The hotel is easily accessible by road and rail and has ample complimentary on-site parking.

**cancellations**
Cancellations made before 15 February 2018 will be refunded less an administration fee of £50. Cancellations made after 15 February 2018 will not be refundable. An organisation may, however, substitute an alternative delegate to the one originally named, at any time prior to the start of the Update. Please note that all cancellations and substitutions must be notified in writing.

ACCA reserves the right to cancel or reschedule events without prior notice and to alter published programmes, accommodation and lecturers.

**BOOKING**

**fees:**
Residential – £1,689
Non-residential – £1,389

**early booking discount**
Take advantage of our early booking discount and save £100. Book before 22 February 2018 and pay £1,589 for a residential place or £1,289 for a non-residential place.

**how to book**
Book online at [https://events.accaglobal.com](https://events.accaglobal.com) or alternatively, please complete and return the booking form. Photocopies of this form are acceptable.

*provided the content is relevant to your professional development.

“**The gold standard in terms of value for money, lecturing, content and administration**”

Will Tuffy FCCA
Chairman, Miromore Limited
Lecturers

A  business and finance
CHARLES GUBBINS BSc CA
Head of technical practice and professional development, Kaplan Leadership and Professional Development

BOB HAWKEN ACA
Managing director, FinancePD Ltd

DR STEPHEN HILL BSc (Hons), MLPI CIIP PhD
Managing director, Hill Bingham Ltd

JOHN MCKENZIE MBA (Cranfield)
Independent lecturer and consultant

DEREK TAYLOR ACIB ACI MSTA
CEO, Taylor Associates (International) Ltd

B  taxation and law
LOUISE DUNFORD LLM LLB
Barrister, director LD Consultancy Ltd and consultant for CompleteHR Ltd

MALCOLM GREENBAUM ACA CTA
Director and principal, Greenbaum Training and Consultancy Ltd

TIM PALMER CTA ATT
Senior partner, Palmer Consultancy Partnership

DEAN WOOTTEN FCA CTA
VAT Consultant

C  professional development
STEVE BUSTIN
Business communication expert

LIZ LUGT CA(SA) IOEE PSA
Professional speaker, trainer and consultant, Movation Leadership

JOY MARSDEN BA (HONS) FPSA MISM PSAE MCM
CPD Accredited Self-Leadership, Self-Success Speaker

JOHN MARK WILLIAMS MBA FCMI FinstCM
Head of employer engagement UK, ACCA

RODERIC YAPP
Director, Leadership Forces
Professionally Certified Coach (ICF)
11.00 – 12.30

**Latest Brexit round-up**  
**John McKenzie**
- current domestic political climate and its Brexit impact
- latest views on what shape Brexit is most likely to take
- where are we on the EU preconditions – EU migrant status, divorce bill, Irish border question and EU law and ECJ status
- continued Brexit impact on macroeconomic factors that will affect business
- what we know about trade (and what don’t we know)
- best, worst and likely case forecasts and outcomes
- what we need to keep our eye on – warning signals, trends and leading indicators.

**Planning for the future: cross-border VAT and duty**  
**Dean Wootten**
- key areas of the current system
- potential impact of Brexit
- overview of useful import and duty reliefs
- procedural differences in exporting rather than dispatching goods
- will services change much?
- Brexit compliance implications.

**Coaching skills for managers**  
**John Williams**
- what we mean by coaching, and the differences from management or mentoring
- the purpose of coaching
- the importance of self-awareness
- the process of coaching, and the models available
- the necessary and sufficient skills of coaching
- the takeaway: when coaching becomes useful – and vital.

13.15 – 14.45

**Lean thinking and lean accounting**  
**John McKenzie**
- is ‘lean’ right for my organisation?
- what is ‘lean’? The principles, tools, techniques of lean thinking and practice and application
- the lean culture - preserving and building value whilst reducing waste
- two sides of lean accounting: – being ‘lean’ in the accounting function and leading by our own example
- aligning our analysis and reporting towards lean measurement and away from simple budgetary and cost control
- what good looks like – benchmarking our performance to best practice.

**Property taxes**  
**Dean Wootten**
- repairs v improvements
- impact of the 2017 interest rules
- incorporating a property portfolio
- group issues
- optimising property structures
- option to tax complications.

**The mindset for success/excellence**  
**John Williams**
- generating a vision – conscious and unconscious
- creativity... and KSA
- innovation = focus x action
- self-belief – giving yourself permission to succeed
- the takeaway: six factor strategy for success.
15.15 – 16.45

**A3** Bitcoin, crypto currencies and the blockchain  
**Derek Taylor**
- there are now more searches for how to invest in bitcoin than how to invest in gold
- what is bitcoin? How does it work?
- the technology that supports crypto currencies (blockchain)
- future applications and how this technology is already changing the way we live.

**B3** Tax relief for capital expenditure  
**Malcolm Greenbaum**
- the distinction between capital and revenue expenditure
- capital allowances – qualifying expenditure and reminder of calculations
- intangible fixed assets – definitions and tax treatment
- R&D allowance – buildings used for research and development
- leasing and hire purchase.

17.00 – 18.15

**A4** Financial services innovation (FinTech)  
**Derek Taylor**
- economic and government policies, innovation, operational restructuring, technology, and more demanding clients are all changing the landscape
- why regulation is critical – the transformation of conduct and culture
- disruptive innovation in financial services
- banking technology/digital banks
- technology enabled trends that support innovation (FinTech):
  - big data (IBM’s Watson)
  - Artificial Intelligence (AI)
  - the internet of things
  - ubiquitous computing.

**B4** Finance Bill/Act 2018  
**Malcolm Greenbaum**
- personal tax changes
- employment tax changes
- business and corporation tax changes
- VAT changes.

**C3** Leadership matters  
**Liz Lugt**
- the difference between leadership and management
- are leaders born or made?
- is leadership a skill that we can all learn and grow into?
- the key attributes of great leaders and how to cultivate these in our own leadership.

**C4** The ideal team player  
**Liz Lugt**
- real teamwork is a choice which means it is not for everyone
- why teamwork offers untapped competitive advantages in business
- why ideal team players make themselves indispensable to organisations that value and thrive on teamwork
- the qualities that make someone an ideal team player
- a personalised action plan for becoming an ideal team player.
09.00 – 10.30

**UK GAAP & IFRS – their differences and is the gap between them growing or declining?**

Charles Gubbins

- overview – the three main systems around the world (IFRS, US and UK) – any pressures for convergence?
- the current key differences between UK and IFRS GAAP
- how will the implementation of IFRS 9, 15 and 16 affect UK GAAP in the short and longer term?
- why was FRS 101 created and how helpful is it to UK preparers of IFRS financial statements?
- UK entities which are prohibited from using IFRS GAAP
- will Brexit have any impact?

**Business law update**

Louise Dunford

- company law update, including new cases on share options, informal shareholder resolutions, share buy backs and unfair prejudice
- implications of the Criminal Finances Act 2017
- exiting the business – key issues in representing sellers, including TUPE update and in assisting buyers, including imposing restrictive covenants on the seller
- partnerships and joint ventures – some useful observations.

**Increasing self-confidence**

Joy Marsden

- looking beneath the surface
- breaking the power of the past
- slowing down and leading with integrity
- looking beyond the comfort zone
- getting a healthy perspective.

10.45 – 12.15

**Cybercrime and General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)**

Stephen Hill

- understand the current threats of cybercrime
- examining the type of cyber-attacks (phishing and ransomware)
- how is the digital environment challenging data protection?
- GDPR – what do I need to do to comply?
- IT governance as a best practice approach.

**Employment law update**

Louise Dunford

- employment status, the gig economy cases and what they mean
- holiday pay and the ECJ decision in sash windows
- what is happening on IR35?
- monitoring employees’ electronic communications and other social media issues
- dealing with sexual harassment complaints
- post-termination restrictions – five things you need to know.

**How to stop worrying and start living**

Joy Marsden

- why it is so important not to worry too much
- how to crowd worry out of your mind
- eight words that will transform your life
- what makes you tired and what you can do about it
- trusting in yourself and trusting others.
13.00 – 14.30

**A7**

**Are you leaving digital footprints?**
**Stephen Hill**
- what the internet knows about you and how to search online safely and efficiently
- search engines, meta browsers, deep web and people and company search techniques
- Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) links
- geo-location tools for social media and photos
- tracing domain name owners and the origin of an email
- protecting your privacy when going online.

**B7**

**PAYE and benefits update and planning**
**Tim Palmer**
- a detailed review of the tax and NIC position relating to benefits in kind
- tax efficient benefit in kind planning
- payrolling benefits
- PAYE and NIC refresher and planning
- dynamic notices of coding
- the impact of IR35
- company car tax review.

**C7**

**How to build a high performing team**
**Roderic Yapp**
- what is a high performing team? Using examples from the business, military and sporting worlds, we will examine what high performing teams look like to understand the principles behind their success
- how do you recruit for a high performing team? What does your selection process look like? Is it fit for purpose?
- how do you build a high performing team? What are the core principles and how well are they applied in your organisation?
- the session will be practical with time to reflect on what you do now and will do differently when you return to your organisation.

14.45 – 16.15

**A8**

**Creating and using robust financial models**
**Bob Hawken**
- layout of a robust model
- useful functions
- checking for consistency of formulae
- creating a user interaction screen
- using data tables to analyse the results.

**B8**

**Business tax update**
**Tim Palmer**
- a practical refresher relating to business and corporate taxes
- tax planning ideas and strategies to reduce the tax burden for sole traders, partnerships and companies
- tax and NIC efficient extraction of funds from the business
- what business expenditure can be allowed and what cannot
- partnership tax review
- practical case studies.

**C8**

**Stand and deliver**
**Steve Bustin**
- find out why presenting and public speaking are now essential business skills
- discover how to identify and hone your personal presentation style and learn from those presenters you admire
- identify objectives for your presentation – for both yourself and your audience
- know how to structure your presentations from impactful opening to memorable closing
- know how to bring your presentation to life – with or without slides
- take away strategies for dealing with nerves to give confident presentations every time.
16.30 – 17.45

**A9**  Forecasting and planning tools of Excel  
**Bob Hawken**
- useful functions for forecasting
- regression and time series
- using pivot tables to summarise historic data
- scenario manager.

**B9**  Corporation tax  
**Tim Palmer**
- corporation tax refresher and planning
- mitigating the corporation tax liability
- the new dividend regime
- company expenditure that can be allowed for tax, and that which cannot
- sponsorship and entertaining company clients: the tax issues
- research and development: the latest tax position
- the new corporation tax loss relief regime and group relief.

**C9**  Effective communication  
**Steve Bustin**
- discover the keys to effective written and verbal communication
- know how to introduce yourself, your organisation and what you actually do for your clients
- understand the need for brevity and clarity in all communications
- identify the jargon and ‘business speak’ that makes you sound more like a candidate on *The Apprentice* than a serious player
- leave this session with a new, focused and effective ‘elevator pitch’.

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**STREAMS**

- **A** business and finance
- **B** taxation and law
- **C** professional development

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**Jo Jolley FCCA**  
Group Finance Director  
CLF Packaging Ltd

**Ruth Aylward FCCA**  
Accountant, Monitran

**Mark Robinson FCCA**  
Finance Manager, Gemalto UK Limited
Accounting standards update

**Charles Gubbins**

This update is designed to cover both UK and IFRS GAAP.

For the UK GAAP session, we will consider the key standards (FRS 102, FRS 105 and FRS 101) in terms of:

- lessons learned so far and how companies and other relevant entities are dealing with some of the key issues.
- the outcome of the first triennial review – the revised Standard becomes effective for accounting periods commencing 1 January 2019 with optional earlier implementation.

The IFRS session will address the dual purpose of updating those who use IFRS in their accounts and providing a background for FRS 102 users (insofar that IFRS represents a non-mandatory fallback position). This is the year of adoption of IFRSs 9 and 15 and so this will occupy much of our time.

09.00 – 10.30

**Accounting standards update**

This session will provide a practical slant for those using UK GAAP, covering the following topics:

- FRS 102 – ‘beyond the standard’— accounting situations where the standard is less than prescriptive i.e. where there is a policy choice or comparative silence
- FRS 105 – consideration of the levels of voluntary disclosures in micro entity accounts
- FRS 101 – update on recent amendments to the standard
- the first triennial review – how the FRC has responded to comments received from stakeholders and made improvements for the future.

11.00 – 12.45

**Accounting standards update – continued**

This session will comprise four elements:

- the wait is over! This is the year of adoption of IFRS 15 and 9 and so we will be devoting much attention to these standards:
  - disclosures in financial statements in the years before adoption
  - choices available within the standards on transition methodology
  - some of the challenges early adopters are already facing
- the second, shorter session will cover the amendments to IFRSs and IFRIC Interpretations becoming effective for accounts prepared in 2017/18
- the third element will consider the possible arguments for early adoption of IFRS 16
- the final element will consider regulatory changes affecting financial reporting.
BOOKING FORM

SPRING UPDATE FOR ACCOUNTANTS 2018

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Please book one place on the Spring Update for Accountants to be held on 15–17 March 2018

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