

Network News

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Russell Bedford Asia-Pacific Conference 2025: Metro Manila, Philippines

The Russell Bedford International Asia-Pacific Conference 2025 was a great success, bringing together delegates from across the region at the Makati Shangri-La in Metro Manila, Philippines.



In the lead-up to the event, Stephen Hamlet, CEO of Russell Bedford International, visited member firms in Singapore, Vietnam and Taiwan. Prior to the start of the conference, Stephen, together with Associate Director of Network Engagement, Kathryn Davis, also visited the host firm, M.F. Padernal and Co, in the Philippines.



These visits created valuable opportunities to connect in person and discuss some of our network's key priorities, including attracting and retaining top talent, embracing AI and new technologies, advancing ESG, and driving strategic business growth.



The conference began with a networking lunch, leading into sessions on enhancing audit quality, evolving from compliance-focused services to advisory-led strategies, and leveraging Artificial Intelligence for practical, results-driven outcomes.



The evening closed with dinner at Manam restaurant at the Triangle, where delegates enjoyed a modern twist on traditional Filipino dishes.



On day two, members benefitted from regional updates, discussing recent firm developments and sharing plans for growth despite a challenging backdrop of geopolitical uncertainty.



A keynote session from the President of the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) offered insights into the evolving role of accountancy and their aim for meaningful action and positive impact, steering the profession into the future with a continued commitment to high quality professionalism and ethical standards.



Afternoon sessions were focused on helping firms navigate the risks and threats in today's complex and competitive business environment. It also explored how leveraging the Russell Bedford network can provide support in the face of such challenges, creating opportunities for increased collaboration and joint initiatives aimed at new business and talent development and retention.



To close the conference, delegates enjoyed an evening at Flame Restaurant, taking in the stunning views over Makati while enjoying modern Asian cuisine.



Reflecting on the event, Stephen Hamlet shared:

"There's a real energy and drive among our Asia-Pacific firms. It's inspiring to see how they continue to innovate, adapt and embrace new technologies and AI – both in their local markets and on the global stage."



We extend a big thank you to our delegates, speakers and hosts for making the 2025 Asia-Pacific Conference such a success. Members can access conference resources and photos via the intranet [here](#).

Welcome New Team Members with Our Induction Video



We're excited to share our new Russell Bedford Induction Video, created for our member firms to share with their staff to explain who we are, what we do, and how we work together worldwide. It can be easily [downloaded](#) and included as part of your firm's induction process.

Watch the Induction Video [here](#).

Share Your Collaboration Success Stories



We're celebrating collaboration across the Russell Bedford network. Has your firm partnered with another member firm on a standout project?

We're compiling selected collaboration stories into case studies to showcase the power of working together and the value of our global network. Share your collaboration success stories with us by Monday 15th September for a chance to be featured at our annual network awards, traditionally presented at the Annual Global Conference, this year in Madrid, Spain.

Submit your collaboration stories [here](#).

From Office to Office: Share Your Secondment Stories



We're celebrating the success of secondments across the Russell Bedford network. The [secondment programme](#) offers team members valuable opportunities to learn, grow and connect globally.

Whether you've completed a secondment, supported a team member, or hosted a secondee - we want to hear your story. Share your secondment success stories with us by Monday 15th September for the chance to be part of our annual network awards, traditionally presented at our Annual Global Conference, in Madrid, Spain.

Submit your secondment success stories [here](#).

New Professional Standards and Quality Guides Now Available



As part of our ongoing commitment to supporting our member firms with their quality management systems, we're pleased to share two newly released resources:

- [ISA315R- Identifying and Assessing the Risks of Material Misstatements Guidance on Understanding the Entity and its Environment](#)

- [ISA 320 Materiality](#)

Access our latest resources on Professional Standards and Quality [here](#) and a recording of our recent webinar 'ISQM: A Guide to Monitoring and Remediation' [here](#).

2025 Country Key Features Guides



Through our partnership with the International Bureau of Fiscal Documentation (IBFD), one of the world's leading authorities on cross-border taxation, we're delighted to share our 2025 Country Key Features Guides – providing key tax data related to doing business in over 100 countries.

Access the guides [here](#).

New Firm Recruitment Videos Now Live



We've refreshed our firm recruitment video to showcase the value and benefits of being part of the Russell Bedford global network - and we've also created a version just for prospective firms in the US. If you know any firms that might be interested in joining our network, we'd love for you to share these videos with them.



Watch the videos here:

[- Recruitment Video](#)

[- US Member Firms Video](#)

Russell Bedford Expertise Featured in Global Media



Alex Altman, Partner at Lubbock Fine, our London-based member firm, was recently featured in both CNBC and The Telegraph. He provided expert commentary on the potential impact of the new EU-US trade deal – offering valuable insights for European markets and UK businesses.

Access the features on [CNBC](#) and [The Telegraph](#).

Malta's NOUV Expands Tech Advisory with AI & Data Services



Our Malta-based advisory firm NOUV has strengthened its Technology Advisory service line, launching AI-driven digital transformation and data solutions alongside cybersecurity and risk services. The move includes appointing Dr Graziella De Martino as Director Advisory – Technology, bringing deep technical and research expertise. Working with Senior Partner Andrew Naudi, she leads efforts to help clients harness AI and optimise systems.

Read more [here](#).

Is Your Firm Celebrating a Milestone This Year?



Is your firm marking an anniversary or major achievement this year? We'd love to celebrate it with you. We're gathering milestone moments to feature in our firm achievements announcement this year at the Annual Global Conference in Madrid, Spain.

Submit details of your milestone achievements [here](#).

Webinar Recordings

Thank you to those who attended our recent webinars. We hope you found them useful.

For members who were unable to attend, please see links below to access the recordings for our most recent webinars.

[Collaboration in Financial Advisory](#)

[Emotional Intelligence in the Workplace](#)

[Management - Developing Your Leadership Style](#)

A reminder that all our historic webinar recordings are available on our [Events page](#) by scrolling down to "Past Events". In addition, keep a look out for our upcoming video summaries on each event page offering a quick overview of each video prior to watching.

Forthcoming conferences

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



42nd Annual Global Conference

The Russell Bedford International 42nd Annual Global Conference will be held from 22 - 26 October in Madrid, Spain. Registration will close on 29 August 2025. Please visit our members [Events Page](#) on the intranet for details.



Managers & Young Partners Conference

The 2025 Russell Bedford Managers & Young Partners Conference will be held from 23 - 25 November in Hamburg, Germany. Registration opens in early September. Please visit our members [Events Page](#) on the intranet for details.

Russell Bedford - key facts and figures

- **More than 40 years** of global service
- **Top 20** global accounting network
- **Over USD 900 million** global fee income
- Some **1000 partners** and over **10,000 staff**
- Almost **400 offices** in more than **100 countries**

For previous editions of Network News, visit our [Network News](#) webpage.