



The Association of
Accountants and
Financial Professionals
in Business

IMA French Chapter Newsletter

From the President

Dear fellow IMA French Chapter members,

I would like to share with you a few thoughts on where I think our profession is going now and how we are building our chapter's Continuing Professional Education (CPE) program to be ready for today and tomorrow's challenges.

As finance and management accounting leaders, our primary mission is to support quality decision making in our organizations. This is an exciting role and one I have enjoyed in my professional career. And with new technologies such as Robot Process Automation now hitting the market, more and more of the report compilation and data manipulation work we do will be automated, leaving us more time for cognitive thinking activities such as analysis and better decision making.

Whether you are at the beginning of your career or at an advanced stage you (and I) need to be constantly developing our skills to be ready for the changes that are underway. Analysis and decision making is not just about crunching numbers. We need to have the right skills to influence good decision making. These include:

- Assertiveness skills: the ability to build challenging and cooperative relationships with our peers.
- Presentation skills: the ability to communicate financial information in a clear and understandable way to our non-financial peers
- Influencing skills: the ability to bring our leaders and peers to our way of thinking

We also need to have hard skills in decision making. These should be in constant improvement to stay relevant and keep ahead of the robots.

Our 2017 program will begin on Tuesday 25 April at 12:45 with a lunchtime webinar on Interpersonal Communications. These are essential building blocks in assertiveness and influencing skills. More information may be found in this newsletter or online in our chapter LinkedIn Group.

The second CPE, planned for June, will focus on how we present financial information using ICBS standards and the latest thinking on visual presentations.

On Friday 22 September in the afternoon, we will hold a four hour CPE event on Decision Making Under Uncertainty. Attendees will leave with the latest thinking and techniques in decision making.

Please let us know your thoughts. Don't hesitate to get in touch using LinkedIn or my phone (06 72 91 87 63).

Bryan Barr, CMA
President

"An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

~ Benjamin Franklin

April CPE Event – Interpersonal Communication Skills

Cannot find time to get your CPE / attend evening events? Want to try a lunch time webinar

The objectives of the training include:

- Introduce the attendees to interpersonal communications and identify the characteristics.
- Identify and communicate the benefits of good interpersonal and the disadvantages of bad interpersonal communications.
- Describe your style, recognize others' styles.
- Employ interpersonal communications in a more effective way that will help personally, professionally, and advance the organization.

We will start promptly at 12:45 and finish at 14:00.

[Register for the event](#)

Save the Date! September CPE Event – Decision Making Under Uncertainty

Did you know that an adult makes, on average, 35 000 decisions every day?

Deciding on what you will be having for lunch is trivial, but making a business decision that will have a material impact on the future of your organization requires certainly more skills and structured thinking!

On **September 22nd**, in partnership with the **IESEG School of Management** and the established **@Risk** software editor **Palisade**, the **IMA® French Chapter** invites you to an exceptional afternoon event on **Decision Making Under Uncertainty** in Paris La Défense.

Come and get 4 CPE credits by learning the **most recent best practices and techniques** to structure and conduct the **decision making process in your organization**. Sharpen up the **quality of your decisions** using strategy tables, decision hierarchies... to identify the best alternatives that will maximize value for your organization. Learn **cutting edge modeling techniques** to incorporate uncertainties in your financial assessment of business alternatives. Discover how **to influence decision makers** using @Risk visual capabilities to put forward key value drivers/destroyers of a business decision.

Can't wait to come? SAVE THE DATE! September 22nd, IESEG premises, Paris La Défense.

Hélène Hertz, CMA
VP Professional Education

IMA French Chapter Communication Changes

This past quarter, we reached out to chapter members for feedback on the chapter. One conclusion from these discussions is that it is necessary to change our communication methods. We will continue to email our quarterly newsletter, but we will be more active on our LinkedIn chapter site (direct link at the bottom of this newsletter). In addition to email reminders for events, we will also send text messages. We hope these changes will foster chapter growth.

Brittany Blanc, CMA
VP Communications & Secretary



IMA Europe



IMA French Chapter



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