

Panel Discussion: Ethics in Profession

Location	Accenture, 30 Fenchurch Street, London EC3M 3BD
Date	Tuesday 11 th October 2011
Time	5.30pm – 8.30pm
Capacity	60
Dress Code	Smart casual



Event Description - Overview

Ethics – a simple word yet a complex subject! How do we deepen our understanding, and application of our Ethics and Values in daily work activities?

The UK Bribery Act came into force as of July 1, 2011. This act is one of the strictest and most comprehensive anticorruption laws in the world. Why do we need this law?

Consider a few real life scenarios, which trigger several questions on the standard of Ethics in profession e.g. News Corp, Wiki leaks, Enron. The day to day decision-making process in modern businesses is often challenged by time, resource and performance related pressures. In absence of an ethical wisdom, managers can end up making decisions which are short sighted and compromise the interest of at least one, and often more, stakeholder of their company. While being ethical can be simply stated as 'doing the right thing', Albert Einstein aptly warns us that relativity may apply to physics but not to ethics. As such, a legal framework which often bases its judgment on historical precedences, may fail to perceive the future and often indirect impacts of unethical decisions that businesses may make, intentionally or unintentionally. In a globalized world with almost seamless flow of information across geographical and cultural boundaries, a loss in goodwill due to an unethical decision can be fatal for any business. Thus ethics and profits are not independent but rather correlated streams, to be pursued with equal rigor from the senior most levels of any global organization.

This event will provide the opportunity to discuss the relevance of ethics in the modern professions. We will be examining the various aspects of Ethics in the workplace from its meaning and history, through to the different forms that it now presents itself in modern society, and why they are still needed. There are several points to be covered:

1. *Why ethical as well as legal standards are required?*
2. *What do we mean by being ethical?*
3. *What is the difference between ethical and legal?*
4. *What is the history of ethics in business or profession? How do different cultures play a role in this?*
5. *Reasons behind unethical attitude or choices*
6. *A panorama of unethical business decisions from some major fields and their effects on the global community*
7. *What does 'ethical' leadership mean and how do we apply it within our daily working life?*

Join us for an **inspiring evening of panel discussion** where you get to hear practitioners share their experiences of ethics in the workplace and also their visions for the future. Walk away with some profound and simple ideas and thoughts on how you can engage in an ethical way in your businesses and organisations and what the next generation leaders can do to raise the awareness. You will learn a few practical techniques to use when we face situations that include a tough decision challenge, and to make the best ethical decision for situation.

AGENDA

5.30pm: **Registration & Refreshments**

6.10pm: **Introduction & Welcome Note**

6.15pm: **An overview of Ethics and current trends [Panel Moderator [TBD]]**

Moderated Panel Discussion Begins

Simon Webley, Research Director, Institute of Business Ethics

Patrick Rowe, Director - Legal Services, Ethics and Compliance Lead, Accenture UK and Ireland

Jeremy Glover, Partner at Reed Smith LLP

Dr. Atul Keshavji Shah, CEO & Founder of Diverseethics.com

7.45pm: **Moderated Q&A**

Audience gets an opportunity to ask questions to the panel members

8.00pm **Networking**

8.30pm **Event comes to a close**

Profile of Panelists

Patrick Rowe



Patrick Rowe is the Director of Legal Services for Accenture UK and Ireland. He joined Accenture in 1995 and qualified in Australia in 1987. In his current role Patrick is the Ethics and Compliance lead for the UK business. This involves driving local implementation of global compliance plans and advising on ethics related matters.

Jeremy Glover



Jeremy Glover is a partner at Reed Smith LLP. Reed Smith is one of the 15 largest law firms in the world. Jeremy heads up the UK employee benefits and corporate governance practice and advises companies from start ups to multinationals. Jeremy has worked for Big 4 consultancies and has an MBA from CASS Business School. Jeremy lectures often on corporate governance, employee incentives, corporate social responsibility and the interaction of law, finance, strategy, human resources and best practice.

Simon Webley



Simon has been Research Director at the Institute of Business Ethics in London since 1998. The Institute is a not-for-profit organisation based in London which helps organisation in many countries develop and implement business ethics programmes. Simon has published numerous studies on all aspects of business ethics, the most recent being: Religion in the Workplace (2011). He has lectured and written on the subject in many countries. Simon is a member of the ICC's Commission on Corporate Responsibility and Anti-corruption and the BSI's Anti Bribery Standard Panel.

Dr. Atul K. Shah



Dr. Atul Keshavji Shah is a creative social inventor and entrepreneur with distinguished skills in business and media. Atul is CEO and founder of the internet portal diverseethics.com. Atul is also a qualified Chartered Accountant having trained with KPMG and has worked for various charities and public institutions. He was Lecturer at the University of Bristol, University of Maryland – USA, and University of Essex. He is the founding editor for the distinguished Jain Spirit international magazine. Atul is a regular broadcaster on BBC Radio 4, BBC World Service and BBC Asian Network. He is author of 'Celebrating Diversity - How to enjoy, respect and benefit from Great Coloured Britain'. Presently, he is Vice-Chairman of the National Council of Faiths & Beliefs in Further Education and a secondee to the Board of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council.

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- ❖ to provide a channel for information sharing
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