

# Fraud Intelligence

For the prevention, detection and control of fraud in all its guises

## The price is right

Conducting investigations on behalf of businesses can be complex and problematic at the best of times. Companies need to be able to enforce their legal rights; often this means convincing a court of a set of circumstances. To convince the court, you need proof, which, in turn, calls for evidence and hence the need to investigate. I fear the recent phone-hacking scandal, use of investigators by the media, and alleged cover-ups, will lead to a pervasive mistrust of companies and professionals in the investigation field. Some of our clients – lawyers and corporates – have already voiced a perfectly rational concern about using investigators in the current climate.

The corporate investigation company must work to a high standard to survive in today's international market. It has to be prepared for all its evidence and methods to be cross-examined in courts across the globe, which demands a solid, demonstrable understanding of the laws that apply in all the countries where it operates. Scrutiny should be welcomed as it distinguishes bona fide firms from those prepared to flout the law. A properly conducted intellectual property investigation, for example, will consume a great deal of time and resources and so will be expensive, involving detailed online research of specialist subscription databases, media reviews, meetings with industry experts, interviewing past business partners, directors and managers, and financial analysis. All these aspects of the investigation must be completed in accordance with relevant law. Shortcuts are risky as events at News International have shown: intercepting telephone calls, hacking voicemail, the purchase and sale of personal data like bank account records are illegal.

Clients need to know which methods are permissible and those that are not. Alternative routes to information will often be available albeit at a higher price. It calls for strength of character to say to a client that something cannot be done but this goes to the heart of the business: fraud should not be fought without integrity.

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*Craig Jenkins, Director, Carratu ([www.carratu.com](http://www.carratu.com))*

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# Diary

## **2011 ACFE Asia-Pacific Fraud Conference**

23-25 October 2011

Marina Bay Sands, Singapore

[www.acfe.com](http://www.acfe.com)

## **Anti-Money Laundering & Financial Crime Summit**

25-26 October 2011

Le Meridien Piccadilly, London

[www.financialcrimesummit.com](http://www.financialcrimesummit.com)

## **Anti-Corruption and Bribery**

25-26 October 2011

Central London

[www.conferencesandtraining.com](http://www.conferencesandtraining.com)

## **Outsourcing and contract fraud**

3 November 2011

Chartered Accountants' Hall, London

[www.fraudadvisorypanel.org](http://www.fraudadvisorypanel.org)

## **The internal auditor's fraud toolkit**

7 November 2011

Chartered Accountants' Hall, London

[www.fraudadvisorypanel.org](http://www.fraudadvisorypanel.org)

## **Association of Certified Fraud Examiners UK Chapter Conference**

11 November 2011

Thomson Reuters Building, London E14

[www.acfeuk.co.uk](http://www.acfeuk.co.uk)

## **Strategies to combat fraud for corporates**

23-24 November 2011

Dexter House, London

[www.informaglobalevents.com](http://www.informaglobalevents.com)

## **Serious and Corporate Crime**

30 November 2011

Central London

[www.conferencesandtraining.com](http://www.conferencesandtraining.com)

## **Telecom Fraud & Revenue Risk Assurance 2011**

6-7 December 2011

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[www.telecomsfraud.com](http://www.telecomsfraud.com)

## **Great fraud debate**

8 December 2011

Chartered Accountants' Hall, London

[www.fraudadvisorypanel.org](http://www.fraudadvisorypanel.org)

## **The Executive's Survival Guide to Commercial Fraud and Corruption**

25 November 2011

24 February 2012

18 May 2012

Leicester Marriott Hotel

M1 Junction 21

<http://go.le.ac.uk/fraud-workshop>

[www.i-law.com/financialcrime](http://www.i-law.com/financialcrime)

**Editor:** Timon Molloy • Tel: 020 7017 4214 • Fax: 020 7436 8387 • [timon.molloy@informa.com](mailto:timon.molloy@informa.com)

**Editorial board:** John Baker – Director, Risk Management – Fraud Solutions, RSM Tenon • Neil Blundell – Head of Fraud Group, Eversheds • Andrew Durant – Senior Managing Director, FTI Forensic Accounting • Chris Osborne – Director, Dispute Analysis and Forensics, Alvarez & Marsal

**Production editor:** Catherine Quist, tel 020 7017 6242 • [catherine.quist@informa.com](mailto:catherine.quist@informa.com)

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