

Welcome to Equivision

November 2016



Sheila Dean, Global CEO

Dear all,

In this edition of Equivision we'll be covering a varied mix of topics from a selection of our business lines and jurisdictions, reflecting the increasingly diverse range of services we offer to clients across the globe. I hope you find it interesting and, as always, I welcome your feedback.

In our first article, we look to Hong Kong, a jurisdiction we've seen significant expansion in over the last year. Debby Davidson, Business Development Director in Asia, simplifies the varied and complex duties and responsibilities of [directors of Hong Kong companies](#).

Next, Robert Haddow, our Group Data Protection Officer, explains everything you need to know about the impending changes to [the General Data Protection Regulation \(GDPR\)](#) coming in 2018. As ever, Equiom will be at the forefront of these changes, ensuring that we meet new regulations in plenty of time.

Following on from a successful trip to the Monaco Yacht Show for our yachting team earlier this year, Edward Leigh, Director of Yachting & Aviation, discusses [the key considerations when purchasing a superyacht](#), highlighting the various ownership structures and yacht registration options available to clients.

Michael Nudd, Global Chief Risk Officer, talks about [the importance of the Common Reporting Standard](#) and explains the global project we're undertaking across the group to ensure we are 100% compliant with all domestic laws within all our operating jurisdictions.

Rounding off this edition of Equivision, Colin Gregory tells us all about [the Malta Individual Investor Programme](#), a citizenship programme recognised by the European Commission which enables businesses and individuals to make ties with Malta.

As we approach our 10th anniversary, all that remains to say is thank you to all those involved in making our journey so far a success. I wish you a happy and prosperous holiday season as we look forward to what 2017 has in store for us.

With best regards,

Sheila

Hong Kong Update



Debby Davidson, Business Development Director for Asia, tackles the duties of a Hong Kong director in relation to the Hong Kong Companies Ordinance.

Every Hong Kong-incorporated private company should have at least one individual director, but what does it mean to be a director and what are the tasks and responsibilities?

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Data Protection Update



In light of the impending changes to the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) coming in May 2018, Robert Haddow, Group Data Protection Officer, explains the plans we have in place to ensure that we sustain our exemplary standards of regulatory compliance and client service along the way.

The effects of the GDPR will be global. In essence, any business processing the personal information of European Union (EU) residents will need to take heed of the requirements of the GDPR, whether those processors are in Europe or further afield.

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Yachting Update



Fresh from his trip to the Monaco Yacht Show, Edward Leigh discusses the key things to consider when purchasing a superyacht.

Yacht ownership for vessels operating in European waters has become increasingly complicated. The introduction of new maritime and employment laws, changes to the VAT exemptions that apply to charters, and the requirement to obtain charter licences and appoint fiscal agents represent some of the many challenges.

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Compliance Update



Michael Nudd, Global Chief Risk Officer, talks about the importance of the Common Reporting Standard (CRS), highlighting the obligations of financial institutions across the world.

Tax transparency is high on the agenda for many governments as they seek to improve international tax compliance. CRS marks a big step towards a globally coordinated approach to the disclosure of income earned by individuals and organisations.

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Malta Update



Colin Gregory discusses how the Malta Individual Investor Programme (IIP) offers high net worth individuals and families wishing to become citizens of Malta the opportunity to invest in a growing economy.

Home to a variety of diverse and growing industries, it's safe to say Malta has firmly found its feet as a well-established economic heavyweight and, more recently, as an ideal breeding ground for start-ups and businesses looking to operate in an agile jurisdiction.

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