

HKVCA Webinar – November 10, 2020

Speakers' bio



Olly Stratton, Managing Director of Performance Improvement, Alvarez & Marsal

Oliver Stratton is a Managing Director and co-heads Alvarez & Marsal's Asian practice in Hong Kong. With more than 20 years of experience in consulting and private equity (PE) in Asia, his primary areas of concentration are business strategy, performance improvement, operational turnarounds and mergers and acquisitions, including transaction due diligence and post-merger integration.

Mr. Stratton has worked with clients across a range of industries including private equity, financial services, telecom, consumer goods and retail, industrial products and services, transportation and logistics and energy and resources.

Before joining A&M, he spent 20 years with Bain & Company, including 10 years as a Partner. He was a senior member of the team that established Bain's offices in Hong Kong and Seoul, and also served as head of the Hong Kong office for five years. There, he led relationships with Asian and multinational clients across the continent, working extensively in Greater China, Southeast Asia, Korea, Japan and Australia.

Notable achievements include: developing successful China strategies, for example, with a global beverage company leading to a market leadership position within five years of entry, and with an Asian food company resulting in consensus on priority acquisition targets; leading multiyear business transformations with local companies facing significant market and regulatory changes that generated substantial financial impact; and leading a multi-country post-merger integration that delivered \$100 million synergies for a global consumer products company.

Mr. Stratton earned a master's degree in engineering from Cambridge University and an MBA from Harvard Business School. A British national, he has been based in Hong Kong since 1988.



Keith Williamson, Managing Director & Head of Disputes and Investigations Asia, Alvarez & Marsal

Keith Williamson is a Managing Director and Head of Alvarez & Marsal's Disputes and Investigations team in Hong Kong and China. He brings more than 25 years of forensic and investigative accounting experience (including 10 years in Asia), specialising in investigations of fraud, corruption (US FCPA/UK Bribery Act) and regulatory issues, compliance reviews and monitoring, asset tracing and recovery, and litigation support and expert witness services for disputes. Mr. Williamson has given evidence and been cross-examined in legal proceedings relating to forensic accounting matters.

Most recently at A&M, Mr. Williamson has been involved in: performing forensic accounting reviews of alleged fraudulent activity, corruption and accounting misstatements in China and across the Asia Pacific region; undertaking a global FCPA risk assessment and subsequent compliance audit; acting as a Compliance Monitor for a Chinese State-Owned-Enterprise; leading an investigation and financial restatement relating to a multi-billion dollar accounting fraud in the Asia operations of a listed European retailer; and leading an anti-money laundering review of a Macanese institution.

Mr. Williamson's recent work for private equity firms includes an internal employee fraud investigation in Hong Kong and fraud and corruption investigations and compliance reviews in portfolio companies across China.

Mr. Williamson earned a bachelor's degree in Law from the University of Birmingham. He is a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales and the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants.



Eddie Middleton, Managing Director of Restructuring & Insolvency, Alvarez & Marsal

Edward Middleton is a Managing Director with Alvarez & Marsal's Restructuring group in Hong Kong. He brings more than 20 years of experience working throughout Asia.

Mr. Middleton's notable assignments include: serving as lead liquidator of Lehman Brothers' operations in Asia; leading the financial restructuring of the state owned Vietnam Shipbuilding Co., Ltd (Vinashin) via a UK scheme of arrangement; leading the financial restructuring of China's Evergrande Real Estate Group; and acting as financial advisor to CIC in the restructuring of Bumi Resources in Indonesia.

Prior to joining A&M, Mr. Middleton served as a Managing Director at Houlihan Lokey, where he was Co-Head of its Asian Financial Restructuring Group. This position followed a long tenure as a partner of KPMG China, where he led its restructuring and insolvency business in China and the Asia-Pacific region for 10 years.

Mr. Middleton earned a bachelor's degree in economics and politics from the University of Manchester. He is a Fellow of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants, of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants and of INSOL International and is a member of International Insolvency Institute.



Paul Christopher, Managing Partner, Mourant Ozannes

Paul leads our Corporate and Investment Funds team in Asia. He is also the Managing Partner of the Hong Kong office.

Paul regularly advises on corporate matters including investment funds, mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and the restructuring of companies and structures. These will often be private equity-related transactions. He has been with Mourant Ozannes since 1999.



Justine Lau, Partner, Mourant Ozannes

Justine is a Partner in our Hong Kong Litigation and Restructuring & Insolvency practice.

She has considerable experience advising insolvency practitioners in all forms of external administrations and restructuring matters including schemes of arrangement. Justine has also acted creditor-side in restructuring matters.

Before joining Mourant, Justine spent almost a decade practising in Mayer Brown's Litigation & Dispute Resolution practice in Hong Kong, focusing on restructuring and insolvency matters with cross-border elements.