



Post Event Pack | Chicago 2019 | #IRCHICAGO19

IR 'On the Road' Conference

10th – 13th July 2019
Fairmont Chicago Millennium Park / The Mid-America Club



Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Message from the Founder



Dear Attendees,

It was great spending some memorable days together in the vibrant city of Chicago. This IR 'On the Road' Americas event was a sold out event, attended by over 150 members coming from 60+ jurisdictions around the world (including members from 30+ US states).

The conference incorporated an extensive professional programme, in which we launched our inaugural speed networking session, had working lunches on topics from practice management, cyber security, to cannabis law. We also hosted numerous practice area break-out sessions and high profile speakers.

Socially, there was a variety of events including the opening drinks reception, member hosted dinners and a walking tour of the city prior to the event. The gala networking dinner was hosted at the Art Institute of Chicago and we also shared a memorable afternoon boat cruise together on the Friday. Attendees staying over the weekend, also had the opportunity to join us for a crime & mob tour of the city and a trip to the 360 observation deck and 'Tilt' experience.

Within this pack, you will find details of all presentations, along with links to photos and video galleries. If you would like a high-resolution copy of any image, please let us know and we will happily send it on to you.

Our final event for 2019 is our Annual Conference in Amsterdam 26th–29th October, we hope to see many of you there. This is our largest event of the year and one not to be missed. Tickets are also now on sale for our first event of 2020 in Miami. This will again be limited to just 150 tickets, so please inform us if you wish to attend ASAP to avoid missing out. Please contact events@irglobal.com to ensure your tickets are reserved.

We look forward to seeing you again soon.

Yours sincerely

Watch the IR Chicago
conference highlights:
bit.ly/2T9M7R5

Robert M. Fishman
Fox Rothschild LLP





“The Chicago On the Road event was a very positive experience. Of particular significance was the ease with which substantive discussions were initiated with attendees who were initially complete strangers. This created the perfect atmosphere in which to compare notes and to network. It was a very positive experience and I look forward to attending future events, reuniting with people I met and making new contacts”.

- Shelley Brown of Steinberg Title Hope & Israel LLP, Canada – East



“The Chicago conference was fantastic and I have been singing its praises internally and externally since I returned to LA. Honestly, I have never been part of a better networking organization: you all do a fantastic job of planning and supporting the attendees and the members are such an interesting and engaged group of people.”

- Jessica Staheli of Scherzer International – US – California

Headline Sponsor



Fox Rothschild LLP

📍 foxrothschild.com/our-firm

Robert M. Fishman

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Bob is a long standing member of IR Global and sits on the Insolvency practice area committee. His previous firm Shaw Fishman Glantz & Towbin LLP merged with Fox Rothschild LLP in 2018.

Bob resolves difficult financial issues for clients and partners with them to find the most efficient and beneficial solution.

Chair of the firm's Financial Restructuring & Bankruptcy Department, he represents debtors and creditors through the bankruptcy process and in informal, out-of-court workouts. He has represented clients in numerous industries including health care, telecommunications, manufacturing, real estate, retail, transportation and financial services. Highly experienced, Bob has participated in all aspects of the bankruptcy process. He has represented trustees, debtors, creditors and equity committees, secured and unsecured creditors, purchasers of assets and litigants in adversary proceedings.

Fox Rothschild has grown to an 800-lawyer national law firm with 21 offices by focusing on client service and responsiveness, and by attracting bright and creative lawyers who know how to deliver.



Fox Rothschild LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

In a word, by listening.

Listening to our clients. Listening to our lawyers.

And acting on what we hear.

We give clients the focus and service of a boutique – with the reach and resources of a national firm.

We give our lawyers a national stage and equip them with the platform to nurture innovation and drive client success.

Individuals and businesses – public, private and nonprofit; startup, family-run and multinational – receive our unwavering commitment to client satisfaction.

Happy clients. Better lawyers. We like the sound of that.

Social Sponsors

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L J Soldinger Associates, LLC is a mid-size firm that is a recognized leader in the field of accounting, assurance, tax, forensic accounting and business consulting services. We are proud to be among an elite group of certified public accounting firms to have received a “no comment letter” on all aspects of our firm in every review conducted by the AICPA’s Quality Review Program. Our firm maintains these high standards, which has afforded us this recognition every year since the inception of this program. With only a handful of firms in the entire country receiving such honor, you can be assured we offer a quality of service that is unmatched.

U.S ILLINOIS

Michael S. Roberts

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RM Partners Law LLC is a Chicago-based corporate transactional law firm that offers the unique combination of highly sophisticated legal services provided through a business model focused on efficiencies. That combination makes us a value-added partner for the spectrum of our clients – from entrepreneurial, high growth companies to highly experienced, mature companies, and from companies throughout the United States to companies abroad. That combination has been a welcomed approach by clients in need of legal representation across all business lines.

U.S INDIANA

Donald Densborn

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The legal profession is experiencing wrenching change. The future belongs to those nimble enough to adapt. Technology is diffusing the old storehouses of legal expertise. Innovation is occurring in small labs without any surrender to mediocrity. The future clearly belongs to those who can best acquire, retrieve and apply knowledge. Still, “growth for growth’s sake” is pursued as a strategy. The bureaucratic onset and constant tumult that follow tend to shift attention inward, away from client service. Driving statistics, rather than creating client value, too often becomes the order of the day. Densborn Blachly provides a refreshing alternative. It offers the expertise that business clients demand without the baggage that they abhor.

U.S NEW YORK

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Our capabilities include representation in the areas of environmental law, environmental litigation and related corporate finance on matters of local, national and international significance. Clients of N.W. Bernstein & Associates, LLC, benefit from the experience the firm’s lawyers bring to environmental, real estate and related financial matters

Because we are business minded, we therefore understand the full range of issues that both individuals and businesses face. Our principal has owned and run his own successful multinational advertising business, and our staff hold qualifications in business, finance and accounting. We draw upon our full range of experience gained over the years in representing our commercial clients.





Andrea Zopp

President & CEO of World
Business Chicago

Opening Address

Welcome to Chicago

Home to an unrivaled talent pool, Chicago is centrally located at the nexus between European and Asian markets, and the North American Free Trade zone. The region features a strong, globally diverse economy larger than that of many countries, has a uniquely friendly and welcoming business community, and boasts one of the best quality-of-life to cost-of-living ratios in the nation.



Jennifer J. Fondrevay

Chief Humanity Officer, Day1
Ready™ M&A consultancy

Keynote Speaker

Navigating, Surviving and Thriving through Constant Corporate Change

The lessons Jennifer shares are relevant for any situation in which an organization is going through change, whether it be due to M&A, a reorganization or restructure. These are based on her experiences in the M&A sector, however the key takeaways can apply to business transitions and change in general. Furthermore, it provided attendees with an insight into the role they can play when their clients are facing change and transition in their business



John Engels

Founder and President -
Leadership Coaching, Inc.,
Rochester, NY

Keynote Speaker

Managing the Relationship Challenges of Leadership: A Crash Course in Emotional Maturity

What do you do when business partners misbehave or don't get along? How do you initiate uncomfortable conversations with someone who disagrees? Do potentially disruptive issues such as personal hygiene, unconscious bias or personality clashes give you a headache? How do you adjust to a younger generation of talent who might not think or operate the way you do?

In every culture in the world, from tribal communities to large institutions, relationship challenges are part of leadership. The decisive factor is not the challenge itself, but how a leader responds.

Breakout Sessions

Commercial

The commercial session attendees had a Case Study Discussion (Created by Commercial Law committee member John Friedemann). After reviewing the case study attendees discussed how their firm or colleagues could assist with issues raised, what outside representation would you need to assist you. On the tax table there was a discussion led by Ruben Flores on GILTI and BEAT.

Accountancy

The Accountancy session was hosted by committee members John Curzon and Larry Soldingier. Each attendee gave an example of an interesting client from the last 12 months to give an understanding to the group of the type of work each other are doing and their capabilities. This was followed by a discussion on new technology and platforms within the profession including; AI, document storage and Blockchain archiving.

Employment

The session was hosted by committee member Gabriel Bleser. Employment members discussed Marijuana & Drug Testing in the workplace for employers and employees, reviewing the overview from their jurisdiction. This was followed by a case study to discuss the topic in more detail.

M&A

The M&A session was hosted by committee member Shai Kuttner. Again, each attendee gave an example of an interesting client from the last 12 months to give an understanding to the group of the type of work each other are doing and their capabilities. This was followed by a discussion on Cross Border M&A dispute resolutions.

Real Estate

The Real Estate session was led by committee members Ross Koffel, Jayson Schwarz, and Andrea Vasilova. Attendees discussed how RE members present and attract RE work from other IR members who work in different practice areas. This was followed by a discussion on how do RE lawyers maintain their relevance in an ever changing and automated market? What steps can they take to position themselves and add value to the client?

Insolvency / Disputes

Robert Fishman, a long-standing member of the Practice Area Committee of the Insolvency Group, put together an exciting and unique break out session for the Disputes & Insolvency IR members. The group visited the US Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois for a talk and Q&A with Judge Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff. This session was put together for litigators and insolvency practitioners to network and learn about each other practices and how they can cooperate more closely.

Cannabis Advisory

This working lunch session was chaired by Bill Bogot of Fox Rothschild LLP, co-chair of the firms Cannabis Law practice. Bill gave an overview of the state of cannabis law in the US, before an open discussion on the current challenges and opportunities that exist in this fast moving and interesting sector.

Practice Management

This session hosted by Julia Koffel and Ramanand Mundkur looked at 'Your Best Practice Management Tool is your Current Database'. discussing the current platforms firms are using; whether or not they are making the most of these programs, and the data driven reports that they are producing.

LATAM

The regional group hosted by Gary Davidson discussed the upcoming conference in Miami, 22-25th January 2020 and how the LATAM group would utilise this event for a specific LATAM programme or social events. Furthermore, they discussed other industry events in 2020 and general group developments.

Cyber Security

Cyber Security Insurance working lunch hosted by Doug DePeppe of eosedge and Liam Brown of Lockton International addressed cyber security risks and how you can ensure you are prepared and sufficiently covered in case of an attack.



IR Global Update

During the conference attendees heard from our Founder **Thomas Wheeler** and Business Development Director **Ross Nicholls** on new developments and future initiatives.



- **10CLUB**

This year we launched '10Club' in Chicago as an opportunity to give something back to the members and say thank you for this ongoing support. The 10Club is for any IR Global member who has attended 10x paid for events. Members will be entitled to a 10% discount off all future event ticket costs. The same discount will also be applied to annual membership fee when it is due for renewal.

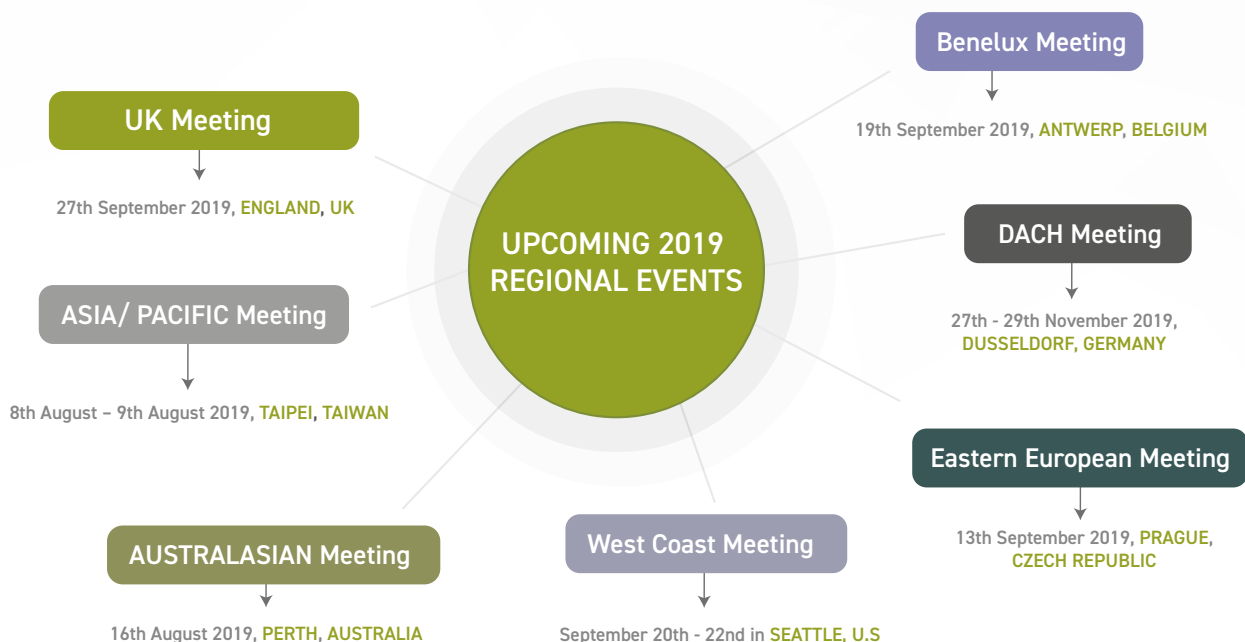
- **SECONDMENTS**

Helping individuals find the best possible platform to achieve their potential. The IR Global network consists of 700+ firms in 155+ jurisdictions, meaning there are fantastic opportunities for development of inter-firm relations via international secondments.

Would you like to nominate yourself or an employee to be seconded, or welcome someone from another firm in to your practice?

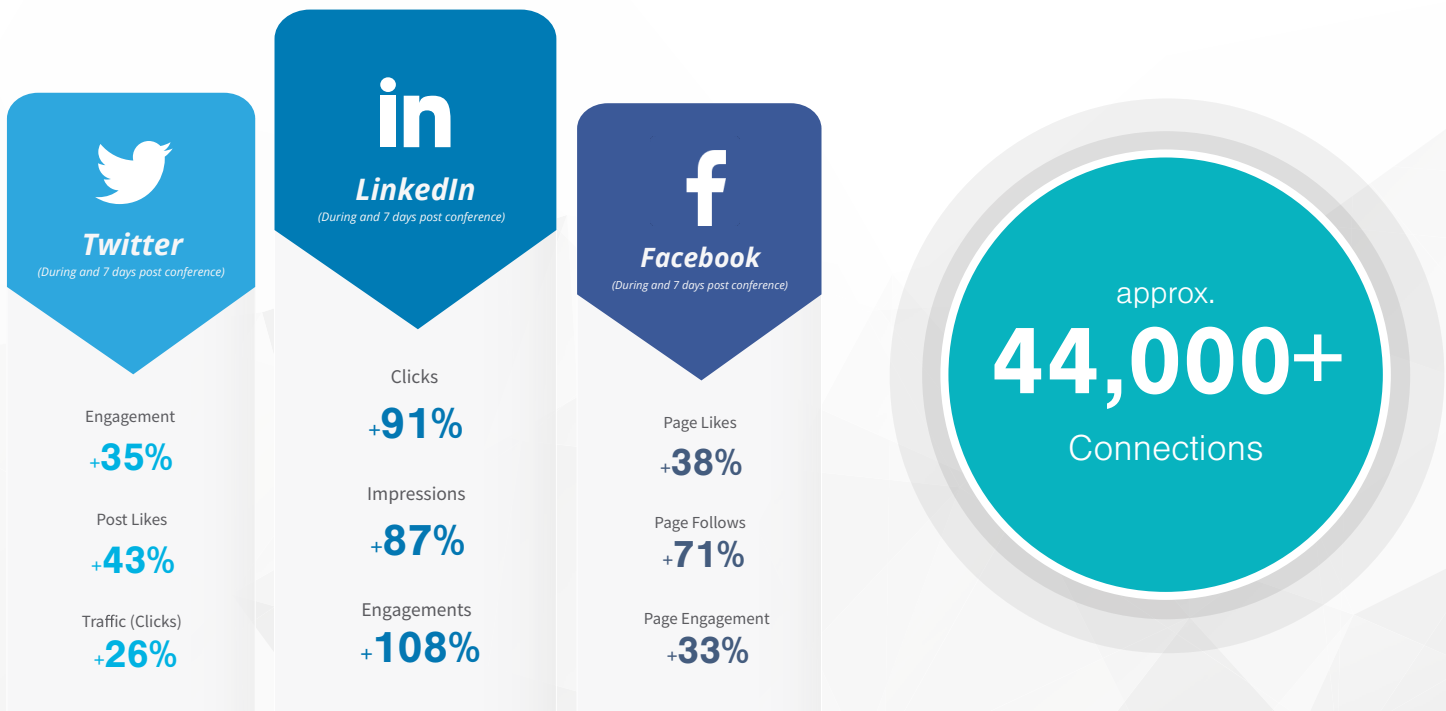
- **REFERRAL ACTIVITY**

We highlighted our recent quarterly activity report which provides a short snapshot of the network's referral activity and ongoing collaborations within this period. The report includes; Activity Summary for the quarter, National meeting updates and Member meetings whilst travelling.



IR Global Update Cont...

Social Media Engagement



Will be supported on



IR Global Events App Coming Soon!

Helping you make the most of your event experience

Matchmaking service

Connect with attendees with similar interests. Filter by practice area, sector and geography.

Personal schedule

View the conference schedule, your personal itinerary and gain live updates the event.

Event content

View more information on the speakers, download presentations and obtain further reading materials from workshops.

Communication / PR

Ask questions relating to the event, share your experiences and connect with us and others via social media.





Conference Overview

Chicago 2019





Walking Tour, 10th July

The conference started with a walking tour in the beautiful sunshine learning more about the history and architecture of Chicago.



Speed Networking, 10th July

The speed networking session was attended by 40 members, half experienced members of the network and half first time attendees. The session lasted 90 minutes, in which time attendees spoke for 4 minutes before moving along to network with the next person. As the first time we have hosted a speed networking session; it has been well received with positive feedback from all that attended.



We also hosted our first 10club meeting. '10club' is a new initiative which recognises our long stand members. The meeting was joined by 14 10club members who have attended 10+ paid for IR conferences. The group met prior to the conference starting where they enjoyed beers, wine and cheese. The session lasted just over an hour, which was an open discussion where everyone had the chance to contribute. The attendees discussed ideas and thoughts of the network with directors Ross Nicholls and Tom Wheeler.



Drinks Reception, 10th July

Sponsored by **RM Partners Law LLC** and **Densborn Blachly LLP**. We hosted our drinks reception in the Mid-America Club, including drinks and canapes. This was a great way to start the conference and gave opportunity to welcome our first-time attendees and reconnect existing members who had met before.

See more photos here: bit.ly/2YjiFZR





Presentation Day, 11th July

We heard from high class speakers on topics of doing business in the US, dealing with corporate change and management relationships. Each presentation was followed by table sessions reviewing each topic. Attendees were able to share their own experiences and listen to others, thus providing a take away of valuable knowledge and ideas.

See more photos here: bit.ly/2YhK7XL



“Another great event in great location of Chicago. Was amazing to meet friends and also new colleagues. I liked speed networking meeting which was fun and also an opportunity to meet first time attendees and talk about other topics than business. Chicago River cruise was beautiful. Thank you for organising such an amazing event!”

- *Andrea Vasilova of VASIL & Partners, Slovakia*

Gala Dinner, 11th July

Sponsored by **L J Soldinger Associates, LLC** and **N.W.Bernstein & Associates, LLC**. Hosted at The Art Institute of Chicago, the Art Institute is one of the world's great art museums, housing a collection that spans centuries and the globe. Attendees had the opportunity to view the galleries, enjoy entertainment and luxury dining.

See more photos here: bit.ly/2YhK7XL



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ASSOCIATES





Breakout Sessions

12th July

Morning practice breakout sessions were hosted by respective committee members. The Insolvency / disputes members visited the US Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Illinois for a talk and Q&A with Judge Hon. Eugene R. Wedoff. Session content on Page 9



River Cruise, 12th July

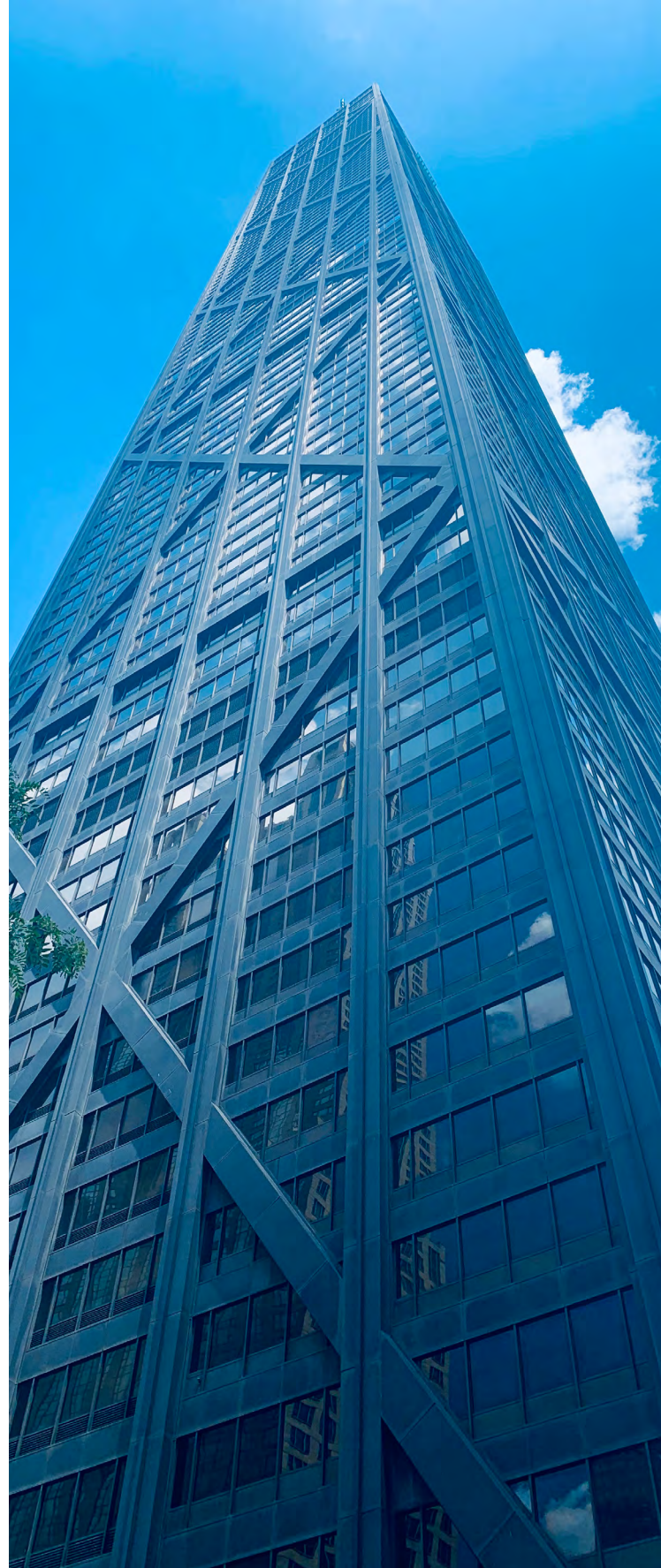
The attendees boarded the Odyssey for the Chicago river cruise. Including drinks and canapes, a relaxing way to end the conference.



Optional Excursion, 13th July

Saturday's optional excursion gave the group a real Chicago experience starting with a mob tour followed by a thrilling view of Chicago on TILT at the 360 observatory. Followed by a real Chicago treat, pizza!

Tilt!



Social Events



During the Chicago conference attendees enjoyed great social functions hosted by sponsors and local members. We would like to thank headline sponsor Bob Fishman of **Fox Rothschild LLP** - Illinois, for hosting a reception at their office, and **L J Solding Associates, LLC** - Illinois for arranging a dinner. Both providing a great welcome to Chicago! Thank you to Laurel G. Bellows of **The Bellows Law Group, P.C.** - Illinois and Kara Maciel, **Conn Maciel Carey** - Washington DC for closing the conference in style with a great drinks reception in the sunshine.



Let's get sharing!

When sharing on your own social media platforms be sure to mention **IR Global** and use the hashtag **#IRCHICAGO19**. Don't forget to tag the members in the photo as well. If you don't have social media capabilities don't worry we have our very own social media manager Matthew who can do this for you, just email him at the following address matthew@irglobal.com



Testimonials



I attended the Chicago - On the Road IR Global conference and had a wonderful time meeting professional from across town and across the world and networking with them along with finding ways to grow my practice and firm and practice tips. I also had a very good time enjoying Chicago!"

- *Chris Niekamp of Niekamp, Weisensell, Mutersbaugh & Mastrantonio, LLP, US - Ohio*

"One of the best IR Events I have attended. Great city and local members were vert hospitable and fun. Also, good to meet a number of members who were new to IR".

- *Howard Colman of Colman Coyle, England*

"In just a couple of days, really got to know close to 100 legal and accounting professionals. People are extremely friendly, and the event is well-organized".

- *Thomas J. Gorman of Gorman & Associates, .P.A, US - North & South Carolina*

"As a first-time attendee, I was stunned at the friendly and welcoming nature of this group".

- *E. Berton Spence of Rumberger Kirk & Caldwell, US - Alabama*

"Another fantastic IR event in the vibrant city of Chicago with highly esteemed fellow members!".

- *Wissam Abousleiman of Abousleiman & Co - Lebanon*

"Chicago and the welcome we received was just tops. We left with new contacts, ideas, and opportunities, and that of course is the reward of attendance".

- *Julia Koffel of Koffels Solicitors & Barristers, Australia*

"Chicago was another great event where i made meaningful connections yet again and had a great time. I can't wait for Miami!!!".

- *Geoffrey Blue of Klenda Gessler & Blue LLC, US - Colorado*

"This was a highly motivated event with everyone being engaged with each other. The level of interaction between members was one of the highest I have experienced".

- *Ross Koffel of Koffels Solicitors & Barristers, Australia*

"For most people, building relationships at an event like this is daunting. But I have found that it gets easier and becomes more fun with each subsequent event. The value is cumulative. IR Global does a great job in creating this opportunity to extend your reach around the globe".

- *John Friedemann of Friedemann Goldberg LLP, US - California*

"The Chicago Conference was designed so as to increase the interaction between members and in so doing promote inter member referral. The speakers provided inciteful thought provoking scenarios that allowed for lively discussion".

- *Jayson Schwarz of Schwarz Law LLP, Canada - East*



"I had my 1st experience with IR Global in Chicago in July of 2019. Usually in my experience with International Professional Associations I've found very good to elite service oriented partners & firms involved. I've always found it more valuable when you are able to spend quality time both formally & informally with the other members to find out if you get along because we all want to work with people we like. Not only was I impressed with the vetting process of IR Global of finding top quality professional members, the association provided a terrific interactive forum to get to know each other professionally and personally. IR Global made it a lot of fun as well. That balance I believe is the key to bringing professional & personal value where the sky is the limit. IR Global is that association."

- *Ben Soldinger of L J Soldinger Associates, LLC - US - Illinois*



Upcoming IR Global Events

IR Global Annual Conference, Amsterdam 2019

26th - 29th October 2019

We are looking forward to welcoming attendees to Amsterdam for the IR annual conference October 2019. It will be a fantastic opportunity for you to spend quality time with your fellow members from around the world, develop relationships and explore new opportunities and ideas for collaboration.

For further information see the pre-event pack [here](#). | Tickets are now LIMITED – secure your ticket [here](#).



The banner features a background image of a canal in Amsterdam with bicycles parked along the railing. A green semi-transparent box contains the text: 'IR Annual Conference, Amsterdam' in large white letters, '#IRAMSTERDAM19' in the top right, and 'Tickets Nearly Sold Out!' in green on a white background. Below this, it says '26th - 29th Oct, 2019'. At the bottom of the green box, it reads 'Conference Centre Beurs van Berlage, Amsterdam'. At the bottom of the banner, there are logos for MAPRIMA, PAMIR Law Group, and WOLFS ADVOCATEN.

IR 'On the Road' Miami

22nd - 25th January 2020

We are delighted to announce the 2020 IR 'On the Road' Conference will be held at the Conrad, Miami, 22nd - 25th January 2020. The 'On the Road' conference will include welcome evening drinks reception, full day conference, luxury evening networking dinner and breakout sessions and workshops.

For further information see the pre-event pack [here](#). | Tickets now on sale – secure your ticket [here](#).



The banner features a background image of a city skyline (Miami) with a large body of water. A green semi-transparent box contains the text: 'IR 'On the Road', Miami' in large white letters, '#IRMIAMI20' in the top right, and 'Tickets Now On Sale!' in green on a white background. Below this, it says '22nd - 25th January, 2020'. At the bottom of the green box, it reads 'Conrad, Miami'. At the bottom left of the banner, there is a logo for MAPRIMA.



“The conference was excellent.

IR Global’s focus on networking beginning with the speed networking session and the cocktail reception on Wednesday set the perfect tone for me as a new attendee. I found it easy to take your lead and spend the week getting to know other attendees both personally and professionally.

In addition, you and your colleagues made the conference “easy” for the participants to attend. Events were clearly scheduled on my personal itinerary. Speakers started on time and stayed on time. Breakout sessions such as cyber security were interesting and relevant. Every detail of the conference seemed to be carefully planned and seamlessly executed.”

- Patty Brickett of Brickett Consulting – US – Washington DC

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“IR Global always attracts a great crowd of professionals to get acquainted with and strikes the right balance between work and play”.

- Jean-Marc Clément of Woods, LaFortune LLP, Canada - East

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