

All Set for the World Banknote Summit 2018

Following the success of the inaugural World Banknote Summit 2017 in Basel, expectations are high for the follow-on event, which takes place 24-26 September in Frankfurt and which features a number of innovations to the traditional conference format.

According to organiser Beat Attinger, the World Banknote Summit (WBS) does not have a run-of-the-mill conference agenda, but rather one designed to provide its guests with practical, applicable insights. 'It is a smart combination of carefully selected topics and varied presentation formats,' he said. 'The good mix of plenary presentations and interactive workshops ensures that participants will get the most out of the content available'.

The summit will be initiated by the South African Reserve Bank, the Banco de Mexico and the Hong Kong Monetary Authority together with Hong Kong Note Printing, each reporting on the introduction of new banknote series in their respective countries.

Further presentations will reveal more on the quality and efficiency issues faced by banknotes, in production and circulation. An entire session entitled 'Disruptive Technology: Friend or Foe?' will discuss new technologies and payment solutions and analyse the role these new payment instruments could play in the future.

In the concluding session, the Central Bank of Jordan, the Bundesbank and several speakers representing the user's point of view will explore cash from different standpoints.

Almost half of all the presentations will be given by central banks or state security printers. About a third will be given by experts from outside the banknote community and the rest by established suppliers from within the industry, providing an all-encompassing view of banknotes from different perspectives.

Another innovation for the 2018 event is the introduction of Immersion Sessions – of which several run in parallel and examine specific topics. They are designed for smaller audiences in which participants will have the opportunity to listen to expert panel discussions, benefit from the expertise of the panellists and address fundamental questions in discussion rounds.

Immersion Session topics include:

- 'Creating a New Banknote Series a
 Partnership Approach', which proposes a
 new concept for cooperation between a
 central bank and a supplier;
- 'Setting Up a New Security Printing Plant – an Inside View', with the Bank of Mexico sharing its experience of its new printworks;
- 'Managing a New Banknote Series
 Project', in which both the Hong Kong
 Monetary Authority and the South African
 Reserve Bank will give an insight into the
 launch of their new series;
- 'Digital Fiat Currency', which will take a closer look at the sphere of central bankissued digital currency.

In addition to the Immersion Sessions, participants will also have the opportunity to choose from several breakout sessions, where they can find out more about a topic they are interested in and discuss it in depth in small groups.

The conference will also include a number of networking opportunities, including informal dinners for all participants on the first and second days.

More information can be found at www.worldbanknotesummit.com

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