TransConstellation

Solvay Brussels School
Economics & Management

TransConstellation Alumni Conference Series presents:

Better Financial Products and Less Investor Risk: Dream or Reality?

8th May 2012 **Solvay Brussels School**



An open-minded debate exploring ways the Belgium financial industry can guarantee safe and sound products

It is often said that financial risk is driven by insufficient and inferior information. And yet the flood of data available for today's retail investor has not eliminated 'informational asymmetry'.

Investors call for a better 'education', especially on what has now been called the 'risky' financial products. But, would a course in Finance 101 really have prevented an (over)eager purchase of credit default swaps or mortgage backed securities in August 2008? And to what extent would the banking sector, the fund industry and the regulators share the responsibility?

TransConstellation's half-day conference on May 8th 2012 brings together industry experts and peers from the industry (product development, distribution, end investors and regulators) for an interactive exploration of the subject of risk management. In the search for creative solutions we can benefit from the experience of other sectors and will showcase 'no-harm-testing processes' for consumer products in other industries. This will then form the basis of debate and discussion on how to balance risk with consumer protection whilst minimising any potentially innovation-constraining 'red tape'.

Discussion panelists

Jean-François Biernaux
Legal Advisor for Test-Achats/Test-Aankoop, the Belgian consumers' association, and external counsel for BEUC, the European Consumers' Organization

Michel Vermaerke
CEO of FeBelFin,
the Belgian Financial Sector Federation

Hugo Lasat
Vice-Chairman of BEAMA,
the Belgian Asset Managers Association

Jean-Paul Servais
Chairman of FSMA,
the Belgian Financial Services and Markets Authority

The debate will be moderated by **Bruno Colmant,** one of Belgium's most prominent financial industry observers, and will include a large amount of time for audience participation.

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Topics to be addressed

- Can financial products ever be guaranteed?
- Can investors be educated to fully understand financial risk?
- How do we ensure our products and services are aligned with clients' appetite for risk?
- Should 'no harm testing' best practice from other sectors be applied to financial products?

Who should attend?

Financial services practitioners, TransConstellation alumni and students of finance with a particular interest and/or specialism in:

- Risk management
- Capital management
- Product Development
- Portfolio strategy

Key reasons to attend

- **Learn** industry and regulatory best practice
- **Debate** issues affecting future financial practices
- **Network** with your peers

About TransConstellation

This event is organised by TransConstellation in collaboration with Solvay Brussels School and Université Libre de Bruxelles.

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ULB

TransConstellation aims to promote Belgium as a centre of excellence in financial transaction processing. Members include:

euroclear

SWIFT

BNY MELLON

Tuesday May 8th, 2012 – 9.30 am

Salle Dupréel, Bâtiment S, Solvay Brussels School, Avenue Jeanne 44, 1050 Brussels

- 9.30 – 10.00: Welcome coffee
- 10.00 – 10.10: Welcome word from Bruno Van Pottelsberghe - Dean of Solvay Brussels School
- 10.10 – 10.30: Introduction from Paul Bodart – Chairman of TransConstellation
- 10.30 – 12.00: Panel discussion chaired by Bruno Colmant, leading industry authority
- 12.00 – 12.15: Q&A from the audience
- 12.15 – 12.30: Closing remarks
- 12.30 – 13.30: Buffet lunch – press briefing

Registration Fees

TransConstellation Alumni:	**EUR 50**
TransConstellation member firms:	**EUR 75**
Others:	**EUR 100**

Solvay Brussels School students: A limited number of free seats will be made available.

Contact and registration information

Please register at

www.transconstellation.com/alumni-conference.html

Or contact the TransConstellation Alumni team

conference@transconstellation.com