

# Speaker Profiles



**Hon. Mr. Edward YAU Tang-wah, GBS, JP**  
Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development  
The Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Hon. Mr. Edward Yau assumed the post of Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development on July 1, 2017. His portfolio covers policy areas from trade, commerce to telecommunications and broadcasting, and from promotion of creative industries, intellectual property and consumer protection to boosting inward investment and tourism development.

Yau's full career has been in public service. Before taking up the current post, he was the Director of the Chief Executive's Office from 2012 to 2017, assisting the Chief Executive in formulating policies and setting policy goals and priorities. He was the Secretary of Environment from 2007 to 2012, overseeing policies on environmental protection, energy, nature conservation and sustainable development.

Yau started his civil service career as an administrative officer in 1981. During his long service as a civil servant, he held various positions, including director of Information Services, deputy secretary for Education and Manpower, deputy director-general of Trade and Industry as well as director-general of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Washington, DC, the US.

Yau graduated from the University of Hong Kong. He received further education at Oxford University and at Harvard University.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Hon. Mr. Tofail AHMED, M P**

Minister for Commerce

The People's Republic of Bangladesh

Born in Bhola, Bangladesh, Hon. Mr. Tofail Ahmed, MP has been a minister of commerce since 2014. A follower of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Ahmed is one of the most influential political leaders in the history of Bangladesh. He was one of the organisers of the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971. He acts as one of the chiefs of Bangladesh Liberation Front (MujibBahini).

Ahmed graduated with a BSc from the Bhola Government High School in 1964. He completed his Master's in Soil Science from the University of Dhaka in 1966. He is a veteran parliamentarian and has earned the love and respect of Parliament members and people from all walks of life for his speeches in parliamentary debate on various national issues.

A widely travelled public leader, Ahmed accompanied Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to the UN General Assembly Conference in New York, NAM summit in Algiers, Commonwealth Conference in Canada, Jamaica and OIC Conference in Pakistan. He has visited most countries of Asia, Europe, Africa, Nordic and Latin America and developed personal acquaintance with global luminaries, including Marshal Tito, Anwar Saa'dat, Piera Trudeau, JuliusNyere, Emperor Hirohito, Leonid IllychBrzhnev, TunkuAbdurRazzak among others. He attended the World Peace Conference in 1988.

Ahmed was Minister of Commerce and Industries from 1996 to 1999. He continued as Minister for Industries until 2001, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on the Ministry of Industry from 2009-2013, and Minister for Housing and Public Works and Industries from 2013 to 2014.

Ahmed participated in the first three editions of the WTO Ministerial Conference in Singapore, Geneva and Seattle. He was the spokesman and coordinator of LDCs in the conferences. He presided over the LDCs preparatory meeting for WTO conference in Geneva.

He is married and blessed with a daughter, who is a physician.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Hon. Dr. Arkebe OQUBAY**

Rank of Minister, Head of Economic Sectors' Delivery and Support,  
Office of the Prime Minister  
Board Chairman, The Industrial Parks Development Corp  
The Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

Dr. Arkebe Oqubay is Minister and Special Adviser to the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, and has been at the centre of policy making for more than 25 years. He is the former Mayor of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and pioneered the transformation of the city under his leadership. In recognition of this, he was awarded 'The Best African Mayor of 2006' by the African Broadcast Network and was a finalist for the award of World Mayor in 2006.

Oqubay serves as Chairman and Vice Chair of boards of directors of many leading public organisations, such as Ethiopian Airlines, and the Industrial Parks Development Corporation. He also serves as a member of the Ethiopian Investment Board and National Export Coordinating Committee, both chaired by the Prime Minister. He is also a member of the international advisory boards of the Made in Africa Initiative and the Shanghai Forum. Oqubay has been a member of the core leadership of the Tigrayan People's Liberation Front and the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, the movement that spearheaded the seventeen-year popular liberation struggle.

Oqubay holds a PhD in development studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and is a research associate at the Centre of African Studies, University of London. His path-breaking and widely read book, *Made in Africa: Industrial Policy in Ethiopia* (Oxford University Press, 2015), focuses on Africa's economic transformation, industrialisation and policymaking.

Most recently, Oqubay has been named as one of the 100 Most Influential Africans of 2016, and a leading thinker on Africa's strategic development by the New African magazine for his work on stimulating industrial policies, both of a practical and theoretical nature.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Ms. Anabel GONZÁLEZ**

Former Senior Director, Trade and Competitiveness, Global Practice  
The World Bank Group

Ms. Anabel González is a global expert and practitioner in international trade, regional integration, investment, competitiveness and private sector development for jobs, inclusive growth and better lives, with over 25 years of experience in international organisations, government and private sector.

She is former Senior Director of the Trade & Competitiveness Global Practice of the World Bank Group, where she led the Bank's 500 people team on trade, investment, competitiveness, innovation and entrepreneurship to expand market opportunities, enable private initiative and develop dynamic economies. Previously, she served as Minister of Trade of Costa Rica where she led Costa Rica's efforts to join the OECD, negotiated and implemented six free trade agreements, enhanced the investment climate and contributed to the attraction of over 140 investment projects. González also had a lead role in Costa Rica's Competitiveness and Innovation Council and acted as President of the Export Promotion Board. She has held various positions including Director, Agriculture Division, World Trade Organisation; Senior International Consultant on Trade and Investment, Inter-American Development Bank; Director-General, Costa Rican Investment Promotion Board; and several positions at the Ministry of Foreign Trade of Costa Rica (Vice-Minister, Ambassador-Chief Negotiator and Director General). She is a member of the World Economic Forum Global Future Council on Trade and Investment.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Mirzohid UBAYDULLAEV**

Governor of Margilan  
Uzbekistan

Born in the late 70's in Fergana, Mr. Mirzohid Ubaydullaev has a management degree from the Fergana Polytechnic Institute. Later he enrolled in the Cabinet of Ministers Academy and graduated in 2013 with a certificate in business management. Parallel to his studies, he entered government services of Fergana city in 2011, performing a wide variety of functions and duties in different departments.

In 2016, Ubaydullaev was appointed Hakim of Margilan (Governor of Margilan), a position he still serves till today.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Marc Robert COMPAGNON**

Executive Director and Group President

Li & Fung Ltd

Mr. Marc Robert Compagnon has been the Executive Director of Li & Fung Ltd since 2014 and is also the Group President.

Compagnon joined the Group in 2000, at the time of the acquisition of Colby International where he was Chief Merchandising Officer for 17 years responsible for establishing Colby's global sourcing network and sales and marketing strategies.

Compagnon holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Vermont. He serves as a member of the Board of Advisors of the School of Business Administration at the University of Vermont and is a founding member of Cotton's Revolutions. He is also the non-executive chairman of The Abaca Group, a hotel and restaurant management group in Cebu.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Miran ALI**

Managing Director  
Bitopi Group

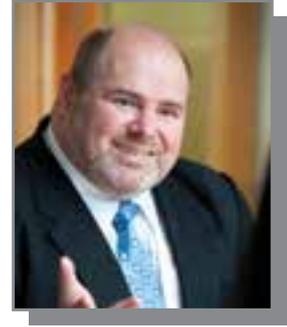
Mr. Miran Ali, was born on 2nd January 1974. He has graduated from Johns Hopkins University, and also earned an MBA from University of Bristol.

Ali is a leading garment sector entrepreneur. He leads Bitopi Group, as Managing Director. He is also a Director at BGMEA, member of Executive Committee of Bangladesh Employers Federation (BEF), member of Executive Committee Consular Corps in Bangladesh (CCB) and Honorary Consul of Slovak republic in Bangladesh.

Being a moving businessman himself, Ali has been involved being speakers and special guests in varied occasions to play a role on Sustainable Environment Friendly Workplace. His passion for corporate social responsibility, environmental welfare motivated him to green practices in his workplaces. Ali's ideology sets an exemplary milestone for Bangladesh and demonstrates that business & environment co-exist and emphasises sustainability one of the key factors for any business to succeed.

Ali is also involved in diversified activities related to readymade garments business. He owns advertising agency & event management well-known in Bangladesh media publishing.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Anson BAILEY**

Head of Technology, Hong Kong  
Head of Consumer & Retail, ASPAC  
KPMG

Mr. Anson Bailey joined KPMG in Hong Kong in 1999 and is currently a Partner based in the Hong Kong office heading up the Consumer & Retail Practice. He is part of the KPMG Regional Consumer & Retail Practice Leadership team as well as being a member of the Global Technology Innovation Centre and the Cluster Leader for the Technology, Media and Telecoms Practice based in Hong Kong.

Bailey has been active in driving a number of thought leadership reports and executive briefings for senior executives covering innovation and consumers in China and across Asia. He has worked with many corporates to understand the complex markets we live in and current levels of disruption being seen with recent reports including Global Mobile Payments, Consumers & Convergence, Mobilizing Innovation: The Changing Landscape of Disruptive Technologies, The Rise of the Digital Multi-tasker, Be a Smarter Start-up, MNCs in China, Made in China 2025, China's Connected Consumers, Global Connected Consumers, Connecting Hong Kong – Perspectives on our future as a smart city and The Changing Face of Commerce series.

Today, Bailey not only mentors the next generation of go-to-market professionals at KPMG but continues to work with a growing number of C-level executives as a trusted advisor in providing the best in client innovation whilst acting as the Lead Partner for a number of strategic accounts in the consumer and technology arena across the Asia Pacific region.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Ms. Leonie BARRIE**

Managing Editor, just-style.com

Aroq Ltd

Ms. Leonie Barrie joined just-style as managing editor 17 years ago, and during that time has been instrumental in steering the site's editorial content and direction. Under her leadership, just-style has raised its profile internationally, and today boasts a team of contributors around the world who provide a unique blend of up-to-the-minute news, research and analysis on the apparel and footwear industry and its supply chain.

An experienced business journalist with a background in fashion and textiles, Barrie has written extensively about global sourcing and production, technology, emerging markets, retail, brand and marketing strategies. She has also gained first-hand experience of the industry in various countries, as well as attending and speaking at conferences and writing about the international apparel industry and the challenges and opportunities it faces.

With an editorial mission to help apparel sourcing professionals make better decisions, just-style provides a mix of independent, authoritative and forward-thinking information, and is widely recognised as the essential online business tool for clothing professionals worldwide. Every month, over 78,000 executives visit the site to keep abreast of the latest industry developments.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Stephane BOIVIN**

Co-Founder, President & CEO

Pivot88

With over 20 years of experience in the supply chain industry, Mr. Stephane Boivin clearly understands the challenges involved in end-to-end manufacturing. The idea of developing Pivot88 came out of his own experience with the supply chain. His focus at that time was on remote quality management and supply chain optimisation. Boivin has more than 14 year experience in China within Quality management process. During his career, he held several executive positions, at some of the following companies Toyota Industrial Group of Company & Deloitte Consulting and Ryder Logistics.

Today with Pivot88 his focus is on helping companies overcome quality management challenges through the use of emergent technologies providing visibility into the most vulnerable and riskiest parts of the supply chain – within suppliers.

Boivin holds an MBA from UQAM University and is a certified professional logistician from the Canadian Logistics Institute.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Gareth BROOKS**

Managing Director  
VF Asia Ltd

As the Managing Director of VF Asia, Hong Kong-based Mr. Gareth Brooks is responsible for developing and executing VF's product supply strategy, supplying products worth \$3.6 billion to all VF's brands, including The North Face, Vans, Wrangler, Lee, Timberland, Jansport, and Nautica.

Prior to this, Brooks was Vice President Footwear Product Supply, based in Hong Kong looking after the supply strategy of Timberland, Vans, The North Face and Reef. Previously, he was Vice President operations at Timberland where he was responsible for developing and implementing the strategy for Timberland's operating business system in North America, overseeing planning, forecasting, procurement, materials, quality, logistics and distribution.

Brooks joined Timberland in March of 2011 after nine years with Pentland Group, as their vice president of sourcing and product development. At Pentland, he helped shape the company's global supply chain strategy and was responsible for product development and Asian operations.

Prior to Pentland, Brooks spent six years at Nike Inc. as a manufacturing manager in Vietnam. He also held a variety of positions in Europe and Asia-Pacific headquarters responsible for quality assurance and operations. Before Nike, Brooks spent 10 years at Clarks International. As a graduate of their technical training programme, he held a variety of positions in manufacturing, sales, product marketing and sourcing.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Hans M. BUEHR**

President

Fabana

Mr. Hans M Buehr, was introduced to the intimate apparel industry, during various internships while studying industrial management in Germany. Joining Triumph International Overseas in 1983, he dedicated his efforts to support the growth of Triumph across Asia for 30 years. He applied the use of ERP systems to numerous factories in various countries, where it is still being used. Many suppliers and products bear his mark of influence even today. His greatest passion is sustainability, many years ago he founded Eco Committee with the aim of changing the company and its products into a more sustainable model.

From July 2014 to December 2015, Buehr was Executive Director of the Hong Kong Intimate Apparel Industries Association, where he contributed immensely for the benefit of the association.

An independent consultant since 2013, Buehr has contributed to the industry in many ways, giving talks at various Hong Kong-based universities, and offering advice to companies from product development to supply chain related issues, to sustainability initiatives.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Stan BURTON**

Managing Director, Hong Kong  
Senior Sourcing Director, Asia/Middle East  
Under Armour Global Sourcing Ltd

Mr. Stan Burton leads the Under Armour Global Sourcing office based in Hong Kong and is responsible for delivering apparel and accessories related products created in the Asia and Middle East regions. He has a diverse background in apparel, footwear and accessories leading headquarter and overseas operations for companies including Under Armour, Oakley, Hurley and Nike. His experience includes leadership roles in product development, manufacturing operations, planning and sourcing with over 13 years based in Thailand, Indonesia, China and Hong Kong.

Stan is currently in his 25th year working for major brands and has a proven track record of delivering results for some of the most innovative companies in the world and is a graduate of the University of Oregon with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. He currently serves as the Vice Chair for the Apparel & Footwear Committee of the American Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong and is also a board member of GAFTI.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Ms. Sarah CHESSIS**

Founder & Managing Director

Isabella Wren

Tech-savvy fashionista Ms. Sarah Chessis is the entrepreneur behind digital fashion brand, Isabella Wren. Combining her signature clothing range with state-of-the-art technology, the trend setter has created a new e-commerce platform that makes finding unique and beautifully tailored clothing easily accessible. Her goal: to make woman feel confident and sexy, one customised outfit at a time.

With just a few clicks of a button, customers visiting the website simply select their clothing online, enter their measurements and the game-changing technology computes the right fit with incredible accuracy, creating a unique pattern for that individual. 3D technology also allows users to customise the neckline, length, sleeves, and trims on any design.

Focusing on professional wear, designed to take a woman straight from the boardroom to the cocktail bar, Chessis' creations are worn by CEOs, business leaders and professionals all over the world. Always looking to the future, she has built a scalable business ready for expansion and is working towards Isabella Wren becoming the number one ladies professional wear brand worldwide.

After spending 18 years working with top financial institutions such as Religare Capital Markets, BNP Paribas, E\*TRADE Financial and ING Barings, Chessis left the world of high finance and set out to build a brand that empowered boss ladies around the world. After gaining experience with an international clothing brand, the driven entrepreneur moved to Hong Kong and established Isabella Wren in 2014, naming it after her daughter.

# Speaker Profiles



**Mr. Tim CHIU**  
Senior Vice President  
CBX Software

Mr. Tim Chiu has over 25 years of experience in supporting global sourcing automation and information technology that enables collaboration between global commerce communities.

He has helped numerous leading retailers and brands improve global sourcing efficiency by implementing retail merchandising, global sourcing, vendor management, and supplier collaboration solutions that provide measurable benefits.

With a varied background in IT and workflow process consulting, Chiu is a frequent speaker on the topic of global sourcing for the retail industry.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Jacob Andrew CLERE**

Team Leader  
Smart Myanmar

Mr. Jacob Clere works for Sequag, as Team Leader of Smart Myanmar, an European Union funded project focused on social and environmental improvement in Myanmar's garment industry since 2013. In cooperation with local partner, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, and other consortium partners, Smart has engaged with over 250 garment, textile and footwear factories and trained thousands of managers, staff and workers on a variety of topics.

Before joining Smart Myanmar, Clere worked in Yangon with the American non-governmental organisation Building Markets on private sector development issues during Myanmar's transition to democracy.

Clere has a master's degree in Development Economics and Emerging Markets from the University of York, United Kingdom and a bachelor's degree in Economics and Cultural Anthropology from Ball State University, USA.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Christian EWERT**

Director General  
amfori - Trade with Purpose

Mr. Christian Ewert is the Director General of amfori, the leading global business association for open and sustainable trade, bringing together over 2,200 retailers, importers, brands and associations from more than 40 countries. Its membership contains organisations of all sizes and all sectors with a combined turnover of more than one trillion euros.

amfori's mission is to enable each of its members to enhance human prosperity, use natural resources responsibly and drive open trade globally. These major challenges require collaborative work to influence and drive positive change at scale. Prior to his role at amfori, Ewert worked as President and CEO of ICTI CARE Foundation, the International Council of Toy Industries' (ICTI) programme to promote social compliance in the supply chain producing for the toy and children's products industry. Ewert previously worked as the Chief Operating Officer and Member of the Board of Zapf Creation, Europe's leading manufacturer of branded play and function and collector dolls and doll accessories. For more than 10 years he held the position of Managing Director and Chairman of North Sails Lanka which is the leading manufacturer of products for the windsurfing industry, operating two factories and employing more than 1,000 staff members. Ewert had previously held the position of the CEO of Mistral Sports, the market leader in the windsurfing industry.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. FENG Dehu**

Senior Economist and President  
China Textile Planning Institute of Construction (CTPIC)

With more than 30 years of working in the textile and garment industry, Mr. Feng Dehu has witnessed the development and growth of China's textile and garment industry since its reform and opening-up. His earlier assignments include: working as a government official; president of a public company; chairman of industry association among others.

Feng holds extensive management experience, maintains connections with numerous entrepreneurs, and has a deep insight of the textile and garment industry, where he formed strong views about future development trend of the global textile and garment industry. He is currently the president of CTPIC, a consulting institute aiming to become a top think-tank in Chinese textile and garment industry, now he focuses on the global production capacity cooperation and intelligent manufacturing.

Before joining CTPIC, Feng served as the director of the garment technology development center in China Textile Department; Chairman of Zhejiang Province Garment Association; Vice chairman of China National Garment Association (CNGA); CEO of Zhejiang Zhonghui Co Ltd (Stock Code 600677), President of China Garments Co, Ltd (CGC, Stock Code 000902) and so on.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Dr. Michael T. FRALIX, Ph.D.**

President and CEO, [TC]<sup>2</sup>  
Technology Evangelist, SoftWear Automation

With 40 years of experience in manufacturing, research and development, and operations and corporate management, Dr. Michael Fralix leads [TC]<sup>2</sup>'s initiatives to develop next-generation supply chain technologies, and works with companies to implement currently available technologies and business processes.

In May of 2017 Fralix accepted an assignment with SoftWear Automation in Atlanta, Georgia to help promote the use of robotic automation for the Sewn Products Industry. Their Sewbots<sup>TM</sup> technology was created at Georgia Tech and he served on the Advisory Board during its development.

In addition to overseeing [TC]<sup>2</sup>'s strategic direction and working with SoftWear Automation, Fralix speaks globally on a variety of topics and helps deliver programmes and services to the fashion industry. These topics include 3D product development, sizing for fit, virtual dressing, online shopping, additive manufacturing, re-shoring, lean systems, sustainable technologies, robotics and automation, and the digital supply chain.

Fralix holds BS degrees in Applied Mathematics and Philosophy from North Carolina State University, an MBA from Duke University and a Ph.D. in Technology Management from N.C. State University. In 2009, he was appointed an Adjunct Associate Professor at N.C. State University. In 2012, he was named Distinguished Alumnus of the Year for the NCSU College of Textiles.

Fralix is a member of the Board of Directors of: AAFA-American Apparel & Footwear Association, AFMA-American Fiber Manufacturers Association, SPESA-Sewn Products Equipment and Suppliers of the Americas, IAF-International Apparel Federation, CCAA-Caribbean-Central American Action, AAFA Education Foundation, YMA-Fashion Scholarship Fund, and the Georgia Soft Goods Education Foundation. He was recognised as a Thought Leader at the OIA (Outdoor Industry Association) thought Leader's Dinner in January 2013.

Fralix believes that tomorrow's industry leaders are going to thrive through the use of digital technologies and processes integrated across continents.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Florian GAMPER**

Founder  
Datacrag

As a former management consultant, data analyst and passionate programmer specialised in solving supply chain management problems, Mr. Florian Gamper founded Datacrag – a start-up incubated at the Hong Kong Science Park. His vision is to change the way companies utilise data for making decisions by creating a software that is based on artificial intelligence.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Mark GREEN**

Executive Vice President  
Supply Chain  
PVH

Mr. Mark Green is currently Executive Vice President of Supply Chain for PVH Corporation. Based in Hong Kong he is responsible for the offshore global sourcing and operations of the PVH Group which owns such iconic brands as Calvin Klein, Tommy Hilfiger, Van Heusen, Arrow and Izod.

Before joining PVH, Green spent 4 years in China with Walmart as Vice President of Sourcing and Operations with responsibility for apparel, footwear, jewelry and accessories. He managed 12 global offices with production in over 25 countries worldwide.

Prior to that Green was at Limited Brands where he worked in senior sourcing positions with Victoria's Secret Stores and Catalogue, Express, The Limited and other specialty retail brands, such as Abercrombie & Fitch, Lane Bryant, Diesel, New York & Co. He was based in Hong Kong, Sri Lanka and Israel.

Green was born in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 1961 and spent his first 17 years in the Far East. He went back to the UK and graduated from the Manchester University with a Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in History, Politics and Philosophy.

His first 14 years were with a family company in the UK, Toye & Co Plc. Founded in 1685 Toye was a manufacturer of Regalia, Insignia and military accoutrements. Following a brief spell in the hosiery and lingerie business, he then joined Limited Brands.

Green is presently a member of the American Chamber of Commerce Hong Kong Board of Governors. He is an avid sportsman and plays tennis, hockey, badminton and golf. He is a member of two livery companies in the UK – The Worshipful Company of Broderers and the Worshipful Company of Gold & Silver Wyre Drawers.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Ms. Helen HAI**

Goodwill Ambassador

United Nation Industrial Development Organisation

Ms. Helen Hai is the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) Goodwill Ambassador for industrialisation in Africa. She is the Director General of the Made in Africa Initiative which advises African government for industrialisation and investment promotion. Hai is Co-Founder of C&H Garments, which is a pioneer Pan-Africa export-oriented garments manufacturer.

Hai was trained as an actuary in the UK with near 20 years of international experience in FTSE100 companies. She has BA in actuarial science and MSc in actuarial management from CASS Business School in London and EMBA from INSEAD and Tsinghua University.

Hai was named a 2015 Global Young Leader by World Economic Forum, and she is Co-chair of the Global Future Council on the Future of Consumption for World Economic Forum. She received the 2015 African Business Icon Award and awarded as Officer of the National Order of Lion of Senegal in 2016. She is on the committee of Global Commission on Business and Sustainable Development.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Leo HAO**

General Manager, Viction Cashmere Group  
Committee Member, Inner Mongolia Youth Union

Mr. Leo Hao is a graduate from the Chuo University, Japan. He is an economist and a member of CPPCC (Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference) Bayannaer city committee, committee member of Inner Mongolia Youth Union and General Manager of Viction (Inner Mongolia) Cashmere Group.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Clay E. HICKSON**

Vice President, Strategy and Business Development  
Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP)

As Vice President, Strategy & Business Development at Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP), Mr. Clay Hickson manages international operations and helps develop and refine WRAP's strategy, specifically focusing on managing relationships with global brands and retailers and with governmental and other stakeholder organisations. He has developed and led seminars and other initiatives around the world in the field of social responsibility in collaboration with audit firms, manufacturing facilities, industry associations, government bodies and others, which initiatives have facilitated understanding of socially responsible and ethical practices as well as an understanding of how to implement social compliance programmes.

Previously, Hickson was Executive Director of TowsonGlobal Business Incubator as well as Managing Director of Rhôton Hill Group, a management consulting firm he established. He also was Director of International Business Services for International Technology and Trade Associates, Director of International Programs for the World Trade Center Boston, and Account Director with Ogilvy Public Relations Worldwide (Taiwan). He worked with the 1993 Seattle Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, Overseas Private Investment Corporation and US-Philippine Business Committee. Hickson has served on the governing Steering Committee of the Social & Labor Convergence Project. He is Chairman Emeritus of the Maryland-China Business Council and has served on the board of the National China Garden Foundation, advisory board of TowsonGlobal, the board of the Asian Pacific American Chamber of Commerce, the advisory board of the Asian Arts and Culture Center, and as President of the Maryland Business Incubation Association. Other current and past affiliations include the U.S. Council for International Business, the American Apparel and Footwear Association, the US Fashion Industry Association, the US Chamber of Commerce-Asia Task Force, Asia Society, and Maryland-Anhui Sister State Committee.

Hickson has developed and taught training programmes, seminars and college courses that have prepared executives for doing business in international environment and was a regular contributor to China Business & Investment. He received his MA in International Relations from the School of Advanced International Studies at the Johns Hopkins University and received his BA in International Relations from the George Washington University. He also studied Chinese at Columbia University.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Martin KEIL**

Managing Director  
YEH SHEN Ltd

Mr. Martin Keil began his career in Beijing's Austrian Embassy, Commercial Section after finishing his university studies in Austria and New Zealand. Based on research from his master thesis about market entry in China, he advised Austrian companies on setting up and developing business in China. After three years, he moved to a listed Austrian electronics firm that had just set up a operations in Shanghai, as Assistant of the Board in its European headquarter.

Through consultancy work for an Austrian conglomerate, Keil found his way into the aluminium packaging industry and researched the Chinese pharmaceutical packaging market. Serving a German family conglomerate, he extended his industrial experience in the aluminium conversion industry and became General Manager for an aluminium packaging factory in China exporting products primarily to Japan.

In 2006, Keil came to Hong Kong where he was active in consumer packaging trading while setting up a limited company for quality management services which has become the Asian quality centre for leading German trading firms. He also set up YEH SHEN Ltd, a business development consultancy that researches supply chains of lifestyle products with specialisation on textile and apparel products into and out of Asian markets.

Keil holds an MBA in Finance from Manchester Business School. A German native with Latin language education, he speaks fluent English and Mandarin.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Jason KIBBEY**

CEO

Sustainable Apparel Coalition

Mr. Jason Kibbey is the CEO of the Sustainable Apparel Coalition. The Sustainable Apparel Coalition is an industry-wide group of leading apparel and footwear brands, retailers, manufacturers, non-governmental organizations, and academic experts working to reduce the environmental and social impacts of apparel and footwear products around the world.

Kibbey was the CEO and co-founder of PACT, an apparel company combining design, sustainability, and philanthropy. He served as Co-Founder and interim Executive Director of Freedom to Roam, a non-profit initiative that brings together people, organisations and businesses to enhance and protect wildlife corridors and landscape connectivity in North America. He developed Freedom to Roam while working on environmental campaigns for Patagonia.

He started his career as an Associate Consultant at Bain & Company, where he worked on turnaround and product strategies for high-tech companies.

Kibbey graduated from the University of California (UC) Berkeley with a BS Environmental Economics and Policy and BA in Religious Studies. He received his MBA from UC Berkeley's Haas School of Business.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Desmond KO**

Director  
LeatherTeq Ltd

Mr. Desmond Ko has a passion for protecting the environment by bringing the latest technology to leather production for fashion and luxury goods. As a Director of LeatherTeq Ltd, Ko and a small group of seasoned entrepreneurs are bringing decades of experience to radically transform the leather supply chain. Their leading salt free preservation technology, Litehide, allows the leather supply chain to remain cost effective whilst deriving green and supply chain benefits. Ko has shared his vision with industry at leading fashion schools and bodies including the London School of Fashion, Hong Kong Fashion Summit, Fashion for Good (Amsterdam), StartmeupHK Festival on Sustainable Leather.

Ko qualified as an auditor with a Chartered Accountant from the UK and then moved to Hong Kong where he worked for corporations as PwC, CBRE and held senior roles in an investment company.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Raymond LEUNG**

Senior Compliance Manager

Debenhams

Mr. Raymond Leung is the senior compliance manager of Debenhams and is responsible for management of compliance matters for all vendors in China. Leung is a graduate of the University of Mississippi, where he received a BA in Accountancy and MBA. He also received Master of Science in Environmental Management in the University of Hong Kong Polytechnics.

After graduation, Leung launched his career in textile and garment manufacturing, trading and compliance in Asian countries, where he began his specialisation in supply chain management. Over the last 20 years, Leung shared his knowledge and experience in different trading companies, fashion retailers and garment manufacturers in Hong Kong, the US, Europe and China in different management positions including VP of global compliance, Chief Operating Officer, etc.

In 2006, Leung was elected as one of board members at the BSCI, since then he has worked as a volunteer to share his experience in topics of sustainability and ethical sourcing with students in the Hong Kong Vocational Training Center and the Hong Kong Clothing Industry Training Authority.

## Speaker Profiles



**Mr. Willy LIN, SBS, MBE, JP**  
Chairman, Hong Kong Productivity Council  
Managing Director, Milo's Knitwear (Intl) Ltd

Mr. Willy Lin Sun Mo, Chairman of the Hong Kong Productivity Council (HKPC), is a veteran industrialist in the garment and textile sector. He is the Managing Director of Hong Kong-based Milo's Knitwear (International) Ltd and Milo's Manufacturing Co Ltd in Hong Kong.

Lin has been the Chairman of the Hong Kong Shippers' Council since 1999 and Honorary Chairman of Hong Kong Exporters' Association, Hong Kong Knitwear Exporters and Manufacturers Association and Textile Council of Hong Kong.

Lin also has a strong public service record. Currently he is a board member of the Trade and Industry Advisory Board of Trade and Industry Department, Council Member of Hong Kong Logistics Development Council, and Board Member of the Hong Kong Maritime and Port Board, a member of the Manpower Development Committee of Labour and Welfare Bureau.

In addition, Lin is also a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Committee of Jieyang in Guangdong Province, and has been the Honorary Consul of the Slovak Republic to Hong Kong and Macau since 1998. He is the Director of the Hong Kong-Thailand Business Council and an Honorary Trade Advisor of the Ministry of Commerce of Thailand.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Sanjeev T. MAHTANI**

Chairman & CEO  
The Must Group

Mr. Sanjeev T. Mahtani is the Chairman & CEO of the Must Group established in 1985. The Group supplies 65 million garments annually and has manufacturing facilities in Bangladesh, Oman & Jordan. Mahtani graduated from the Bombay University with a BCom degree in 1980 and is married with two daughters.

The Group's main clients are: JCPenney, Walmart, Target, Ann Taylor, Macys and Amazon. The Must Group leads in ladies product development and aligns with global offices in Hong Kong, New York, London and Dallas. All the Group's manufacturing facilities are highly rated in compliance and substantiality.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Alessandro PAOLICCHI**

Head of Trade Section  
EU Office to Hong Kong and Macao

Mr. Alessandro Paolicchi (Rome, Italy, 1966) joined the European Commission in 1994, (International Trade Department). He worked in the GATT/WTO division for 6 years, negotiating on behalf of the EU in a number of WTO groups and representing the EU in trade litigation cases under the WTO Dispute Settlement Mechanism. In 2000 he took a sabbatical to obtain a Master of Business Administration (MBA). In 2002 he joined back the European Commission to work in the Antitrust Department as a case-manager of Merger Control cases. In 2007 he returned to the International Trade Department of the European Commission to become the coordinator and deputy chief negotiator of the EU-ASEAN Free Trade Agreement. In 2009, he moved to Kuala Lumpur as the Head of the Trade and Economic Section of the EU Delegation to Malaysia. In September 2014, he took up duty at the EU Office to Hong Kong and Macau as the Head of the Trade Section.

Paolicchi graduated in Business and Economics at the University of Rome. He holds a Master in European Advanced Economic Studies from the College of Europe (Bruges, Belgium) and an MBA from the Instituto de Empresa (Madrid, Spain).

## Speaker Profiles



### **Ms. Sally PENG, Esq.**

Member, Asia Pacific Practice Leader  
Sandler, Travis & Rosenberg, P.A.

Ms. Sally Peng focused on counselling multinational corporations with a wide variety of customs and international trade activities, including global trade regulations and customs laws, import/export control and process management, antidumping and countervailing duty matters, unfair trade actions and FCPA compliance. Peng also assists clients in determining whether their goods qualify for duty-free treatment under various free trade agreements or trade preference programmes.

Peng currently serves as co-chair of the Apparel & Footwear Committee of AmCham Hong Kong and is a Senior Advisor to Hong Kong General Chamber of Textile Ltd. She is fluent in English, Mandarin and Taiwanese.

Peng holds a J.D. from the University of Florida Levin College of Law, a Diploma from Peking University Law School in Beijing, and a B.A. from National Chengchi University College of Law in Taiwan.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Md. Siddiqur RAHMAN**

President, The Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers &  
Exporters Association (BGMEA)  
Managing Director, Sterling Denims Ltd

Mr. Md. Siddiqur Rahman is an established business personality in Bangladesh. After completing his higher education, he ventured into apparel business with Sterling Garments Ltd. Years of his hard work, perseverance and merit have led to the creation of Sterling Group, a leading conglomerate in the apparel industry. Currently Siddiqur is Chairman of the Group which consists of Sterling Apparels Ltd, Unicorn Sweaters Ltd, Sterling Denims Ltd, Sterling Creations Ltd, Sterling Laundry Ltd, Bando Design Ltd and Laila Styles Ltd. Alongside garment business he is also involved in fishing, restaurant and stock exchange broker house businesses.

Rahman is not only a successful entrepreneur but also a front-line business leader in the apparel sector of Bangladesh. Currently he is President of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), the apex trade organisation representing the garment industry of Bangladesh. Prior to his present position, he served BGMEA as the Vice President (Finance) and the Senior Vice President for the terms of 2009-2010 and 2011-2012 respectively. He has had noteworthy contribution to the development of the RMG sector, especially when MFA-quota phased out. That time many thought that the end of MFA quota would hit hard Bangladesh's RMG sector. But Rahman along with his fellow entrepreneurs faced the challenge with prudent leadership and strong determination. The RMG industry overcame the hurdle and witnessed phenomenal growth after post-MFA era.

Apart from business, Rahman is involved in other activities. Currently he is a Member, Board of Directors, Biman Bangladesh Airlines. He is one of the Founding Members of the Board of Trustees, BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology (BUFT).

Rahman has been awarded Commercially Important Person (CIP) status by the Government for his contribution to the country's economic growth through exports.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Denis K. SCHAEFER**

General Manager, South-East Asia Operation  
Walton HK Group Ltd

Mr. Denis Schaefer is the General Manager for the South East Asia operation of the Walton HK Group Ltd. Based in Yangon, Myanmar he is in responsible for the garment production of the Walton HK Group Ltd out of Myanmar, Cambodia and Bangladesh.

Schaefer helped the Group set up the garment factory in Yangon, which successfully produces heavy outerwear garments for the European market. He also established the sewing training centre for the locals in cooperation with the Developpp. de Program of the EU in Yangon.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Duncan SCOTT**

Vice President, External Products  
New Balance

Mr. Duncan Scott is the Vice President of External Products, New Balance. For seven years he was with New Balance. He has spent more than 30 years in branded athletic footwear and apparel sourcing. A background in development and manufacturing led him to global operation and social compliance leadership roles.

Scott is a Board Member of Garment, Apparel, Footwear and Textile Initiative (GAFTI).

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Raymond SHAN**

Principal Consultant, Materials and Manufacturing Technology  
Hong Kong Productivity Council

Mr. Raymond Shan is currently Principal Consultant, Smart Manufacturing and Materials Division, Hong Kong Productivity Council and Certified Industrie 4.0 Expert, Fraunhofer IPT Germany. Shan serves as Chairman of the Smart Manufacturing Industry, IoT Hong Kong Association, Chair (Industry 4.0) of the Society of Automotive Engineers – Hong Kong (SAE-Hong Kong), Chairman (Technology and Management) of the Hong Kong Auto Parts Industry Association (HKAPIA) and other advisory roles of important trade associations of the automotive and mould industries in Hong Kong.

Shan has more than 20 years of work experience in US multinational companies, local enterprises and government-subsidized technology development institution. He is currently the Principal Consultant of Hong Kong Productivity Council, leading a team of professional experts and engineers to provide various technological developments and transfer services to various industrial sectors. Since 2013, he has been working closely with Fraunhofer IPT, Germany on Industry 4.0 and creating awareness through various industry-wide promotional campaigns launched.

To in-depth promote the concept and operation of industry 4.0, Shan successfully set up the first Intelligent Manufacturing (i-mfg) Technology Demonstration Centre in Hong Kong in 2013. The Centre adopts Flexible Manufacturing Technology (FMT) and uses an advanced mould automation system to connect the various processing and testing facilities by Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) plus other Industry 4.0 enabling technologies to realise 'Cyber Physical Production System (CPPS)', a nutshell technology of 'Industry 4.0'. In 2017, he further upgraded the i-mfg Center to become the first Industry 4.0 demonstration factory in Hong Kong, namely 'Smart Industry One (SIO)' to illustrate the whole concept of Industry 4.0, factory digitalisation and various smart features.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Yuttana SILPSARNVITCH**

Secretary General

The Thai Garment Manufacturers Association (TGMA)

Mr. Yuttana Silpsarnvitch has the Secretary-General of the Thai Garment Manufacturers Association for last four years and is a committee member and secretary-general of the executive board of The Thai Garment Development Foundation, besides being the President of the Garment Industry club of the Federation of Thai Industries.

Silpsarnvitch has many years of experience in the garment and apparel industry. He owns, J M Apparel Co, Ltd and Paladin Workwear Co, Ltd. He is also the Vice President of Small and Medium Industrial Institute. Silpsarnvitch is a lecturer and advisor in various projects on production efficiency and productivity improvement, a lecturer in educating the entrepreneur's product development of knitted fashion fabric programmes, and a special instructor for many universities in Thailand and an advisor for the Human Resources Development, Production Process Development.

Silpsarnvitch developed and implemented many programmes and projects for the TGMA, such as the Multi-Skill Programme for universities and academies, to support the development of product prototypes with entrepreneurs and factories to create added value for their products and services. He is a co-developer of the Best Practices for Productivity Improvement in Production project and Total Productive Maintenance (TPM), which is aimed at improving efficiency and productivity of Thai garment industry manufacturing and its performance.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Mark SIM**

Vice President, International Marketing  
Sembcorp Parks Management Pte Ltd

Mr. Mark Sim is the Vice President, International Marketing of Industrial Parks for Sembcorp Parks Management Pte Ltd, a Singaporean listed company invested by Temasek Holdings. Since 2007, Sim has helped more than 40 manufacturers mainly from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong invest in Vietnam, ranging from US\$300,000 to US\$500,000,000 in investment. His portfolio includes: TCL, Midea (PR China), Seahorse, Regina Miracle (Hong Kong), Etika (Singapore) and Liteon (Taiwan).

An industrial engineer with a master's degree from the National University of Singapore, Sim managed a Danish food ingredients factory in remote countryside of Vietnam for five years. He gained first-hand factory experience and Vietnamese language proficiency with a deep understanding of manufacturing operations in emerging economies. Coupled with 10 more years of engineering sales track record in semiconductors, design software and optics, Sim renders fast and reliable solutions for foreign companies seeking to manufacture in Vietnam, and WEF2018 also in Indonesia.

Sim speaks Cantonese, Teochew, Hokkien, Mandarin, Vietnamese and basic Japanese and Bahasa. He was based in Hong Kong, Penang and Manila for many years. Since 2002, he has been based in Vietnam.

Sim is passionate and effective in bridging business across cultures and sectors.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Robert SINCLAIR**

President, LF Sourcing, Li & Fung Group  
Chairman, Global Apparel, Footwear and Textile Initiative (GAFTI)

Mr. Robert Sinclair is President of LF Sourcing overseeing all business-related activities for apparel, footwear and hard-goods, as well as sourcing and general merchandise.

Sinclair joined Li & Fung in 2011 as Executive Vice President of Lifestyle Brands business unit and was promoted to Chief Operating Officer for LF Sourcing in 2013.

Prior to that, he held senior positions in various capacities with VF Asia Ltd, the global procurement business unit for VF Corporation based in Hong Kong and Ralph Lauren Corporation.

Sinclair also founded Hong Kong-based agency business KOMPASS in 2002, which services design-driven, value-added clients. He started his career in the sourcing industry with a Hong Kong-based agency, Colby and Staton (Agency) Ltd. in 1986.

Sinclair is the Chairman and founding member of Global Apparel and Footwear Initiative (GAFTI). He is an active member of the American Chamber of Commerce in Hong Kong and serves as an advisor to the Asia Industry Advisory Network for the College of Textiles, North Carolina State University.

Born and raised in Canada, Ottawa, Sinclair holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science from the University of Carleton, Ottawa, Canada and has lived and worked in Hong Kong, Singapore, and New York.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Ian SPAULDING**

CEO  
ELEVATE

Mr. Ian Spaulding sets the vision and growth strategy for ELEVATE, the leading business risk and sustainability solutions provider. Headquartered in Hong Kong, the company delivers improved organisational performance through sustainability and supply chain assessment, consulting, programme management and analytics. ELEVATE serves global brands and retailers, as well as vendors, factories and industry initiatives, many in the apparel and related sectors.

Spaulding is committed to disrupting industry norms through new paradigms, technologies and data analytics to improve sustainability and responsible supply chain sourcing. He is recognised globally as a preeminent subject matter expert and authority on supply chain social, environmental and business performance.

Spaulding also oversees the ELEVATE group company, CSR Asia. CSR Asia is based in Hong Kong, helping a diverse range of public and private sector clients in Asia to improve sustainability practices through consultancy, thought leadership, events, and professional networks.

A frequent keynote speaker, Spaulding has led The ELEVATE Leadership Series conferences in Hong Kong and other global cities for numerous years. In 2018, The ELEVATE Leadership Series in Hong Kong unites with the leading sustainability and CSR conference in the region, CSR Asia Summit in September 2018.

Previously, Spaulding worked as a senior manager at Business for Social Responsibility (BSR), a consultant at KPMG and at Sears Holdings. At Sears Holdings, he was the Director of Global Compliance where he pioneered the largest effort to promote greater transparency and continuous improvement among thousands of manufacturing facilities globally.

Spaulding has a Master's degree from the Yale University and a Bachelor's degree from the American University in Washington, D.C.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Stanley SZETO**

Chairman, Textile Council of Hong Kong

Executive Chairman, Lever Style Inc

Mr. Stanley Szeto is Executive Chairman of Lever Style Inc., a Hong Kong-headquartered regional apparel manufacturing group established in 1956. Lever Style serves specialty retailers such as All Saints and J Crew, designer labels like John Varvatos and Paul Smith, contemporary brands such as Theory and Vince, and e-commerce pioneers such as Bonobos and Stitch Fix. Szeto joined Lever Style in 2000, became CEO in 2001, and took on the chairmanship in 2007.

Lever Style's product portfolio includes men's and ladies' woven and knit shirts, blouses, pants, skirts, suits, jackets and outerwear. The company is known for its product development capability and technical competency. It has also been re-engineering its manufacturing systems to improve speed and flexibility. Its progress has been profiled by CNN, Hong Kong Trade Development Council, and various other media organisations.

Keenly involved in promoting the industry, Szeto is Chairman of Hong Kong Textile Council, Vice-Chairman of Hong Kong Garment Manufacturers Association, Director of Federation of Hong Kong Garments Manufacturers, Director of Hong Kong Shippers' Council, Member of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University's Advisory Committee on Textile and Clothing Industries, and past Member of the Hong Kong Government's Textiles Advisory Board.

Recognised for his contributions to the industry, Szeto received the 2009 Young Industrialist Award of Hong Kong from the Federation of Hong Kong Industries. Szeto is also a frequent guest speaker on CNBC, Bloomberg and other business news channels.

Prior to joining Lever Style in 2000, Szeto worked at J.P. Morgan's mergers and acquisitions unit, and later at PAMA, an Asian buyout firm with over US\$1 billion under management. Szeto served on the boards of companies in PAMA's portfolio, focusing on strategy and management issues.

Szeto graduated Magna Cum Laude from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania, triple-majoring in Finance, Entrepreneurial Management, and Legal Studies.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Clerc-Manne TAING**

Data Scientist

Datacrag

Mr. Clerc-Manne Taing is a young and passionate data scientist and supply chain management consultant. He believes artificial intelligence is going to reshape the world. Striving ahead with innovation he is currently bringing data driven solutions to businesses with Datacrag.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Mr. Kevin TANG**

Founder  
Kalon Couture

Mr. Kevin Tang is the Founder and CEO of Kalon Couture, an online fashion platform utilising 3D body scanning technology to provide affordable made-to-measure garments in a mass scale. Kalon's online platform also allows an instant virtual try-on of all styles at Kalon, carefully selected from international designers, on customer's personal 3D avatar with their own face and body measurements.

Prior to Kalon, Tang founded an alternative investment advisory firm which provides creative solutions to unusual challenges. He has a wide range of experience including assisting a purchase of toxic assets over RMB2 billion, providing corporate restructuring solutions directly to the CEO and management of a mainboard listed Hong Kong company, raising funding over HKD30 million for a corporate and advising on a HKD6 billion alternative-investment project.

Tang is an adventurer that never stop chasing his boundaries. After graduating from London School of Economics, he spent one year exploring the world and working as a builder in Jordan, shepherd in Israel, racehorse rider in Ireland, beekeeper in the US, reindeer herder in Finland and more. He has travelled to 46 countries including a 2,000 km hitch-hike from Turkey to Czech and travelling from Portugal to Hong Kong all the way by train.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Alex THOMAS**

Vice President, Manufacturing Excellence & Technical Services  
VF Asia Ltd

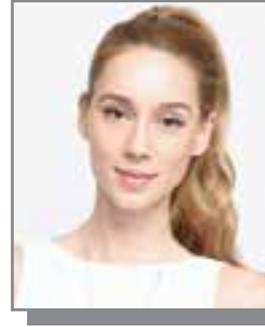
Mr. Alex Thomas has spent his professional life between Europe and Asia working with various brands and retailers. After graduating in Chemistry and his BTEC in Footwear Design & Technology from LSFC in the UK, he then proceeded to obtain his Post Graduate degree in Leather Chemistry. Thomas' interest in globalisation of businesses led him to the Hong Kong University of Science & Technology (HKUST) where he graduated with an MBA in 2012.

In the 1990's, Alex was based in Switzerland, India, Denmark and the UK working with various European brands. In 2002, Alex moved to China to work with K-Swiss where he has led the company's portfolio of brands in China and SE Asia in many functions from Design and Development through to Operations, Production and Quality over a 10-year-period. In 2012, Thomas joined VF as the General Manager for Quality and Operations for the Footwear division.

Thomas is currently based in Hong Kong leading the Engineering / Manufacturing Excellence teams. Prior to his role in Engineering, he was involved in leading the PRIDE program, VF's global quality initiative.

Thomas' teams are responsible for leading Advanced Manufacturing Partnerships along with the sourcing groups at VF and key partners across Asia, Africa and the Dominican Republic. The North Star Program that his teams are working on looks at the future of manufacturing covering lean methodologies and automation. Thomas also leads VF Asia's 3D / Digital Product Creation teams.

## Speaker Profiles



### **Ms. Boryana UZUNOVA**

Co-Founder

MorphX and KoutureKapsule

After dropping out of school at just 14 years, Ms. Boryana Uzunova moved to Asia, first to Tokyo and then Hong Kong to work in fashion for brands ranging from Dior to Adidas. Later, she attended the London School of Economics and the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, from where she holds degrees in Global Business, Tech Innovations and Politics as a top scholar. Throughout her studies, Uzunova worked as a transaction analyst at Ernst and Young and later at Harris Williams & Co. boutique investment bank in London.

Whilst learning a lot from the corporate world, Uzunova's true passion lies in making the nexus between fashion and technology. Her ultimate goal is to revolutionise the way we shop, so that everyone gets a unique and perfectly fitting piece of apparel, in a way that is also good for the world.

Co-founding MorphX in 2014 and KoutureKapsule in 2018, Uzunova and her diverse team of techies, anthropometritians and fashionistas have developed a state-of-the-art fitbot, body-analysing algos and a high-end marketplace, which together make it possible for a new era of on-demand custom production to exist at the ease of a few clicks.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Alex W H YOUNG**

Group CEO

TexRay Industrial Co Ltd

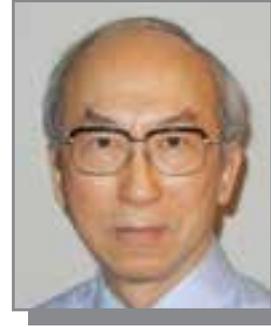
Mr. Alex W H. Young is Group CEO of TexRay Industrial Co, Ltd, a vertically integrated textile group publicly listed in Taiwan. Young has over 30 years of extensive technical management, academic and consultancy experience with leading textiles and apparel companies and universities.

Young graduated from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University with a degree in Textile Technology. He also holds an MSc from the University of Stirling, UK and a Master of Advanced Business Practice from the University of South Australia.

He is an advisor to the Taiwan Garment Industry Association, an advisor of the Taiwan Textile Industry Promotion office, IDB, MOEA, a Deputy Convener of the Taiwan Smart Textiles Alliance (TSTA), and Member of the Textile Industry Development Committee, Taiwan Textile Research Institute (TTTRI). He is a Member of the Hong Kong Institution of Textile and Apparel and has been qualified both as a Licentiate of the Textile Institute (UK), also as an Associate of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (UK).

Young has served as the Honorary Secretary of the Hong Kong Institution of Textile and Apparel and also the Textile Institute, Hong Kong.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Francis YÜK**

Senior Advisor, Asia & North America,  
Inspection & Quarantine Technology Centre  
Guangdong Entry-Exit Inspection & Quarantine Bureau

Mr. Francis Yük is currently the Senior Advisor with Guangdong Entry-Exit Inspection & Quarantine Bureau, China (CIQ), Inspection & Quarantine Technology Center. After retirement, Yük became an international consultant with global firms and financial investment industries.

Prior to his retirement, Yük was Chief Representative of Asia of the International Apparel Federation (IAF) headquartered in Netherlands, Senior Vice President of the Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production (WRAP). He was CEO of the French quality assurance firm, SgT, and President of Intertek Testing Services, Supply Chain Division.

Yük has worked in textile, clothing manufacturing, international trade, consumer product laboratory, quality audit industries for over 40 years. His passion is to help improve working conditions and the environment.

Yük graduated from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, and University of Leeds, UK with a MSc degree in Textile Technology and Fiber Science. Yük did post-graduate research at the Cotton Incorporated Research Institute in Raleigh, North Carolina. He is an ISO 9000 certified auditor, fellow of the Textile Institute, and fellow of the Institute of Management.

Yük has worked, lived and travelled in Far East, Europe and the US. He has participated and was a speaker of consumer product, textile safety and social responsibility conferences in the US, Canada and most Asian countries.

# Speaker Profiles



## **Mr. Adi ZUKERMAN**

Vice President, Supply Chain & Operation  
Helly Hansen

Mr. Adi Zukerman has over 15 years of experience in the retail, consumer goods and apparel industry as a management consultant at Kurt Salmon and with corporations, such as Cabela's and Helly Hansen. His experience spans driving transformational projects with global organisations focusing on technology, business process or organisational changes. After having worked in the US, he is now responsible for leading Helly Hansen's Far East Supply Chain Office and is currently based in Hong Kong.

Zukerman's expertise is bringing a strategic mindset with broad skillsets in analytics and technology to operational challenges. Under his leadership, Helly Hansen is undergoing a digitalisation of its supply chain to enable visibility and analytics.

Prior to working with Helly Hansen, Zukerman lead Cabela's, a North American outdoor retailer, private brand product development and sourcing departments. At Cabela's he focused on speed to market, production management, inventory effectiveness and supply planning.

Prior to Cabela's, Zukerman was a Senior Manager with management consulting firm Kurt Salmon. He led the Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) Services within the Product Development and Sourcing group.