Independent intelligence on fund director issues

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The NED's Risk Forum launched

The NED has hosted its first Risk Forum. The aim of the Risk Forum is to encourage the industry to focus on this topic, and to see if a consensus can be reached on how boards should exercise their risk supervisory responsibilities. Few directors know what risk skills or tools they need – including in Ireland where boards have risk directors.

Few would doubt that risk supervision is becoming an ever more important part of a fund board's responsibility – especially in Europe since the arrival of AIFMD. This is a topic that The NED has covered a number of times in the past but has now decided to do something about it.

The Risk Forum will take the form of sessions at NED events as well as more articles on this topic in future and possibly also the circulation of papers to interested in parties on risk supervision.

As has been mentioned before in The NED, fund boards need to be able to demonstrate that they have robust and well established risk supervisory functions in place for investors and regulators. This point particularly applies to directors in EU fund jurisdictions.

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The NED's director selection survey is underway

The NED, in collaboration with IFI Global's research department, has just started the fieldwork for what it believes is the first ever global survey of fund director selection. The fieldwork finishes in late September. The survey results will be presented at events hosted by The NED and IFI Global in London on September 27 and in New York on October 6.

All forms of alternative manager (particularly hedge fund, infrastructure, private equity and real estate managers) are being surveyed. Advisors to fund managers on board appointments, especially lawyers, are also being surveyed. And The NED is including stockbrokers (those involved in PE fund board selection), service providers and others that have an influence on board appointments in the sample too.

The survey questionnaire can be found on pages 7 & 8 of this issue. Please e-mail Simon Osborn <u>osborn@ifiglobal.com</u> if you are a board appointment influencer and would like to be included.

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