

Bookings open for TMA Europe's Distressed Investing Conference 2016

TMA Europe will host its fifth annual event dedicated to the distressed investing market in London this September.

Some of Europe's leading turnaround experts are being lined up to take part in the Distressed Investing Conference on Wednesday, 28 September, for which bookings are now being taken.

This year's event is called Gridlock or Opportunity, and will focus on where the distressed debt market is going and what buyers, sellers and advisory professionals need to know to best handle it.

Alan Tilley, a TMA Europe board member, said previous conferences had focused on €1 trillion and rising of European NPLs and the opportunity for the restructuring profession, but that actually little progress had been made, meaning it was now time for some lateral thinking and to explore other avenues of opportunity.

Mr Tilley said: "Portfolio offerings have been short on the depth of information buyers need to commit their money and in many cases the banks' ability to sell at realistic rates is hampered by inadequate provisions. The bid offer spread gap is too great and time will not heal bad management performance.

"Lateral thought is definitely required. If it can't be by increasing the provisions it must be by increasing the underlying value of the loans. Corporate performance enhancement is not a quality one associates with banks so it will be left to the service platforms buying the debt to add that value. This is an opportunity for a marriage of funds' cash with turnaround professional expertise."

Mr Tilley, who will chair a panel debate at the event, said the conference would specifically focus on how the funds were responding to this opportunity, what lessons have been learned to date and how this impacts on the evolving tools that restructuring professionals need to have at their disposal.

Petr Smutny of PwC Prague will chair a panel on NPL status with a focus on corporate loans in South and East Europe. Panellists from leading funds and banks will give their practical insight on where the action is and where opportunities lie for professionals.

The evening's keynote address will be given by Robert Scach, Managing Editor of Debtwire Europe, and John Willcock, Editor of Global Turnaround, will sum up the event's discussions adding an independent journalistic insight to the practitioners' comments.

The event is being hosted by Taylor Wessing at its offices on 5 New Street Square. It will run from 4pm until 8pm.

For full details or to book online see <http://www.tma-europe.org/events/distressed-investing-conference-2016.asp>