

TMA UK NETWORK OF WOMEN INAUGURAL EVENT

The TMA Network of Women (**NOW**) originally started by TMA Global in the USA is the premier business development and networking group for women in the Turnaround, Restructuring and Transformation community globally.

TMA NOW was created to help connect the industry's leading women, provide opportunities for leadership development and improve networking skills.

The **TMA UK Chapter** held an inaugural meeting of the TMA NOW UK on the 3rd of December 2015 to establish a Network of Women programme in the **United Kingdom**. The objective of establishing this group is to provide value for TMA women members through targeted networking, leadership and educational opportunities.

The invitation was extended to TMA women members of whom there are 25 and to non TMA women members in the Transformation, Turnaround and Restructuring community. The turnout was excellent with 45 women in attendance. All with varied backgrounds.

The message that we were keen to convey when opening the event is that TMA is a professional body which encompasses a broad range of experienced talent in the Turnaround, Restructuring and Transformation community. The attendees at the NOW event included turnaround managers, restructuring lawyers, accountants, valuation experts and women who lead networks in their restructuring firms. The benefit of TMA NOW in this community is that networking amongst women in the different professions, but with the same industry focus, presents career and work opportunities in addition to educational opportunities.

Towards the end of the initial networking and breakfast, we arranged into small groups to discuss what types of events would be of value to members. A representative from each group summarised their discussions. The feedback was excellent with ideas ranging from educational events, case study workshops through to social events such as flower arranging and food and wine tasting. Following the event we received many emails giving very positive feedback.

We also took the opportunity to discuss the ECTP, the European Certified Turnaround Professional Qualification which will be launched in 2016. This qualification is designed to further improve education in the industry.

So where do we go from here? We asked for volunteers to establish a committee and were overwhelmed to find that 14 volunteers came forward. We will be holding our first Committee meeting on the 12th of January 2016.

We intend to make sure the TMA NOW UK profile is maintained not only through holding regular events, but also by ensuring there are thought leadership articles published on the TMA UK and TMA Europe Website.

The invitees were based on TMA members and personal contacts so if you know of anyone who did not receive an invitation but would be interested in joining or finding out more please ask them to get in contact with [Jo Holland](#). We are reaching out to women in our industry to get engaged with TMA NOW UK so please do contact me for further information and/or thoughts.

The event was kindly hosted by Weil Gotshal & Manges LLP.