



## Morison KSi's new Chair and Vice Chair

Paul Wan has been elected Chair, and Mark Baran Vice-Chair, of the Morison KSi Limited Board of Directors, on the retirement of the current Chair Jean-Pierre Larroze who has retired from his firm Aplitec in Paris, a founding member of the association. Jean-Pierre was Chair from 2001 to 2015, and from 2019 to his retirement. He will continue to act as a Special Adviser to the association's African regional Board.

Jean-Pierre commented: *"I am very happy to see such passionate and dedicated professionals taking the lead of our association. Paul and Mark will for sure bring their talent, their energy and their enthusiasm but also their wisdom to the International Board"*.

Paul, founder of Paul Wan & Co, Singapore, has played a key role in the development of the association for almost 30 years and has made an immense contribution to the Asia Pacific region. Prior to his appointment as Chair, Paul was Vice-Chair as well as Chair of the Asia Pacific Board since its establishment in 1992. Paul is the first Asian to chair a global association founded and based in the West. His professional profile is attached.



*Paul Wan, new Chair of Morison KSi*

Mark Baran, Principal, Corporate and M&A Tax Practice Leader at Marks Paneth LLP, New York, has been actively involved with Morison KSi for the past 5 years. He was appointed to the Morison KSi Board in 2018. Mark served on the association's committees for the appointment of directors to the association's regional Boards and the recruitment of senior personnel. Mark's professional profile is attached.



*Mark Baran, new Vice-Chair of Morison KSi*

Paul and Mark look forward to working together, with CEO Memoria Lewis, to successfully implement and deliver the association's strategy.

On his election Paul said: *"Firstly, I would like to thank Jean-Pierre on behalf of the association for his many dedicated years of leadership, hard work and friendship."*

*I am delighted to have been elected Chair on the 30th anniversary of the founding of our association. We have come a long way in 30 years. Be assured that I will use my best endeavours to lead our association to the next stage of our ambitious strategic plan.*

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# Morison KSi

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**21 September 2020**  
*Continued...*

*Our business and daily lives have changed tremendously over the past few years by the rapid development in technology. We all have to embrace these changes, and our association will continue to develop and implement skill sets to keep pace with technological changes.*

*Covid-19 has brought new challenges to our personal, business and professional lives. However, with challenges come opportunities. With our CEO and leadership team, I will work with members to seize these opportunities”.*

*On his election Mark said: It is a great honour to have been elected Vice-Chair of the Board of Morison KSi. I look forward to helping the Board continue to fulfil its mission and become an even greater resource for Morison KSi members across the globe.”*

On behalf of the Morison KSi Directors, the GEO and member firms, we would like to congratulate Paul and Mark on their elections.

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Morison KSi is a global association providing quality, border-free professional services. Our 150 members are dynamic, ambitious and independent firms, specifically chosen because of the quality and energy of their people and practice. Together, we offer partner-led and cost-effective global reach across over 75 countries, representing a combined revenue of US\$956m.

 **Building Better  
Business Globally** | 

**Paul Wan**  
**Founder of Paul Wan & Co**

**Chair of the Board of Directors of Morison KSi Limited –  
17 September 2020**

**Achievements, leadership and management attributes**

- Led in the establishment and development of a sustainable professional practice, from scratch, in a fiercely competitive environment, to be among the top 2% of professional accountancy practices in Singapore.
- Significant contribution to the development of Morison KSi, particularly in Asia Pacific. Skilled in international environments and relationships as whole of his professional career was in the international arena.
- Leader by vision combined with action to implement commitments and build sustainable relationship based on trust and performance.
- Directly responsible for bringing a landmark change to the Korean Stock Exchange to permit local South Korean firms to undertake IPO of non-Korean companies on Korean Stock Exchange. Before this change only the big four were permitted to undertake IPO work for non-Korean companies to list on the Korean Stock Exchange.
- Recognised as a leading professional and strong advocate of governance by the Singapore government.



**Role in development of global association** - Morison International (MI) and Morison KSi

- Established cross-border association with KS Heng & Co (now Morison Heng) in Hong Kong in 1988 and Morison Stoneham (founder member of MI) in the UK in 1989.
- Led in the establishment of Morison Asia Pacific in 1992 with KS Heng and Stephen Chang following the founding of MI in 1990. Due to lack of resources in MI, Paul Wan & Co, together with KS Heng & Co, funded the development of the Asia Pacific region in the early years.
- Prior to the merger of MI and KSi in 2016, recruited all member firms of Asia Pacific other than firms in Australia, Dubai and a member firm in India.
- Together with KS Heng, led in the recruitment of firms in China and the establishment of high-level brand recognition of “Morison” with the China Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
- From 1992 to the recruitment of a CEO of MI in 2008, led the development and implementation of major benefits for member firms of MI including the publication of the members’ directory, newsletter, audit and other professional and practice management manuals, and successful cross-border bid for international assignments amongst member firms.
- Participated and assisted in the establishment of MI Africa region. Chair of Asia Pacific region since its establishment in 1992. Board member of Morison KSi (successor to MI) since 2001.

**Appointments and experiences outside the professions**

- Acted as an independent director (some appointments confirmed by the Singapore Prime Minister) of multinational companies in Singapore, where some of them are listed on the Singapore Stock Exchange.

## Paul Wan professional profile

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- Adjunct lecturer at the National University of Singapore, senior lecturer at the Singapore Management University and Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants for almost 15 years. Overseas lecturer for the Executive MBA Programmes of the Jinan University Guangzhou, a top 10 University in China for almost 9 years.
- Regular speaker and writer on the Asia Economies. Delivered lectures in many parts of the world, including Paris (organised by La Tribune and other financial press on 6 occasions), Australia, Taiwan, Shanghai, Beijing, Guangzhou, Seoul, Tokyo, Mumbai, New Delhi, Dubai, Buenos Aires, Montevideo, San Jose and London.
- Written in many accountancy journals, magazine and newsletters including for the ACCA. Written many training manuals. First author of the financial accounting manual “Advanced Accounting Practice Manual (Singapore)” published by UK BPP Accountancy Tuition for the ACCA’s examinations in Singapore.

### Professional career

- Employed in KPMG offices in London and Singapore – 1982 to 1986. Specialized in audit of banks, financial services and multi-national listed companies.
- Established Paul Wan & Co in Singapore in 1986 with 2 colleagues; managing partner from 1986 to present time. Paul Wan & Co is now a top 15 firm out of a total of 920 CPA firms in Singapore with 6 partners and principals with about 60 staff.
- 70% of clients are listed or subsidiaries of listed companies on stock exchanges in China, France, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea and the US.
- In-depth expertise in shipping (global shipping groups with 60 companies), media, film, post-production, oil and gas, mining and commodity industries.
- Listed 18 clients on the Singapore stock exchange. Taken clients to cross-border listings in South Korea, Taiwan and the US.
- Trained and qualified as a Chartered Accountant (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales) in London in 1982.

**Mark Baran JD, LLM**  
**Principal, Tax Department, Tax Practice,**  
**Marks Paneth, New York, USA**

**Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of**  
**Morison KSi Limited – 17 September 2020**

### **Professional role and expertise**

Mark Baran is a Principal, Corporate and M&A Tax Practice Leader at Marks Paneth LLP. He has more than 25 years of experience representing private entities, public and private multinational corporations, partnerships, high net-worth individuals and government agencies on a wide variety of tax transactional and legal matters.

As a member of Marks Paneth leadership, Mark is responsible for delivering, implementing and leading initiatives, strategic client relationships, and technical and business development activities.

Mark's career encompasses Big Four public accounting, large law firms, the public sector and the banking industry. He has worked extensively with companies in various industries including banking, debt funds and private equity, financial services, professional, scientific and technology services, real estate, pharmaceuticals, media and entertainment, manufacturing and government contracting. Mark is a subject matter expert for matters relating to implementation of various complex tax laws, M&A, tax structuring, passthrough entities and financial or lending transactions.

Mark provides specialized tax consulting services to a broad spectrum of clients and industries and other activities. His role includes:

- Leading Mark's Paneth Corporate and M&A Tax Services that includes transaction structuring, M&A planning, corporate acquisitions and reorganizations, tax and legal due diligence, capital and financing transactions.
- Serving as Marks Paneth's resource in the areas of intellectual property, expert witness and forensic support, high-profile tax audit controversies and appeals, tax administration, and specialized cross border transactions.
- Managing and supervising the delivery of domestic and international tax compliance services, government contracting, tax audits and controversy, lending transactions and payment obligations, tax information reporting, expert witness support, and forensic review.
- Advising foreign-based multinational clients and governments in developing countries on the design and implementation of tax and fiscal reform programs.
- Developing and delivering strategic firmwide initiatives including domestic and international exposure, brand, content, publications, media coverage and national training.

### **Achievements**

Mark's achievements and distinguished career encompasses public accounting, the public sector, private legal practice and as an industry advocate and expert.

Prior to joining Marks Paneth, Mark was a managing director in the national tax office and a federal practice tax leader for Deloitte Tax LLP. Mark also practiced law at a prominent law firm in Washington DC, served as a director and senior tax counsel for the American Bankers Association, and worked as a senior attorney for the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.



He is a frequent author and speaker and teaches advanced tax courses at industry and practitioner events and universities including courses at the George Washington University Law School and Stonier Graduate School of Banking (University of Pennsylvania - Wharton School).

Mark participated on numerous governmental and industry programs and international committees and appeared before several federal courts including the US Supreme Court, US Tax Court and the US Federal Court of Appeals. He also developed policy, technical positions and recommended solutions before the U.S. Congress, the Administration, the federal court system, regulatory agencies and international organizations.

### **Leadership role and style**

Mark as a member of Marks Paneth's leadership is the principal contact of Morison KSi and the firm's Corporate and M & A Tax Practice leader. He performs many of the firm's external activities oftentimes as the "face" of Marks Paneth.

Mark's leadership style is collaborative, consultative and inclusive. He is effective at relationship building, developing trust, and consensus building.

### **Morison KSi**

Mark has been directly actively involved with Morison KSi in the past 5 years, representing Marks Paneth and presenting at both international and regional conferences.

He was appointed to Morison KSi board in 2018, served as a member of the board's nomination committee and was appointed by the board as member of the CEO recruitment committee.

Mark is a strong advocate of good governance and holds the view that good governance is a key pillar for success and sustainability of any organization. He has ambitious aspirations for, deep and passionate commitment to the on-going success of Morison KSi.

### **Education and qualification**

University of Florida, Bachelor of Arts  
Samford University Cumberland School of law, Juris Doctor  
Emory University School of Law, Master of Laws (LL.M.) - Taxation

Professional Memberships: Florida Bar Association; State Bar of Georgia; District of Columbia Bar Association and American Bar Association Tax Section

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