



LEADING GLOBAL TRADE FINANCE MARKET ASSOCIATIONS JOIN FORCES

ITFA (<u>www.itfa.org</u>) is pleased to announce that it has joined forces with The Association of Trade and Forfaiting (ATFA) under a transition agreement effective 31st December 2019. With that agreement, ATFA will operate as "ITFA Americas" and become ITFA's Regional Chapter for the Americas (AMRC).

This is an exciting milestone for both associations, their respective board members, and most importantly, you, our members! Our greatest asset has always been our membership and by joining forces with ITFA Americas we have taken a huge step towards improving our international scope and asset quality.

The combined associations, backed by their collective experience and expertise, now nearly cover the globe, with members in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Australia, and the Americas. Through ITFA's network of Regional Committees and ITFA Americas, we are positioned to provide more value-added offerings and opportunities, including a wider range of educational events and seminars, all designed to foster business relationships through and for the benefit of all members.

Sean Edwards, ITFA's Chairperson stated: "This brings under one roof two highly complementary trade finance institutions. We have worked together frequently over the years and this step was long overdue. The synergy and benefits for all our members will be clear as we roll out our creative energy and ability to find solutions ever more globally and with greater ease. What a way to start off the new decade with a bang! We look forward to welcoming ITFA Americas' members to our growing association".

Lynn Galkoski, newly elected to ITFA's Board and Chair of ITFA Americas, also expressed her enthusiasm saying that "for me, it's always been a global vision. When I was elected ATFA president, we were strategic about assembling a board that, for example, knew corporates, knew Latin America, and understood the enormous potential at hand to add even more value for our membership. Joining forces with ITFA with its strong brand and expanding into Latin America are two major steps toward bringing that vision to fruition. We have a great passion for this organization and look forward to the exciting future ahead of us".

With nearly 300 combined members our association is stronger now than ever before and with a truly global footprint. Stay tuned for more!

For more information on ITFA's activities in the Americas, please contact the AMRC Advisory Board Members via the AMRC link on www.itfa.org:

- AXA XL Javier Gomez
- BNY Mellon Lynn Galkoski (Chair)
- Banksville Partners Hernan Narea
- EIA Global Hernan Mayol
- FCIA Nasrin Nourizadeh
- Feijo Lopes Advogados Lucio Feijo Lopes
- HSBC Bank USA, N.A. Luis Torres
- Mizuho Bank Limited Diana Bustamante
- QBE North America Harpreet Mann
- Wagner International Joseph Wagner
- Wells Fargo Bank N.A.- Brendan Herley