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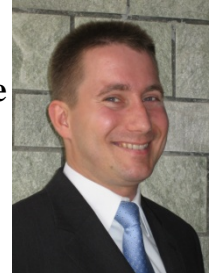
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**Telfer School of Management
and CGA-Canada Accounting and Governance Research Centre**

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES

Professor Dr. Michael Dobler
Dresden University of Technology, Germany



Michael Dobler is Professor of Accounting, Auditing and Taxation at the Dresden University of Technology, Germany. His research interests focus on the interaction of incentives and regulation in international financial accounting, risk disclosure, auditing and corporate governance. Michael's work has been published in a variety of international and national journals such as Business Strategy and the Environment, International Journal of Financial Services Management, Journal of International Accounting Research, The International Journal of Accounting and Zeitschrift für betriebswirtschaftliche Forschung. He serves as a Member of the Editorial Review Board at The International Journal of Accounting.

Topic: «Auditor-Provided Non-Audit Services in Listed and Private Family Firms»

Abstract:

This paper is the first to investigate the extent and the consequences of the joint provision of advisory services – i.e., non-audit services – by auditors to family firms. We exploit the German setting, where family firms are a backbone of the economy and differential audit fee disclosure has recently become available for private firms. For a sample of listed and private family firms, we show that auditors are a typical and significant source of various advisory services. As consequences of this wide-spread practice, we find weak evidence on threats to perceived auditor independence and support for beneficial knowledge spillovers between the services. While listed and private family firms do not differ with regard to the relative proportion of overall auditor-provided advisory services, comparative findings suggest that key threats and benefits of jointly provided services are more prevalent among private family firms. Results have implications for regulation, professional practice and research.