Asia Pacific digital tax technology solutions
**Sphere**

Adding value through our fully-integrated tax solution

Our complete approach to tax data management enables you to have access to timely and tax-ready data for reliable forecast, tax reporting and risk management.

Our intelligent automation capabilities in our proprietary tax technology Sphere platform empowers you to discover deeper insights through analytics and modelling capabilities, allowing you to make informed business decisions, giving your tax and finance functions a competitive edge in the game.

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**56%**

of companies are still using spreadsheets to support their provision process*. Significant level of manual process and lack of integration exists.

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Manage the present

Data management to new level.

Fully automated system can identify right source data from various formats and alert data issues for fixing, all done in real time.

Intellectual automation capabilities can generate ready-to-use tax returns and working papers.

Predict the future

Valuable analysis and oversight of the performance.

Ability to highlight tax risks, exceptions, showing to-do reminders. Free up your time to dive into deeper insights with rich visualisations, analytics and modelling for you to plan ahead.

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* Based on *Utilising technology to expand tax capabilities: Get started by envisioning the future*, a 2016 joint PwC Manufacturers Alliance for Productivity and Innovation survey.
Stay on top of China tax with our new information platform
Shui Jie

Key features

• **Regulatory updates** with remarks on the validity of each regulation for easy referencing.

• **Digital first:** It works wherever you need it and can be accessed and shared on mobile, website and social media.

• Quick **keyword search** and online note taking function.

• **Multiple languages support:** news and insights are available in Simplified Chinese, supplemented in English and Japanese.

Bring the best of our people, ideas and insights right at your fingertips

**Daily tax news**
Easy navigation of a library of China tax regulatory updates.

**Expert insights**
Access to our insights with detailed interpretation and analysis on China’s tax development over the past 10 years.

**Latest events**
A calendar of all-year-round tax events that users can register for and attend.

Web portal: https://taxnews.pwchk.com
About Comply First Time

Comply First Time gives you the power to automate all of your indirect tax compliance processes. Its modular approach allows you to choose which compliance processes to automate, with options including:

- BAS, including GST accrual accounting
- Payroll Tax
- Taxable Payments Annual Reporting
- Workers’ Compensation
- Flexible exception testing (used for tax, forensics and procurement purposes) and
- Contractor Management.

Further, the data analytics capability of Comply First Time can also be used to provide businesses with greater insight into risk management and business processes.

Key benefits of Comply First Time include:

- Indirect tax reporting onto a single platform with a consistent user interface.
- Automation of systems protects integrity of data and lowers risk of human error.
- Identify and address errors which may otherwise result in penalties and interest.
- Integrated process controls and detailed reporting audit trails.
- Automatic e-filing of returns.
- Optional customisation and dedicated reports.
Comply First Time

How it works

ERP system produces AP/AR/TB files

Data files read and automatically processed

Preliminary return calculation produced

Review and query results via interactive dashboards, reports and analytics tools

Automatic e-filing of returns with revenue authorities available

Backed by PwC

Comply First Time is the only indirect tax reporting solution owned by and fully supported by a specialist Big 4 tax team. Designed by indirect tax professionals, Comply First Time helps you automate processes across all of your indirect tax obligations, while simultaneously completing a wide range of quality assurance checks, from balance sheet reconciliations and long term trending to powerful and flexible data exception testing tailored to your business.

Comply first time

- Fully flexible and customisable exception testing for identifying errors in transactions, data integrity validation and management accounting analysis.
- Monitoring accounts payable efficiencies, including identification of duplicate payments.
- Review of operating disbursements, vendor management plus fraud and forensic capabilities.
- Optimising cash flow through effective management of supplier payments and GST.
Tax Insights and Diagnostics Engine (TIDE) Analytics

TIDE Analytics is our data visualisation solution to help you get unique actionable insights from your Tax data. It also enables you to present your view with an impact.

What is likely to happen?
- Predictive Analytics & Tax Planning

What we should be doing?
- Prescriptive Analytics, Tax Modelling

PwC partnering with you in your automation journey

Focus on value-adding activities
Free up resources
Health check
Process documentation
Time savings
Data Analytics

Benefits
Want to take the hassle out of reviewing or making data classifications for tax or accounting purposes or checking the integrity of previous classifications? PwC’s Swift is the answer.

Swift is PwC’s machine learning suite of automation tools that can analyse large sets of data and make virtually any type of determination or classification based on previously learned behaviour and feedback. Over time, Swift improves its ability to correctly make decisions, helping you to increase integrity and reduce burdensome tasks.

Unlike other data analytics and rules based software, Swift uses machine learning technology which enables continuous improvement in data classification without needing to be explicitly programmed. This means that Swift continues to get more accurate and efficient over time. Swift’s indifference to data volume makes it easy to analyse multiple data sets for which manual review and classification is prohibitive.

How can it be used?

Swift is capable of classifying virtually any data set making its potential application broad. Common use cases to date include classification of tax capital/revenue expenditure, work in progress allocations, and fringe benefit/entertainment expense categorisation.

How Swift works

- Data is uploaded into Swift
- Swift automatically classifies data
- Swift identifies unclassified data for review
- Output data ready for use

Features and benefits

- **Easy to install** – compatible with most ERP systems in terms of easy data extraction and using outputs.
- **Reduce pain** – significant reduction in operational processing times, operational risk, and human error through process automation.
- **Increased data integrity** – more reliable than human processes.
- **Continuous improvement** – an ongoing reduction in processing times and greater accuracy over time using machine learning algorithms.
- **Potential cash savings** – through correct and more accurate tax compliance.
**Ideas to consider**

The Tax Operations Manager technology is a powerful workflow tool to drive process improvement and transparency and dramatically transform a tax department’s efficiency. The technology platform sits on top of SharePoint™, and, unlike some other tax technology solutions, it’s a workflow, data management, and collaboration solution that leverages your organisation’s existing software investments. It can also be custom configured to your company’s needs.

**What value can you realize?**

- **Efficient use of staff and improved controls**
- **Improved quality of information**
- **Improved data collection and analytics**
- **Improved knowledge sharing and retention of institutional knowledge**

**How can we work together to achieve these values?**

- **A workflow solution that’s easy to use** – The workflow engine provides task and role features that can be used to effectively manage resources. The technology can be customized to meet specific tax needs, and is easy to learn and use, reducing change management hurdles.

- **Advanced integration** – The Tax Operations Manager technology serves as a process-based bridge between a company’s third-party provision and compliance software tools. It’s also a customer-hosted solution, eliminating the need for a software license.

- **Advanced reporting** – Tax Operations Manager can be configured to enable advanced reporting, score-carding, and forecasting — features that can elevate your company’s tax function value to the business. The technology’s scalable framework allows workflow and collaboration across the entire tax/finance/legal function.

- **A service-based approach** – Tax Operations Manager is not restricted by the functionality designed into a third-party tool; its flexibility allows it to provide efficiencies across the entire tax function. Because it’s built on a SharePoint platform, it uses an existing investment in Microsoft’s technologies and SharePoint’s robust document management capabilities.

- **Flexible deployment options** – Tax Operations Manager can be securely deployed within your existing SharePoint environment or hosted in the cloud by one of several third party hosting providers. Also, there are no ongoing maintenance fees for the use of Tax Operations Manager.
We frequently hear about Big Data, Digital Disruption and how analytics is changing the face of business.

These things are inherently recognised as being of critical importance, but what does this really mean for us in Tax?

Tax departments have for some time been heavy consumers of data, relying on reports provided and often defined by finance. As tax compliance and regulatory demands increase, the burden on the tax department has also increased. How do you gather, prepare and disclose more and more information, in shorter timeframes, to the business and to regulators, all whilst reducing costs?

Have you questioned just how much time you already spend on manipulating and preparing data? Is someone repeating the same manual data handling processes every reporting period? Have you considered how technology could make the process more efficient and free up time to focus on other value-adding tasks?

Automation, Visualisation, Discovery

Tax Data & Analytics Academy is an initiative intended to provide tax professionals with real and practical technology skills and to start you on a journey towards a more technology enabled and productive tax function.

This full-day workshop will give you practical experience in using automated data transformation tools such as Alteryx and data visualisation software such as QlikView, by working through a real-life case study to build an interactive tax management dashboard.

It also covers topics from the broader data domain, such as Extract-Transform-Load, data modelling, Robotic Process Automation and how a tax function might practically use some of these.

The Key Objectives

Attending an Academy will not make you an analytics expert, but it will give you exposure to a selection of software tools and techniques, that will allow you to then consider where automation and data visualisation might best be applied to your processes and reporting scenarios.

Its key objectives are to:

**Teach** - Increase your data literacy and gain new practical skills in data transformation and visualisation.

**Discover** - Put the tools into the hands of you the business user, without requiring IT expertise. See how using a data visualisation tool allows you to draw greater insight from your data to improve business decision making.

**Equip** – Understand more about third-party software products that can fill gaps in your tax/finance technology ecosystem; better preparing you to engage in transformation and technology discussions with vendors and/or internal service teams.
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