

American Benefits Council

Benefits Briefing Webinar: Benefit Plans & Global Governance

Wednesday, December 19, 11:00 a.m. to noon ET

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This is a reminder that the American Benefits Council will host a **Benefits Briefing webinar** on **Wednesday, December 19 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Time**, to discuss the results of the [2012 Corporate Governance of Global Employee Benefits Study](#), a landmark research project conducted by Aon Hewitt and [the American Benefits Institute](#) (the Council's research and education affiliate).

The study is based on insights from global benefits directors at 140 of the largest multinational companies based in the U.S. and Europe, including numerous in-person interviews. It examines increasing corporate involvement in benefit plan decisions made by multi-national companies' local operations to better understand what issues these companies face and actions they are taking at the corporate level. The study shows that more and more companies want to have a better line of sight and at least some control over the benefits decisions made by their local operations. While financial drivers play a big role, companies want to do this for a variety of other reasons, including managing reputational risks and resource constraints on the ground. "It appears that centralization of corporate benefits governance is already helping to mitigate the challenges of plan sponsorship by improving communication between headquarters and worldwide operations," Council President James Klein said in [a statement announcing the study's release](#). See the [October 11 Benefits Byte](#) for more details on the study results.

Lynn Dudley, senior vice president, policy, will moderate the call. She will be joined by **Amol Mhatre** of Aon Hewitt, who will report on the key findings on such topics as centralization versus non-centralization of benefits design, accommodating local legal requirements and corporate oversight of global compliance responsibilities.

A number of Council member companies participated in the survey on which the study was based. All companies who participated in the study are entitled to a complimentary, customized review to learn how their organization compares to the rest of the study population and explore the steps they can take to improve corporate governance policies.

Those participating companies who have not yet received their complimentary session can contact Stuart Harris at (312) 381-4895 or by e-mail at stuart.harris@aonhewitt.com. Members can also contact Stuart if they would like now to take part in the study, which remains open.