

7th annual virtual CPE conference agenda

All sessions are one hour duration, apart from the Ethics session on Friday, Nov. 13, which is a two-hour session.

Date	Time (ET)	Session title	Session overview	Presenter(s)
Monday, Nov. 9				
11/9	10:00 AM	Human judgment, machine speed: Rethinking strategic planning with AI	Learn how leaders can use AI to enhance strategic planning, accelerate scenario analysis, challenge assumptions, and navigate continuous change while maintaining the critical role of human judgment in decision-making.	Angelica Jacome, Rhian Thompson
11/9	12:00 PM	Priorities of the CFO: 2026 and beyond	Join an interactive discussion of the results of our most recent annual CFO survey, with a focus on AI value realization and governance, geopolitical and trade disruption, capital allocation and profitable growth.	Ashley Kegan, Michelle Search
11/9	2:00 PM	Beyond compensation: Strategic retirement and retention planning for today's workforce	Explore innovative retirement and executive benefit strategies that help organizations attract, reward, and retain key talent while supporting succession planning and long-term business objectives.	Joe Connell; Karl Willman, EPIC RPS
Tuesday, Nov. 10				
11/10	10:00 AM	Beyond the headlines: Managing today's toughest fraud risks in the middle market	Examine today's most significant fraud risks facing middle market organizations and walk away with practical strategies for identifying vulnerabilities, strengthening controls, and enhancing fraud risk management through real-world case studies and expert insights.	Laurence Talley, Kerri Urbanski, Deron Rossi
11/10	12:00 PM	Technology debt: The hidden cost of delaying IT modernization	Discover how technology debt impacts business performance and learn why legacy systems can increase costs, elevate risk, hinder cybersecurity and compliance efforts, and limit growth and transformation.	Jon Cole

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Wednesday, Nov. 11				
11/11	10:00 AM	The state of internal audit 2027: Emerging risks, priorities, and opportunities	Gain insights into the priorities, emerging risks, trends, and challenges shaping internal audit functions as organizations prepare for 2027.	Tim Lietz, Sargon Youmara, Veronika Fritz, Debra Moody, Kyle Johnson
11/11	12:00 PM	My capital project costs HOW much? Why construction audit is as important as ever.	Rising labor costs, material shortages, and budget pressures make construction audits more important than ever. Learn how project owners can maximize returns and strengthen oversight throughout the capital project lifecycle.	Branden Grove, Jason Boberg
11/11	2:00 PM	Five cyber realities every internal auditor must understand in 2027	Cybersecurity specialists will examine five critical realities organizations face today, including AI governance challenges, authentication weaknesses, supply chain risks, regulatory compliance gaps, and data visibility issues. Attendees will gain practical strategies to better understand emerging threats and strengthen cybersecurity posture.	Stephen Head, Elizabeth Ward, Kyle Johnson, Matt Schiavone, Peter Paul
Thursday, Nov. 12				
11/12	10:00 AM	Stop piloting AI. Start running the business differently.	Explore how organizations can move beyond AI experimentation to achieve measurable business outcomes by redesigning processes, aligning technology and operations, and creating a roadmap for scale.	Bridget Donnelly, John Hopkins, Jim Hejka
11/12	12:00 PM	Beyond compliance: A strategic framework for effective grant management and federal funding oversight	Through an interactive discussion, attendees will learn how proven governance, compliance, and internal control frameworks can strengthen grant management programs, enhance accountability, reduce risk, and protect funding eligibility.	Christopher Fejko, Laurence Talley, Sara McCormick
11/12	3:00 PM	Quantum and Q-day and why it should be on the C-suite radar	Understand why post-quantum readiness is becoming a business priority as advancements in quantum computing and evolving regulations reshape risk management, investment planning, and cybersecurity strategy.	Karlene Stecchi, Atul Apte

Date	Time (ET)	Session title	Session overview	Presenter(s)
Friday, Nov. 13				
11/13	11:00 AM	Helping your auditor maintain independence: Management responsibilities, affiliates, relationships & fees	This two-hour ethics session offers practical guidance on auditor independence, including management responsibilities, affiliate relationships, financial and employment interests, fee arrangements, and evolving regulatory requirements. Attendees will learn how to identify independence threats, apply appropriate safeguards, and navigate key ethics considerations affecting audit and attest services.	Chris Rabin