



Keynote address at Deacons 7th Annual Investment Products and Regulatory Forum

**Ashley Alder
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Mr Ashley Alder, Chief Executive Officer of the Securities and Futures Commission (SFC), delivered the keynote address at the Deacons 7th Annual Investment Products and Regulatory Forum on 21 May.

In the address, Mr Alder outlined the main factors which are turning Hong Kong into an unrivalled Asian fund management centre. Already, increasing connectivity between the Mainland and Hong Kong financial markets has transformed Hong Kong's role as an international financial centre and has also affected other key financial markets globally, he noted. The result is that Hong Kong is fast becoming a "superconnector" between the Mainland and the rest of the world.

The Mainland's opening of its capital account has been a key driver of these developments, Mr Alder continued. Connections between Hong Kong and Mainland markets have multiplied



Renminbi internationalisation

The driver behind these developments is renminbi internationalisation, which has created a virtuous cycle of stimulating cross-border capital flows to and from the Mainland, in Mr Alder's view. In a drive to rebalance its economy from an investment-driven model to one that is consumption-driven, the Mainland has been pushing for renminbi internationalisation since 2009. The Mainland's drive to rebalance its economy from an investment-driven model to one that is consumption-driven has been a key factor in the Mainland's push for renminbi internationalisation since 2009.