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Headlines

- US tax evasion fine spells demise of oldest Swiss bank p.16
- Improper disclosure on Facebook IPO costs Morgan Stanley $5m P.17
- Risk management tops audit committee list of concerns P.18

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Barclays bank chief tells staff to shape up or ship out!

The Chief Executive of Barclays Bank, Antony Jenkins, who took the helm of the huge corporate in August 2012 after the bank had weathered a number of scandals seriously damaging its reputation, has started the new year by telling staff that they should consider quitting if they d o not feel supportive of Barclay's new set of standards.

Barclays has been implicated, along with other UK banks, in a number of instances of mis-selling payment protection insurance, but the biggest impact on its reputation resulted from its involvement in the LIBOR interest-rate rigging scandal which cost the bank £290m in fines in June last year.

Jenkins, who took up his post after his predecessor stepped down in the wake of the LIBOR affair, has said that the adoption of new standards is crucial to rebuilding Barclay's reputation.

He is due to reveal details of the bank's strategic planning on 12th February 2013, but has said that setting new ethical standards is of equal importance to the bank's long-term success.

Mr Jenkins is facing an uphill struggle in his attempts to remodel Barclays' ethical culture.

Since last summer, the Financial Services Authority and the Serious Fraud Office have been investigating the terms of Barclays' emergency fundraising during the height of the financial crisis in 2008 with particular focus on fees it may have paid in relation to its bail-out deal.

This investigation has

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Sony receives third largest fine for data protection breach

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) has imposed a fine of £250,000 on the European arm of the PlayStation manufacturer Sony for breaches in network security on the company's PlayStation network.

The network is the online version of Sony's PlayStation which includes gaming and chat facilities amongst the entertainment options. Users can also use credit cards to buy games and rent movies.

The UK data protection regulator criticised Sony Computer Entertainment Europe for having out-of-date software on its network which rendered passwords insecure and allowed hackers to access the personal information of millions of Sony customers.

There was concern that credit card payment details may also have been unsafe, though there was no clear evidence that those details had been accessed unlawfully.

The fine imposed is the third largest handed down by the ICO which has the power to impose penalties of up to £500,000. To date the larger penalties have been reserved for breaches occurring in the financial services

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