newsletter

DFG ADVISORY · AI & FINANCE

9 April 2026

AI Is Changing How We Work — Not Why Clients Engage Us

Professional Judgment.
Enhanced by Technology.

Dear DFG Advisory Clients and Partners,

Welcome to this edition of the DFG Advisory newsletter. The rise of AI in financial services is reshaping how advisory firms operate — from compliance workflows to client reporting. At DFG Advisory, we've embraced these tools thoughtfully, ensuring they serve our clients without replacing the professional judgment that defines our work.

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From PayrollPro to the Way We Work Today

Earlier this year, we shared why DFG built PayrollPro: our team could not find a system that properly addressed the multi-jurisdiction payroll requirements we manage for clients.

But PayrollPro was also the beginning of something broader.

AI has made it possible for finance professionals to build solutions around the way businesses actually operate — rather than always adapting their processes around the limitations of existing software.

At DFG Advisory, we are increasingly using AI this way: not to replace professional judgment, but to turn our accounting and operational experience into better processes, stronger controls and more useful tools.

From Calendar Reminders to a Compliance Control System

Managing clients across jurisdictions means managing very different obligations — from Singapore CPF, GST and annual returns to Dubai WPS and other regulatory deadlines.

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From Calendar Reminders to a Compliance Control System (Cont'd)

Previously, we relied heavily on calendar reminders. But that depends on someone correctly identifying, entering and acting on every deadline.

We wanted a stronger control.

Using AI-assisted development, including OpenAI Codex, DFG built an internal compliance management system around our workflow.

Each client's obligations and deadlines are mapped within the system. On the first day of every month, upcoming items for the next two months are identified, with alerts sent to both the person responsible and the department head.

The goal was not simply to replace a calendar. It was to reduce manual dependency, improve visibility and strengthen accountability.

AI helped us build the system. **Our professional experience determined what the system needed to control.**

Start With the Problem, Not AI

We don't start by asking: **"Where can we use AI?"**

We ask: **"Where is the process breaking down, and how can we make it better?"**

Sometimes the answer is AI. Sometimes it is automation. Sometimes the process itself needs redesigning.

Technology comes after understanding the problem.

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Professional Judgement Remains at the Centre. Our apporach ensures that AI enhances, never replaces, the expertise our clients rely on. Relationships, trust, and sound advice remain the foundation of everything we do at DFG Adivosry

Professional Judgment Remains at the Centre

AI can organise data, automate repetitive work, identify exceptions and help us develop tools much faster.

But finance still requires judgment.

Our professionals need to understand the client's business, recognise when something does not make sense, design the right process and controls, review outputs and remain accountable for the work delivered.

The human element is not only about client relationships. It is the professional experience behind the process, controls and decisions that determine how technology should be used.

Our Approach

Understand the business. Identify the problem. Design the right process. Use technology where it adds value. Keep professional judgment and accountability with our people.

For DFG, that is what AI-enabled finance looks like.