

AsiaRisk

TECHNOLOGY RANKINGS 2013

While the demands placed on banks' technology have changed rapidly, the choice of suppliers is less volatile. A host of regionally based players has appeared for the first time in *Asia Risk's* technology rankings but the list is still dominated by the established players. Clive Davidson reports

In a year in which Asian financial institutions have focused a good deal of energy on regulatory compliance, they have largely turned to their traditional suppliers to help them meet their compliance and reporting needs. In this context, it is not surprising that this year's *Asia Risk* technology vendor rankings look strikingly similar to 2012's results. This is not to say that there are no surprises, nor that there are no new names in the 2013 listings. The new category of best innovative specialist vendor introduces several vendors to the rankings, including the winner, Japan's Numerical Technologies.

Also, there was a battle for top place overall, with Paris-based Murex eventually beating London-based Misy's with an impressive set of results across all main sections. California-based Calypso Technology edged Pennsylvania-based SunGard to hold on to third place overall, while IBM Risk Analytics was dominant in the risk management categories to take fifth place overall again.

New innovation category

The strength of long-established vendors across the main categories might suggest that there is little room for new entrants, innovation or specialist local players in the trading and risk software market. To demonstrate this is not the case *Asia Risk* launched the best innovative specialist vendor category. Readers put forward a wide range of candidate local and international vendors across a spectrum of specialisations. The winning risk management software and consulting firm, Numerical Technologies, specialises in high-performance computing, parallel Monte Carlo simulation and advanced modelling. This focus on performance and handling of large data volumes is a key reason for its success at major Japanese institutions – clients include Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation, The Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group, Nippon Life Insurance, Sumitomo Life Insurance and MS&AD. In 2010, Numerical Technologies established an office in Singapore

to advance its research and development capabilities and to pursue growth opportunities outside Japan.

"There is continuous demand from clients to improve the accuracy and capability of their internal models," says Ai Matsuoka, manager, business development, at Numerical Technologies, who is based in Singapore. "This is not only to make the models capable of more realistic transaction-by-transaction simulation, but also to increase the number of Monte Carlo simulations to more than 100,000 iterations, or 1,000,000 in some cases. Our leading-edge skill is in this kind of number crunching." ●



Ai Matsuoka,
Numerical Technologies

Best innovative specialist vendor

2013	2012	Provider
1		Numerical Technologies
2		GFI Fenics
3		Opengamma
4		Fincad
5		AG Delta

Methodology

Asia Risk surveyed technology users in Asia in July and received 507 valid responses. Respondents were asked to nominate the companies that provide the best products across a range of categories covering: *risk management; derivatives pricing and risk analytics; trading systems; and support services*. Voters were asked to base their choices on the following criteria: functionality, usability, performance, return on investment and reliability.

In each category, respondents were awarded a percentage of the total vote. The top-fives of all 26 categories are published above. In the tables, companies were awarded points based on their placings in the individual categories, with three points for a first place, two points for a second place and one point for a third place.

Asia Risk verified the validity of votes and discounted invalid votes.