

**Economic Crime and Globalisation –
New Challenges for the Police**

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**Corporate Governance and Compliance - Effectiveness of In-
House Measures to Counter Economic Crime**

Abstract of the speech held by

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As a result of spectacular cases of corruption and illegal cartel agreements, the problem of economic crime has been brought into public awareness. The negative effects for the enterprises involved dominate the headlines. Meanwhile, a number of important multinational business companies have come in the focus of public prosecutors. It is against this background that compliance in enterprises has gained more and more importance.

Deutsche Bahn have recognized the necessity of a compliance organisation early enough to enforce rules and avoid offences committed to the detriment of the enterprise. As one of the first German business companies, Deutsche Bahn have stated their position in the public and consistently implemented efforts to fight economic crime and corruption.

Compliance has not only a preventive but also a repressive meaning. Its preventive effect comprises the training of employees, managers and other bodies as well as a targeted monitoring of internal business processes in order to counteract economic crime from the beginning. Some time ago, Deutsche Bahn have established an ombudsman system for the purpose of accepting anonymous leads - of company staff and external persons, e.g. business partners, as well - and of subsequently investigating these.

Moreover, a global electronic information system has been introduced this year which is also able to accept anonymous leads. Any incoming information is thoroughly checked and verified. The Chief Compliance Officer will then decide whether or not to initiate internal enquiries. All necessary legal steps against both, internal and external persons involved, will be arranged for to clarify the circumstances.

In practice, this combined system of prevention and repression has proved to be quite effective and successful.