STRICT COMPLIANCE

Strict compliance has been a perennial concern for document checkers, LC managers, beneficiaries, and other stakeholders in the LC process for some time as well as lawyers and courts. Uncertainty regarding the interpretation and application of this doctrine, coupled with a spate of various scenarios put forth in queries seeking ICC Opinions, has prompted the Executive Committee of the ICC Banking Commission to release a paper in 2016 on the Principle of Strict Compliance. Determining or defining precisely how strict the measure of compliance must be is not easy. In an effort to gain industry insights on the subject, IIBLP polled LC specialists around the world on a series of 16 questions. The overall results, equally enlightening and bewildering, suggest that reaching a definitive understanding of strict compliance may be as elusive a goal as ever.