



## China Investment Services

We are one of the largest and longest standing International law firms operating in China, with over 26 years of experience on-the-ground. We have led on a number of strategically important matters during this time, both inbound, for a number of Fortune 500 multinational companies; and outbound, working with our global colleagues to assist Chinese companies in the execution of their ambitious global growth strategies.

Our core China Investment Services team is comprised of 21 partners, supported by over 120 lawyers operating as one seamless team from across Beijing, Shanghai and Hong Kong. With over 26 years of on-the-ground experience, our team is at the forefront of regulatory developments and is fully equipped to manage the nuances involved in efficiently operating a growing business in China.

All of our fee earners are fluent in English and individuals speak Mandarin Chinese, along with a wide range of Chinese dialects, including Cantonese and Shanghainese. Our local team is further supported by our long established and embedded "China Desks" in both the U.S. and Europe.

We assist international clients with advice on all aspects of doing business in China, including: seeking potential business partners for joint projects in China; liaising with the central and local authorities to secure the necessary approvals and licenses; helping clients from various industry sectors set up business in China; and acting as an ongoing legal and tax advisor as needed.

Crucially, and unlike many other firms operating in China, we do not just focus on transactional work, but strive to support our clients across all of their day to day business operational needs including employment, intellectual property, litigation, regulatory / compliance / anti-bribery, restructuring and real estate. In this way, we act as a true partner to our clients in China.

### CAPABILITES

#### CHINA ADVISORY SERVICES

- General China regulatory and operational advisory
- M&A Tax advisory and post-acquisition integration
- Technology licensing and incentives

#### KEY CONTACTS

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#### RELATED SERVICES

- Corporate
- Finance
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Projects, Energy and Infrastructure
- Real Estate

#### RELATED SECTORS

- Financial Services
- Real Estate

- Tax & customs advisory (transfer pricing, income tax, indirect tax, individual investment etc.)
- Distribution / retail planning structures
- Restructuring of operations / investments
- Supply chain
- Employment
- Intellectual Property
- Commercial contracts and arrangements
- Real Estate acquisition and leasing
- Corporate service (set up and maintenance)

## CHINA TRANSACTIONAL SERVICES

- Mergers, acquisitions and dispositions
- Joint ventures and cooperation agreements
- Private equity and venture capital transactions
- Foreign / RMB funds

## EXPERIENCE

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- Advising Tesco in relation to all its real estate acquisition work in China including the structuring of its acquisitions.
- Advising Aegis Media in connection with the purchase of the remaining minority interest of Vision Advertising Holding Limited from Lin Jian Chao (management).
- Advising WPP in their acquisition of Sinotrust, a business research service in China.
- Advising Groupon Inc. in establishing its China's business venture, Gaopeng.com, with Tencent, and in the merger of Gaopeng with Ftuan, a leading online group-buying company invested in by Tencent.
- Advising Greenland Holdings of China in the purchase of a stake in the Brooklyn Atlantic Yards project, the largest commercial real estate development in the US to get direct backing from a Chinese company.
- Advising China Shipping Terminal Developments (Hong Kong) Co., Ltd, a subsidiary of China Shipping Group, on its acquisition of approximately 24% of issued shares in APM Terminals Zeebrugge NV, a company incorporated in Belgium from its major shareholder APM Terminals B.V. (a subsidiary of A.P. Moller Maersk).
- Advising Ping An Insurance Group, on its sale of a minority stake in the holding company of Yihaodian, a fast growing e-commerce business in China with over 24 million users across 100 cities in China, to Walmart Stores Inc for US\$700 million.
- Advising Fosun International Ltd in their acquisition of the largest insurer in Portugal for approximately €1 billion.

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### China further opens up its Financial Services sector

26 August 2019

On 20 July 2019, the Office of Financial Stability and Development Committee (Office) under the State Council published the Relevant Measures for Further Opening Up the Financial Sector (11 Measures).

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#### China's latest legislative step-up on Trademark Protection: Amendments to the Trademark Law effective from November 2019

1 MAY 2019

On April 23, 2019, the 10th Session of the 13th Standing Committee of the National People's Congress approved the amendments to the PRC Trademark Law.

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### **China Passes Foreign Investment Law**

11 APR 2019

On March 15, 2019, President Xi Jinping signed into law China's Foreign Investment Law (the "Law") that was passed by China's National People's Congress on the same day. The Law is to take effect from January 1, 2020.

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## **NEWS**

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### **DLA Piper continues to boost ASEAN capability with double partner hire in Bangkok**

3 April 2020

DLA Piper today announces it is strengthening its Southeast Asia team with the addition of partners Samata Masagee and Waranon Vanichprapa in Bangkok, Thailand. These are the firm's fourth and fifth partner hires in the region in recent months, following the appointments of Philip Lee, Vincent Seah and David Kuo in Singapore.

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### **DLA Piper lawyers named Acritas Stars**

10 March 2020

Acritas has named over 200 DLA Piper lawyers as 2020 Acritas Stars. Now in its fourth year, Acritas Stars highlights the stand-out lawyers in private practice as nominated by clients around the world. More than 3,000 senior in-house counsel feed into the nomination process to give a comprehensive view of highly recommended lawyers across the globe.

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### **DLA Piper only firm in top five for private equity, venture capital and M&A for third consecutive year**

25 February 2020

DLA Piper was the only firm to rank among the top five most active law firms for global deal volume in each of private equity, venture capital and M&A.

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### **DLA Piper advises GS Engineering & Construction in its EUR140 million acquisition of Danwood Holding from Enterprise Investors**

28 January 2020

DLA Piper advised GS Engineering & Construction, a leading global construction company based in South Korea, on the acquisition of 100% of the shares in Danwood Holding from Polish Enterprise Fund VII, a private equity fund managed by Enterprise Investors. The value of the transaction is EUR140 million.

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### **DLA Piper hires top M&A and private equity partner in Singapore**

22 January 2020

DLA Piper is strengthening its Corporate offering in Asia with the appointment of David Kuo as partner in its Corporate practice, based in Singapore.

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### **DLA Piper advises Hyundai/KIA Motors on its EUR100m investment in electric vehicles company Arrival SARM**

17 January 2020

DLA Piper's Emerging Growth and Venture Capital team has advised leading car manufacturer Hyundai/KIA Motors on its EUR100 million, Series A investment in Arrival SARM, a Luxembourg-based company focused on creating and designing state-of-the-art electric vehicles.

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### **DLA Piper tops list for global M&A deal volume for tenth straight year**

8 January 2020

For the tenth consecutive year, DLA Piper was the highest ranked legal advisor in the world for M&A deal volume, according to *Mergermarket's* league tables.

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### **DLA Piper advises Insilico Medicine on successful Series B funding**

17 October 2019

DLA Piper advised Insilico Medicine, a pioneer in next-generation artificial intelligence technology for drug discovery, on a successful US\$37 million Series B funding round to commercialize the validated generative chemistry and target identification technology.

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### **DLA Piper adviseert The Carlyle Group bij investering in HSO Group**

6 September 2019

DLA Piper heeft The Carlyle Group geadviseerd bij de investering in HSO Group. Het eigen vermogen voor de investering kwam van Carlyle European Technology Partners III Fund (CETP), een fonds van EUR635 miljoen dat investeert in technologiegerichte bedrijven in Europa en de VS.

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### **DLA Piper advises The Carlyle Group on its investment in HSO Group**

6 September 2019

DLA Piper has advised The Carlyle Group on its investment in HSO Group. Equity for the investment is provided by Carlyle European Technology Partners III Fund (CETP), a EUR635 million fund that invests in technology-focused companies in Europe and the US.

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### **DLA Piper advises Jaja Finance on its £530m acquisition of Bank of Ireland's UK credit card business**

12 July 2019

DLA Piper has advised digital finance company Jaja Finance Limited (Jaja) on the acquisition of Bank of Ireland's (The Bank) UK credit card portfolio.

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## **DLA Piper advises Tubi on IPO and ASX listing**

21 June 2019

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised Tubi Limited (ASX: 2BE) on its AUD48.5 million initial public offering (IPO) and listing on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX).

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## **DLA Piper bolsters Corporate practice with team of five new partners**

14 June 2019

Global law firm DLA Piper has significantly bolstered the strength of its Corporate practice in Australia with a team of five market leading M&A partners from Norton Rose Fulbright. Partners Shane Bilardi, James Stewart, Jyoti Singh, Chris Mitchell and Andrew Fiskens will join DLA Piper in the coming months.

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## **DLA Piper advises Ping An OneConnect on Virtual Banking License**

16 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has advised Ping An OneConnect VB (OneConnect) on its successful application for a virtual banking license granted by the Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA).

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## **DLA Piper advises Life360 on AUD820 million IPO**

14 MAY 2019

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised US tech company Life360 on its AUD820 million IPO and ASX listing – the largest IPO on the ASX this year and one of the largest tech debuts on the ASX ever in Australia.

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## **DLA Piper announces launch of Artificial Intelligence practice**

14 MAY 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Artificial Intelligence practice, which will focus on assisting companies as they navigate the legal landscape of emerging and disruptive technologies, while helping them understand the legal and compliance risks arising from the creation and deployment of AI systems.

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## **DLA Piper appoints new Head of Corporate for the Middle East, strengthening M&A capability**

13 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has appointed Will Seivewright as a partner and Head of Corporate for the Middle East. Will joins the firm's Dubai office from Baker McKenzie. His practice focuses on M&A (both public and private), joint ventures, corporate restructurings, private equity and venture capital transactions in the UAE, broader Middle East and internationally.

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### **DLA Piper grows Corporate/M&A practice in London with leading partner hire**

30 APR 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of Tracey Renshaw as a partner in its Corporate practice, based in London.

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### **DLA Piper advised on financing for US\$1.34 billion consortium acquisition in Beijing, China**

4 APR 2019

DLA Piper advised an institutional investor consortium on the financing of its US\$1.34 billion acquisition of Dinghao Electronics Plaza, a landmark mixed-use office and retail complex located in Zhongguancun, Beijing.

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### **DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2019**

1 APR 2019

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 77 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2019 in the United States and May 1, 2019 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 43 different offices throughout 20 countries.

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### **Advising General Electric in Indonesia**

25 MAR 2019

DLA Piper advised General Electric (GE) on two major deals for their transportation and distributed power businesses in Indonesia.

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### **DLA Piper advises Pengana Capital Group on IPO for innovative Pengana Private Equity Trust**

19 MAR 2019

Global law firm DLA Piper is advising fund manager Pengana Capital Group Limited (ASX: PCG) on its initial public offering (IPO) on the ASX of the Pengana Private Equity Trust (ASX: PE1), Australia's first global private equity listed investment trust (LIT).

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### **Advising Zetta Jet on foreign insolvency judgment in Singapore**

19 MAR 2019

DLA Piper acted as international counsel to Zetta Jet Pte. Ltd. (a Singapore-incorporated company) ("Zetta Jet") and others, as applicants, in a seminal judgment on the recognition of foreign insolvency proceedings under the UNCITRAL Model Law on Cross-Border Insolvency (as adopted in Singapore in 2017) (the "Singapore Model Law").

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### **DLA Piper advises China Ping An Insurance Overseas (Holdings) Co. Ltd. on investment in GDS Holdings Limited**

18 MAR 2019

DLA Piper represented China Ping An Insurance Overseas (Holdings) Co. Ltd. (Ping An Overseas) in entering into a definitive agreement to make an equity investment in the NASDAQ listed GDS Holdings Limited (GDS), a leading developer and operator of high-performance data centers in China. Ping An Overseas paid a subscription price of US\$150 million for convertible preferred shares in GDS.

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### **DLA Piper advises Merlin Entertainments on the A\$174 million sale of Australian ski resorts**

13 MAR 2019

DLA Piper has advised Merlin Entertainments, a global leader in location based entertainment, on the A\$174 million sale of its Australian ski resorts, Hotham and Falls Creek, to US ski resort operator Vail Resorts, Inc.

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### **DLA Piper advises Ping An on investment exit from Bigo**

11 MAR 2019

DLA Piper represented Ping An on its successful exit from its investment in Bigo Inc. (Bigo) in a buyout by NASDAQ listed YY Inc. (YY).

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### **DLA Piper advises Laureate on US\$28 million asset sale**

6 MAR 2019

DLA Piper has advised Baltimore-based and Nasdaq listed Laureate Education (NASDAQ:LAUR), the world's largest global network of higher education institutions, on the sale of Laureate's interest in Stamford International University (Stamford) to China YuHua Education Investment Limited (YuHua) (6169:HK).

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### **DLA Piper announces launch of Blockchain and Digital Assets practice**

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper announced today the launch of its Blockchain and Digital Assets practice, which will offer strategic advice on a global basis to address the needs of companies implementing blockchain technology solutions and creating and deploying digital assets.

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### **DLA Piper recognized as a leading private equity, venture capital and M&A firm in *PitchBook's* league tables**

19 FEB 2019

For the second consecutive year, DLA Piper was the only firm to rank as one of the top five most active law firms for private equity, venture capital and M&A deal volume in *PitchBook's* 2018 global league tables report.

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### **DLA Piper Advises Global Firm RPS on Acquisition of Corview**

6 Feb 2019

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised global professional services firm RPS on their AU\$32m acquisition of Australian advisory

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business Corview, strengthening its expansion across the Asia Pacific region.

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### **DLA Piper advises Samsung Electronics on its investment in Verimi**

1 FEB 2019

DLA Piper has advised Samsung Electronics on its investment in Verimi GmbH. Samsung Electronics joins a group of twelve international companies from a variety of industries. These include Allianz, Axel Springer, Bundesdruckerei, Core, Daimler, Deutsche Bahn, Deutsche Bank und Postbank, Deutsche Telekom, Lufthansa and Volkswagen Financial Services.

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### **DLA Piper advises fintech company Splitit on its IPO**

31 Jan 2019

DLA Piper advised global payment installment solution company Splitit Payments Ltd on its Australian Stock Exchange initial public offering this week.

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### **DLA Piper advises CIRCOR in US\$85 million sale of Reliability Services business to RelaDyne**

28 JAN 2019

DLA Piper represented CIRCOR International, Inc., a provider of flow control solutions and other highly engineered products for the industrial, energy, aerospace and defense markets, in the sale of its Reliability Services business to an affiliate of RelaDyne LLC for approximately US\$85 million.

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### **DLA piper advises Geophysical Sub-Strata on its US\$400m medium-term note program**

24 JAN 2019

DLA Piper has advised Geophysical Sub-Strata Ltd. on the establishment of a US\$400 million medium-term note program and US\$151.5 million drawdown of 8.0% guaranteed notes due in 2023. The program dealer was Phillip Securities.

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### **DLA Piper strengthens ASEAN Corporate and Finance offering with key partner hire**

21 JAN 2019

DLA Piper has strengthened its Corporate and Finance offering with the appointment of Philip Lee as a partner in its Corporate practice, based in Singapore.

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### **DLA Piper advises consortium on successful acquisition of PEXA**

21 January 2019

DLA Piper has advised a Consortium comprising Link Group, Commonwealth Bank of Australia and Morgan Stanley Infrastructure on its successful acquisition for PEXA. The electronic property settlements exchange was formed in 2010 out of a Council of Australian Governments initiative focused on the digital transformation of property conveyancing.

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## **DLA Piper tops *Mergermarket*, *Thomson Reuters* league tables**

9 JAN 2019

For the ninth consecutive year, DLA Piper earned the top legal advisor ranking globally for overall M&A deal volume, according to *Mergermarket's* league tables.

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## **DLA Piper sees flurry of fintech activity in 2018**

13 December 2018

The Australian fintech industry is set for strong growth in 2019 and 2020 according to DLA Piper as Data Republic – advised by DLA Piper - joins a trend of local fintech's undertaking successful venture capital backed funding rounds in 2018.

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## **DLA Piper advises Downer Group on the restructuring of its joint venture with Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems**

22 November 2018

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised Downer EDI (ASX: DOW) on the restructuring of its joint venture arrangements with Japanese-owned Mitsubishi Hitachi Power Systems.

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## **DLA Piper advises Webjet on purchase of Middle East headquartered Destinations of the World**

7 November

DLA Piper has advised Australian online travel business Webjet Limited on its US\$ 173 million purchase of UAE based Destinations of the World and related fully underwritten entitlement offer. Destinations of the World was sold by Abu Dhabi based private equity fund Gulf Capital.

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## **DLA Piper completes global compliance survey of initial coin offerings and securities token offerings**

6 NOV 2018

DLA Piper has completed a global compliance survey of initial coin offerings (ICOs) and securities token offerings (STOs), identifying how governments and agencies in more than 70 jurisdictions define, regulate and tax tokens and associated transactions.

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## **DLA Piper advises James Hardie Industries in its €400 million debut euro bond offering**

4 OCT 2018

DLA Piper represented James Hardie Industries, a global manufacturer and marketer of fiber cement products, in its €400 million debut euro bond offering.

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## DLA Piper grows Real Estate and Corporate team in Rome

24 SEP 2018

DLA Piper has added to its Real Estate and Corporate practice groups with three hires in Rome. Filippo Cecchetti, partner, joins together with Eleonora Laurito, legal director and Giulia Minetti Floccari, lawyer. All three hires come from Chiomenti Studio Legale where Filippo has worked as a partner since 2015.

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## DLA Piper appoints two directors in South Africa

12 SEP 2018

DLA Piper has strengthened its office in Johannesburg, South Africa with the appointment of two directors. Hendré Human joins the Corporate team from Webber Wentzel in Johannesburg, where he was a partner. Monique Jefferson joins the Employment team from Bowmans in Johannesburg, where she was a senior associate.

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## DLA Piper's Africa practice triumphs at Africa Legal Awards

11 SEP 2018

DLA Piper Africa is proud to announce that its Zimbabwean member firm, Manokore Attorneys, took home the 'African Law Firm of the Year - Small Practice' award at The African Legal Awards, which took place on Friday 7 September 2018 at The Wanderers Club, in Johannesburg, South Africa.

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## DLA Piper advises Baring Vostok on the acquisition of a minority stake in Belarusian software developer Itransition

23 AUG 2018

DLA Piper has advised Baring Vostok, a private equity fund investing in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States, on its acquisition of a minority stake in Itransition, a leading Belarusian software solutions developer and full-spectrum IT services provider.

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## DLA Piper advises Nickel Mines Limited on AU\$200 million initial public offering

20 AUG 2018

Global law firm DLA Piper advised Nickel Mines Limited (**NIC**) on its AU\$200 million initial public offering (**IPO**). NIC shares began trading on the Australian Securities Exchange (**ASX**) today and its market capitalisation at the offer price is AU\$486 million.

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## DLA Piper advises on one of the largest venture capital Series C fintech rounds in Southeast Asia

17 AUG 2018

DLA Piper has advised Experian, the Dublin-based global information services company, as lead investor, and responsAbility Investments AG (rAp) and Deutsche Investitions - und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG), as other investors, on the US\$28 million Series C investment in Singapore-based C88 Financial Technologies Group (C88). This is one of the largest venture capital Series C fintech rounds in Southeast Asia.

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## DLA Piper advises Helios Technologies on acquisition of Custom Fluidpower

13 AUG 2018

DLA Piper has advised Helios Technologies (Nasdaq: SNHY) on the 100% acquisition of Australian business Custom Fluidpower for AU\$35 million (approximately US\$26 million) on 1 August, 2018. The acquisition was funded using cash and shares of SNHY common stock.

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### **DLA Piper advises Avison Young in investment by Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec**

16 JUL 2018

DLA Piper represented Avison Young in connection with a CA\$250 million preferred equity investment in the firm by Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec.

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### **DLA Piper advised Morrison & Co on AU\$6 billion funds management transfer**

6 JUL 2018

DLA Piper has advised Morrison & Co (MCO) on the formal transition of its appointment as manager of Utilities Trust of Australia (UTA), effective 1 July 2018.

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### **DLA Piper bolsters Corporate practice with partner hire in Beijing**

4 JUL 2018

DLA Piper has strengthened its Corporate practice with the appointment of US capital markets partner Yang Ge in Beijing.

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### **DLA Piper Africa welcomes Zimbabwe member firm**

19 JUN 2018

DLA Piper Africa has announced that leading Zimbabwean law firm, Manokore Attorneys, is joining as the member firm in Zimbabwe.

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### **DLA Piper boosts London Corporate practice with major partner hire**

6 Jun 2018

DLA Piper today announces that Martin Nelson-Jones will be joining the firm as a partner in its Corporate practice, based in London.

Martin will be joining the firm from Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, where he was a partner since 2001 and served as co-head of their global infrastructure and transport sector group. He specialises in M&A and has worked across a range of sectors, including energy and infrastructure. Martin advises both corporates and financial investors.

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### **DLA Piper advises la Société d'Aménagement Zenata (SAZ) on landmark healthcare centre project**

29 MAY 2018

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DLA Piper has advised La Société d'Aménagement Zenata (SAZ), the entity in charge of the overall development of the Zenata Eco-City in Morocco, on the signature of a cooperation agreement with the Saudi German Hospital Group to develop a healthcare centre.

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### **DLA Piper to launch new office in Dublin with leading partner hire**

15 MAY 2018

DLA Piper today announces that it will be opening an office in Dublin, Ireland, alongside the hire of partner David Carthy. The new office will focus on the Financial Services, Technology and Life Sciences sectors initially.

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### **DLA Piper appoints Corporate partner Stefan Luke in Brisbane**

8 MAY 2018

Global law firm DLA Piper has appointed leading transactional lawyer, Stefan Luke, as a partner of the firm effective today, 8 May 2018.

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### **DLA Piper advises Allianz Real Estate on stake in up to AU\$500M property fund**

7 MAY 2018

DLA Piper is advising Allianz Real Estate on the investment into a portfolio of student accommodation facilities in Australia through the new Scape Australia Joint Venture 2 Fund. The fund will invest up to AU\$500 million, focusing on student accommodation facilities in Sydney and Melbourne, it may also invest in the Brisbane, Perth, Canberra and Adelaide markets.

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### **DLA Piper advises Beijing Enterprise Water Group on acquisition of TRILITY**

5 MAY 2018

DLA Piper advised BEWG International, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Beijing Enterprises Water Group, on its 100% acquisition of water utility service provider TRILITY by way of a competitive bid process.

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### **DLA Piper advised on Boscastle sale to Pacific Equity Partners**

2 MAY 2018

DLA Piper advised Boscastle Pastries and Foods on its sale to Patties, owned by Pacific Equity Partners.

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### **DLA Piper advises Waterlogic on Billi Group acquisition**

30 APR 2018

DLA Piper has advised Waterlogic on its 100% acquisition of Melbourne-headquartered Billi, a leading designer, manufacturer and distributor of boiling, chilled and sparkling filtered drinking water under-the-sink units operating in Australia, the UK and international markets.

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### **DLA Piper advised AFL on landmark AU\$225M Etihad Stadium redevelopment deal**

23 APR 2018

DLA Piper advised the AFL (Australian Football League) on its historic AU\$225 million deal with the State of Victoria to redevelop Etihad Stadium and the surrounding Docklands precinct, with an extended 40-year commitment to host the AFL Grand Finals.

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### **DLA Piper appoints new Corporate partner in Hong Kong**

10 APR 2018

DLA Piper has appointed Henry Cheng as a partner to its Corporate practice based in Hong Kong.

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### **DLA Piper advises Pacific Energy on acquisition of Contract Power**

10 APR 2018

DLA Piper has advised power generation specialist Pacific Energy Limited on its AU\$90 million acquisition of Contract Power Group.

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### **DLA Piper advising Atlas on combination with Mineral Resources**

10 APR 2018

DLA Piper is advising Atlas Iron Limited (ASX: AGO) on its agreement with Mineral Resources Limited (ASX: MIN) to combine by way of scheme of arrangement in a deal that values the iron ore miner at AU\$297.6 million.

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### **DLA Piper advising Alliance Minerals on AU\$446M merger with Tawana Resources**

10 APR 2018

DLA Piper is advising SGX-listed Alliance Mineral Assets Limited (Alliance) on its announced merger with ASX-listed Tawana Resources NL (Tawana), positioning the company as a sizeable producer of high-demand lithium concentrate.

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