



## 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.

### CAPABILITIES

#### CHINA ADVISORY SERVICES

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

#### KEY CONTACTS

##### **Daniel Chan**

Partner

Hong Kong

T: +852 2103 0821

daniel.chan@dlapiper.com

#### 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'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 expands Asia capital markets capability with partner hire in Hong Kong**

1 March 2021

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of Arthur Tso as a partner in its Corporate practice, based in Hong Kong.

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### **DLA Piper advises Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company on its AUD225 million convertible notes offering**

18 February 2021

DLA Piper has advised Washington H. Soul Pattinson and Company Limited (ASX: SOL) on its AUD225 million convertible notes offering.

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### **DLA Piper advises BAIIO on Tencent strategic investment**

2 February 2021

DLA Piper has advised BAIIO and its substantial shareholder, on an investment made by Tencent, through its wholly-owned subsidiary THL H Limited, in BAIIO.

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### **DLA Piper advises Manulife on its acquisition of 39 Martin Place**

29 January 2021

DLA Piper has advised international financial services group Manulife Financial Corporation on its 50/50 joint venture with Investa Commercial Property Fund ("ICPF") to acquire the right to a 100% interest in 39 Martin Place, Sydney from Macquarie Group Limited (ASX: MQG).

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### **DLA Piper advises ATI Global on GBP170 million acquisition of Groundsure**

21 January 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised ATI Global on its GBP170 million acquisition of UK based location intelligence business Groundsure, a leading supplier of environmental searches, data, mapping and reports for the UK property market, from Ascential plc (Ascential) (LSE: ASCL).

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### **DLA Piper advises Zip on investment in Twisto Payments**

19 January 2021

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised ASX listed Zip Co Limited (ASX: Z1P), a leading player in the digital retail finance and payments industry, on its investment in Twisto Payments a.s, a leading payments platform based in the Czech Republic and

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Poland.

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### **DLA Piper tops list for global M&A deal volume for 11th straight year**

7 January 2021

For the 11th 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 Sole Sponsor, Sole Global Coordinator and Underwriters on Newlink Technology's Hong Kong IPO**

6 January 2021

DLA Piper advises Sole Sponsor, Sole Global Coordinator and Underwriters on Newlink Technology's Hong Kong IPO.

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### **DLA Piper advises Space Capital on investment in technology start-up bliq**

27 October 2020

DLA Piper has advised US venture capital investor Space Capital on its investments in German technology start-up, bliq. The investment was part of bliq's Series Seed 2 financing round.

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### **DLA Piper advises Laureate Education on USD140 million sale of INTI to HOPE Education Group**

12 October 2020

DLA Piper has advised Laureate Education, which owns and operates a global network of degree-granting higher education institutions, on the USD140 million sale of INTI Education Holdings and its subsidiaries, a group of higher education institutions in Malaysia, to HOPE Education Group Co Ltd.

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### **DLA Piper advises Hangzhou Qiantang New Area Construction and Investment Group on its debut USD300m international bond issue**

26 August 2020

DLA Piper has successfully advised Hangzhou Qiantang New Area Construction and Investment Group Co., Ltd. (Hangzhou Qiantang New Area Construction and Investment Group", a Chinese state-owned enterprise (SOE), on the issue of a USD300 million 3.20 percent senior unsecured corporate bond due 2023.

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### **DLA Piper advises AS Roma in its sale to The Friedkin Group for €591 million**

17 August 2020

DLA Piper represented AS Roma SPV, LLC, the majority shareholder of Italian soccer club AS Roma, in the sale of its controlling interest in the team and certain related assets to The Friedkin Group, Inc., in a transaction valued at €591 million.

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## **DLA Piper advises Syngenta on the acquisition of South African Sensako Group**

17 August 2020

DLA Piper has advised Swiss-based Syngenta Group on its acquisition of Sensako Group, a South African seeds company engaged in the breeding and the commercialization of agronomic crops.

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## **DLA Piper advises Heidelberger Druckmaschinen on the sale of MIS software provider CERM**

6 August 2020

DLA Piper has advised Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (Heidelberg) on the sale of CERM, a global provider of Management Information System (MIS) software for the printing industry, in a Management Buyout (MBO).

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## **DLA Piper advises Webjet on EUR100 million convertible notes offering**

24 July 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper has advised Webjet Limited (ASX: WEB) on its EUR100 million (approximately AUD163 million) convertible notes offering which settled on 10 July 2020.

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## **DLA Piper advises Episode Six on its USD7 million Series A financing**

22 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised Episode Six, a next-generation financial technology provider, on its recent USD7 million Series A funding. The round was led by HSBC and includes investments from Mastercard and SBI Investment Co., Ltd., which first invested in Episode Six through its FinTech Business Innovation Fund in 2017.

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## **DLA Piper advises Scientia Technologies on equity financing**

15 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised Scientia Technologies Limited (Scientia), a technology solutions and services provider to governments, private enterprise clients and individuals, on its equity financing totaling USD 600 million.

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## **DLA Piper advises Resource Partners on the sale of Golpasz**

7 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised Resource Partners, one of the leading private equity investors in the CEE region, on the sale of the majority stake in Golpasz to De Heus, an international animal feed manufacturer.

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## **DLA Piper advises Katoen Natie on the acquisition of Nijhof Wassink**

7 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised Katoen Natie, an international logistics service provider and port operator, on the acquisition of the warehousing activities of Nijhof-Wassink in Poland, a family-owned company specialising in logistics.

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## **DLA Piper advises Singtel Innov8 on its investment in Chinese data service provider DataHunter**

28 May 2020

DLA Piper has advised Singtel Innov8 the venture capital arm of Singtel Group focusing on investments in technology solutions, on its successful investment, through a B-Series fundraising, in Beijing-based data service provider DataHunter.

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## **DLA Piper advises Indonesia's Bank Mandiri on USD500 million bond offering**

20 May 2020

DLA Piper has advised Indonesia's state-owned bank, Bank Mandiri, on its successful USD\$500 million bond offering. The five-year 4.75% senior unsecured notes were issued off the bank's medium-term note programme and were priced at 99.255 to yield 4.92% or Treasuries plus 455bp.

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## **DLA Piper advises Nickel Mines on AUD231 million equity raise**

19 May 2020

Global law firm DLA Piper is advising nickel pig iron (NPI) producer Nickel Mines Limited (ASX: NIC) on its proposed AUD231 million, fully underwritten 1 for 3.6 accelerated non-renounceable entitlement offer.

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## **DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2020**

30 April 2020

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 67 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of April 1, 2020 in the United States and May 1, 2020 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions have been made across many of the firm's practice areas in 35 different offices throughout 13 countries.

Across the firm's practices globally, Corporate saw the largest intake of new partners with 19 promotions, followed by Litigation and Regulatory with 15. Intellectual Property and Technology and Finance and Projects had ten and eight promotions respectively, while there were six in Real Estate. Tax and Employment both had four, and there was one in Restructuring.

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## **DLA Piper advises Société Générale on joint venture with Mitsubishi UFI lease & finance in Malaysia**

7 April 2020

DLA Piper has advised ALD, an auto lease company operating as a subsidiary of Société Générale, on the formation of a joint venture with Mitsubishi UFJ Lease & Finance Company Limited that will establish multi-brand, full service operational leasing and fleet management business with related mobility products for corporate clients in Malaysia.

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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 Fiskien 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

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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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## **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 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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## **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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