



## Debt Finance

We regularly advise senior lenders, mezzanine lenders, equity investors, investment funds and companies on all aspects of syndicated and bilateral debt financing, including all aspects of the financing of public and private company acquisitions, MBOs, MBIs and other institutional buyouts across the globe.

Our lawyers provide advice and assistance to clients dealing with distressed credit issues and work closely with our restructuring group to find appropriate solutions.

[Read more](#)

### CAPABILITES

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#### Local strength, global reach

Our international debt finance team comprises 80 partners and 200 lawyers in over 35 locations. This means we can seamlessly advise our clients on cross-border transactions, as well as providing cutting edge legal advice in our domestic markets.

#### Strength in depth

Our international team has strength in depth to advise clients on acquisition/leveraged buy-outs, refinancings, recapitalisations/shareholder cash outs, new debt raises, public to private transactions, post-IPO facilities or restructuring existing facilities. We are experienced in advising on the full spectrum of financing and capital solutions including:

- acquisition & leveraged finance
- asset based lending
- bank lending
- private credit fund lending
- senior funding
- unitranche/super senior structures (including first out/last out structures)
- second lien funding
- mezzanine funding
- Holdco/PIK structures

#### Market insight

Our global coverage means we are able to provide our clients with advice on current market trends to ensure that they get the optimal financing structure and terms for their specific needs. We pride ourselves on providing commercial, pragmatic solutions for clients to

### KEY CONTACTS

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### RELATED SERVICES

- Corporate
- Private Equity

ensure they achieve their goals with a minimum of fuss.

### **Sector knowledge**

As part of the financial services sector we regularly advise, or have strong relationships with ABL providers, banks, credit funds, debt advisers, institutional investors, private equity houses, security agency providers and vendor management teams. Consequently, we have a deep understanding of the issues that can arise on financing transactions and can provide tailored advice that balances the requirements of all parties.

## **EXPERIENCE**

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Our recent international experience includes advising:

### **Credit fund deal credentials:**

- BlueBay Asset Management in relation to the financing of the International Schools Partnership Group, a Partners Group portfolio company
- Permira Debt Managers on the funding for Inflexion-owned Bollington Wilson group
- Pemberton Asset Management on the acquisition financing provided to HIG European Capital Partners regarding its acquisition of the Corona Corporate group
- Hayfin Capital Management in relation to the provision of unitranche and super senior revolving credit facility refinancing facilities to the Mondo Minerals group
- Muzinich Private Debt Fund and Iberian Private Debt Fund on funding arrangements for Dolfer Meridian

### **Bank deal (sponsor) credentials:**

- International banks including Investec and Bank of Ireland on the provision of an all senior debt financing package to Levine Leichtman Capital Partners in support of their acquisition with management of GL Education, a leading London-based provider of educational assessments in the United Kingdom and Europe
- GE Capital and Ares Management Limited on their joint venture unitranche funding to the Nicotra-Gebhardt Group of Companies, backed by Ergon Capita

### **Bank deal (corporate lending) credentials:**

- Deutsche Bank as mandated lead arranger, sole co-ordinator and agent in respect of an acquisition and working capital term facilities for a major China-based real estate conglomerate
- A major British financial institution and a major Spanish Bank in connection with the refinancing of an existing facility made available to Shepherd Neame Limited, Britain's oldest brewer
- A syndicated bank group (led by Westpac, with Commonwealth Bank of Australia, St. George and another bank as lenders) on SG Fleet Group's AUD250 million acquisition of the Fleet Hire Group and the Motiva Group

### **Borrower (plc/corporate) credentials:**

- Merlin Entertainments plc on the refinancing of its bank facilities including an increased and extended GBP600 million revolving credit facility used to repay term loans, implemented in a complex and novel repayment mechanism to rebalance the outgoing lenders and incoming lenders
- Keller Group plc in respect of the refinancing of its existing credit facilities via entry into a new syndicated revolving credit facility for GBP375 million, provided by a syndicate of eight financial institutions to borrowers within the Keller Group spanning eight jurisdictions
- LivaNova plc on a USD170 million bridge facility entered into with Bank of America Merrill Lynch to fund its acquisition of TandemLife
- The Carlyle Group on the financing of their acquisition of Livingstone Technologies, the UK's largest independent provider of Software Asset Management (SAM) managed services
- Banglalink on its USD300 million equivalent facility arranged by Citibank and Eastern Bank Limited, the largest ever syndicated

facility in Bangladesh

## Borrower (sponsor owned) credentials:

- Symphony Technology Group, in connection with a multi-currency financing in relation to their acquisition of Visma Retail and Extenda, two of the most prominent technology providers in the tier 1 and 2 retail industry
- GE Capital and Ares Management Limited on their joint venture unitranche funding to the Nicotra-Gebhardt Group of Companies, backed by Ergon Capita
- A leading mid-market sponsor in relation to acquisition facilities for one of its insurance sector portfolio companies
- Graphite Capital on the acquisition financing and refinancing package for its portfolio company, Trenchard Aviation
- Lone Star Funds on the financing of the acquisition of Propertize, a regulated entity in the Netherlands, with a (loan) balance sheet of approximately EUR5.6 billion

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### **Structured real estate finance: The basics of tranching real estate debt**

12 May 2020

Understanding the interplay of multiple creditors exercising different rights under different financial structures.

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#### **Precautionary revolver draws – financial cure for COVID-19?**

29 April 2020

Many companies with access to revolving credit facilities find themselves considering whether to make a pre-emptive draw now to ensure they have enough liquidity for the future.

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#### **Loan modifications and forbearance during the COVID-19 crisis**

28 April 2020

Both states and the federal government have implemented changes to real estate policy.

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#### **Cross-border liability management strategies for Latin American issuers with New York law-governed debt securities**

20 April 2020

The main types of so-called liability management transactions available to Latin American issuers seeking to reprofile or restructure their New York law-governed debt securities.

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#### **Delay in full implementation of confirmation of payee by the major banks due to COVID-19**

9 April 2020

On 20 March 2020, the Payment Systems Regulator (PSR) announced that it was permitting the UK's six largest banking groups, which cover 90% of bank transfers, to not fully implement Confirmation of Payee (CoP) by 31 March 2020.

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#### **COVID-19 and the impact on asset-based lenders and their customers**

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31 March 2020

The outbreak of coronavirus COVID-19 represents one of the most significant global public health crises in recent memory and is causing major disruption and unprecedented volatility in markets, economies and businesses.

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### **The Finnish government proposes measures to limit the commercial impact of coronavirus**

31 March 2020

On Friday 20 March 2020, the Finnish government has agreed on a comprehensive package to safeguard jobs and livelihoods and ease the economic pressure on businesses. According to the government's estimate, the overall scale of the measures will be approximately EUR15 billion.

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### **Legislative changes of loan and mortgage regulations in Ukraine**

14 NOV 2018

On 01 November 2018, the President of Ukraine signed the Law "On Amendments to Certain Legal Acts of Ukraine on Resumption of Lending" (the "Law") adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on 03 July 2018. The Law eliminates most of legislative gaps that existed in the loan and mortgage legal environment of Ukraine.

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## **NEWS**

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### **DLA Piper advises VEON Holdings B.V. on its RUB100bn refinancing with Sberbank of Russia**

17 June 2020

DLA Piper has advised VEON Holdings B.V., a member of the multinational telecommunications VEON group, on the RUB100 billion (approximately USD1.5 billion) refinancing of its facilities with Sberbank of Russia.

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### **DLA Piper advises on South African Loan Guarantee Scheme to distressed businesses**

3 June 2020

DLA Piper has advised The Banking Association South Africa and six of South Africa's biggest banks (Absa, First National Bank, Investec, Mercantile Bank, Nedbank and Standard Bank) on the COVID-19 loan guarantee scheme announced by President Cyril Ramaphosa in April 2020.

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### **DLA Piper advises Allianz Real Estate on the financing of the acquisition of Bishop's Square in Dublin by GLL Real Estate Partners**

7 May 2020

DLA Piper has advised Allianz Real Estate GmbH, the real estate investment arm of Allianz Group, on the provision of financing to an investment vehicle managed by GLL Real Estate Partners for the purchase of Bishop's Square in Dublin, Ireland.

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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,

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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 Eiffage and JOHANN BUNTE consortium on Germany's largest ever motorway PPP**

14 April 2020

DLA Piper has successfully advised the consortium A3 Nordbayern with its shareholders Eiffage S.A. and JOHANN BUNTE Bauunternehmung GmbH & Co. KG on the financing of Germany's largest PPP project in the motorway sector.

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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 advises banks on the EUR162 million financing of HB Reavis' green project in Poland**

3 March 2020

DLA Piper has advised a consortium of four banks: (Santander Bank Polska , BNP Paribas Bank Polska, PKO Bank Polski and Bank Pekao), in relation to the granting of a EUR162 million loan to HB Reavis for the development of the Forest office campus.

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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 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 Tirona on the acquisition of a stake in CashCape**

5 September 2019

DLA Piper has advised Tirona Ltd. on the acquisition of a 25 percent stake in the fintech app CashCape.

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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 advises as KIIFB successfully issues first ever offshore masala bond**

3 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has acted on the debut issuance by the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) of its INR 21.5 billion (USD 312 million) secured, guaranteed, rupee denominated bonds (masala bonds), which were listed on the International Securities Market of the London Stock Exchange and the Singapore Stock Exchange.

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## **DLA Piper teams up with Tokeny to bridge the gap between blockchain and finance to provide companies with a new approach to global securities offerings**

2 APR 2019

DLA Piper has teamed up with the compliant tokenization platform, Tokeny, to provide an approach to capital raising which enables companies to raise funding in a regulatory compliant manner from their own website. The initiative, called 'The Digital Securities Alliance', is a sophisticated off-the-shelf tool which links corporate issuers with investors through blockchain technology.

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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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## **DLA Piper hosts leading business and diplomacy conference**

14 MAR 2019

DLA Piper's London office has hosted the Annual Conference of the International Diplomatic and Business Exchange (IBDE).

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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 advises fintech company Splitit on its IPO**

31 Jan 2019

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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 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 hosts inaugural Afghanistan-UK Business Conference**

18 SEP 2018

DLA Piper's London office yesterday hosted the first Afghanistan-UK Business Conference, organised by the Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan in London and the International Chamber of Commerce in Afghanistan. The event, aimed at further enhancing Afghanistan-UK bilateral business, trade and investment relations, was attended by over 100 participants including public and private sector leaders, potential investors, NGOs and consultants, amongst others.

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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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