



## Restructuring

DLA Piper's restructuring lawyers have significant experience advising clients on investigation, enforcement, litigation and asset recovery on a multijurisdictional basis. We advise clients on all matters relating to public and private companies in underperforming and distressed situations.

We manage assignments from the mid-market to the largest national and international restructurings and insolvencies. Our experience also extends to any contentious issues arising from restructurings and insolvencies.

DLA Piper serves a diverse client base that includes debtors, lenders, government entities, trustees, shareholders, senior executives, as well as distressed debt and asset buyers and investors.

With dedicated restructuring lawyers across the Americas, Asia Pacific, Europe, Africa and the Middle East, we have the knowledge, experience and resources to address our clients' restructuring and insolvency needs on a national and international basis.

### CAPABILITIES

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We counsel clients on all aspects of restructuring and insolvency/bankruptcy, whether in anticipation of them or in dealing with their consequences.

We advise clients on:

- Debt and asset tracing and recovery
- Disposals, including pre-packaged solutions, distressed M&A and real estate workout
- Distressed debt trading
- Financial restructuring
- Formal insolvency/bankruptcy procedures and creditor committee representation
- Insolvency/bankruptcy-related investigation, litigation and enforcement
- International restructuring strategy and procedures
- Operational restructuring

In a number of European countries our restructuring lawyers take insolvency office holder appointments.

### EXPERIENCE

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#### KEY CONTACTS

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#### RELATED SERVICES

- Corporate
- Finance
- International Corporate Reorganizations

We advise clients across a wide range of industry sectors and have particular strength in energy, financial services, healthcare, hospitality and leisure, real estate, retail, sports, technology and transportation.

Some of the most significant cross-border matters we have recently worked on are set out below:

- Abengoa – Represented Abengoa US Holding LLC and affiliates, the US unit of Spanish renewable energy company Abengoa SA, in its chapter 11 and chapter 15 petitions in the US Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware in Wilmington. Also represented US Abengoa SA with the approved sale of five ethanol plants in Indiana, Illinois and Nebraska for more than US\$355 million.
- China Fishery Group Limited – Represented Rabobank, Standard Chartered Bank and DBS in connection with the multijurisdictional restructuring and insolvency proceedings of China Fishery Group Limited, one of the world's largest producers of fish oil and fishmeal. DLA Piper successfully sought the appointment of a chapter 11 trustee over one of the key entities in the US bankruptcy proceedings in the Southern District of New York.
- Trident Microsystems – Representing Trident Microsystems, Inc., a chip and software company, in its filing for chapter 11 in the US Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware and the sale of Trident's set-top box business unit to Entropic Communications in exchange for the assumption of obligations and US\$55 million in cash, the sale of Trident's TV business unit to Sigma Designs in exchange for the assumption of obligations and for US\$30 million, and the winding-up of Trident's 16 foreign subsidiaries located in 11 different countries. The 2013 M&A Advisor International Awards honoured us with the 'Corporate/Strategic Acquisition of the Year' award (over US\$50 million to US\$100 million) for the sale of Trident Microsystems.
- Dawnay Day – Advising Norwich Union (now Aviva), the largest senior lender, and BDO Stoy Hayward as administrators on the restructuring of Dawnay Day, a global real estate and financial services conglomerate with assets of £1 billion.
- Nortel Networks Canadian Creditors Committee – Engaged as US and cross-border counsel to the Nortel Networks Canadian Creditors Committee in the multi-nation insolvency proceedings of Nortel's Canadian parent and its US and EMEA affiliates, including their dispute over how \$7.3 billion in global asset sale proceeds should be allocated among them.
- Lexi Holdings – Advising a syndicate of UK banks and KPMG as administrators in the restructuring/insolvency of Lexi Holdings. The company was defrauded of approximately £50-70 million. We obtained judgments against 18 parties, committed the main director behind the fraud to prison, and recovered approximately £40 million in real estate worldwide.
- Ineas – Advising on the administration of Ineas, a pan-European online car insurance company. This was one of the largest insolvencies of an insurance company in Europe in recent history. We worked closely with the Dutch Central Bank and the Dutch Financial Supervision Authority with regard to the treatment of insurance policies, continuation and/or transfer of activities and the application of guarantee funds.
- Solar Enertech Corp – Advising on the restructuring of Solar Enertech Corp, a US-headquartered solar product manufacturer with Asian operations in Hong Kong and Shanghai. We were appointed, in conjunction with FTI Consulting, to restructure both the parent company and its subsidiaries.
- Velti plc - Representing Velti plc's US subsidiaries in connection with its chapter 11 case in Wilmington, Delaware and the section 363 sale of its US, UK and India mobile marketing businesses and certain of its US-based advertising businesses to GSO Capital Partners, the credit division of Blackstone. The 2014 M&A Advisor International Awards honored us with the 'Restructuring Deal of the Year' award (under \$1 billion) for the chapter 11 Restructuring of Velti plc's US subsidiaries.
- Lehman Waterfall Application - Advising the administrators of Lehman Brothers Limited (LBL) over the last 18 months on the high profile Lehman Waterfall Application, which is set to, amongst other things: determine how realisations in LBL's estate (expected to comprise of approximately £300 million) will be distributed; determine how claims for interest rank within the insolvency waterfall; and have a substantial impact on the value of LBIE debt of which there is currently a very active market.
- Project Dawn - Working with IBRC and the Special Liquidators on the various Phases of the IBRC loan book sale. Leading various workstreams including 1) undertaking reviews of the c. 40 connections that DLA were initially in relation to, 2) creating a data room for the DLA connections, 3) reviewing all loan and security documents for transferability, 4) responding to Q&A sessions from bidders.
- Scottish Resources Group - Advising the Bank of Scotland plc on the restructuring and the subsequent liquidation of Scottish Coal Company Limited (SCCL) and the various environmental risks to the Bank following liquidation. SRG was the largest surface mining producer in the UK operating 7 open-cast mines and had a turnover exceeding £200m and a land-bank of some 25,000 acres. This matter attracted significant press in Scotland given its strategic importance and the fact that it employed around 800 employees.
- Viaduct Capital Limited - Advised receivers on priority issues relating to security sharing arrangements between company subject to receivership and Mutual Finance Limited (In Receivership).

- Dominion Finance Group Limited - Advised the receivers of Dominion Finance Group Limited on all aspects of the receivership.

## INSIGHTS

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### Publications

#### Restructuring Global Insight: COVID-19 edition

23 June 2020

#### RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT

News, views and analysis from DLA Piper's Global Restructuring group.

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#### COVID-19: An international guide to changes in insolvency law

22 June 2020

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, a number of insolvency laws have been updated.

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#### Schemes of Arrangement: Flexibility of the court to make order after the second court approval hearing to revive a Terminated Conditional Scheme

26 May 2020

On 22 May 2020, Justice Black of the Supreme Court of NSW issued judgment *In the matter of Wollongong Coal Limited and In the matter of Jindal Steel & Power (Australia) Pty Ltd* [2020] NSWSC 614. The judgment sets out his Honour's reasoning for granting the orders sought in a largely unprecedented application to effectively 're-enliven' two schemes of arrangement which automatically terminated prior to being completed.

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#### Restructuring in an Uncertain Environment

18 May 2020

DLA Piper's Thomas Califano, Richard Hans and Rachel Albanese discuss the challenges and opportunities businesses should be aware of as they navigate these shoal waters.

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#### Superior Court of Québec renders omnibus order to provide procedural flexibility amidst COVID-19

15 MAY 2020

The unique situation created by the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures implemented to contain the spread of the virus has severely disrupted the economy, and as a consequence, has made it increasingly challenging for debtors to fulfill their obligations. The situation has also made it arduous for all parties involved in insolvency proceedings to comply with the statutory deadlines set by the BIA. While a jointly issued Suspension Order by the Chief Justice of Québec and the Québec Minister of Justice suspends the extinctive prescription and forfeiture periods in civil matters, as well as civil procedure deadlines until the expiry of the declared public health emergency, unfortunately, it does not apply to insolvency matters. Following on an application by the Superintendent of Bankruptcy of Canada, The Superior Court of Québec rendered an omnibus order to provide much needed procedural flexibility.

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#### CARES Act and eligibility under the Paycheck Protection Program

6 May 2020

The CARES Act does not expressly exclude debtors in bankruptcy from eligibility for PPP loans; however, it grants the SBA broad rulemaking authority.

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## **Israel Group News May 2020**

4 May 2020

### **ISRAEL GROUP NEWS**

Providing access to valuable business resources in real time.

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## **Post-COVID-19: What to expect in the "next normal"**

30 April 2020

Issues that are front of mind, based on an informal survey of some of the largest companies and most influential global business leaders.

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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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## **COVID-19: Critical due diligence considerations for M&A, financing and strategic corporate transactions in the retail industry**

29 April 2020

Parties to retail-related transactions must consider unprecedented issues.

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## **Are high voltage DC networks the future of electricity distribution?**

29 April 2020

In the late 19th century direct current (DC) electricity supply networks were promoted by Thomas Edison as a purportedly safer alternative to alternating current (AC) which was championed by George Westinghouse for use in high voltage street arc lighting and which caused many fatalities.

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## **A discussion of California plugging and abandonment rules**

27 April 2020

Requirements for onshore oil and gas wells in California, as well as ties among these requirements and bankruptcy.

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## **Guidance from the courts (England and Wales) on the application of the Covid-19 Job Retention Scheme (or employee furlough) in administrations.**

21 April 2020

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The High Court has given directions to the administrators of each of Carluccio's Limited and Debenhams Retail Limited on the application of the Covid-19 Job Retention Scheme, but can the government tread a course that protects the rights of employees and follows the scheme?

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### **Portfolio company risk analysis during COVID-19**

20 April 2020

An overview of certain material issues for PE firms and portfolio companies to consider when conducting financial risk analyses.

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### **Key issues to consider when undertaking distressed M&A**

20 April 2020

With businesses around the world facing unprecedented challenges, opportunities will exist for those with the resources and risk appetite to conduct M&A involving targets or sellers in financial distress. This article provides insight into distressed M&A transactions for anyone less familiar with how they have developed over the last decade.

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### **A discussion of Texas plugging and abandonment rules**

17 April 2020

An outline of the plugging and abandonment requirements of onshore oil and gas wells in Texas plus a discussion of ties between the plugging requirements and bankruptcy.

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### **UK government to provide additional financial support measures for mid-market business impacted by COVID-19**

9 April 2020

On 3 April 2020 the Chancellor announced a new scheme for larger companies, with the creation of the new Coronavirus Large Business Interruption Loan Scheme (CLBILS) to ensure that more firms are able to benefit from government-backed support during this difficult time.

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### **Coronavirus - Mitigating supply chain and customer insolvency risk (Canada)**

7 APR 2020

The on-going impact of the COVID-19 outbreak could have a significant impact on your global supply and customer chains.

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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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### **Coronavirus - Mitigating supply chain and customer insolvency risk**

31 March 2020

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The impact of the COVID-19 outbreak could have a significant impact on your global supply and customer chains. We can assist in responding to such risks in the various jurisdictions in which you operate, source materials and/or supply products and services.

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### **Economic relief for Calgary business owners impacted by COVID-19 (Canada)**

27 MAR 2020

Canadian governments have implemented numerous measures to assist business owners economically affected by COVID-19. This article outlines the measures for business focused relief available to Calgary business owners from the federal, provincial, and municipal governments.

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### **COVID-19: The benefits of US chapter 11 relief in a time of economic crisis**

19 March 2020

Highlighting some of the most significant benefits of US chapter 11 for companies facing severe challenges under the current circumstances.

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### **Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): Business interruptions and resulting effects in the global economy (Global)**

16 March 2020

While the overall scope and duration of the economic impacts are difficult to forecast, there will undoubtedly be a significant increase in workouts, restructurings, rescue financings, forbearances, and other similar activities over the coming months.

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### **Commercial bankruptcy practice in the US today: Chapters 11 and 15**

29 January 2020

The current legal framework in the US for companies seeking to reorganize and restructure their business operations and debt.

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### **Global Insight - Issue 31, December 2019**

20 December 2019

#### **[RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT](#)**

News, views and analysis from DLA Piper's Global Restructuring Group on the UNCITRAL Model Law on cross border insolvency, a new restructuring tool known as WHOA or the Dutch scheme to be implemented in the Netherlands, and an examination of a proposal to elevate the UK tax department in the order of priority on insolvency.

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### **Global Insight - Issue 30, October 2019**

7 October 2019

#### **[RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT](#)**

News, views and analysis from DLA Piper's Global Restructuring Group.

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### **Secured creditors and Colombia's insolvency proceedings**

7 October 2019

The Columbian Secured Interest Law, which came into effect in 2014, has substantially affected the legal scope of creditors' rights in the context of insolvency proceedings, potentially creating a new type of creditor; the secured creditor. Is this new type of creditor compatible with the current hierarchy system, and what are the specific rights of that new creditor in arrangement proceedings?

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### Understanding DIFC's new insolvency law: What impact will it have?

7 October 2019

Peter Somekh analyses whether the new insolvency law recently adopted by the Dubai International Finance Centre can effectively promote the rehabilitation of viable businesses whilst ensuring fairness and preservation of stakeholder rights and value.

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### Getting insolvency proceedings recognized in the UK: Have you thought about section 426?

7 October 2019

Many distressed situations involve a cross-border element. Section 426 of the Insolvency Act 1986 is a unique tool that can be used where insolvencies taking place in a designated jurisdiction require recognition or assistance in the UK. Here we outline how this tool can be used, its scope and the advantages for cross-border situations.

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### Supreme Court Corner

24 July 2019

The Court clarifies a circuit split over copyright in *Fourth Estate* and, in *Mission Product Holdings*, says a licensee's rights survive the licensor's bankruptcy.

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### Global Insight - Issue 29, June 2019

28 June 2019

#### [RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT](#)

News, views and analysis from DLA Piper's Global Restructuring Group.

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### Creditors' schemes of arrangement in Australia

26 June 2019

The use of creditors' schemes of arrangement is on the rise in Australia (as we discussed in our previous article - Update on Creditors Schemes of Arrangement in Australia). Along the way the Australian courts have made valuable contributions to international scheme jurisprudence. In this article we look at some of these contributions and then explore how Australian law might be further developed to remain a leading jurisdiction for creditors' schemes.

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### Goods vehicle operators' licenses in an insolvency context

25 June 2019

When dealing with a goods vehicle operator in an insolvency context: early engagement with the Traffic Commissioner is crucial;

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directors should be proactive in informing the Traffic Commissioner of a material change in circumstances (e.g. a change in the company's financial standing, which extends to launching a company voluntary arrangement (CVA)); and insolvency practitioners should engage as early as possible with the Traffic Commissioner and build such engagement into their contingency planning.

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## **Debt restructuring in the UK and Spain**

4 June 2019

Since the turn of the century, many foreign companies - including large Spanish groups - have resorted to the English scheme of arrangement procedure under part 26 of the UK Companies Act in order to restructure their debt. Between 2009 and 2015, EUR11 billion of Spanish debt has been restructured in English courts.

[Read the full article.](#)

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## **Global Insight - Issue 28, April 2019**

2 April 2019

### **RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT**

News, views and analysis from DLA Piper's Global Restructuring Group.

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## **Brexit Update: What next for cross-border restructuring?**

2 April 2019

Immediately following the results of the UK referendum on exiting the EU in June 2016, we wrote about the potential impact of Brexit on cross-border restructuring and insolvency work. As we identified then, the key issue in this area is the potentially significant implications of losing the reciprocal effect of the EU Regulation on insolvency proceedings and the Brussels Regulation (recast). In this article we focus on the impact of the loss of recognition under the Insolvency Regulation.

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## **Down but not out (of the money)**

26 March 2019

It is a common scenario: a fully encumbered asset is sold, with junior lienholders out of the money. Until recently, it was widely accepted that an out of the money junior lien was worthless and not entitled to any of the proceeds from a sale free and clear. Not anymore.

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## **Australia: 2018 in review, and what's in store for 2019?**

25 March 2019

In this article, we review developments in the Australian insolvency and restructuring landscape during 2018, with an overview of key judgments and legislative changes, and look at what lies ahead in 2019.

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## **Global Insight - Issue 27, December 2018**

17 DEC 2018

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## RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT

As we send this final edition of Global Insight for 2018, Rick and I would like to thank you for your continued support of our multi-award-winning Global Restructuring Group.

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### Restructuring Global Insight - News, views and analysis from DLA Piper's Global Restructuring Group

3 OCT 2018

## RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT

Welcome to our 26th edition of Global Insight with another selection of restructuring items from our colleagues around the World.

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### Positive signs for issuers and the marketplace: Argentina economic briefing

7 SEP 2018

The financial press continues to portray Argentina as another merging-market casualty but, to the contrary, there are a number of positive financial signs, for investors, the country and the marketplace, in today's Argentine economy.

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## Events

### Previous

#### Restructuring in the Corona Era

6 April 2020

Webinar

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#### COVID-19: Important Issues for Israeli Companies to Consider

6 April 2020

Webinar

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#### IPEM 2020

28-30 January 2020

Paris

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#### 2019 Insolvency and Restructuring Forum — Edmonton

9 MAY 2019

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#### SmithNovak NPL IBERIA November 2018

27-28 NOV 2018

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Madrid

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## **2018: The year of the CVA - lessons learnt so far**

6 SEP 2018  
London

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## **NEWS**

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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 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 named among the top 10 firms globally for Restructuring**

18 June 2019

Global Restructuring Review (GRR) has unveiled its annual ranking of the world's leading restructuring law firms, with DLA Piper ranked #7 in the GRR 30, up three places from the previous year.

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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 appoints finance and project lawyer David Lyons**

10 December 2018

DLA Piper has appointed senior finance lawyer David Lyons as a partner of the firm's Finance Projects & Restructuring practice to be based in Brisbane.

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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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