



Transactional Tax Planning

Throughout the world, DLA Piper offers our clients sophisticated, innovative and creative tax and business planning advice in connection with domestic and multi-jurisdictional transactions and investments.

The transactional tax practice at DLA Piper benefits from the diversity of our clients, the range of our cross practices and our global presence. Tax planning is a critical element of almost every transaction and investment and offers an opportunity to add value and minimize financial risk. The transactional tax practice works closely with clients including major multinational corporations, sovereigns and their controlled investment entities, large pension funds, private equity and hedge funds, investment and commercial banks, real estate funds and companies, sports and entertainment companies, large non-US investors and tax-exempts. Few law firm tax departments work with the diversity of practices, or enjoy the breadth of experience and geographic reach, as we do. Our accumulated knowledge of the latest developments enables us to efficiently serve our clients' interests. We represent clients both on the investor and sponsor side and on the buy or sell side, bringing further value to deals.

The transactional tax team is committed to advancing transactions to meet the objectives of our clients. In doing so, we often collaborate with our clients' internal tax and accounting departments, as well as outside accounting firms, to design the most advantageous structure yielding optimal after-tax results, lowering effective tax rates or otherwise achieving our clients' commercial and tax specific goals. Because of our extensive experience, we can help build a consensus on the best approach, and we are prepared to support our conclusions with contemporaneous written advice that supports the anticipated tax treatment.

CAPABILITIES

Mergers, Acquisitions and Divisions

Our transactional tax planning lawyers represent public and private companies, both large and small, in negotiating and structuring acquisitions, divestitures, issuer and third-party tender offers, joint ventures, leveraged buyouts, mergers, recapitalizations, spinoffs and other corporate restructurings. We work to design the most effective structure to accomplish the business objectives of our clients while minimizing overall tax costs.

Private Equity Investment and Fund Formation

We advise individuals and businesses on various aspects of private investment, typically helping with the tax implications – for the management team and other employees – of acquiring shares in the acquiring entity or group; determining the optimum fund and

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RELATED SERVICES

- Finance
- International Trade, Regulatory and Government Affairs
- Real Estate
- Restructuring

RELATED SECTORS

- Insurance

investment structure; minimizing the operating tax costs for the acquiring entity/group and the target group; and taking account of the tax regime in particular jurisdictions. DLA Piper lawyers are knowledgeable in all aspects of fund formation and work with our clients to structure tax-efficient transactions, both at the fund level and the portfolio investment level.

Insurance

DLA Piper advises insurance companies on the tax considerations in a wide range of insurance related transactions including reserve financing transactions (employing alternate structuring techniques), captive insurance arrangements, formation of funds making predominantly insurance-linked investments, structuring catastrophe bonds and event-linked derivatives, side-car investments, segregated cell investments and other equity investments with an insurance component. We advise public and private insurance companies operating in both the life and property and casualty sectors in structuring mergers and acquisitions, financings and restructurings in a tax-efficient manner. We have significant experience advising clients on all aspects of avoiding the creation of a taxable presence in the United States, mitigation of effectively connected income, utilization of tax treaties and favorable law to eliminate incidences of the federal excise tax on insurance premiums and compliance with withholding and reporting obligations, including under FATCA.

Partnerships, LLCs and Syndications

Our lawyers recommend that clients use such pass-through entities as partnerships and limited liability companies in a variety of business contexts, both for individual and for corporate ventures. We are experienced in public offerings and private placements involving a variety of limited partnerships. We are also familiar with the special issues of publicly traded partnerships pass-through status.

Bankruptcies, Workouts and Restructurings

DLA Piper tax lawyers have extensive experience working with our Restructuring group on the unique tax issues of troubled and insolvent corporations and other entities. We advise both debtors and creditors in the acquisition, disposition, restructuring and bankruptcy of financially troubled companies. We meet our clients' needs by assisting in all phases of a restructuring (both inside and outside of bankruptcy), including advising in connection with debt modifications, planning to manage sales, transfer and employment tax liabilities, interfacing with the IRS and other tax authorities in obtaining rulings and closing agreements as needed and structuring tax efficient reorganization plans (and drafting the related disclosure statements), including evaluating and designing structures to retain tax attributes.

Media, Sports and Entertainment

Our tax lawyers work closely with our attorneys in the media, sports and entertainment sector to provide advice on the tax-related aspects arising in the context of sports team acquisitions and dispositions (and the related intangibles) as well as financings of large public and private sports stadiums and arenas. Our representations have spanned from leagues, clubs and franchise owners to sponsors, investors, banks and other lending entities.

Emerging Growth and Venture Capital

DLA Piper has a substantial emerging growth and venture capital practice devoted to technology companies engaged in such areas as telecommunications, software, hardware and biotechnology. Our tax lawyers advise owners and investors on such tax-planning issues as choice of entity (in order to the best tax and business objectives), utilization of tax attributes, tax-efficient compensation and incentive awards, structuring and implementing financings, and optimum structures for facilitating exit strategies.

Real Estate

DLA Piper advises business clients, including investment banks, opportunity and private equity funds, pension funds, bank affiliates, real estate entrepreneurs, home builders, developers, foreign and domestic investors and real estate investment trusts, in all tax matters affecting real estate. In addition to choice-of-entity issues, we structure low-income housing credit and other tax-favored partnerships, negotiate purchases and sales of individual properties and large portfolios and structure investments by tax-exempt and foreign investors to avoid establishing a US tax nexus. We work closely with our clients in planning tax-deferred like kind exchanges, including parking transactions and reverse exchanges, and in implementing financings and sale-leasebacks.

Leverage Lease and Other Financing Transactions

DLA Piper represents lessors and lessees in structuring both domestic and international leveraged lease transactions of equipment (such as aircraft, railcars and vessels), real estate and power plants. We also draft the documents, including tax indemnity agreements, necessary to ensure that our clients receive their proper tax benefits. In addition, we have experience structuring financing transactions to preserve tax benefits while achieving our clients' accounting and economic objectives.

Capital Markets, Derivatives, Securitizations and Financial Products

We represent both domestic and international issuers as well as leading securities firms and underwriters in debt and equity capital markets transactions. We also have substantial experience dealing with a broad range of financial products, including options, swaps, notional principal contracts, foreign currency contracts, hedges and collars. We advise on the tax-efficient use of SPVs in securitization transactions and assist in structuring, documenting and executing complex, tax-advantaged domestic and international transactions and products.

EXPERIENCE

- Served as tax counsel in numerous domestic and multi-jurisdictional mergers or acquisitions (supporting the firm's #1 mergermarket ranking for global M&A activity, 2015-2010)
- Advising a private equity firm in a global acquisition utilizing an innovative global partnership structure resulting in the creation of the largest independent global pigment dispersion platform
- Advising the world's #1 nonfiction media company in two high-profile, multi-jurisdictional acquisitions of TV and radio businesses in Northern Europe and in Western Europe
- Acting on the structuring and disposal of a pan-European operating lease business with a substantial market share balancing the US tax considerations of the seller with local country tax requirements
- Advising on the restructuring of the European sub-group of a major US financial institution involving the establishment of a UK holding company for the regulated activities of the sub-group
- Advising on the implementation of tax-efficient management incentive arrangements in the context of a recent IPO

INSIGHTS

Publications

Capital Gains Tax - are you prepared?

19 MAR 2019

The UK is changing the treatment of non-residents' capital gains tax (CGT) on disposals of UK property. DLA Piper has partnered with YouGov to gauge awareness of, and preparedness for the CGT changes among senior real estate professionals and, ultimately, to understand how they might impact real estate investment strategies and property values.

OECD issues far-reaching proposals for restructuring the international tax framework to address the challenges caused by the digitalization of the economy

26 FEB 2019

Proposals being considered by the OECD's 128 Inclusive Framework members for tackling the tax challenges arising from digitalization of the economy.

Sweden proposes mandatory disclosure rules relating to tax arrangements

20 FEB 2019

The proposed Swedish reporting obligation also covers purely domestic arrangements.

Spanish government presents the 2019 Budget Act

30 JAN 2019

The budget contains many changes that are likely to increase the tax burden of holding companies, banks and large multinationals in Spain

New Polish decree on withholding tax obligations

17 JAN 2019

The decree will have a significant effect on the application of the new WHT regulations.

Poland introduces mandatory disclosure rules relating to tax arrangements

14 JAN 2019

The Polish reporting obligations are broader than the EU-mandated obligations in at least three aspects.

Spanish government to introduce new digital services tax

1 NOV 2018

The proposed DST will apply only when the user's digital devices are located in Spain.

Multinationals take note: tax changes in Oman and considerations for foreign investors

24 APR 2018

Services provided by foreign persons to residents of Oman will be subject to Omani withholding tax, wherever the services are performed.

China defers 10 percent withholding tax on dividend income reinvested into Encouraged Industries

3 JAN 2018

China works to create a more convenient and competitive tax environment for foreign investors.

The proposed US tax reform: repatriation alternatives for multinationals operating in Latin America

28 SEP 2017

A review of regulations in Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Mexico and Peru and steps for multinationals to consider regarding their operations.

Finland: Supreme Administrative Court decides two transfer pricing cases involving intra-group services - key takeaways

27 SEP 2017

Two new precedential decisions.

2018 Dutch Tax Plan - changes to Dutch dividend withholding tax

25 SEP 2017

Tax proposals that are relevant for international investors with a Dutch structure.

Spain requires real-time submissions of VAT information

7 JUL 2017

Large enterprises operating in Spain are coming to terms with the latest requirements to file VAT information through the new online system.

Supply chain planning in the post-BEPS era: five questions for MNEs

22 JUL 2015

After BEPS actions are incorporated into OECD documents and local legislation, tax planning opportunities will still exist, but realizing the benefits of tax planning will require a greater emphasis on economic substance. One often-overlooked area of opportunity is tax-efficient supply chain planning.

NEWS

DLA Piper named UK transfer pricing firm of the year for the third year running

17 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has been named UK Transfer Pricing Firm of the Year for the third year running at the International Tax Review (ITR) European Tax Awards 2019, in a ceremony held in London on 16 May. The firm was also, and for the first time this year, named Africa Transfer Pricing Firm of the Year.

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.

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.

Non-resident real estate investors bullish on Capital Gains Tax changes

19 MAR 2019

Non-resident real estate investors are holding their nerve on UK investment strategies despite impending capital gains tax (CGT) changes coming into force next month and uncertainty around Brexit. According to a DLA Piper report, more than half (58 percent) of those polled expect the new tax code will have no impact on their investment strategy.

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.

DLA Piper enhances cross-border tax capability with new partner hire in Dublin

26 FEB 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of Maura Dineen as a Tax partner in the firm's newly opened Dublin office. This is the fifth partner hire for DLA Piper in Dublin in a month, following the announcements in January of Conor Houlihan (Finance & Projects), Éanna Mellett (Corporate), Mark Rasdale (Intellectual Property & Technology) and Ciara McLoughlin (Employment).

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.

DLA Piper takes home eight awards at 2018 International Tax Review European Tax Awards

18 MAY 2018

DLA Piper has won eight awards at the International Tax Review European Tax Awards 2018, in a ceremony that took place on Thursday, May 17, 2018 at the Savoy Hotel in London.

The firm has been named UK Transfer Pricing Firm of the Year, Spain Tax Firm of the Year and Gulf Cooperation Council Tax Firm of the Year.

DLA Piper advises Migdal on the acquisition of German light industrial portfolio for €56m

13 APR 2018

DLA Piper has advised the Israeli insurance company and pension manager, Migdal, on its acquisition of three light industrial properties in Germany from ThreadGreen Industrial for €55.7 million. Migdal completed the acquisition in association with Cording Real Estate Group, a German, UK and Benelux real estate investment and asset management firm.

DLA Piper announces partnership promotions for 2018

3 APR 2018

DLA Piper is proud to announce that 62 lawyers have been promoted to its partnership. The promotions are effective as of 1 April 2018 in the United States and 1 May 2018 for EMEA and Asia Pacific. The promotions were made across many of the firm's practice areas in 42 different offices throughout 20 countries.

DLA Piper Africa advises Adenia Partners on acquisition of controlling stake in Kanu Equipment Limited

23 MAR 2018

Kanu has been driving an expansion strategy across Sub-Saharan Africa in recent years and the business now operates in 13 countries, servicing the agriculture, construction and mining industries.

DLA Piper grows Tax practice in Germany with new hire

8 MAR 2018

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Dr Marie-Theres Ramer will join the firm as a partner in its Tax practice, based in Frankfurt.

DLA Piper advises Cabinet Group on Funcom joint venture

9 FEB 2018

DLA Piper represented Cabinet Group LLC on tax and Norwegian law matters in its joint venture with Funcom N.V., a Norwegian developer, to establish Heroic Signatures.

DLA Piper launches Middle East Tax practice

4 DEC 2017

DLA Piper has strengthened its International Tax practice with the appointment of Ton van Doremalen as partner and Head of Tax in the Middle East. Ton joined the firm's Dubai office on 3 December 2017.

DLA Piper advises McDonald's on restaurant opening in Kyiv

21 NOV 2017

DLA Piper has advised and represented McDonald's, the leading global fast-service restaurant brand, in a recently completed transaction resulting in the opening of a new restaurant in Kyiv.

DLA Piper launches Finance Rules of the World

2 Nov 2017

DLA Piper's global Finance & Projects practice has today launched Finance Rules of the World, a knowledge site for clients, which summarizes key legal questions and answers to be considered when initially looking at financing or investing in particular jurisdictions.

DLA Piper launches new platform for *Guide to Going Global* series

20 SEP 2017

DLA Piper has launched a new platform featuring its *Guide to Going Global* series, an online resource designed to help companies operating and growing their international businesses.

DLA Piper advises Link Group on £888 million (AU\$1.49 billion) acquisition of Capita Asset Services

10 Jul 2017

DLA Piper has advised Australian company Link Group (ASX: LNK) on the acquisition of UK-based Capita Asset Services division (CAS) of Capital Plc for £888 million (AU\$1.49 billion). Link Group was selected as the successful bidder following a competitive sale process. DLA Piper also advised Link Group on the related acquisition debt financing of £485 million (AU\$815 million).

DLA Piper advises Beijing BDStar Navigation Co., Ltd on the purchase of an interest in the in-tech Group

19 Jun 2017

DLA Piper has advised BDStar as part of a bidding procedure on the acquisition of an interest in the company in-tech GmbH, a supplier for the digitization and the development in the area of automotive, machinery and transportation systems.

DLA Piper advises trio of lenders on financing Spurs' new stadium development

1 JUN 2017

DLA Piper has advised Goldman Sachs Bank USA, HSBC Bank plc and Bank of America Merrill Lynch International Limited on their financing of Tottenham Hotspur's new, multi-purpose, 61,500 seat stadium. The financing package consists of a £400,000,000 development term loan and a £25,000,000 revolving credit facility.
