



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

Private equity: Guide to key management tax issues in Europe

6 July 2020

German implementation of EU Mandatory Disclosure Rules (DAC6)

4 June 2020

With the Act on the Introduction of an Obligation to Notify Cross-border Tax Arrangements of 21 December 2019, DAC6 was transposed into national law.

UAE economic substance - self-assessment notification deadline fast approaching

13 May 2020

It would be prudent for UAE entities to assume a deadline of June 30, 2020.

COVID-19 Phase 4 federal legislation – UPDATE

21 April 2020

Time is of the essence and the plan is to have a draft Phase 4 COVID-19 relief bill ready by the end of April.

90-day deferral for US federal income tax payments

20 March 2020

Those who decide to defer their federal tax payments will be able to do so on a penalty-free and interest-free basis, with penalties and interest beginning to accrue for payments submitted after July 15, 2020.

Italy's new Digital Services Tax is now in force

11 February 2020

Not all digital services will be taxed – only those entailing a high degree of users' involvement in value generation.

Taxpayers take note - first important QOZ program investment date is 12/31/2019

3 December 2019

The first important investment date established by the QOZ Program is December 31, 2019.

Mexico: 2020 tax reform proposal

7 October 2019

The proposed reform aims to broaden the scope of activities subject to tax, as well as the reporting obligations of Mexican and foreign taxpayers.

Colombia publishes guidelines on advance pricing agreements

3 September 2019

Colombia's National Directorate of Taxes and Customs (DIAN) released detailed guidelines (the Guidelines) to clarify the procedure for Advanced Transfer Pricing Agreements (APAs) requests in order to ensure certainty between the parties regarding their transfer pricing arrangements. Key features and takeaways are provided in this article.

New proposed tax regulations affecting certain PFICs – foreign reinsurance companies take note

7 August 2019

While the new proposed regulations present compliance issues for foreign reinsurance companies, there are planning opportunities to be explored.

Dutch implementation proposal on EU anti-hybrid measures

12 July 2019

On July 2, 2019, the Dutch government published the legislative proposal implementing the EU Anti-Tax Avoidance Directive II

(ATAD II) that was adopted on May 29, 2017. The ATAD II mandates EU Member States to implement rules that target hybrid mismatches by January 1, 2020 (specific sections by January 1, 2022).

Portuguese EU Mandatory Disclosure Rules draft legislation

21 June 2019

Portugal has published draft legislation regarding the implementing of the EU Directive on mandatory disclosure rules (Council Directive 2018/822, also known as DAC 6). In this article we list some of the key features of the draft legislation.

Dutch government publishes new decree on international tax ruling practice

2 MAY 2019

On April 23, 2019, the Dutch State Secretary of Finance (the State Secretary) published a draft decree (the Decree) on the Dutch tax ruling practice pertaining to tax rulings relating to cross-border structures.

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.

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 advises Heidelberger Druckmaschinen on the sale of Gallus Group

23 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised Heidelberger Druckmaschinen AG (Heidelberg) on the sale of Gallus Group to Swiss packaging business benpac holding ag. With this transaction Heidelberg is systematically pursuing the company's realignment, which includes focusing on its core business of sheetfed printing. The sale, which still needs to be approved by the relevant bodies and is subject to other condition precedents, is set to take effect before the end of 2020.

DLA Piper advises GM Cruise on acquisition of Astyx

8 July 2020

DLA Piper has advised GM Cruise Holdings LLC (GM Cruise) in connection with the acquisition of Astyx GmbH (Astyx) from Zukunft Ventures GmbH, a subsidiary of ZF Friedrichshafen AG, and the founders of Astyx.

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.

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.

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.

DLA Piper advises Guala Closures Group on the acquisition of the assets of Germany's Closurelogic

6 January 2020

DLA Piper has advised the Guala Closures Group, one of the world leaders in the production of security closures for spirits and aluminium closures for wines, as well as one of the major world producer and distributor of aluminium closures for the beverage industry, on the acquisition of the activities of Closurelogic GmbH, the German producer specialised in the aluminium closures.

DLA Piper advises Hahn Group on sale of Campus Center Lübeck

18 December 2019

DLA Piper has advised Hahn Group on the sale of Campus Center Lübeck to real estate investment manager Nuveen Real Estate, which acquired the property for its German core retail platform.

DLA Piper launches Global Digital Services VAT Guide

29 November 2019

DLA Piper has launched the fourth edition of its Global VAT Guide on Digital Services, covering cross-border supplies of digital content, intangible services and, more generally, the various forms of e-commerce.

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.

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.

DLA Piper continues Irish expansion with appointment of four new partners

4 September 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of four new partners to its recently opened Dublin office into four key practice areas of Finance and Projects (F&P), Intellectual Property and Technology (IPT), Tax and Real Estate. The new partners will be joined by three legal directors, as part of the firm's ongoing expansion in Ireland.

DLA Piper advises Allianz Real Estate on the acquisition of EDGE Hafencity in Hamburg

2 August 2019

DLA Piper has advised Allianz Real Estate on its acquisition of the office property EDGE Hafencity as part of an off-market forward deal. EDGE HafenCity Hamburg will be a 15-storey building with a total lettable area of approximately 22,500 sqm.

DLA Piper advises KRAHN on acquisition of eMBe Products & Service

26 June 2019

DLA Piper has advised chemical distributor KRAHN Chemie GmbH on its acquisition of eMBe Products & Service GmbH, one of the leading additive manufacturers for the ceramics and powder metal industry in Europe.

DLA Piper advises Rolls-Royce on acquisition of Siemens' eAircraft business

21 June 2019

DLA Piper has advised Rolls-Royce plc on the acquisition of Siemens' electric and hybrid-electric aerospace propulsion activities, eAircraft. The acquisition will accelerate the delivery of Rolls-Royce's electrification strategy and boost its ambition to play a major role in the "third era" of aviation. The completion of the transaction is expected in late 2019, following a period of employee consultation.

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 Hamburg: Alter Wall is new office location

13 MAY 2019

Last weekend DLA Piper has moved from Jungfernstieg to its new premises "Alter Wall Hamburg" in the heart of Hamburg. DLA Piper has moved into the top three floors of the building at Alter Wall 4 that offer a total of around 3,200 sqm of office space.

DLA Piper advises BrewDog on acquisition of iconic Berlin brewery

6 MAY 2019

DLA Piper has advised BrewDog, a multinational craft brewery and pub chain based in Scotland, on the acquisition of World Bistro & Gardens in Berlin from Stone Brewing, one of the largest craft breweries in the US.

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 strengthens tax offering in Luxembourg with partner hire

2 JAN 2019

DLA Piper today announces the appointment of Jacques Wantz as a partner in its Tax practice, based in Luxembourg. He will be joined by associate Emre Akan.

DLA Piper advises Stillfront Group on acquisition of German game developer Playa Games GmbH

14 DEC 2018

DLA Piper has advised the Swedish company, Stillfront Group AB, on its acquisition of Hamburg-based Playa Games GmbH.

DLA Piper advises H.I.G. Capital on the acquisition of BollAnts Spa in Bad Sobernheim

5 DEC 2018

DLA Piper has advised US asset manager H.I.G. Capital on its acquisition of the BollAnts Spa im Park in Bad Sobernheim, in the federal state of Rhineland Palatinate, completed with Hamilton Hotel Investors. The two parties involved have agreed the purchase price will remain undisclosed.

DLA Piper advises Aareal bank on €447m financing for pan-European hotel portfolio

23 NOV 2018

DLA Piper has advised Aareal Bank AG in relation to the arrangement of a five-year €447 million financing for a European hotel portfolio managed by Swedish hotel property company Pandox AB.

DLA Piper advises KGAL Group on its acquisition of „Berliner Freiheit“ in Bremen

13 NOV 2018

DLA Piper has advised the KGAL Investment Management GmbH & Co. KG on its acquisition of shopping center and neighbourhood hub "Berliner Freiheit" in Bremen, for an undisclosed price.

DLA Piper advises Columbia Capital, LLC in its US\$21 million equity investment in Resilience360

13 NOV 2018

DLA Piper represented Columbia Capital, LLC in its US\$21 million equity investment in Resilience360 GMBH.

DLA Piper advises DASAN Zhone Solutions on intended acquisition of KEYMILE

24 OCT 2018

DLA Piper has advised NASDAQ-listed DASAN Zhone Solutions (DZS), a global leader in fiber access transformation for enterprise and service provider networks, on its intended acquisition of KEYMILE, a leading solution provider and manufacturer of

telecommunication systems for broadband access.

DLA Piper advises Family Trust Investor on founding of new private equity fund and expansion of investor base

11 OCT 2018

DLA Piper has advised the shareholders of Family Trust Investor (FTI) on the founding of a new holding company for private equity transactions. With its new fund FTI has significantly expanded its existing investor base and raised an undisclosed amount of committed capital.

DLA Piper advises exceet Group on sale of its micro- and optoelectronics company AEMtec

27 SEP 2018

DLA Piper has advised the exceet Group on the sale of their portfolio company AEMtec GmbH - the Berlin based micro- and optoelectronics company - to Mellifera Neunundzwanzigste Beteiligungsgesellschaft.
