



Finance

DLA Piper advises on all aspects of financing, across borders, sectors and financial products.

With one of the largest teams of dedicated finance lawyers in the world and an established local law firm network, we help our clients to realize their financial strategies in whichever markets they do business.

Our clients include the full range of market participants, whom we often support on first-of-a-kind deals and in new markets.

We share knowledge and skills in deals involving, for example, lending and borrowing, debt securities, derivatives, funds, portfolios and FinTech solutions, as well as energy, infrastructure and other projects.

Publications

EC Proposals for reform of AIFMD, UCITS Directive and the ELTIF regime: Welcome changes or regulatory creep?

20 January 2022

Following its review of the scope and functioning of the AIFMD, the European Commission has concluded that the AIFMD's standards for ensuring high levels of investor protection are mostly effective, but that amendments are required. The EC published new legislative amendments to AIFMD, the UCITS Directive and the ELTIF Regulation.

Reverse Solicitation – ESMA's response to request for support in relation to the report on reverse solicitation

12 January 2022

On the 3rd January 2022, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) published a letter (ESMA Letter) dated 17 December, 2021 to the European Commission (Commission) setting out the results of its survey of national competent authorities (NCAs) in connection with the Commission's forthcoming report on the use of reverse solicitation by asset managers and the impact on passporting activities (Report).

KEY CONTACTS

John T. Cusack

Partner

New York

T: +1 212 335 4849

john.cusack@dlapiper.com

David Trott

Partner

London

T: +442077966777

david.trott@dlapiper.com

- International Corporate Reorganizations

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

21 December 2021

BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS

Breaking legal news on cryptoassets and cryptocurrency, plus: Google sues to disrupt massive botnet

CSA introduces temporary exemptions for well-known seasoned issuers (WKSIs) from certain base shelf prospectus requirements

21 December 2021

On December 6, 2021, pursuant to CSA Staff Notice 44-306 *Blanket Orders Exempting Well-known Seasoned Issuers from Certain Prospectus Requirements*, the Canadian Securities Administrators announced a pilot project which introduces temporary exemptions from certain base shelf prospectus requirements for qualifying well-known seasoned non-investment fund reporting issuers.

TSX Venture Exchange adopts amendments to modernize and clarify framework for security based compensation arrangements

17 December 2021

On November 24, 2021, the TSX Venture Exchange announced in its bulletin *Security Based Compensation* certain amendments to its policies regarding security based compensation which took effect immediately. In accordance with the Security Based Compensation Changes, the TSXV amended its *Policy 4.4 – Incentive Stock Options* and renamed it *Policy 4.4 - Security Based Compensation*. The Amended Policy provides for a more comprehensive framework than the Former Policy, which only addressed stock options. These changes immediately impact all issuers with securities listed on the TSXV and provide Issuers with enhanced flexibility to structure share compensation arrangements.

Changes to FCA Payment Services and E-Money Regulatory Regime

10 December 2021

On 29 November 2021, Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published amendments to the Regulatory Technical Standards on Strong Customer Authentication and Secure Communication (SCA-RTS). The FCA also amended the guidance in “Payment Services and Electronic Money – our Approach” (Approach Document, now dated November 2021).

FSB Commonwealth of Independent States

2 December 2021

On the 25 November 2021, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) Regional Consultative Group (RCG) for the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) met to discuss key risks relating to high debt levels and crypto assets.

ESG - FCA climate-related financial disclosure regime: Key takeaways for market participants

30 November 2021

The UK Government has committed to a net-zero economy by 2050. At the same time, heightened investor demand for sustainable investments means that Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) issues are at the top of the UK regulators' agenda at the moment. Against this backdrop, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has published new draft rules regarding climate-related financial disclosures for asset managers, life insurers and FCA-regulated pension providers. The relevant requirements are expected to come into force from 1 January 2022 for some of the larger firms. Market participants active in the ESG space should be working to put in

place processes to comply with both the existing and upcoming regulatory requirements.

[Read more](#)

Exchange - International: Financial Services Regulation Newsletter

22 November 2021

[EXCHANGE - INTERNATIONAL: FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION NEWSLETTER](#)

Welcome to the latest edition of Exchange - International, our global newsletter designed to keep you informed of the latest regulatory developments in the financial services sector. This issue includes updates from the UK, the EU, as well as contributions from Ireland, Germany and the US, plus international developments.

Regulation of 'Buy-Now Pay-Later' products - HM Treasury Consultation

17 November 2021

HM Treasury has published its much-anticipated consultation on the Regulation of "Buy-Now Pay-Later" products (Consultation). This action was launched in response to the concerns and recommendations raised in the Woolard Review, which (amongst other topics) considered potential consumer detriment in relation to the unregulated Buy-Now-Pay-Later products (BNPL), which are currently exempt from regulation.

Central Bank of Ireland sets out supervisory expectations of regulated firms regarding climate change

8 November 2021

As corporates, investors and the general public watch closely for positive developments at the 26th UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26), the Central Bank of Ireland (Central Bank) took the opportunity on the 3rd November, 2021 to issue a letter to Chairs and CEOs of Regulated Financial Services Providers (RFSPs)[1] (the Letter) in Ireland to highlight the statutory obligations and supervisory expectations relating to climate and broader environmental, sustainability and governance (ESG) issues.

DLA Piper's global CLO team sponsors the new edition of Creditflux's Guide to CLOs

3 November 2021

We are delighted to announce that DLA Piper has sponsored the 2nd edition of Creditflux's 'Guide to CLOs', a fully updated and accessible, comprehensive resource on the market for collateralized loan obligations.

Canadian Securities Administrators seek comment on proposed National Instrument 51-107 - *Disclosure of Climate-related Matters*

21 October 2021

On October 18, the Canadian Securities Administrators proposed National Instrument 51-107 *Disclosure of Climate-related Matters* and its companion policy that would introduce new climate-related disclosure obligations for reporting issuers in Canada.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

18 October 2021

[BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Non-fungible tokens: What are the legal risks?

Anti-Money Laundering Bulletin

30 September 2021

[ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING BULLETIN](#)

DLA Piper's Financial Services Regulatory team welcomes you to the September 2021 edition of our Anti-Money Laundering (AML) Bulletin. In this issue, we provide updates on AML developments in the UK, the EU and internationally.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

17 September 2021

[BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Proposed infrastructure bill would subject cryptocurrencies to wash sale and constructive sale rules.

Commodities News and Trends

20 September 2021

[COMMODITIES NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Brazil and Argentina lead the way in biofuels; CFTC: we will support transition to a low-carbon economy; is the end in sight for the shale-driven pipeline building boom?

Proposed infrastructure bill would subject cryptocurrencies to wash sale and constructive sale rules

17 September 2021

The move comes as part of the Ways and Means Committee's attempt to raise revenue to finance infrastructure spending.

Recent updates to the Central Bank of Ireland UCITS and AIFMD Q&A

16 September 2021

On 10 September 2021, the Central Bank issued the 33rd edition of the Central Bank UCITS Q&A, and the 41st Edition of the AIFMD Q&A (Revised Q&A).

Speech by the FCA Chair on the Risks of Online Cryptoasset Promotions

8 September 2021

On 6 September 2021 the Chair of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) and Payment Systems Regulator, Charles Randell, gave a speech to the Cambridge International Symposium on Economic Crime about the risks of token regulation.

Overview and primer — Financial entities and Canada’s anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing regime

25 August 2021

On June 1, 2021, regulatory amendments to the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Regulations (PCMLTFR)* came into effect. These new amendments create and change the obligations of all financial entities. In this article we provide a summary of these obligations and their day-to-day implications for financial entities in Canada.

Climate reporting: Dispute risks rise up the agenda

23 August 2021

Our financial services (FS) institutional clients have been leading the way with alignment of climate reporting to the internationally recognised Task Force on Climate-related Finance Disclosures (TCFD) standards, reorganising their governance structures to ensure strong oversight on climate risk and adapting their businesses accordingly.

Germany Introduces New Investment Fund Category of Development Promotion Funds

10 August 2021

In order to strengthen Germany as a fund location the German legislator has enacted the Fund Location Act (Fondsstandortgesetz – FoStoG) which, for the most part, came into force on 2 August 2021.

EBA launches public consultation on draft regulatory technical standards (RTS) to identify shadow banking entities for the purposes of reporting large exposures

9 August 2021

On 26 July 2021, the European Banking Authority (EBA) launched a public consultation on regulatory technical standards (RTS) to set out several criteria to identify shadow banking entities for the purposes of reporting large exposures^[1]. The consultation runs until 26 October 2021.

[Read more](#)

Cross-border distribution of investment funds - Irish developments

6 August 2021

The key objectives of the European and Irish legislation is to facilitate EU cross-border distribution of undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS) and alternative investment funds (AIFs) and to harmonise the regulatory framework governing the distribution of such investment funds.

Foreign banks operation in Canada on a branch basis

29 July 2021

On June 28, 2021, the Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions Canada, the independent federal institution that regulates the Canadian banking system, released *Guideline E-4: Foreign Entities Operating in Canada on a Branch Basis*. Guideline E-4 is intended to support the statutory and regulatory requirements established in the *Bank Act* and *Insurance Companies Act*. It highlights

OSFI's expectations with respect to foreign entities operating in Canada through branches, including foreign banks operating in Canada on a branch basis and foreign entities that insure Canadian risks.

ECB and Eurosystem launch the digital euro project

22 July 2021

On 14 July, the European Central Bank (ECB) announced that the Governing Council of the ECB has decided to launch the investigation phase of a digital euro project. The President of the Eurogroup expressed his full support for the project.

[Read more](#)

IRS concludes Section 1031 tax-deferred "like-kind" exchange treatment is not available for cryptocurrency trades

19 July 2021

It seems reasonable to assume that the IRS will apply its analysis to most cryptocurrencies.

UK Regulators set out expectations for Diversity & Inclusion in the Financial Sector

8 July 2021

On 7 July 2021, three UK regulators (the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) and the Bank of England) published Discussion Paper 21/2: Diversity and inclusion in the financial sector – working together to drive change (DP 21/2).

SESG: Building back better through diversity

22 June 2021

TECHLAW PODCAST

Podcast 38 of our TechLaw podcast series sees Gary Stewart, Founder & CEO at FounderTribes, a platform connecting and empowering entrepreneurs, join Luca Gori, partner and Corporate M&A lawyer at DLA Piper, to discuss the role of diversity in global corporate venture capital investing. They discuss how to use strategic alliances, not just to help restart economies or build back to 'normal', but to use this opportunity to "build back better" than before. Join Gary Stewart at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

[DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · SESG: Building back better through diversity](#)

Recent changes on the interest rate, debt repayments and how these would affect your financing in Thailand

18 June 2021

On 10 April 2021, the Thai Government enacted The Emergency decree amending the Civil and Commercial Code B.E. 2564 (2021) (Emergency Decree) to amend the Thai Civil and Commercial Code (CCC) (as amended, the Amended CCC). Recently, the Bank of Thailand (BOT) issued its notification no. SorKorSor. 9/2563 Re: Default interest calculation and application of debt repayment dated 9 October 2020 (New BOT's notification). This new set of law has changed a Thai legal landscape on the interest calculation and the debt repayment.

FinTech: Cashless societies and post-pandemic growth

10 June 2021

TECHLAW PODCAST

In podcast 37 of our TechLaw podcast series, Tom Hambrett, Group General Counsel & Company Secretary at FinTech banking app, Revolut, joins Bryony Widdup, partner at DLA Piper, in preparation for our European Technology Summit, taking place on the 5th October 2021. Together they discuss how Revolut and the wider FinTech, payment services and eCommerce industries will play an instrumental role in enabling growth post-pandemic while also mitigating against amplifying risk. Join Tom Hambrett at our fifth European Technology Summit on the 5th October 2021.

DLA Piper TechLaw Podcast Series · FinTech: Cashless societies and post-pandemic growth (Bryony Widdup And Tom Hambrett)

Financial Stability Board consults on Targets for Cross-Border Payments

10 June 2021

On 31 May 2021, the Financial Stability Board (FSB) published a consultative document on Targets for Addressing the Four Challenges of Cross-Border Payments (Consultation).

Biden Administration "Green Book" tax proposals would affect private investment funds if enacted

9 June 2021

The Green Book incorporates changes from the American Jobs Plan and American Families Plan.

Luxembourg law of 20 May 2021 enters into force amending Luxembourg laws in the financial sector

2 June 2021

On 21 May 2021, the Law of 20 May 2021 (Law) was published on *Mémorial A* amending, among others, the law of 5 April 1993 on the financial sector, as amended (LFS).

Bill 7825 amending the Luxembourg Securitisation Law of 22 March 2004

28 May 2021

For so many years, Luxembourg has attracted securitisation transactions due to its favourable framework deriving from the law dated 22 March 2004 on securitisation, as amended (Securitisation Law).

Deadline extension for Strong Customer Authentication

27 May 2021

On 20 May 2021, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) further delayed the deadline for Payment Service Providers (PSPs) to implement Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) for e-commerce platforms by six months. The new deadline is 14 March 2022.

First FCA consultation on reforming capital markets post-Brexit

7 May 2021

On 28 April 2021, the FCA published Consultation Paper 21/9 (CP 21/9), which sets out proposals to amend conduct and organisational requirements under MiFID II (as implemented in the UK) in relation to SME and FICC research inducement rules and best execution reports.

SEC Commissioner Peirce issues revised token safe harbor proposal

23 April 2021

The proposed rule provides two paths to an exit that would allow the company to keep operating without registration of the tokens.

Episode 16: New data classifications and data localisation for financial institutions in China

21 April 2021

NAVIGATING CHINA: THE DIGITAL JOURNEY

Important new guidelines outlining how personal and other types of financial information should be handled by financial institutions throughout the data lifecycle have just come into force in China, including a new data localisation obligation.

Clarity on financial assistance rules

6 April 2021

The Luxembourg legislator brings useful clarity on the non-application of criminal liabilities for the managers of SARLs in a financial assistance scenario

Scope, fees, IP, relief: Mastering the elements of good licensing

6 April 2021

Licensing is a very broad concept —much broader than the commonly-held view that licensing only relates to software, art, content, or other registrable intellectual property rights such as patents, trademarks, and copyright. While licensing certainly captures these concepts, any time a business permits another party to use something it owns, it is licensing that something to that other party. And while there are technical, legal differences between leases and licences that are very important when applying to physical or real property, the lines are blurry and leases grant very different rights and interests.

Update to tax treatment of cryptoassets to incorporate staking

6 April 2021

On 30 March 2021, Her Majesty's Revenue & Customs (HMRC) updated its Cryptoassets Manual to take into account staking in proof-of-stake networks.

HMRC confirmed that such passively earned cryptoassets will likely be subject to Capital Gains Tax or Corporation Tax on chargeable gains when the cryptoassets are subsequently sold. This position is largely the same as the established tax treatment of cryptoasset mining activities.

BRRD II transposition impacts French legal framework on resolvability

31 March 2021

Under Directive 2014/59/EU of 15 May 2014 establishing a framework for the recovery and resolution of credit institutions and investment firms, as amended (BRRD II), as implemented into French law, the French banking authority (Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution, the ACPR) should take into account, for the purpose of establishing resolution plans, several items when assessing whether an entity may be wound up or be subject to one or more of the resolution measures.

Extension of the scope of French regulations on AML internal controls

31 March 2021

The French administrative order (arrêté) of 3 November 2014 (2014 Order) establishing a framework on internal control for financial institutions subject to the supervision of the French banking authority (Autorité de contrôle prudentiel et de résolution, ACPR) was recently amended by the French order (arrêté) of 6 January 2021 on the system and internal controls to fight money laundering and terrorist financing (AML Internal Controls Order).

[Read more](#)

Modification of French financial markets regulatory framework: Use of a single electronic reporting format by issuers and language of the market operating rules

31 March 2020

The General Regulation of the French financial markets authority (Autorité des marchés financiers, the AMF and the AMF General Regulation) was recently amended to implement into French law the requirements laid down in Directive 2004/109/EC of 15 December 2004 on the harmonization of transparency requirements in relation to information about issuers whose securities are admitted to trading on a regulated market, as amended (Transparency Directive), and such modifications have been endorsed by the administrative order (arrêté) of 29 December 2020 (Order).

Transposition of CRD V relating to credit institutions' authorization and prudential supervision

31 March 2021

France continues the transposition of Directive (EU) 2019/878 (the Capital Requirements Directive, CRD V) into its legal system, and adopted in this respect two administrative orders (arrêtés) on 25 February 2021, relating to (i) the authorization, changes in status and withdrawal of authorization of credit institutions (and French finance companies, payment institutions and electronic money institutions – the Authorization Order) and to (ii) prudential supervision on a consolidated basis (the Prudential Supervision Order). Said orders were published in the French official journal dated 6 March 2021.

UK retail banking: Building resilience post-pandemic

31 March 2021

In its recently published strategy for the retail banking portfolio, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) recognises that the banking industry responded well to the immediate challenges created by COVID-19. Nonetheless, economic conditions are expected to remain difficult over the next two years with the key risks of harm being dominated by the economic and social impact of the pandemic. The FCA identifies four priority areas for retail banks: (1) fair treatment of borrowers, especially those in financial difficulties; (2) good governance and oversight of customer outcomes during business change; (3) operational resilience; and (4) minimising fraud and other financial crime. This blog focuses on the key risks associated with operational resilience and reduction of financial crime; and the steps banks can take to ensure regulatory compliance whilst enhancing returns.

Why Diversity and Inclusion are Regulatory Issues

31 March 2021

On 17 March 2021, the CEO of the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA), Nikhil Rathi, gave a speech at the launch of the HM Treasury Women in Finance Charter Annual Review.

The CEO noted that the FCA and the Prudential Regulation Authority are developing a joint approach to Diversity & Inclusion (D&I) for all financial services firms.

Mr Rathi set out some of the broad areas in which the FCA is focusing on D&I in its approach to regulation in the UK.

Episode 3: Collaboration and corporate venturing in the financial services industry

24 March 2021

[THE DLA PIPER FINANCIAL SERVICES PODCAST](#)

In this episode, partners Anthony Day, Chris Arnold and Michaël Heene discuss the transformation of the traditional model of retail banks and how the pandemic has expedited this change. The evolution of the banking and fintech ecosystems through investment, collaboration and other partnerships, is also examined.

Wyoming takes a step ahead to clarify the legal status of decentralized autonomous organizations

22 March 2021

If the bill becomes official law, Wyoming will be the first US state to clarify the legal status of a DAO.

Artificial Intelligence in the Luxembourg Financial Sector

16 March 2021

Artificial intelligence (AI) based technologies are nowadays used in the financial sector as part of the financial services provision in Luxembourg. These advantageous solutions are acknowledged and supported by the EU's work towards a suitable legal and ethical framework.

Payments in Canada update: Interac selected as the exchange solution provider for Canada's new real-time payments system

15 March 2021

On March 2, 2021, Payments Canada announced the selection of Interac Corp. as the exchange solution provider for Canada's real-time payments system, the Real-Time Rail. The announcement follows a selection process that included participation from the Bank of Canada.

Deferral of final implementation phases of the margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives

9 March 2021

As mentioned in our previous FinBrief post accessible [here](#), the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) announced in Spring 2020 that they agreed, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, to extend the deadline for completing the final implementation phases of the margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives. Accordingly, the three European supervisory authorities (ESAs) published a draft amendment to the European delegated regulation on risk-mitigation techniques (Margin Regulation) in order to implement such deferral.

Episode 2: What next for the European NPL market? – Part 2

8 March 2021

THE DLA PIPER FINANCIAL SERVICES PODCAST

In this episode, the discussion on the non-performing loan (NPL) market continues with views on developments in Greece, Italy and Spain. Even without the impact of COVID-19, these southern European markets continue to experience significant NPL activity.

The new professional payment guarantee – Luxembourg reinforces its legal toolkit (ahead of Brexit)

5 March 2021

Introduced by a law dated 10 July 2020 (PPG Law), the professional payment guarantee (PPG) is the result of an accelerated legislative process made possible by the alignment of both professional and public demands for a new type of guarantee in a context marked by the COVID-19 pandemic and the looming Brexit.

Contactless Payments Limit to be raised to GBP100

4 March 2021

On 3 March 2021, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published Policy Statement 21/2 on amendments to the single and cumulative transaction limits for contactless payments (PS 21/2). Coinciding with the budget, PS 21/3 announced that the single transaction limit for contactless card payments will be increasing from GBP45 to GBP100 and the cumulative transaction limit before reauthentication is increasing from GBP130 to GBP300. The changes apply from 3 March 2021.

FCA Proposals to regulate the Funeral Plans Sector

3 March 2021

On 2 March 2021, the FCA published a consultation paper explaining their proposals for the regulation of the pre-paid funeral plans sector (the Consultation). The Consultation had been commissioned after the Treasury's Call for Evidence in June 2018 found "significant customer harm" in the market including the mis-selling of products, poor disclosure and high upfront costs.

PRA consults on implementation of Basel III standards in the UK

3 March 2021

On 12 February 2021, the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) published Consultation Paper (CP5/21) on the implementation of the Basel III standards into UK law (CP). This is the first major PRA publication after the end of the Brexit transitional period. The draft rules are generally closely aligned (but not identical) to the corresponding requirements under the EU's CRR II.

Climate change disclosures – under SEC scrutiny

25 February 2021

This new directive does not come as a surprise.

ESMA warns of risks to retail investors of social media driven share trading

18 February 2021

On 17 February 2021, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) published a statement to highlight to retail investors the risks connected to trading decisions exclusively based on the exchange of views, informal recommendations and sharing of trading intentions through social networks and unregulated online platforms.

Episode 1: What next for the European NPL market? – Part 1

17 February 2021

[THE DLA PIPER FINANCIAL SERVICES PODCAST](#)

In this episode, the team discusses the non-performing loan (NPL) market with views from France, Germany, Ireland and the UK.

FCA payments and e-money consultation on changes to SCA-RTS and approach document

17 February 2021

On 27 January 2021, the UK Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published Consultation Paper 21/3 on proposed changes to the manner in which the FCA regulates payment services and the issuance of electronic money (CP 21/3). The consultation for the following initiatives will remain open until 30 April 2021.

FCA is consulting to raise the contactless limit to GBP100

8 February 2021

On 27 January 2021, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published Consultation Paper 21/3 on proposed changes to the manner in which the FCA regulates payment services and the issuance of electronic money (CP 21/3).

Consumer credit: A review of change and innovation in the unsecured credit market. Who does this affect and what does it mean?

4 February 2021

On 2 February 2021, the FCA published a report (the report) on the findings of its review on change and innovation in the unsecured credit market led by the FCA's former interim CEO Christopher Woolard. The review sought the views of a wide range of participants, both in the UK and internationally and three roundtables were held to discuss topics under review, information on the discussions at these roundtables can be found [here](#).

Brexit - impacts and changes for securitisations in the UK and Europe

29 January 2021

Securitisation remains one of the most effective and efficient forms of financing to support business growth and development. In spite of years of regulatory interference, delay and badly developed regulation the market continues to operate, admittedly at significantly reduced levels. The UK now has the opportunity to re-establish a securitisation regulatory regime that is effective and more appropriate to the risk and structures involved. This is however likely to be some way off as participants initially continue to operate within the current regulatory framework.

Exchange - International: Financial Services Regulation Newsletter

28 January 2021

EXCHANGE - INTERNATIONAL: FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the latest edition of Exchange - International, our global newsletter designed to keep you informed of the latest regulatory developments in the financial services sector. In this edition, we look at analyses of the historical UK-EU Trade Agreement, touch on practical insights in light of Individual Accountability regime in Ireland, and shine light on recent developments in the EU, US, Spain and on international level.

Unauthorized financial transaction fraud: Mitigating liability risks

28 January 2021

Prudent financial institutions are seeking to protect themselves against liability for third-party fraud and accountholder carelessness.

PRA evaluation of the senior managers and certification regime

27 January 2021

On 15 December 2020, the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) published an evaluation of the Senior Managers and Certification Regime (SMCR).

PRA evaluation of the senior managers and certification regime

27 January 2021

On 15 December 2020, the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) published an evaluation of the Senior Managers and Certification Regime (SMCR). The PRA found that the regime has generally been successful in improving conduct and accountability. A large majority (around 95%) of the firms surveyed told the PRA that the SMCR was having a positive effect on individual behaviour. However, the PRA's evaluation also identified some unintended consequences such as a lack of diversity in recruitment.

Collaboration models form the basis for future success

20 January 2021

The rollercoaster experience of disruption to long-term relationship has been a breathtaking and sometimes stomach-churning ride for fintech and banking alike. Commercial "collaboration" is often hard to achieve, so here we aim to pin down more closely, from a legal perspective, what is meant, what is covered and where the pitfalls might lie.

ESMA guidance on the application of reverse solicitation following the end of the Brexit transition period

14 January 2021

On 13 January 2021, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA), the European Union's (EU) securities markets regulator, issued a public statement to remind firms of the second Markets in Financial Instruments Directive 2014/65/EU (MiFID II) requirements on the provision of investments services to retail or professional clients by firms not established or situated in the EU. This statement was issued to raise ESMA concerns over "questionable practices by firms around reverse solicitation" since the end of the Brexit transition period.

Extension of USD LIBOR – ICE Benchmark Administration Consultation

12 January 2021

On 30 November 2020, the ICE Benchmark Administration (IBA) which compiles and oversees LIBOR, announced that it will hold a consultation on its intention to extend most US Dollar LIBOR (USD LIBOR) tenors until 30 June 2023.

Shades of blue in financing: Transforming the ocean economy with blue bonds

12 January 2021

The annual economic value generated by our oceans is approximately USD3 trillion, making the ocean economy, the fifth largest economy globally.

Boardroom Brexit: What the deal means for trade in services

31 December 2020

[BOARDROOM BREXIT](#)

The TCA has substantial sectoral coverage, including professional and business services (e.g. legal, auditing, architectural services), delivery and telecommunication services, computer-related and digital services, financial services, research and development services, most transport services and environmental services.

Non-performing loans - new EU measures

22 December 2021

On 9 December 2020 the negotiators from the Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee and the European Council reached agreement on amendments to the Capital Requirements Regulation and the Securitisation Regulation (the Regulations). On 15 December, the European Council issued the final compromise text to the Permanent Representatives Committee. The formal adoption of the final texts is targeted for February 2021. Under the terms of the Withdrawal Agreement between the UK and the EU, any EU law that is legally binding at the end of the transition period (31 December 2020) will continue to apply in the UK after that date. We await confirmation on whether these amendments (or a version of these amendments) will be adopted in the UK.

Payments in Canada: A 2020 update

22 December 2020

The way Canadians pay for goods and services continues to evolve from cash and cheques towards new technology and digital payments. Payments Canada is responding to these changes by carrying out a multi-year initiative to modernize Canada's payment

systems and the rules that apply to payment processors and financial institutions.

Cryptocurrency and money laundering: FINTRAC issues “red flag” guidance

18 December 2020

In early December, FINTRAC released a publication that shares some of the most common indicators of money laundering and terrorist financing with respect to virtual currency transactions. The guidance on suspicious transactions was developed through a review of money laundering and terrorist financing cases, consultations with selected REs, a review of the STRs, and reports published by the Financial Action Task Force and Egmont Group.

UK consumer finance legislative reform - the pressure is mounting

11 December 2020

The pressure to reform the out of date legislative landscape for consumer credit in the UK intensifies. Since the FCA's review of the retained provisions of the Consumer Credit Act 1974 (CCA) in 2019 there has been no substantive change and so the pressure for reform from the consumer finance industry and its trade associations continues to gather momentum. We understand that on 8 December 2020, the Finance & Leasing Association and other trade bodies including the Consumer Credit Trade Association, the Association of Alternative Business Finance and the British Vehicle Rental & Leasing Association sent a briefing paper called Consumer Credit Act – the case for reform to the Economic Secretary to the Treasury, John Glen MP calling for reform of the CCA.

Basel Committee and IOSCO announce new deferral on final implementation phases of the margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives

4 December 2020

On 3 April 2020, the Basel Committee on Banking Supervision (BCBS) and the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) announced that they had agreed to extend the deadline for completing the final two implementation phases of the margin requirements for non-centrally cleared derivatives by one year, from 1 September 2021 to 1 September 2022. Such extension, which follows a first one-year deferral that had been decided on July 2019, was awaited by the industry and is expected to provide additional operational capacity for firms to respond to the immediate impact of Covid-19 and at the same time, facilitate covered entities to act diligently to comply with the requirements by the revised deadline. Following this second extension, the three European supervisory authorities (ESAs) published on 23 November 2020 a third draft amendment to the European regulation on over the counter (OTC) derivatives, central counterparties and trade repositories (EMIR), following that of December 2019 and May 2020, which aimed at reflecting into European Union (EU) laws the BCBS and IOSCO announcement.

[Read more](#)

Oil and gas operations in Latin America

3 December 2020

Addressing key operational and commercial challenges that are unique to Latin America.

Where true innovation and FinTech meet

3 December 2020

The growing interaction between traditional financial institutions, FinTechs and customers is well reflected by the integration of several customer friendly service platforms in existing banking environments. Read in this publication the general principles and market

practices concerning bank-integrated subscription cancellation solutions.

Applying two principles of Islamic finance to create meaningful ESG initiatives

2 December 2020

Environmental, social and governance matters are a burgeoning issue on the agenda for businesses, governments and individuals alike. Companies are under increasing pressure to shift their focus from maximising profits and shareholder value to maximising value for all stakeholders.

The FCA's extension of the deadlines for the Certification Regime and Conduct Rules

30 November 2020

On 28 October 2020, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published a policy statement titled 20/12: Extending the implementation deadlines for the Certification Regime and Conduct Rules (PS20/12). PS20/20 summarises the feedback received from its consultation on extending the implementation deadlines for the Senior Managers and Certification Regime and Conduct Rules as well as outlining its finalised rules for the extended guideline.

Major Canadian pension funds call for standardized ESG disclosures in Canadian businesses

27 November 2020

Major Canadian pension funds ask companies to adopt and improve their environmental, social, and governance (“**ESG**”) reporting by disclosing industry relevant ESG factors through the adoption of Sustainability Accounting Standards Board (“**SASB**”) reporting and the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (“**TCFD**”).

OSFI revises anti-money laundering supervisory approach

24 November 2020

The Office of the Superintendent of Financial Institutions announced that it will be resuming its efforts to collaborate with the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada to combat money laundering and terrorist financing. As part of an on-going effort to eliminate potential overlap and reduce regulatory burden, OSFI and FINTRAC revised their approach to supervise Federally Regulated Financial Institutions anti-money laundering and anti-terrorist financing programs.

Regulatory framework for CBDs and GSCs: IMF's policy paper, "Digital Money Across Borders: Macro-Financial Implications"

23 November 2020

The Report discusses the pros and cons of two important virtual currencies: central bank digital currencies and global stable coins.

New York Department of Financial Services calls on financial institutions to consider climate change risk

9 November 2020

Investors increasingly view climate as an area of business risk, and regulators are viewing it as a supervisory risk as well.

Assessing ESG factors in the energy sector

27 October 2020

[ESG HANDBOOKS AND GUIDES](#)

A reference tool for energy companies as they discuss and refine their ESG programs.

Puerto Rico: Legal and practical aspects of international arbitration

26 October 2020

Parties benefit from this legal framework to solve their disputes when conducting business in Puerto Rico.

USMCA investor-state dispute settlement provisions: Key differences for Mexico

26 October 2020

For ISDS claims, only after the local litigation requirement is fulfilled or 30 months have elapsed may certain substantive claims be brought against a state.

Exchange International: Financial Services Regulation Newsletter

23 October 2020

[EXCHANGE - INTERNATIONAL: FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION NEWSLETTER](#)

Welcome to the latest edition of Exchange - International, our global newsletter designed to keep you informed of the latest regulatory developments in the financial services sector. In this edition, we look at developments in the UK payments sector, climate-related financial risk management and the impact of COVID-19 on the EU banking sector.

Germany's New Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) Act took effect on 11 October 2020

19 October 2020

In addition to the intended amendments to the Foreign Trade and Payments Act Germany's Federal Government on 20 May 2020 has decided on a bill that broadens the scope and the scrutiny with regard to foreign investments.

Braced for change - Renewed focus on reform of legal and regulatory framework for financial services in the United Arab Emirates (UAE)

13 October 2020

Needless to say, this year has been a challenging one for the UAE economy. Not only did the UAE find itself particularly vulnerable to the economic disruption of COVID 19 through its aviation, tourism and hospitality sectors, but the drop in oil prices has added an extra layer of strain. Like many other countries around the world, the UAE government has sought to provide support to the banking and financial services sector in the knowledge that a strong financial system will be key to minimising the impact of any economic downturn, while also ensuring that there is sufficient liquidity available to assist with the post COVID 19 recovery.

Climate risk - turning the dial on disclosure, reporting and corporate accountability

13 October 2020

The climate risk reporting regime is changing and financial institutions have 12 months to prepare. We take a look at the new landscape, leveraging governance and transparency to embed climate risk accountability in business.

Finance and Markets Global Insight - Issue 19, 2020

13 October 2020

FINANCE AND MARKETS GLOBAL INSIGHT

EU SUSTAINABLE FINANCE

Welcome to the latest edition of FMGI which looks at some of the key issues in finance including the continued impact of COVID-19 and the increased influence of sustainable thinking. Regulatory change and modernisation of financial systems still play a big role and we have attempted to pick out a few areas that may be of interest.

French court decision on the legal nature of bitcoin in the spotlight

13 October 2020

For the first time in France, and one of the first times in Europe, a court decision characterises the legal nature of a cryptocurrency (bitcoin) and loans on such asset.

Sustainability-Linked Bonds and the Sustainability-Linked Bond Principles

13 October 2020

A key point of discussion at the 25th Conference of the Parties (COP25) of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change which met in December 2019 was climate finance. States party to the Paris Agreement debated whether to create a new climate finance goal (the current target of USD100 billion expires in 2020), and whether long-term climate finance initiatives (also to end in 2020) should be renewed. While states party to the Paris Agreement were unable to agree on the way forward in terms of these issues, the discussions at COP25 highlight how fundamental sustainable finance mechanisms are to achieving climate mitigation and adaptation targets.

The EU Taxonomy Regulation – Giving sustainable investing a good name

13 October 2020

There is no denying that the EU has lofty and commendable ambitions when it comes to sustainability. With its aims to decouple economic growth from resource use and make Europe the first climate neutral continent by 2050, sustainability is firmly on Europe's agenda.

The capital markets recovery package

13 October 2020

The European Commission introduced proposals containing adjustments to the prospectus, capital requirements and securitization regulations and MiFID II reflecting supportive measures as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

UK government consults on financial promotions regime and cryptoassets

13 October 2020

Earlier this year, HM Treasury published two consultations proposing amendments to the UK regulatory framework for approval of financial promotions and with respect to cryptoasset promotions.

The gathering storm: COVID-19-related disputes in the financial services sector – A transatlantic perspective

5 October 2020

COVID-19 has caused the largest shock to the global economy in living memory. Whilst economic uncertainty, financial distress and market turmoil usually trigger increased levels of commercial litigation, the extreme conditions created by COVID-19 have primed the landscape for a pan-sector surge in financial services-related disputes.

TSXV extends temporary relief of \$0.05 minimum pricing requirements

21 September 2020

The TSX Venture Exchange has extended the temporary relief from the \$0.05 minimum pricing requirements, such that it will apply to shares that are issued on or before December 31, 2020.

Federal Court of Appeal decision exposes secured creditors to significant risk under Section 222 of the *Excise Tax Act*

17 AUG 2020

On April 29, 2020 the Federal Court of Appeal (the “**FCA**”) released its decision with respect to Section 222 of the *Excise Tax Act* (the “**Act**”), which creates a deemed trust in favour of the Crown, in priority to all security interests, for unremitted GST.

US moves forward on enhanced securities regulations focusing on Chinese companies

17 August 2020

Latest developments in US efforts to address the financial risks posed by emerging market companies.

Saskatchewan amends PPSA to clarify location of debtors

12 AUG 2020

We wrote earlier this year that British Columbia and Ontario had amended the *Personal Property Security Act* (“PPSA”) in each of those provinces to provide that, for the purpose of determining the location of a debtor in regards to a pledge of intangibles, the debtor is deemed to be located in the jurisdiction of incorporation of the debtor.

FCA publishes the findings of a review into relending by firms that offer high-cost credit

6 August 2020

On 6 August 2020, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published a report setting out review findings of relending by firms in the high-cost lenders portfolio. The FCA also commissioned a study by PWC as an aid to understand repeat borrowing in the high-cost credit market.

Demystifying SAFEs: The good, the bad, and the ugly

30 JUL 2020

If you have spent any amount of time within the startup ecosystem in the past half decade, you're likely familiar with the concept of the Simple Agreement for Future Equity, or SAFE. First introduced by YCombinator in 2013, the SAFE has caught on as a quick and efficient way of raising early capital. However, despite being labelled as "simple" (it's right there in the name!), SAFEs can quite often be confusing to the uninitiated.

This article seeks to lay bare the good, the bad, and the ugly of the SAFE by providing the context necessary to better understand its purpose and underlying mechanisms.

FCA publishes draft guidance to firms on maintaining access to cash for customers

29 July 2020

On 16 July 2020, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published draft guidance setting out its expectations for banks, building societies and credit unions when considering closing branches or ATMs, or converting a free to use ATM to pay to use.

Payment Services - Disrupting a Disruptor's Market

27 July 2020

Governments across the globe have provided an unprecedented level of direct and indirect financial support to businesses - what started as a health crisis has developed into a financial crisis. DLA Piper's Amar Maan looks at the impact of COVID-19 on the payment sector, what it might mean for the market and how that might lead to M&A activity.

ESMA - Response to the European Commission's consultation on the Digital Finance Strategy

22 July 2020

On 29 June 2020, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) published its response to the European Commission's consultation on a new digital finance strategy for the European Union.

FCA publishes FS20/10 feedback statement and additional guidance for payment and e-money firms

10 July 2020

On 9 July 2020, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published Feedback Statement 20/10 (FS 20/10), summarising and responding to feedback received from a previous consultation. On the same date, the FCA also released additional finalised guidance for payment and e-money firms.

ESMA Guidelines on Compliance Function under MiFID II

23 June 2020

On 5 June 2020, the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) published new guidelines for the Compliance Function under the second Markets in Financial Instruments Directive 2014/65/EU (MiFID II), replacing the previous ESMA guidelines on the same topic issued in 2012.

Restructuring Global Insight: COVID-19 edition

23 June 2020

RESTRUCTURING - GLOBAL INSIGHT

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

Boardroom Brexit - 15 June 2020

15 June 2020

BOARDROOM BREXIT

Boardroom Brexit - Britain rules out extension (15 June 2020).

Launching a Real Estate Fund: Key Strategies, Structures and Terms (Part One) and Important Tax, Regulatory and Securities Law Considerations (Part Two)

29 May 2020

Key features of real estate funds and considerations for fund managers considering pursuing the strategy anew.

California bill proposes limits on application of securities laws to tokens

20 May 2020

The proposed changes are likely to be well received by those considering issuing tokens.

French court clarifies the nature of bitcoins: A consumable, fungible, intangible asset

20 May 2020

The dispute arose in the wake of the August 2017 hard fork split.

Coronavirus: the federal government is working quickly to fund the efforts of small business to recover from the global crisis: electronic signatures are permitted

13 May 2020

Electronic signatures are permitted as part of the Paycheck Protection Program and Main Street Lending Program.

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.

COVID-19: National security risks lead to expanded global foreign direct investment reviews

11 May

Key developments in global FDI review regimes.

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.

CSA grants issuers temporary relief from the executive compensation disclosure requirements in light of COVID-19

5 MAY 2020

On May 1, 2020, the Canadian Securities Administrators (the "CSA") announced that public companies may rely upon temporary blanket relief (the "Blanket Relief") from certain requirements with respect to the filing and delivery of their executive compensation disclosure and the delivery of their financial statements and MD&A, which are generally completed by issuers in connection with the mailing and filing of materials for their AGMs.

Economic relief for hemp farmers in new round of funding in response to COVID-19

5 May 2020

The new stimulus package is a more apparent green light for hemp businesses to obtain financial aid.

Main Street Lending Program: Federal Reserve expands scope and eligibility for small and mid-size business loans

5 May 2020

The revised Main Street Lending Program will allow larger companies and businesses with more pre-existing debt access to loans.

The CARES Act and related relief for the multifamily industry: Part III – Freddie Mac Forbearance Program

5 May 2020

A brief summary of the forbearance program for multifamily borrowers as currently offered by Freddie Mac.

eNotes use surges – insights for lenders looking to close mortgage loans electronically

30 April 2020

Some key considerations for lenders looking to close loans electronically, either in person or remotely.

eSignature and ePayment News and Trends

30 April 2020

[ESIGNATURE AND EPAYMENT NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Some key considerations for lenders looking to close loans electronically, either in person or remotely, plus latest regulatory, legal and case law developments around eSignatures and ePayments.

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.

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.

Breaking mega projects into smaller contract packages – a freight response to a freight market

24 April 2020

In response to Australia's freight construction market for major civil construction works, project owners and contractors are adopting various strategies. One of the most common is breaking mega projects into smaller contract packages, however, what exactly are the benefits and risks?

Projects Global Insight Issue 3, 2020

24 April 2020

PROJECTS GLOBAL INSIGHT

Contributing to a sustainable future is more important than ever during these uncertain and testing times. Infrastructure and public services are under particular pressure, especially in terms of what can be done to make them more resilient, yet adaptable.

Responding to a freight civil construction market

24 April 2020

The contracting market for major civil construction works on Australia's east coast has become fraught - for project owners, major contractors, and the rest of the supply chain. Projects have become more complex and expensive, yet despite rising contract values, contractors struggle with profitability. So, what strategies are being considered?

Using blended finance to support infrastructure development in emerging economies

24 April 2020

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the United Nations sets out 17 Sustainable Development Goals; from poverty reduction, food security, healthcare and education to climate change mitigation and other development objectives. What is, and how can blended finance be used in emerging economies?

Congress approves more funding for small businesses

23 April 2020

This package includes billions of dollars in new funding.

FINRA updates frequently asked questions related to regulatory relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic

23 April 2020

Additional guidance from FINRA for broker-dealers.

Exchange International: Financial Services Regulation Newsletter

22 April 2020

[EXCHANGE - INTERNATIONAL: FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION NEWSLETTER](#)

Welcome to the latest edition of Exchange - International, our global newsletter designed to keep you informed of the latest regulatory developments in the financial services sector. In this edition, we analyse the impact of COVID-19 on the financial services sector and the contingency measures taken by governments and regulatory bodies.

New Irish government supports for SMEs

16 April 2020

On 8 April 2020, the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation, Heather Humphreys TD, announced details of the further package of support measures that her department has put in place for SMEs impacted by COVID-19 bringing the overall support package to EUR1 billion.

Bank Regulatory News and Trends

20 April 2020

[BANK REGULATORY NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

Bank regulators, Treasury and Congress take emergency steps to contain damage to the economy and temporarily ease regulatory burdens on financial services industry.

Chilean banking and credit measures in the context of COVID-19

20 April 2020

Chile's Emergency Economic Plan aims to provide support to the country's most vulnerable workers, companies and families.

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.

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.

The lender's playbook in the time of COVID-19 (US)

20 April 2020

How should secured real estate lenders be approaching their loan portfolios?

OSFI announces measures to assist federally-regulated financial institutions in response to COVID-19

15 APR 2020

Given the financial impact of COVID-19, the Office of Superintendent of Financial Institutions (OSFI), Canada's prudential financial regulator, has made numerous regulatory adjustments to reduce the operational stress on federally-regulated financial institutions, which includes banks, insurers and private pension plans.

Paradigm Change in Germany's Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) Law

14 April 2020

Germany's FDI rules so far had a reputation of not being very strong. In the past few years, only three transactions have been prohibited. This is set to change under a new bill.

Main Street Lending Program: Federal Reserve unveils emergency lending facilities for small and mid-size businesses up to 10,000 employees

13 April 2020

The Fed announces new steps it is taking to provide loans to assist employers of various sizes, as well as to strengthen the ability of state and local governments to deliver critical services during the pandemic.

The CARES Act and related relief for the multifamily industry: Part II – The Fannie Mae Forbearance Program

13 April 2020

Relief available for multifamily borrowers under the CARES Act.

Coronavirus: Overview of healthcare funding stimulus and policy provisions in the CARES Act (United States)

10 April 2020

Among numerous health policy provisions in the CARES Act is one allowing BARDA to partner with private sector companies on R&D.

FINRA publishes COVID-19 information notice providing suggested measures to strengthen cybersecurity controls

10 April 2020

FINRA provides numerous suggested measures for strengthening cybersecurity controls regarding increased risks associated with employees working remotely.

US \$2T stimulus COVID-19 package includes significant R&D funding

10 April 2020

A summary of R&D funding in the CARES Act broken out by federal departments and agencies.

US: FINRA publishes frequently asked questions related to regulatory relief due to the COVID-19 pandemic

10 April 2020

Through these FAQs, FINRA provides temporary relief from certain rules and requirements where compliance may be affected by the pandemic.

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.

Financial conduct authority publishes its 2020/2021 business plan

9 April 2020

On 7 April 2020, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) published its business plan for the year 2020/21 (Business Plan), setting out its priorities for the near future, but also in the long run.

TSXV lowers \$0.05 minimum pricing requirement to \$0.01

9 APR 2020

On April 8, 2020, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the TSX Venture Exchange published a corporate finance bulletin outlining temporary relief available to issuers lowering the TSXV's minimum pricing requirement for financings from \$0.05 to \$0.01.

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.

Update: 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.

COVID-19: Issues affecting closed-end private investment funds

8 April 2020

Issues that private investors in closed-end private investment funds may want to consider.

Federal Reserve resurrects TALF program in response to COVID-19

6 April 2020

It is widely expected that the terms and requirements of obtaining credit through TALF 2.0 will largely follow those from a predecessor facility made available during the financial crisis.

COVID-19's impact on portfolio company financing

3 April 2020

An overview of financing considerations for portfolio companies of PE firms to address market challenges created by the COVID-19 crisis.

SEC extends relief and provides guidance for investment advisers affected by COVID-19

3 April 2020

Registered investment advisers (and exempt reporting advisers, as applicable) are still required to comply with their filing and delivery obligations.

SEC will not change June 30, 2020 Regulation Best Interest compliance date; FINRA proposes conforming rule changes (update from 31 March 2020)

3 April 2020

The SEC is reportedly considering a delay in the compliance date for Regulation Best Interest due to COVID-19.

ASIC finalises its new foreign financial services provider (FFSP) AFSL Regime and Funds Management Relief

31 March 2020

DLA Piper Australia have published a foreign financial services provider guide ([FFSP Guide](#)) to assist FFSPs currently providing or considering entering the Australian financial services market. We can expertly assist with navigating the new [FFSP Foreign AFSL Regime](#) and [Funds Management Relief](#) enacted by ASIC on 10 March 2020.

Australian Government increases scrutiny on foreign investment as part of response to COVID-19

31 March 2020

OVERVIEW

- Monetary screening threshold reduced to \$0 for all foreign investments under the FATA
 - Timetables for new and existing applications to be extended up to 6 months
 - Priority will be given to applications for investments that support Australian business and jobs so, where applicable, this should be highlighted in applications to FIRB
 - Transactions signed prior to 10:30pm on Sunday, 29 March not impacted by changes
-

COVID-19 - financial services measures in Ireland

31 March 2020

On 12 March, an Taoiseach, Leo Varadkar TD, announced the closure of schools, childcare facilities, colleges, and State-run cultural institutions, and recommended the cancellation of mass gatherings until 29 March.

COVID-19 and French financial markets: The AMF announce a short selling ban for one month

31 March 2020

Following its decision to temporary ban short selling on 92 French stocks admitted to trading on Euronext Paris (regulated market), Euronext Growth Paris or Euronext Access (multilateral trading facilities), trading venues operated by Euronext Paris, with immediate effect until the end of the trading day on Tuesday 17 March, the Autorité des marchés financiers (AMF), in the light of the outbreak of COVID-19 and its consequences on the economy and financial market in France, has decided to ban for a total period of 30 days the creation or increase of short net positions with immediate effect on 18 March 2020 (read the decision here).

HM Treasury – Response to consultation on pre-paid funeral plans

31 March 2020

On 11 March 2020, HM Treasury published the response to its consultation paper on the regulation of pre-paid funeral plans. The consultation had originally been launched in 2018 following concerns about consumer detriment in the pre-paid funeral plan market.

Steps for Business - continuation of business operations

31 March 2020

Governments around the world are responding to the COVID-19 pandemic threat with draconian measures that we have not seen in a lifetime and which many would have never expected to witness. These actions are having a significant impact on our way of life and challenging the underlying economic infrastructure on which individuals and businesses rely.

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.

Coronavirus: strategic considerations for US investment advisers considering whether to apply for temporary relief from filing obligations due to COVID-19

27 March 2020

While this relief may be welcome for many, before applying for relief, investment advisers should consider whether the extension is advisable in light of the conditions placed on advisers seeking to rely on the relief and the implications of seeking an extension.

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.

Bank Regulatory News and Trends

26 March 2020

[BANK REGULATORY NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

The Federal Reserve takes extraordinary steps to address the economic risks arising from COVID-19, among them unprecedented emergency measures to support the economy and expanding credit flow to municipal debt markets. This issue also reports on urgent actions being taken by an array of other federal and state financial services regulators.

Blockchain and Digital Assets News and Trends

25 March 2020

[BLOCKCHAIN AND DIGITAL ASSETS NEWS AND TRENDS](#)

The age of viral outbreaks – key contract considerations in a post-COVID-19 world, plus latest legal, regulatory and case law developments around blockchain and digital transformation.

Coronavirus: Considerations for private equity fund sponsors

25 March 2020

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic presents significant challenges for private equity fund sponsors. This alert provides a list of fundraising, operational and other issues private equity fund sponsors may consider in light of these challenges.

DLA Piper obtains approval of first coronavirus-impacted bankruptcy sale

25 March 2020

DLA Piper's Restructuring practice is at the forefront of the intersection of COVID-19 and bankruptcy.

COVID-19 update for private fund managers (United States)

24 March 2020

On March 13, 2020, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued an order providing investment advisers, whose operations may be impacted by the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19), temporary relief from certain filing requirements under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Changes to provincial personal property security acts create uncertainty around registration of intangibles

16 MAR 2020

Recent amendments to the *Personal Property Security Act* in Ontario and British Columbia, designed to provide certainty as to the law governing security in intangibles, may actually cause uncertainty in certain factual situations.

It's time to talk about money – a speech by Sir Jon Cunliffe

5 March 2020

On 28 February 2020, Sir Jon Cunliffe, Deputy Governor for Financial Stability at the Bank of England, gave a speech on the future of money to the London School of Economics.

FCA highlights its areas of concern in financial services markets

2 March 2020

On 18 February 2020, the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) has published its annual Sector Views.

Prospectus Regulation – A change to Ireland's total consideration threshold

13 February 2020

Regulation (EU) 2017/1129 (the Prospectus Regulation) gave Member States discretion to choose the threshold of total consideration for a public offer of securities below which a prospectus would not be required for offers to the public in that Member State. This is one of a number of exemptions from the obligation to publish a prospectus for public offerings of securities in the EU.

Legal developments in categorising and tracing cryptoassets

11 February 2020

In the English Commercial Court case of *AA v Persons Unknown*, which was handed down late last year (13 December 2019) and released for publication on 17 January 2020, the claimant, an English insurer whose request to be anonymised was granted (the Claimant), brought a claim against certain persons unknown as well as entities trading as Bitfinex (the Defendants) following a cyber ransomware attack on one of the Claimant's insured customers who had paid a ransom of USD950,000 by way of 109.5 Bitcoin.

New record keeping obligations under Canada's changing anti-money laundering regime

4 FEB 2020

This article, which is part of an ongoing series discussing changes to Canada's anti-money laundering regime, examines significant amendments to the record-keeping requirements under the New Regulations.

AMF call for a new European digital strategy for financial services

31 January 2020

On 29 January, the European Commission adopted its 2020 Work Programme. It sets out the actions the Commission will take in 2020 to turn the Political Guidelines of President von der Leyen into tangible benefits for European citizens, businesses and society.

Exchange International: Financial Services Regulation Newsletter

30 January 2020

[EXCHANGE - INTERNATIONAL: FINANCIAL SERVICES REGULATION NEWSLETTER](#)

DLA Piper's Financial Services International Regulatory team welcomes you to the 41st edition of Exchange – International, newsletter designed to keep you informed of regulatory developments in the financial services sector.

This issue includes updates from the EU, UK, Belgium, Spain, the US and other International developments.

Get Shorty: Defamation and regulatory claims against short-sellers in Canada

26 JUL 2017

Canadian companies have yet to find a clear legal path to address short-sellers who issue reports containing facts the company believes to be untrue.

Tax incentives in Puerto Rico: a quick introduction

13 JUN 2017

Puerto Rico offers a spectrum of economic incentives aiming to promote many key industries. This handbook offers a quick look at ten of the most significant of these incentives.

Japan exempts virtual currencies from consumption tax

31 MAR 2017

Comparable treatment can be found in Europe, where EU member states exempt virtual currencies from taxation as a result of a CJEU ruling.

Public-Private Partnerships in Puerto Rico

21 MAR 2017

For those considering participating in P3s in Puerto Rico, this handbook summarizes the applicable legal framework and discusses why Puerto Rico is a favorable jurisdiction for entering into P3s.

Interval Funds - at the Intersection of Liquidity, Transparency, and Valuation

1 MAR 2017

What can interval funds do that other pooled investment vehicles in the marketplace cannot do (or must do differently)?

European Commission tackles financing risks linked to virtual currencies

13 SEP 2016

The proposal seeks to bring greater transparency to the virtual currency market in the European Union by imposing customer due diligence requirements on certain market participants, now considered “obligated entities.”

Can blockchain live up to the hype?

28 JUL 2016

Is blockchain the revolutionary technology that will rewrite the rules for the finance industry, identifying authenticity and verifying payment flows that arise at a business-to-business level or between business and consumers and peer-to-peer? The consequences of the blockchain evolution would significantly open the field for technology platforms and reduce operational costs.

Global Financial Markets Insight - Issue 10, 2016

28 JUL 2016

FINANCE AND MARKETS GLOBAL INSIGHT

On 23 June 2016, the UK electorate voted to leave the European Union in a so-called Brexit referendum. The exit result was a surprise for many working in the finance sector. The change will impact the position of the UK under critical legislation such as the Capital Requirements Regulation, European Market Infrastructure Regulation, Market Abuse Regulation and many other Regulations and Treaties applicable in the UK. We will also see a change as to the role of the UK in significant market initiatives such as the Capital Markets Union. It is likely that these changes will present both threats and opportunities. Until policy is clearer, we will comment on some of the existing challenges caused by EMIR and similar EU Regulations.

Historic reform in Mexico clears the way for foreign investment in energy sector: 5 key aspects

19 DEC 2013

A clear roadmap for the regulation of hydrocarbons

Mexico announces new transportation and telecommunications investment program

17 JUL 2013

The program will include highways, bridges, train systems, urban BRT systems, seaports and airports, as well as better telecom services

US commits \$7B to ambitious Power Africa initiative

2 JUL 2013

A new initiative aiming to double access to power in sub-Saharan Africa

EPA reduces natural gas GHG emission estimates; Pennsylvania reaffirms property law on "minerals"

16 MAY 2013

Are you ready for FATCA? IRS notice provides transitional rules, but deadlines remain tight

26 Jul 2011

Events

Previous

Embracing Digital Evolution

15 September 2021

Webinar

IPEM 2021

8-9 September 2021

IPEM 2022

Paris

Blue Bonds: Accelerating the Blue Economy

16 June 2021 | 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EDT

Webinar

Frankfurt Financial Regulatory Update

29 April 2021

Webinar

Listing opportunities in Luxembourg. New trends and forthcoming challenges?

26 February 2021
Webinar

International Financial Services Regulation: What will be big in 2021?

28 October 2020
Webinar

ESG priorities for banks: What are the focus areas now and next?

13 October 2020
Webinar

US-Israel-China Relations: A complicated triangle

15 June 2020
Webinar

US CLO Outlook

12 May 2020 | 11:00 - 12:00 ET
Webinar

Risks of the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program

5 May 2020 | 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. EST
Webinar

COVID-19 and financial services – a European perspective

27 March 2020

Axis Tel Aviv

12 February 2020
Tel Aviv-Yafo

NEWS

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP welcomes Partner Roderick C. Payne, Tovah Moffat and Bryce Wells to the Edmonton office

4 January 2022

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is delighted to announce that Roderick Payne has joined the firm as a Partner in the Edmonton office. Rod has over 27 years of experience assisting clients on a broad range of oil and gas, construction, employment and commercial litigation matters. Also joining the Edmonton office are associates Tovah Moffat and Bryce Wells.

DLA Piper Canada recommended by *Legal 500 Canada 2022*

12 November 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP and its lawyers have been recommended in the latest edition of the *Legal 500 Canada*.

DLA Piper Canada acted for Trulieve Cannabis on USD \$350 million private placement of 8% senior secured notes

12 October 2021

On October 6, 2021, Trulieve Cannabis Corp. announced the closing of a private placement of 8% senior secured notes for aggregate gross proceeds of USD\$350 million. DLA Piper Canada acted for Trulieve in connection with this offering, which is believed to be the largest debt financing to date of any public multi-state operator.

DLA Piper Canada recommended in 2022 edition of *Chambers Canada*

10 September 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP and its lawyers have been recognized across 15 practice areas in the 2022 edition of *Chambers Canada*.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP welcomes Partner Nicholas Chan to the Edmonton office

11 August 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is delighted to announce that Nicholas Chan has joined the firm as a Partner in the Edmonton office. Nicholas has a corporate law practice with a focus on commercial real estate, acquisitions, corporate finance, professional services and complex contractual matters.

DLA Piper Canada shortlisted for 2021 LMG Life Science Awards

4 August 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is pleased to announce that the firm was shortlisted as Canadian Product Liability Firm of the Year by the Legal Media Guide's (LMG) 2021 Life Sciences Awards.

DLA Piper Canada advising emerging growth companies across multiple sectors in continued business expansion

3 August 2021

DLA Piper Canada's Startups, Emerging Companies and Technology group has advised a number of up-and-coming companies on transactions intended to assist with their continued growth.

DLA Piper Canada represented investor Mouro Capital in \$476 million Series D funding round for Trulioo

8 June 2021

On June 7, 2021, Canadian-based global identity verification specialist Trulioo Information Services Inc. announced it had secured CDN\$476 million in a TCV-led Series D funding round.

DLA Piper promotes Investment Funds lawyer in Luxembourg to global partnership

28 April 2021

DLA Piper is pleased to announce that Luxembourg-based Investment Funds lawyer Caroline Pimpaud has been promoted to partner, as part of the firm's annual promotion round, effective 1 May 2021.

DLA Piper Canada has strong showing in 2021 *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*

22 April 2021

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP has increased their rankings in the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory for the third consecutive year.

DLA Piper Canada acted for Reunion Foods in Series A financing

30 November 2020

On November 13, 2020, Reunion Foods Inc. closed a \$8 million Series A financing. The financing was led by a new investor, Forage Capital Partners, alongside Export Development Canada and included substantial support from existing investor, Whitecap Venture Partners. DLA Piper Canada was pleased to have acted for Reunion Foods on this transaction.

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP recognized in the 2021 edition of the *Legal 500 Canada*

13 November 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP and its lawyers have been recognized as industry leaders across multiple practice areas in the latest edition of the *Legal 500 Canada*.

DLA Piper advises The Carlyle Group on the acquisition of prime French and German distribution logistics assets

29 October 2020

DLA Piper has advised global investment firm The Carlyle Group (NASDAQ: CG) on its acquisition of a portfolio of 27 distribution logistics assets in France and Germany. The transaction is structured as a sale-and-leaseback.

DLA Piper re-hires Finance partner in Germany

1 September 2020

DLA Piper today announces that Dr Wolfram Distler is re-joining the firm as a partner in its Finance practice, based in Frankfurt.

DLA Piper Canada increases rankings in 2021 edition of *Best Lawyers in Canada*

28 AUG 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is pleased to see 79 of our lawyers across 35 practice areas recognized in the 2021 *Best Lawyers in Canada* guide, resulting in our best showing with the guide since its inception.

DLA Piper advises Concord in closing of US\$1 billion in debt financing

18 August 2020

DLA Piper represented Concord in a US\$600 million term loan B debt offering and US\$450 million revolving credit facility, providing the company with access to over US\$1 billion of total debt financing in one of the largest music industry financings in recent times.

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

17 August 2020

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

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP welcomes Partner Denis G. Silva to the Vancouver office

13 JUL 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is delighted to announce that Denis G. Silva has joined the firm as a Partner in the Vancouver office. Denis focuses his practice on corporate finance and mergers and acquisitions and has extensive experience advising public and private clients in the mining, technology and financial sectors on a full range of business law matters.

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.

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.

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 (Canada) LLP increases rankings in the 2020 *Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory*

24 APR 2020

DLA Piper (Canada) LLP is pleased to announce that we have significantly increased the number of lawyers ranked as leading practitioners in the 2020 edition of the Canadian Legal Lexpert Directory.

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.
