



Masahiko Ishida

Partner
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Masahiko (Masa) Ishida is a Partner and head of the Japan corporate group based in DLA Piper’s Tokyo office. Masa is admitted to practice in both Japan and New York, and has a wealth of experience across a wide range of M&A and capital markets transactions, including general corporate and commercial matters.

Clients remark that Masa is “really smart and energetic”, and “demonstrates top-flight expertise in corporate, joint venture and M&A matters.” Additionally, a particularly impressed client reports: “His professionalism is paramount and his ability to provide excellent work products in English and Japanese has been an invaluable asset for our global deals.”

LANGUAGES SPOKEN

- Japanese
- English

- Advised a food service chain restaurant managing company on its agreement to acquire 100% of the shares of an in-store sushi chain with more than 4,000 locations throughout the United States, Canada, and Australia.
- Advised two Japanese listed companies, a major Japanese integrated trading and investment business conglomerate and a Japan-based paper and pulp company on their agreement with the world's largest producers of market pulp for the sale of both shares in their Canadian joint venture.
- Advised a large internationally known watch company in its business collaboration to develop a hybrid smart watch with a design, marketing and distribution company that specialized in consumer fashion accessories.
- Advised a Japanese pharmaceutical company on its public takeover bid for a Belgium listed advanced biopharmaceutical company.

- Antitrust and Competition
- Corporate
- Employment
- Finance
- International Arbitration
- Cross-Border Litigation

- Technology
- Life Sciences
- Financial Services
- Healthcare
- Hospitality and Leisure
- Industrials
- Consumer Goods, Food and Retail
- Media, Sport and Entertainment

Japanese English

- Advised a Japanese medical device company on its acquisition of a US-based medical device manufacturing company from its parent company.
- Advised a cutting edge AI/technology company established by a famous Japanese patent attorney on financing from several venture capital funds related to the mega-banks.
- Advised a leading private investment advisory firm on its LBO acquisition of the world leading global designer and supplier of hydraulic brake hoses to the automotive industry. This was a global mandate requiring local law advice from France, the UK, Mexico, Japan, Romania and the US.
- Advised a computer forensic science services company, a listed company in the Tokyo Stock Exchange, in its dual-listing on Nasdaq. This is the first US listing for a Japanese company since the so-called dot-com bubble 14 years ago.
- Advised a large Japanese telecommunication company in the acquisition of mobile phone company by TOB and LBO. The largest LBO in Asia (Awarded as “M&A Deal of the Year” by many legal journals including ALB and IFLR).
- Advised a large Japanese telecommunication in the acquisition of big telecommunication company (Awarded as “M&A Deal of the Year” by many legal journals including ALB).

CREDENTIALS

Professional Qualifications

- Bengoshi registered with the Daini Tokyo Bar Association
- Attorney-at-law admitted with the Supreme Court of New York

Prior Experience

Prior to joining DLA Piper, Masa practiced at a well-known large domestic Japanese law firm and thereafter worked as Managing Director of a multi-national investment bank.

Recognitions

- Ranked as a leading individual in the area of Corporate/M&A by *Legal 500* (Tier 1: 2020-2019)
- Ranked as a leading individual in the area of Corporate/M&A by *Chambers and Partners* (Chambers Global 2020-2016, Chambers Asia 2020-2015)

Education

- Columbia University, Law (Award: Fulbright Scholarship), LLM, 2009
- The University of Tokyo, LLM, 2001
- Keio University, BA, 1998

Memberships

- Member of the Daini-Tokyo Bar Association
- Member of the New York State Bar Association
- Appointed as a member of “Cool Japan Inbound Growth Policy Committee” by the Japanese Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry
- Appointed as a Legal Counsel for Olympic 2020 by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government
- Appointed as a Legal Counsel for Rugby World Cup 2019 by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government
- Appointed as a “Member of Management Innovation Supporting Organization” by the Ministry of Economy Trade and Industry
- Appointed as an “Official Support Lawyer for SMEs’ Overseas Strategy” by the Japan Federation of Bar Associations

Academia

- Visiting Fellow at Columbia Business School (The Center on Japanese Economy and Business) in 2009-2010
- Passed FINRA Registered Investment Banking Representative License Examination (Series 79)
- Lecturer in Corporate Law at the Judicial Research Institute, Keio University
- Legal apprentice with the Legal Training and Research Institute of the Supreme Court of Japan, after passing the Japanese bar exam

INSIGHTS

Publications

Sale of Lion Dairy and Drinks – not in Australia’s national interest

27 August 2020

On Tuesday 25 August 2020, the Treasurer of Australia announced that the proposed sale of Lion Dairy and Drinks Pty Ltd (Lion Dairy) to China Mengniu Dairy Company Limited (China Mengniu) would not be within Australia’s “national interest”, effectively blocking the transaction. This article discusses the ramifications of the decision and how they could impact on foreign investment in Australia.

- “2020 Overseas Legal News”, article in Business Houmu, March 2020
- “CFIUS and US M&A Practical tips”, article in Junkan Keiri Jouhou No.1532, December 2018
- Interview in NIKKEI regarding CFIUS and FIRRMA, November 2018
- “CFIUS and US M&A Practice”, article in MARR, October 2018
- “Round-table talk Risk Management in International M&A”, article in MARR, April 2018
- “2018 Overseas Legal News”, article in Business Houmu, March 2018
- “M&A and F-4 registration in the US”, article in Junkan Keiri Jouhou No.1489, September 2017
- “Key points in English Contract drafting and US law”, article in Business Houmu, June 2017
- “2017 Overseas Legal News”, article in Business Houmu, March 2017
- “Legal Implications of Brexit on Japanese Business”, article in Business Houmu, October 2016
- “2016 Overseas Legal News”, article in Business Houmu, March 2016
- “US Venture Investment Scheme Trends and Potential Use of Japanese Companies Featuring Convertible Note and SAFE”, article in Junkan Keiri Jouhou No.1423, September 2015 (co-author)

Events

- “Cross border M&A and IP Issues” hosted by Lexis Nexis, November 18-21, 2019
- “Global Corporate Venturing Academy - Tokyo” hosted by GCV Academy, October 4, 2019
- “Seminar on offshore investment and open innovation” hosted by Forbes, December 6, 2018
- “Seminar on start-up companies’ innovation and venture financing” hosted by Mitsubishi Real Estate., May 17, 2017
- “Seminar on Initial Public Offerings of Equities of Japanese Companies on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange” co-hosted with KPMG AZSA LLC and TAKARA PRINTING CO., LTD., March 30, 2016
- “Seminar on Listing on the NYSE MKT for Emerging Companies” hosted by TAKARA PRINTING CO., LTD., July 15, 2015
- “Risk Management Strategy Forum 2015 for Global/Overseas Operations”, May 19, 2015
- “Nasdaq Listing Seminar” co-sponsored by TAKARA PRINTING CO., LTD. and DLA Piper Tokyo Partnership, July 3, 2013
- “Current practices of M&A and Corporate finance practice in Japan and the United States” seminar sponsored by Lexis Nexis, January 18, 2013

- “Nasdaq Listing Seminar” seminar sponsored by Lexis Nexis, Ernst & Young, TAKARA PRINTING CO., LTD. and DLA Piper Tokyo Partnership, January 17, 2013
- “Foundation of M&A and English drafting in cross boarder transaction” seminar hosted by DLA Piper Tokyo Partnership, December 5, 2012
- “Global M&A Legal Strategies for Japanese Companies” seminar co-sponsored by Lexis Nexis, May 2012
- “The Amended Securities Regulation” seminar sponsored by Hitachi Corporation, December 2006
- “New Tender Offer Regulations under the Amended Securities Regulation Law and Relevant Ministerial Ordinances: Practical Responses to the Financial Instruments and Exchange Law and Amended Financial Instruments Sales Law” seminar sponsored by Shojihomu, November 2006
- “Adjustment to the Amendment of the Commercial Law” seminar sponsored by Daiichi-hoki, November 2005
- “The Adjustment to the Amendment of Stock or Stock Purchase Warrant” seminar sponsored by Daiichi-hoki, November 2005

NEWS

DLA Piper advises Mitsui Sumitomo and MS Amlin in acquisition of International Transportation Marine Office

26 April 2021

DLA Piper represented Tokyo-based Mitsui Sumitomo and its UK-based subsidiary MS Amlin in an agreement by MS Amlin to acquire International Transportation and Marine Office.
