



The Kirkland team with Lawrence Mason of Saunderson House

PRIVATE EQUITY TEAM OF THE YEAR

Sponsored by Saunderson House

KIRKLAND & ELLIS MATTHEW ELLIOTT, DAVID HIGGINS

ANOTHER STANDOUT YEAR

Global heavyweight Kirkland picks up this award for a successive year. Bookended by the arrivals of David Higgins and Adrian Maguire from Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in London, standout mandates included representing funds advised by BC Partners on its agreement to acquire majority ownership of United Group from KKR. This represented one of the most significant private equity deals to date in the CEE region.

It also represented Partners Group, Caisse de Depot et Placement du Quebec, and Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, on the financing of the €4.6bn acquisition of Techem from Macquarie, and GIC, Singapore's sovereign wealth fund, as part of a consortium acquiring a controlling stake in the carved-out global operational business of French multinational hotel group AccorHotels for €4.4bn.

HIGHLY COMMENDED LATHAM & WATKINS MICHAEL BOND

Advising Carlye and GIC on the €10.1bn acquisition of AkzoNobel's specialty chemicals businesses, which was achieved through a complex carve-out transaction. The deal involved teams working out of London and Washington, DC and raised €6.5bn in debt financing. This comes on the back of a strong year for the firm, which advised on over 50 private equity transactions with an aggregate value of \$60bn.

acquisition of a universal bank by a private equity fund.

pre-empt of a proposed Q1 2019 sale process negotiated bilaterally with its sellers.

COMMENDED ALLEN & OVERY KARAN DINAMANI

Advising Blackstone on its €1bn acquisition of a majority stake in Luminor Bank, the Baltic region's third-largest bank, from DNB and Nordea. The deal has been touted as the decade's largest majority-stake

CLEARY GOTTlieb STEEN & HAMILTON MICHAEL PRESTON

Advising Warburg Pincus and other investors on their \$1.25bn investment in Airtel Africa, a telecoms and mobile money services provider. The deal involved legal due diligence across 14 jurisdictions, and an investment structure and contractual framework that will help facilitate a future IPO.

TRAVERS SMITH PAUL DOLMAN

In a bumper year that included acting for Bridgepoint and management on the sale of Pret A Manger, a major highlight was advising TA Associates on its complex £600m carve-out acquisition of asset management business Merian Global Investors, from Old Mutual Wealth.

CLIFFORD CHANCE JONNY MYERS

Advising Partners Group on the parallel simultaneous acquisitions and subsequent merger of Ammeraal Beltech and Megadyne Group for a combined value of €2.5bn. The Ammeraal buyout was achieved via a competitive auction process, while Megadyne's acquisition involved a

WHITE & CASE IAN BAGSHAW

The firm has established a strong relationship with CVC Capital Partners, as demonstrated by its advice on a number of deals including the £602m IPO of the cybersecurity provider Avast on the London Stock Exchange. The listing represented 25.3% of the shares in Avast, and valued the company at £2.38bn.



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You want to ensure the lifestyle you have worked so hard to build can be sustained throughout your career, into retirement and when the time comes to pass on your wealth. At Saunderson House we understand this and provide truly independent and holistic advice to help you achieve your financial goals.

For further information about our award-winning financial planning and investment services, please contact Ian McNally, Financial Planning Director.

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