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press release

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Dr Thomas de la Motte and Dr Markus Pfaff new Banking & Finance coordinators

Berlin – Dr Thomas de la Motte and Dr Markus Pfaff have been appointed as new joint heads of the Banking & Finance practice area, assuming responsibility for a multi-location team of some 40 banking specialists at CMS Hasche Sigle.

The lawyers in this practice area serve clients within Germany and beyond as part of the international presence of the CMS organisation. They advise on all types of finance transaction, all issues related to banking and regulatory law, as well as on capital market law and IPOs. Clients include German and international banks and financial services providers, investors both within Germany and abroad, plus SMEs, major enterprises and corporate groups.

CMS Hasche Sigle's Banking & Finance practice is mainly concentrated in Berlin, Frankfurt, Hamburg, Cologne and Stuttgart, with a comprehensive range of services available across all locations:

- All types of finance: corporate finance, project, real estate, acquisition and asset finance (including leasing), structured finance, refinancing
- Credit restructuring and refinancing
- Bank regulation, compliance, securities trading law
- General banking law and private banking

CMS Hasche Sigle is one of the leading commercial law firms. More than 600 lawyers serve their clients in nine major German commercial centres as well as in Belgrade, Brussels, Moscow and Shanghai. CMS is the organisation of independent European law and tax firms of choice for organisations based in, or looking to move into, Europe. CMS provides a deep local understanding of legal, tax and business issues and delivers client-focused services through a joint strategy executed locally across 27 jurisdictions with 53 offices in Western and Central Europe and beyond. CMS was established in 1999 and today comprises nine CMS firms, employing over 2,400 lawyers and is headquartered in Frankfurt/Main, Germany.

CMS offices and associated offices: **Amsterdam, Berlin, Brussels, London, Madrid, Paris, Rome, Vienna, Zurich, Aberdeen, Algiers, Antwerp, Arnhem, Beijing, Belgrade, Bratislava, Bristol, Bucharest, Budapest, Buenos Aires, Casablanca, Cologne, Dresden, Duesseldorf, Edinburgh, Frankfurt/Main, Hamburg, Kyiv, Leipzig, Ljubljana, Lyon, Marbella, Milan, Montevideo, Moscow, Munich, Prague, Sao Paulo, Sarajevo, Seville, Shanghai, Sofia, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Utrecht, Warsaw and Zagreb.**

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- Litigation
- Advice on capital market law and IPOs

Many of the practice area's lawyers also specialise in specific industry sectors. Supported by CMS experts from other practice areas, they have sector-specific knowledge of industries such as energy, transport and infrastructure, real estate, private equity, banking and stock trading.

Dr Thomas de la Motte, born in 1968, studied jurisprudence in Tübingen, San Francisco and Hamburg, and has been with the Hamburg office of CMS Hasche Sigle since 1999. Following placements with HSH Nordbank in London and Hamburg, he has been a partner since 2006. Thomas de la Motte advises on all types of finance transactions, primarily serving banks but also other companies in Germany and internationally.

Born in 1972, Dr Markus Pfaff studied law at the universities of Saarbrücken, Lausanne and Heidelberg. He has been a partner in the firm's Frankfurt office since 2008. From 2002 to 2008, Pfaff was employed at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Düsseldorf, New York and Frankfurt as a lawyer for Corporate/M&A and Banking & Finance. His focus is on asset, real estate, acquisition and corporate finance as well as restructuring, advising both banks and investors.

Thomas de la Motte and Markus Pfaff take over from Dr Marc Riede, who coordinated the Banking & Finance practice area over the last few years. Marc Riede remains co-head of the pan-European Banking & Finance Practice Group of the CMS organisation.

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