**Press release**

Vienna, 10 September 2010

**CMS Publishes 3rd Edition of PPP Guide**

**The new CMS PPP guide is a comprehensive reference work providing information about the current conditions of public-private partnerships (PPP) across 21 European countries. CMS is optimistic about the future development of PPP against the backdrop of the present economic recovery.**

The leading European law and tax consulting firm CMS has published the 3rd edition of its “Guide to PPP in Europe”, which offers a thorough insight into the conditions of public-private partnerships in 21 European countries. This work of reference looks at the way PPP are handled in the various countries, informing readers about the most important macro-economic framework conditions, regional financial markets, jurisdictions and country-specific laws and provisions on PPP.

In recent years, PPP have significantly contributed to the economic development in the countries investigated. Thomas Hamerl, senior attorney and PPP expert at CMS, explains the strengths of PPP: “Through PPP, urgently needed infrastructure projects can be quickly realised, employing both private know-how and private capital. The limited public funds can meanwhile be used for other purposes. Experienced companies can use them to explore and gain a foothold in new business areas. Our experts at CMS are specialised in the efficient and secure construction of the contractual basis of such projects.”

Even though Austrian jurisdiction does not include a PPP act, existing EU directives and national laws provide an adequate framework for PPP projects. “By using public-private partnerships, problems arising at the interfaces of planning and construction or construction and operation can be prevented. This drastically reduces the risk of exceeding cost and time estimates, especially in large-scale infrastructure projects, and thus greatly improves attractiveness and calculability for private investors,” says Bernt Elsner, Partner CMS (Vienna), who also sees potential for PPP in the health and education sectors.

The new 158-page CMS guide on PPP presents the 21 countries (including Austria) in separate chapters, which were written by the respective national CMS experts. The guide covers the following countries: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Poland, Rumania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

For further information, please visit [http://www.cms-rrh.com/ppp](https://webmail.cmslegal.at/OWA/redir.aspx?C=82adf1d78259494eb751c4b5977faa71&URL=http%3a%2f%2fwww.cms-rrh.com%2fppp)

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CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz was founded in Vienna in 1970 and has since emerged as one of the leading specialists in all areas of commercial and labour law. Highly-specialized teams consisting of internationally experienced lawyers primarily provide services in the following fields of law: M&A, banking and finance, real estate, taxes, labour laws, IP and IT laws, and public procurement. The company operates offices in Vienna, Belgrade, Bratislava, Brussels, Kiev, Ljubljana, Sarajevo, Sofia and Zagreb. All CMS offices together offer clients a team of more than 500 experienced specialists in 13 offices across the CEE/SEE region.

CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz is one of the founding members of CMS, the association of leading European legal firms and tax consultants. At present, CMS operates a network consisting of more than 600 partners, 2,200 lawyers and tax consultants, and a total of 4,600 employees working on behalf of its clients. www.cms-rrh.com

**About CMS**

CMS aims to be recognised as the best European provider of legal and tax services. Clients say that what makes CMS special is a combination of three things:

Strong, trusted client relationships

High quality advice

Industry specialization

We combine deep local expertise and the most extensive presence in Europe with cross-border consistency and coordination.

CMS has a common culture and a shared heritage which make us distinctively European. CMS operates in 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. CMS is headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany.

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The members of CMS are in association with The Levant Lawyers with offices in Abu Dhabi, Beirut, Dubai and Kuwait City.

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