**Press release**

Vienna, 24 January 2011

**CMS publishes first edition “CMS International Guide to Pensions”**

**Leading European legal and tax advisor CMS has published its first edition of the *International Guide to Pensions*, an overview of the current pension regulations across 21 countries in and outside Europ, including Austria. The guide offers for the first time an unique overview of the present “market standards” regarding pensions within specific jurisdiction.**

As uniformity in pension provisions across Europe, for the moment at least, remains some distance away, this study contains detailed characteristics of pension schemes in 21 countries, highlighting key differences, as well as regulatory and taxation requirements. And, as pensions are often the subject of intensive negotiation in transactions, the Guide can help by providing a unique overview of the present ‘market standard’ regarding pensions, both on a pan-European level and within specific jurisdictions.

“Its unparalleled presence throughout Europe and position as a market leader enabled CMS to produce such comprehensive and at the same time detailed handbook,” Bernhard Hainz, partner and labour law expert at CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz, explains. “More and more clients are looking for business opportunities also outside of their domestic markets. As work environments are becoming increasingly international, it is also vital for employees to be familiar with the various pension-law systems. Our handbook will be of great relevance for them and for everyone interested in the topic of retirement provisions in Europe.”

The 72-page guide provides a chapter for each of the 21 countries, including Austria, each authored by CMS experts based in the local jurisdiction with extensive experience of local pension regulations. The CMS International Guide to Pensions is available by contacting CMS via [www.cms-rrh.com/guide\_to\_pensions](http://www.cms-rrh.com/guide_to_pensions).

The 21 countries covered in the guide are: Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

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**About CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz**

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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