

press release

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subject **CMS Corporate Wins Top Honours**

CMS has been named 'Mid-Market Legal Advisors of the Year' by leading M&A publication *Acquisitions Monthly*, part of Reuters Professional Publishing. The award was presented to CMS on 19 January – a month after receiving a similar award from the *Financial Times* and *mergermarket*, who also named CMS as 'Mid-Market Legal Advisors of the Year' at a jointly sponsored awards programme held in December.

The two high-profile awards follow months of steady climbs up all three key industry M&A league tables. The 2009 year-end results show CMS top of the tables for the whole of Europe, as well as in CEE, France, Germany and the UK (*full listing below**). Further, the impressive results include categories where CMS is ranked for the first time.

"We are grateful for the steady stream of accolades from such respected industry commentators", said Thomas Meyding, Head of the CMS Corporate Practice Area Group (PAG). "More importantly, we are grateful to our clients who continue to place

their confidence in our ability to provide innovative, pan-European solutions for their M&A transactions.”

Dick Tyler, Executive Partner for CMS said: “The results and the awards reflect our distinct strategy of bringing together the deep, local expertise of all CMS firms, in Corporate and across all our areas of expertise, with outstanding cross-border coordination. Increasingly, clients demand that their law firms deliver across multiple jurisdictions. These results demonstrate we are meeting that challenge.”

Throughout 2009, CMS has been investing in its people and processes. Through regular, robust training events with all lawyers from across Europe, and through the use of latest technology, CMS ensure their people regularly spend time building relationships and learning both hard and soft business skills. Ultimately, it means clients receive a top-quality service from business-minded legal and tax experts.

Mr. Meyding continued: “That investment has paid off for our clients, which includes providing client-focused intelligence like our “CMS European M&A Survey” and our just-released “Liability of Holding Companies”. It demonstrates that we understand our clients, their businesses and industries, and deliver them a seamless, pan-European service.”

-End-

**All results for year-end 2009*

Mergermarket

- **1st CEE (volume)**
- **1st Germany (volume)**
- **4th Europe (volume)**
- **4th Europe Mid-Market (volume)**
- **4th France (volume)**
- **5th Europe Mid-Market (value)**
- 8th Benelux (volume)
- 9th UK (volume)
- 10th Global (volume)
- 11th Germany (value)
- 11th Spain (value)
- 12th Russia (volume)
- 14th Iberia (value)
- 15th Italy (volume)
- 20th Global Mid-Market (volume)
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Thomson Reuters

- **1st CEE (mid-market, volume)**
- **1st Europe (mid-market, volume)**
- **1st France (mid-market, volume)**
- **1st Germany (mid-market, volume)**
- **1st UK (mid-market, volume)**
- **4th Benelux (mid-market, volume)**
- **4th Germany (announced, value)**
- **4th Germany (mid-market, value)**
- **4th Worldwide (mid-market, volume)**
- 6th Italy (mid-market, volume)
- 7th Spain (mid-market, volume)
- 7th Worldwide (completed, volume)
- 8th UK (mid-market, value)
- 10th Germany (completed, value)
- 12th Spain (completed, value)
- 12th Europe (mid-market, value)
- 14th Europe (announced, value)
- 14th France (announced, value)
- 14th Spain (announced, value)
- 16th CEE (mid-market, value)
- 18th France (completed, value)
- 20th Europe (completed, value)
- 22nd Italy (announced, value)

Bloomberg

- **2nd Germany (volume)**
- **4th CEE (volume)**
- **5th Europe (counsel to principals, volume)**
- 6th Europe (volume)
- 7th Benelux (volume)
- 7th Europe (counsel to principals, value, not ranked before)
- 7th France (volume)

- 7th Russia (volume, not ranked before)
- 8th Europe (value, not ranked before)
- 8th UK (volume)
- 9th India (volume, not ranked before)
- 10th Global (counsel to principals, volume)
- 10th Iberia (volume)
- 11th Global (volume)

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CMS provides a deep local understanding of legal, tax and business issues and delivers client-focused services through a joint strategy executed locally across 28 jurisdictions with 56 offices in Western and Central Europe and beyond.

The CMS nine member firms are: CMS Adonnino Ascoli & Cavasola Scamoni (Italy); CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo (Spain); CMS Bureau Francis Lefebvre (France); CMS Cameron McKenna LLP (UK); CMS DeBacker (Belgium); CMS Derks Star Busmann (Netherlands); CMS von Erlach Henrici Ltd. (Switzerland); CMS Hasche Sigle (Germany); and CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz (Austria).

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

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