

Press release

Brussels/Luxembourg, 13 December 2010

CMS DeBacker opens in Luxembourg

CMS DeBacker, the Belgian member of CMS – the organization of major European law firms, today announces the opening of an office in Luxembourg on 1 January 2011.

CMS DeBacker will develop its Luxembourg office in partnership with Julien Leclère and Vivian Walry, founders of the law firm Leclère & Walry. Julien and Vivian bring a strongly entrepreneurial firm, made up of an enthusiastic and dynamic team which already enjoys an excellent reputation in corporate law and mergers and acquisitions, as well as banking and finance. The founding partners have given their firm a strong international character and their team generally advises multinational companies, mainly on corporate, financial and commercial issues, as well as private clients.

The CMS DeBacker Leclère Walry team has attracted a tax specialist who will join the team in the next few weeks.

Stanislas van Wassenhove, Managing Partner of CMS DeBacker, comments on the new structure, as follows: “Luxembourg is a major financial market and plays a key role in many cross-border operations. We just had to build a presence there to give our clients the quality service they expect from us. With the law firm Leclère & Walry, we found the ideal partners to develop our Luxembourg branch. By combining their knowledge of the Luxembourg market with our international expertise and our presence in CMS, we expect to quickly become a major domestic player in financial, tax and banking law.”

Julien Leclère and **Vivian Walry** are convinced that this is an opportunity for both parties: “Integrating CMS allows us to move a project, that we have been relentlessly developing for almost three years, to the next level. We provide clients with a blend of high-quality services they would expect of a leading powerhouse firm combined with a personal approach typical of a small structure. CMS has the same approach: our clients will like that.”

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Julien Leclère

Julien focuses on business law matters including mergers and acquisitions, corporate financings, general corporate governance and the drafting and/or the negotiation of contracts. He also has a strong expertise in employment matters. In recent years, Julien has represented both buyers and sellers in numerous complex business transactions and matters, including mergers, acquisitions, divestitures, equity investments, recapitalizations and restructurings, as well as local or international entrepreneurs in the implementation of appropriate and efficient operative and financing structures. Julien holds a Law degree from the University of Liège and the Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium (2002), a masters degree in European Legal Affairs from the Catholic University of Louvain and the University of Coimbra, Portugal, (2003) and a special degree in Luxembourg Law from the University of Luxembourg (2004).

Vivian Walry

Vivian's practice focuses on corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, banking and finance matters, the setting-up of investment vehicles and transactional business law in general. Vivian advises major international companies, private equity firms and other investors in structuring and financing mergers and acquisitions and other private equity deals, corporate reorganizations and refinancing, as well as private clients with respect to the management of their private wealth and the structuring of their investments.

Vivian has a Law degree from the Lille 2 University, France, (2000). He also holds special degrees in Multimedia and IP Law from the University Robert Schuman of Strasbourg, France, (2001) and Luxembourg Law from the University of Luxembourg (2003).

About CMS DeBacker

CMS DeBacker has offices in Brussels, Antwerp and Luxembourg. It numbers about 90 lawyers, including 25 partners. CMS DeBacker handles all legal and tax issues its clients face, in Belgium, Luxembourg and anywhere in Europe.
www.cms-db.com

CMS DeBacker is the Belgian member of CMS – the organization of major European law firms. CMS provides clients with legal and tax solutions based on a thorough understanding of their business and industry sectors. CMS brings together over 2,800 legal and tax experts across Europe, South America and Asia. CMS stands for deep local understanding in the 53 business centres in 28 jurisdictions where its people deliver unmatched expertise and client service. CMS, founded in 1999, is headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany.

CMS comprises nine European-headquartered firms including: CMS DeBacker (Belgium) - CMS Bureau Francis Lefebvre (France) – CMS Cameron McKenna (UK) – CMS Derks Star Busmann (The Netherlands) – CMS von Erlach Enrici (Switzerland) – CMS Hasche Sigle (Germany) – CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz (Austria) – CMS Adonnino Ascoli & Cavasola Scamoni (Italy) - CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo (Spain).
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