**Press release**

Vienna, 11 October 2010

**Tenth anniversary of CMS in Serbia**

**When CMS opened an office in Belgrade in 2000, it was the first international law firm to offer local representation in Serbia. Today, not only the Serbian government and many public authorities, but also international organisations such as the EBRD and the IFC, multinational corporations such as Gazprom, Henkel, IBM, Michelin, Strabag as well as Erste Bank and Raiffeisenbank rely on the expertise of CMS. CMS Belgrade is currently advising the Serbian government on a fundamental reorganisation of the country’s corporate law.**

CMS Belgrade, an affiliate office of CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz, celebrated its 10th anniversary with about 300 clients, partners and friends.

Guests included the Austrian ambassador in Serbia Clemens Koja, Luka Andrić and Dragijana Radonjić Petrović of the Secretariat of the Serbian Ministry of Economy, Austrian trade commissioner Andreas Haidenthaler, Henkel CFO Mirela Jovanović, Strabag CEO Dragan Pavelić, Velimir Gojnić of Wienerberger and many representatives of Serbian institutions, such as the Competition Authority, the Securities Commission and the Belgrade Stock Exchange, and renowned economic journalists.

CMS Belgrade is considered one of the top law firms in Serbia for corporate/commercial, M&A, privatisations, real estate, dispute resolution, banking & finance, energy and competition law. The team currently counts 25 legal experts and a permanently present international partner.

In the past ten years, CMS Belgrade built a team of experts that is continuously growing and has made vast experience in advising on large-scale company transactions and privatisations. Today, the law firm regularly advises countless corporations on their activities in Serbia.

CMS Belgrade advised the Serbian government on the first wave of privatisations in the country. It currently works with the EBRD and the Serbian government on fundamentally reorganising the country’s corporate law.

"CMS Belgrade has set new standards for Serbia. We are proud to have advised a number of major investors in Serbia and to be able to play an important part in designing new laws in the country,“ says Radivoje Petrikić, partner and CEE coordinator at CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz, who heads CMS Belgrade.

With 13 offices, CMS offers the most extensive local presence in CEE/SEE, employing over 500 legal experts in the region. Despite the strained economic situation, CMS is steadily growing in CEE/SEE, not least because more and more internationally active corporations choose CMS as their legal representative.

Photos are available at:

<http://sites.cms-rrh.com/downloads/events/100930/presse/index.html>

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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.

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

**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, Hamburg, Kyiv, Leipzig, Ljubljana, Lyon, Marbella, Milan, Montevideo, Moscow, Munich, Prague, São Paulo, Sarajevo, Seville, Shanghai, Sofia, Strasbourg, Stuttgart, Utrecht, Warsaw and Zagreb.

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

**www.cmslegal.com**