

PRESS RELEASE

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Subject **CMS again named the CEE M&A Legal Adviser of the Year by Mergermarket**

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CMS named CEE M&A Legal Adviser of the Year by Mergermarket

Challenging times make for outstanding dealmakers

CMS was named CEE M&A Legal Adviser of the Year at the Mergermarket M&A Awards Gala last week.

The awards are highly-regarded among the industry for the impartial process in finding a winner and are the most important awards the firm can get for legal M&A expertise. Firms are shortlisted by statistical analysis of Mergermarket's M&A database - an authoritative source of M&A league tables - before a panel of independent expert judges decides on a winner for each category.

It was the third year in a row that CMS has been shortlisted for the CEE Legal Adviser of the Year award and its second win in the category (2012 & 2014).

This year's judging panel included decision-makers from KKR, GE, Liberty Global, Credit Suisse and HSBC, who considered the complexity and strategic significance of all highlighted deals. CMS faced stiff competition from other shortlisted firms in the CEE category including A&O, Clifford Chance, Greenberg Traurig and Schoenherr.

Helen Rodwell, managing partner of CMS Prague and partner in the CEE Corporate practice said: 'We are extremely pleased to win this prestigious award, recognising the expertise of our team and the significance of the deals we have worked on in the CEE region. For CMS Prague the award comes at the end of a very successful year in which we advised on some of the most noteworthy transactions in the market such as MOL's acquisition of the Agip fuel stations, the sale of the ElectroWorld chain by Dixons and the sale of LBBW Bank CZ to Expobank.'

Radivoje Petrikić, partner in the CEE Corporate practice, added: 'This is further proof that with 20 years' experience in the region and coverage that is second to none we have become the preferred M&A adviser to top corporates, private equity firms and financial institutions operating in the region.'

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NOTES TO EDITORS

CMS

Founded in 1999, CMS is a full-service top 10 international law firm, based on the number of lawyers (Am Law 2013 Global 100). With 59 offices in 33 countries across the world, employing over 3,000 lawyers, CMS has longstanding expertise both at advising in its local jurisdictions and across borders. CMS acts for a large number of Fortune 500 companies and the FT European 500 and for the majority of the DAX 30. Revenues totalled €842m in 2013.

CMS provides a wide range of expertise across 18 expert practice and sector areas including Corporate, Energy, Funds, Lifesciences/Pharmaceuticals, TMT, Tax, Banking and Finance, Commercial, Competition, Dispute Resolution, Employment, Intellectual Property and Real Estate & Construction.

For more information, please visit www.cmslegal.com.

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