

Taylor Walton wins UK Corporate Law Firm of the Year

Taylor Walton's corporate legal team has fully lived up to its reputation as a versatile natural alternative to City law firms by being voted 2009 UK Corporate Law Firm of the Year by readers of Acquisition Finance Magazine.

The award follows a year of successful corporate transactions, which included acting for Stapleton's Tyre Services in its takeover of 56 Pirelli UK retail tyre outlets, as well as a variety of other transactions across a broad range of industry sectors.

Head of Corporate, Jeremy Brockis commented:

"We are delighted that the hard work and dedication of our staff and the loyalty of our clients has received national recognition. The Stapleton's deal is an excellent example of the capability within both the Firm's corporate team and the supporting employment, real estate and other specialist commercial teams.

"Clients and their financial advisors tell us that we provide a refreshing alternative to City firms. Plainly we are able to offer cost advantages, ever more relevant at present, but equally important is our ability to offer a genuinely partner-led approach throughout a transaction, providing a hands-on continuity that may not always be available elsewhere.

The Stapleton's deal was an excellent example of what we are about. With over 50 properties and 300 employees involved, the due diligence and contract negotiation phases required substantial co-ordination and fast-tracking of the legal input. We have the capacity to commit a dedicated team to complex transactions, to ensure that all commercial and regulatory deadlines are met."

The team has also underlined its value in the current climate through its ability to advise on restructuring, recovery and insolvency driven transactions. We can advise sellers or buyers of businesses in administration, and our banking specialists are able to both quickly assess finance led corporate re-engineering and offer the pragmatic solutions required"

The Firm also advised on deals including the sale of Business Edge Solutions to United Drug Group Plc (valued at over £14 million together with a simultaneous transaction) and the purchase of Centrebus by the University of Hertfordshire. Other transactions involving the corporate team were opportunistic acquisitions by IMS Maxims plc, Admiral and Polyformes.

Head of Commercial, Mike Pettit commented:

"Often it is our long term knowledge of a client's business that provides the edge as transaction advisers. This provides a crucial advantage in deal due diligence and

contract negotiations. We can often radically reduce the time and cost typically expected for these crucial aspects."

In the past year Taylor Walton has added a number of significant UK and overseas corporate clients to its portfolio, and also invested in senior additions to the team including deal specialist Lynne Greenaway and Technology & Outsourcing expert Sam de Silva.

ENDS

Photos

About Taylor Walton

Taylor Walton is a 22 partner firm with three offices strategically located close to but not in London.

Taylor Walton is highly rated by leading independent legal directory The Legal 500 that ranks a number of its teams in the top division of South East firms, and quotes clients as describing the firm as "commercial, pragmatic and quick".

About Acquisition Finance Magazine

Acquisition Finance magazine is a specialist publication produced by Assertive Media Group and provides a commentary of the mergers and acquisitions market. The publication has a circulation of nearly 18,000 and is widely read by senior management, corporate financiers and accountants, bankers and venture capitalists.

More information:

Mike Pettit
Corporate & Commercial Partner
Tel. 01582 731161
Email. mike.pettit@taylorwalton.co.uk

Ian Riches
Business Development Manager
Tel. 01582 731161
Email. ian.riches@taylorwalton.co.uk