



Mills Oakley boosts M&A, ECM capabilities

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Mills Oakley is continuing its growth in Mergers & Acquisitions and Equity Capital Markets work with the appointment of another top-tier corporate partner.

CEO John Nerurker today announced the appointment of **Iain Laughland** as a partner in Mills Oakley's Sydney office. Iain has more than 20 years' legal experience and was most recently a partner at Norton Rose Fulbright.

Iain's areas of expertise include Equity Capital Markets (ECM), M&A (both regulated and unregulated) and complex equity investments for corporates and financial sponsors.

Mr Nerurker said: "This key appointment is part of MO's strategy to boost its M&A and ECM capabilities so we're strongly positioned to undertake complex corporate work for Australian and regional clients."

Mr Nerurker added: "Iain has been consistently named in *Chambers* and other leading legal directories over the last decade. His recent elevation to the elite "Leading Lawyer - Capital Markets" group in the *Asia Pacific Legal 500* and his ranking in *Best Lawyers* for M&A over the past five years make Iain an ideal fit for our firm's vision to be a top 5 independent Australian law firm.

"Iain is part of a number of partner appointments over the past two years which have allowed us to expand our deal focus to much larger transactions and more ECM work."

Other appointments in the Mills Oakley transactional teams since 2015-16 include corporate partner Tony Lalor, previously from Clayton Utz and banking & finance partner Tom Lennox, previously at K&L Gates.

Iain has successfully acted for the issuer on a number of recent IPOs/ASX listings across a number of industry sectors including technology, financial services, aviation, healthcare, agribusiness and health food. In addition, he regularly acts for underwriters and lead managers on IPOs or secondary capital raisings. He has also acted on foreign exempt listings on the ASX and provides regular advice to listed companies on listing rule compliance.

In addition to the ECM focus of the practice, Iain advises on regulated and unregulated M&A matters, including acting for ASX-listed companies on their non-organic growth strategies. His equity investment work has involved acting for both domestic and international corporates and financial sponsors with respect to consortium and joint venture arrangements on property, commodities and critical energy assets, including deals valued in the A\$1bn+ category.

Media Contact

Renu Prasad

Communications Manager

T: +61 2 8289 5820

E: rprasad@millsoakley.com.au