

Life Sciences – Corporate



We are internationally recognised as a pre-eminent law firm for life sciences, advising many of the largest global pharmaceutical companies and leading medical device manufacturers, as well as small and medium-sized enterprises, universities and governments, across a broad range of products and services.

Our international mergers and acquisitions (M&A) team consists of over 250 lawyers. We advise on domestic and cross-border M&A, including public takeovers, demergers and corporate restructurings, joint ventures and strategic alliances, and auction sales.

We have advised on some of the largest and most challenging corporate transactions world-wide and have developed a reputation for handling complex, innovative transactions such as the 'Acquisition IPO'. We have a track record of acting for global life sciences and private equity portfolio companies, as well as for financial institutions on transactions within the sector.

"A fantastic global player in the Life Sciences sector"

Chambers Global

Our team of lawyers has advised on the following deals:

M&A

LEO Pharma

- on its \$1bn acquisition of Warner Chilcott's dermatology franchise

Ascendis Pharma

- on its first major deal concerning its proprietary TransCon Linker and Hydrogel carrier technology, following an auction process involving share sale and licensing structures

R-Pharm Group

- on the acquisition of a Pfizer production plant in Germany

Rothschild and J.P.Morgan Cazenove

- as joint sponsors, and Rothschild as financial adviser, to BTG plc in connection with its acquisition of Biocompatibles International plc

Santen Pharmaceutical

- on the acquisition of the majority stake in France-based Novagali Pharma

Shareholders of Specifar Pharmaceuticals

- on the US\$562m acquisition of the company by Watson Pharmaceuticals Inc

Sinochem

- on an agreement with Netherlands based DSM Anti-Infectives, to form a 50/50 global anti-infectives joint venture

ECM

Amsterdam Molecular Therapeutics

- on its successful €14.3m equity raising

Circassia Pharmaceuticals

- the syndicate of underwriting banks on Circassia's £581m IPO on the London Main Market in March 2014, London's largest biotech flotation for decades

Cryo-Save

- on the secondary listing of the largest adult stem cell storage bank in Europe and its shares on Euronext Amsterdam by NYSE Euronext (alongside the company's listing on AIM)

Kempen & Co and Petercam

- on the successful €12m equity raising by Euronext Amsterdam listed biotech company Pharming Group N.V.

NetScientific plc

- on its £30m placing and AIM IPO

Union MedTech plc

- on its acquisition of Rex Bionics Limited and £25.7m Placing and AIM IPO

Venture Life Group plc

- on its acquisition of Biokosmes and £5m Placing and AIM IPO

Private equity and funds

Crédit Industriel et Commercial

- on the LBO of the Saime Group, a French biotechnology company, by Barclays Private Equity France

IDEA SGR and Private Equity Partners

- in relation to the €20m investment in Prime European Therapeutics S.p.A.

Kinetique Biomedical Seed fund

- on its investments into spin-offs from various universities

PA Consulting

- on the sale of its 90% interest in Meridica Limited, a drug delivery technology company, to Pfizer for \$125m

Reed Elsevier

- as lead investor on third round funding of Inpharmatica

SRPE

- on an innovative deal with Oxford University

Business integration

Johnson & Johnson

- on the employment issues in Hong Kong relating to the \$16.6bn acquisition of Pfizer's OTC business

Procter & Gamble

- on the restructuring of Gillette divisions within the Netherlands, following the \$57bn acquisition

Schering AG

- on the integration with Bayer in China following the €16.9bn acquisition by Bayer

Schering Plough

- on the integration of Organon BioSciences in the Netherlands following the acquisition of Organon by Schering Plough

Key international contacts

Key contact biographies can be viewed at simmons-simmons.com

Alan Xu

China

T +86 21 6171 9338

E alan.xu@simmons-simmons.com

Noro Lanto Ravisy

France

T +33 1 53 29 16 38

E noro-lanto.ravisy@simmons-simmons.com

Stephan Ulrich

Germany

T +49 211 47053 25

E stephan.ulrich@simmons-simmons.com

Daniela Sabelli

Italy

T +39 06 8095 5916

E daniela.sabelli@simmons-simmons.com

Jason Daniel

Japan

T +813 64 38 5262

E jason.daniel@simmons-simmons.com

Raza Rizvi

Middle East

T +971 4 709 6634

E raza.rizvi@simmons-simmons.com

Carlos Jimenez de Laiglesia

Spain

T +34 91 426 2934

E carlos.jimenezlaiglesia@simmons-simmons.com

Pieter van Uchelen

The Netherlands

T +31 20 722 2359

E pieter.vanuchelen@simmons-simmons.com

Michiel Wurfain

The Netherlands

T +31 20 722 2367

E michiel.wurfain@simmons-simmons.com

Colin Bole

UK

T +44 20 7825 3170

E colin.bole@simmons-simmons.com

Charles Mayo

UK

T +44 20 7825 4410

E charles.mayo@simmons-simmons.com

Jocelyn Ormond

UK

T +44 20 7825 2041

E jocelyn.ormond@simmons-simmons.com

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