



THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO THE
WORLD'S PREMIER TAX LAW FIRMS

Tax Directors Handbook 2009

AUSGABE 2009



Germany - Leading tax law firms

Flick Gocke Schaumburg
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
Linklaters LLP

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Gleiss Lutz
Hengeler Mueller
P+P Pöllath + Partners ●
Allen & Overy LLP
Clifford Chance
Lovells LLP
SJ Berwin LLP
Shearman & Sterling LLP

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Baker & McKenzie Partnerschaft von Rechtsanwälten,
Wirtschaftsprüfern, Steuerberatern und Solicitors
CMS Hasche Sigle
Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP
McDermott Will & Emery Rechtsanwälte Steuerberater LLP
Nörr Stiefenhofer Lutz ●
Peters, Schönberger & Partner
Rödl & Partner
White & Case LLP

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Krause is 'very knowledgeable' on the tax aspects of financial products. The 'brilliant' Florian Lechner focuses on the tax aspects of cross-border M&A, and Jens Blumenberg brings his 'broad international expertise' to such areas as tax treaties and transfer pricing. Florian

Schultz is meanwhile described as 'a key player in the German legal market', and focuses on tax issues relating to banking and capital markets products. **Linklaters LLP** has been especially active this year in complex corporate and real estate transactions and corporate restructurings,

while corporate tax is Edelmann's specialist area. The tax practice advises a number of companies and public sector entities on the taxation aspects of company acquisitions, restructuring and tax-optimised financing, recently providing tax advice on the acquisition of WestendDuo by Hochtief.

Christopher Schönberger is the key individual at Peters, Schönberger & Partner, whose tax practice boasts a broad client base that includes Lindenmaier, Taurus Investment Holding (Deutschland) and Orlando. The 18-partner firm advises on international tax law, corporate tax law, inheritance and gift tax law, corporate reorganisation tax law and European VAT law, as well as on the taxation aspects of non-profit organisations.

Rödl & Partner has a 'strong' tax practice that, under the guidance of recommended partners Bernd Rödl and Christian Rödl, provides advice on the tax issues of financial statements and balance sheets and on the production of all tax returns. It assists its clients in tax planning and advises on tax collection procedures, and also represents clients in the courts and before the administrative courts on tax matters.

White & Case LLP's clients say that Josef Große Honebrink is 'outstanding' for tax advice, his legal experience rounded out by additional qualifications as a certified tax consultant and a certified accountant. Günter Kahlert is also recommended. The firm operates a stand-alone tax practice that attracts work from a diverse range of clients. One niche area

of activity is in the provision of advice on real estate tax structuring; here, the firm recently advised a large German real estate company on its restructuring and implementation of German REIT law.

Beiten Burkhardt's tax practice benefits from an impressive client base that includes SEB Asset Management, HVB and Hannover Leasing. Hans Volkert Volckens is the key partner in a team that has a solid reputation for advice in funds and investment tax law, corporate and group tax law and international tax law. It also advises banks on the tax aspects of the financing of property purchases. By way of an example, it has been involved in the structuring of a large non-performing loan transaction.

Clients of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP say that international tax and financial products specialist JF Daniel Weyde is 'very experienced, and pleasant to deal with'. The firm's tax practice provides integrated advice that focuses on tax-driven corporate restructurings and the tax optimisation of M&A transactions, including real estate buyouts. In one highlight this year, the firm acted as German tax counsel to a steering committee of senior lenders, including Morgan Stanley and BlueBay, on the debt and corporate restructuring of the Kiekert Group.

Friedrich Hey, at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, is 'very knowledgeable and responsive', say clients, who further confirm him to be 'a very good tax and legal adviser'. Hey advises on German and international tax matters, with an emphasis on US/