

## Leading Transactional Tax Lawyer Robert Gaut Joins Proskauer in London

## January 17, 2014

January 17, 2014 (London) — Global law firm Proskauer announced today that Robert Gaut will join as partner and head of the firm's Tax practice in London.

Mr. Gaut has represented many of the world's preeminent multinational corporations, investment banks and private equity funds on a full range of UK and international tax strategies relating to inbound and outbound transactions, capital market offerings and financing matters. He has advised on transactions with an aggregate value exceeding US\$26 billion in the past 12 months alone. He also counsels clients on timely issues such as the UK's proposed changes to the treatment of partnerships and LLPs structures, and tax considerations for technology companies investing in the U.S.

"Our clients come from a broad spectrum of industries and require a sophisticated understanding of the evolving tax environment and how to address challenges that can arise when operating on a global basis," said Proskauer Chairman Joseph M. Leccese. "Robert's extensive cross-border M&A and private equity experience and in-depth knowledge of UK tax schemes will be a great complement to our expanding Corporate and Private Investment Funds practices."

Thomas W. Dollinger, head of Proskauer's London office, stated "We have a robust corporate platform and Robert's arrival is an important step forward in the continued development of our London office as we replicate the firm's strengths globally. Having experienced and respected tax expertise is a critical component as we increase our presence in the UK and Europe."

"Tax issues play an integral role in the successful execution of a deal, particularly in cross-border matters," said <u>Ira G. Bogner</u>, Chair of Proskauer's Tax department. "The international scope of Robert's practice will be a valuable resource for clients and greatly enhance our continued efforts to broaden the reach of our tax practice across multiple jurisdictions."

Mr. Gaut joins Proskauer from Fried Frank, where he was a partner since 2005.

Proskauer has strategically enhanced its <u>Capital Markets</u>, <u>Private Investment Funds</u> and <u>Business Solutions</u>, <u>Governance</u>, <u>Restructuring & Bankruptcy</u> capabilities in the U.S., Europe and Asia, contributing to the firm's increasing involvement in sophisticated international transactions. For example, Proskauer recently represented Enel, the Italian utility conglomerate, in connection with its €1.7 billion debut offering of hybrid capital securities and its subsequent US\$1.25 billion offering of New York law-governed hybrid capital securities. The firm also advised European buyout firm HgCapital on the closing of two funds with a combined value of £2.4 billion and on the closing of its £380 million Mercury Fund, among other client mandates. The firm handled fund closures with a total value of more than US\$9 billion in the past year, resulting in its nomination for "Law Firm (Fund Formation) of the Year in Europe" by *Private Equity International*.

## **Related Professionals**

- Robert Gaut
  Partner
- Joseph M. Leccese
  Chairman Emeritus of the Firm
- Ira G. Bogner
  Managing Partner