

John R. Flanigan

Partner



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Paris

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Overview

John Flanigan is a partner in Dentons' Paris office and Co-Chair of the firm's Europe Corporate Group. He specialises in mergers and acquisitions and corporate finance, including leveraged acquisitions, securities offerings and joint venture transactions. He acts for clients in the private equity and financial sector and in a wide range of other business sectors and industries (including energy and technology companies, aerospace and defense, wines and spirits, consumer goods, life sciences and emerging markets).

John has published numerous articles on corporate and securities law issues, in particular regarding mergers and acquisitions, public offerings of securities and corporate governance. He has also been cited in numerous publications as a recognised corporate and private equity practitioner.

John previously spent two and a half years as Managing Partner of the Shanghai office.

Experience

- **A leading French wines and Champagne group:** Advising on its first foray into American wine, assisting the group in its acquisition of one of Oregon's most prestigious wineries
- **French Energy group:** Advising on the competitive sale of its Polish coal-fired heating and power plants in two related transactions in 2016, one to an Australian investment fund and the other to a Czech energy group. The transactions were ultimately blocked by Poland's Ministry of Energy
- **Major paper products group:** Representing on the acquisition of a significant European producer of specialty paper products operating in nine countries around the world
- **Middle-Eastern telecommunications services provider:** Advising on the setting up of a French subsidiary as well as advising on obtaining a licence granted by the French Electronic and Postal Communications Regulatory Authority
- **World's fifth largest multinational oil & gas and chemicals group:** Advising on the sale of a 15 percent stake in its Congolese exploration and production subsidiary to a Qatari oil and gas group
- **Leading European consumer products group:** Representing in an auction sale to a group of private equity

investors

- **World's fifth largest multinational oil & gas and chemicals group:** Representing in the sale of its European-based solar energy operations to a US listed company
- **US group:** Representing in the reorganization of its European-wide businesses
- **Swedish company:** Representing in the acquisition of a division of a major French water and energy group
- **Leading French defense group:** Representing in a major transaction in Eastern Europe
- **French aerospace company:** Representing in the negotiation of a major long-term contract with an American group
- **US fund:** Representing in the sale of a prestigious Paris hotel property to a Middle Eastern sovereign wealth fund
- **French company:** Representing in connection with a nuclear energy project in China
- **American group:** Representing in the acquisition of the papers division of a major French conglomerate
- **Leading French papers group:** Advising on the acquisition of a UK papers, filters and smoking accessories business and related assets in Belgium
- **AIM quoted exploration, mining, trading and investment company:** Representing in connection with the proposed acquisition of one of the largest chemical salt producers in China specialising in the production of cobalt, nickel and copper inorganic salts and powders, and its South African trading company
- **One of the world's leading market research firms:** Representing in the acquisition of a 49% stake in a Chinese company and the establishment of a joint venture, and ongoing regulatory and corporate matters and subsequent investment projects
- **Leading French chemicals group:** Advising on the establishment of joint venture structures in the Asia Pacific region including China for the production and marketing of refrigerant fluid products
- **Various US and European based private equity funds:** Advising on proposed acquisitions of Chinese domestic companies and/or assets
- Establishing investment funds in various jurisdictions
- **Issuer:** Representation in a public offering by a French internet services company and listing on the Alternext market of Euronext in Paris
- **Leading international IT services company:** Representation in connection with a EUR 500 million private placement of securities
- **Premier French wines and spirits group:** Advising on the acquisition of Dijon-based producer of liqueurs and subsequent joint venture with leading Japanese drinks group
- **Leading American supplier of networking equipment and related services:** Representation in a series of venture capital investments in France
- **Leading European defense and aerospace company:** Representation in a significant restructuring and joint venture transaction

Recognition

Honors and Awards

The Paris Corporate team is ranked "Tier 3" by *Legal 500 2019*. The team has also been recognized for many years

by *Chambers Europe*.

- Notable practitioner, M&A and Capital Markets, *IFLR 1000*, 2018
- *Acritas Stars Survey: Stand-out Talent*, 2019

Insights

- Interview de John Flanigan, *From largest to leading*, Fusions & Acquisitions, November 2017
- “*Cross-Border Reorganizations in France*”, European Cross-Border Mergers and Reorganizations, Oxford University Press, April 2012
- “*Aerospace & Defence*”, M&A Report, Acquisition International, March 2012
- “*Asia’s Leading Lawyers for Business*”, Corporate M&A, Chambers Asia, February 2009
- Private Equity Handbook 2008-2009, Country Q&A France, February 2009
- Private Equity Handbook 2007-2008, Country Q&A France, January 2008
- Expert Guide Private Equity Lawyers (China), January 2008
- Interview de John Flanigan, Easybourse, June 2007
- 2006 Guide to the World’s Leading Private Equity Lawyers, October 2006
- “*Corporate Governance and Directors Duties 2006*”, PLC Cross-Border Handbooks, January 2006

Activities and Affiliations

Memberships

- Member of the American Bar Association (ABA)
- Member of the International Bar Association (IBA)

Prior and Present Employment

- Joined Salans (now Dentons) in 1998
- Managing Partner, Salans (now Dentons) in Shanghai (2006-2008)
- Previously with Willkie Farr & Gallagher in Paris and in New York (1987-1998)

Areas of focus

Practices

- Banking and Finance
- Capital Markets
- Corporate
- Corporate Governance
- Mergers and Acquisitions

- Securities and Corporate Finance

Industry sectors

- Aviation and Aerospace
- Defense and Space
- Energy
- Financial Institutions
- Life Sciences and Health Care
- Luxury, Fashion and Beauty
- Private Equity

Education

- New York University, and University of North Carolina, 1985, JD, Staff Member on the North Carolina Law Review (1983-1984)
- University of Cincinnati, 1981, BA, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa

Admissions and qualifications

- Admitted to the Bar, New York, 1986
- Admitted to the Bar, Paris, 1992

Languages

- English
- French
- German