

Financial Times and mergermarket announce the winners of the European M&A Awards 2011

- **Exit of Nycomed by Nordic Capital awarded Private Equity Deal of the Year**
- **Morgan Stanley announced European Financial Adviser of the Year**
- **Freshfields take European Legal Adviser crown from Linklaters**

**LONDON, 8 December 2011** --- Last night, the Financial Times and mergermarket celebrated the fifth annual European M&A Awards, recognising excellence in corporate, private equity, banking and legal M&A expertise.

Corporate M&A Deal of the Year was awarded to Johnson & Johnson for its acquisition of Swiss-listed orthopedic devices manufacturer Synthes GmbH. This EUR 14.3bn transaction was the largest acquisition ever made by J&J and established a significant global orthopedics player.

The coveted Private Equity Deal of the Year was awarded for the sale of Nycomed International to Takeda Pharmaceutical. At EUR 9.6bn, it represented the largest private equity sale of the year and the third largest globally in the past 20 years.

Kristoffer Melinder, Managing Partner, NC Advisory, advisor to all the Nordic Capital Funds comments: *“Ever since Nordic Capital’s initial acquisition of Nycomed in 1999, this has been a fantastic journey. We are very satisfied that this has generated a great return for investors, but gratitude should first and foremost go to Nycomed’s top quality management, the dedicated pursuit of a growth strategy based on intelligent product sourcing and development as well as the relentless focus on emerging markets.”*

The title of Financial Adviser of the Year went to Morgan Stanley, which acted for some of the most notable bidders and targets in deals of the past year. Highlights included advising Wind in its EUR15.9bn takeover by Vimpelcom, SABMiller in its hostile bid for Fosters, BBVA’s strategic acquisition of 24.9% in Turkey’s Garanti Bank and CaixaBank’s asset swaps during its reorganisation process.

Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer was awarded the European Legal Adviser title for the first time, beating Linklaters who had held the title for the past four years. Freshfields’ advisory highlights included mandates to both Synthes and Nycomed. Linklaters walked away as winners in four categories, including legal adviser of the year in Benelux, France, Middle East & North Africa and the UK.

KPMG was awarded the prestigious European Accountancy Firm of the Year accolade, whilst Brunswick Group took the European Public Relations prize.

Giovanni Amodeo, Global Editor-in-Chief, mergermarket commented: *“The M&A Awards are an opportunity to recognise some of the hard-work completed during the past twelve months. In a year that, at its start, indicated M&A dealflow was in a period of increasing health, a combination of macroeconomic events, including the US and European sovereign debt crises, have contributed to falls in deal volume and value since the summer. Getting transactions done in 2012 will require more patience than usual, since financing will not be available as earlier in the year. Everything will depend on the outcome of the situation in the Eurozone.”*

For a full list of winners, please see below.

**For press enquiries, please contact [flora.wilke@mergermarket.com](mailto:flora.wilke@mergermarket.com) +44 (0)207 059 6348**

The Financial Times / mergermarket European M&A Awards were held at the The Savoy, London on Thursday 8 December 2011. Winners are decided using both M&A transaction data from mergermarket deals database and independent expert opinion from a panel of leading European M&A practitioners. To view the website for the awards – including details of the judging panel and methodology - please see [www.mergermarket.com/awards](http://www.mergermarket.com/awards)

## Major Awards

<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b>	Morgan Stanley
<b>Mid-market Financial Advisor of the Year</b>	Rothschild
<b>Private Equity Financial Advisor of the Year</b>	Goldman Sachs
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b>	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
<b>Mid-market Legal Advisor of the Year</b>	DLA Piper
<b>Private Equity Legal Advisor of the Year</b>	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
<b>Accountancy Firm of the Year</b>	KPMG
<b>PR Firm of the Year</b>	Brunswick Group
<b>Private Equity Firm of the Year</b>	AXA Private Equity
<b>M&amp;A Deal of the Year</b>	Acquisition of Synthes GmbH by Johnson & Johnson
<b>Private Equity Deal of the Year</b>	Exit of Nycomed International to Takeda Pharmaceutical

## Country Awards

<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Austria & Switzerland	Credit Suisse
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Austria & Switzerland	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Baltic	Swedbank Markets
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Baltic	Raidla Lejins & Norcous
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Benelux	ING
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Benelux	Linklaters
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Central Eastern Europe	UniCredit
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Central Eastern Europe	Weil Gotshal & Manges
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> France	BNP Paribas
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> France	Linklaters
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Germany	Deutsche Bank
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Germany	Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Iberia	BBVA
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b>	Uría Menendez

Iberia	
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Ireland	AIB Corporate Finance
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Ireland	Arthur Cox
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Israel	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Israel	Herzog Fox & Neeman
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Italy	Goldman Sachs
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Italy	Chiomenti Studio Legale
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Middle East & North Africa	Goldman Sachs
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Middle East & North Africa	Linklaters
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Nordics	Nordea Corporate Finance
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Nordics	Mannheimer Swartling
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Russia & CIS	VTB Capital
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Russia & CIS	White & Case
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Sub-Saharan Africa	Rand Merchant Bank
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Sub-Saharan Africa	DLA Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> Turkey	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> Turkey	Paksoy & Co
<b>Financial Advisor of the Year</b> United Kingdom	JPMorgan Cazenove
<b>Legal Advisor of the Year</b> United Kingdom	Linklaters

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