

Winners announced for the Financial Times and Mergermarket European M&A Awards 2013

- ***Liberty Global takeover of Virgin Media voted M&A deal of the year***
- ***Buyout of Douglas Holding AG by Advent International awarded best Private Equity Deal***
- ***Goldman Sachs claimed European Financial Adviser of the Year prize***
- ***Linklaters awarded European Legal Adviser accolade***

LONDON, 12 December 2013--- The Financial Times and Mergermarket, an independent mergers and acquisitions intelligence and data service, this evening named the top M&A dealmakers in Europe at its annual awards ceremony. Hosted at The Savoy in London, this renowned industry event awarded the top financial and legal advisers from the past year across Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

Goldman Sachs was crowned *European financial adviser* for the second year running. The *Boutique financial adviser* prize went to Moelis & Company, which acted as financial adviser to Omnicom in its merger with Publicis. The *Mid-Market Financial Adviser* of the year award went to Rothschild, which advised on more mid-market deals than any other shortlisted firm. Linklaters picked up both the *European Mid-Market Legal Adviser* and *European Legal Adviser* awards, highlighting its work with BP in the EUR 24 billion split from the TNK-BP joint venture to the judging panel.

EY scooped the *Accountancy firm* of the year prize again this year and Brunswick Group the *Public Relations Firm of the Year*, both repeating their successes from the same categories last year.

In the Private Equity categories, Goldman Sachs successfully won the *Private Equity Financial Adviser* prize with Clifford Chance picking up the *Private Equity Legal Adviser* of the year. EQT Partners was recognized as *Private Equity Firm of the Year*, following a string of successful exits, including the EUR3.3 billion sale of Springer Science to BC Partners.

Giovanni Amodeo, Global Editor in Chief at Mergermarket and chair of the awards judging panel, concludes: "The story of M&A in 2013 has been about consolidation in the European telecoms sector. The Virgin Media takeover kickstarted a flurry of telecoms deals, culminating in Vodafone's disposal of its stake in Verizon Wireless which is so far the biggest European deal of 2013. The Private Equity market has been an active sector this year, with cheap bank liquidity fuelling buyouts and a bounce in equity markets making bankers more optimistic about IPO exits. The buyout of Douglas Holding by Advent International was an acquisition of a solid family business that took us all by surprise, and emphasises the type of deal financial investors have favoured since the financial crisis."

For a full list of winners, please see below.

*Please note with regard to the data that all figures ran from 01-Oct-2012 to 30-Sep-2013
Data correct as of 10-Dec-2013.*

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The Financial Times & Mergermarket European M&A Awards were held at the The Savoy, London on Wednesday 12 December 2013. 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

About Mergermarket

Mergermarket is an independent Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) intelligence and data service with an unrivalled network of dedicated M&A journalists based in 65 locations across the Americas, Europe, Asia-Pacific, the Middle-East and Africa. Unlike any other service of its kind, Mergermarket specializes in providing forward-looking origination and deal flow opportunities integrated with a comprehensive deals database – resulting in real revenues for clients. Visit www.mergermarket.com

Winners:

M&A Deal of the Year	Acquisition of Virgin Media Inc by Liberty Global Plc
Private Equity Deal of the Year	Acquisition of Douglas Holding AG by Advent International

IPO of the Year	UK Government's Shareholder Executive for the IPO of Royal Mail
European Financial Adviser of the Year	Goldman Sachs
Boutique Financial Adviser of the Year	Moelis & Company LLC
Mid-Market Financial Adviser of the Year	Rothschild
Private Equity Financial Adviser of the Year	Goldman Sachs
European Legal Adviser of the Year	Linklaters
Mid-Market Legal Adviser of the Year	Linklaters
Private Equity Legal Adviser of the Year	Clifford Chance LLP
Private Equity Firm of the Year	EQT Partners AB
Public Relations Firm of the Year	Brunswick Group
Accountancy Firm of the Year	EY

Country Awards:

Legal Adviser of the Year Austria	Binder Groesswang Rechtsanwaelte GmbH
Legal Adviser of the Year Baltics	Raidla Lejins & Norcous
Legal Adviser of the Year Benelux	Allen & Overy LLP
Legal Adviser of the Year Central & Eastern Europe	White & Case LLP
Legal Adviser of the Year Denmark	Kromann Reumert
Legal Adviser of the Year Finland	Roschier
Legal Adviser of the Year	Bredin Prat

France	
Legal Adviser of the Year Germany	Hengeler Mueller
Legal Adviser of the Year Iberia	Uria Menendez
Legal Adviser of the Year Ireland	A&L Goodbody
Legal Adviser of the Year Israel	Herzog, Fox and Neeman
Legal Adviser of the Year Italy	Chiomenti Studio Legale
Legal Adviser of the Year Middle East & North Africa	Allen & Overy LLP
Legal Adviser of the Year Norway	Schjodt
Legal Adviser of the Year Russia & CIS	Linklaters
Legal Adviser of the Year Sub-Saharan Africa	Webber Wentzel
Legal Adviser of the Year Sweden	Mannheimer Swartling
Legal Adviser of the Year Switzerland	Homburger
Legal Adviser of the Year Turkey	Kinstellar
Legal Adviser of the Year United Kingdom	Slaughter and May
Financial Adviser of the Year Austria	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Financial Adviser of the Year Baltics	Porta Finance

Financial Adviser of the Year Benelux	ABN AMRO Bank N.V.
Financial Adviser of the Year Central & Eastern Europe	UniCredit Group
Financial Adviser of the Year Denmark	Nordea Corporate Finance
Financial Adviser of the Year Finland	Goldman Sachs
Financial Adviser of the Year France	BNP Paribas SA
Financial Adviser of the Year Germany	Goldman Sachs
Financial Adviser of the Year Iberia	Barclays
Financial Adviser of the Year Ireland	Davy Corporate Finance
Financial Adviser of the Year Israel	Jefferies LLC
Financial Adviser of the Year Italy	UniCredit Group
Financial Adviser of the Year Middle East & North Africa	BNP Paribas SA
Financial Adviser of the Year Norway	ABG Sundal Collier
Financial Adviser of the Year Russia & CIS	VTB Capital ZAO
Financial Adviser of the Year Sub-Saharan Africa	Bank of America Merrill Lynch
Financial Adviser of the Year Sweden	JPMorgan
Financial Adviser of the Year	Credit Suisse



Switzerland	
Financial Adviser of the Year Turkey	Raiffeisen Centrobank
Financial Adviser of the Year United Kingdom	Goldman Sachs