



Ernst-Thomas Kraft

Partner

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Thomas specialises in tax and accounting law, and advises clients in related transactions and intra-group reorganisations. He also advises financial institutions on tax and accounting issues of structured finance, hybrid instruments and securitizations.

He recently advised on the acquisition of real estate portfolios by Foncière des Regions in Germany. Other transactions in which he has advised include the disposal of retail real estate group GBW AG by Bayerische Landesbank in 2013, and the retail real estate portfolio of Landesbank Baden-Württemberg in 2011/2012. In M&A, he has been involved in the disposal of the Scout 24 group by Deutsche Telekom AG in 2014/15 and the sale of the heat exchanger business by GEA Group AG in 2015 following a prior intra group restructuring. He also advised Fresenius SE & Co KGaA in a couple of transactions (i.e. the acquisition of hospitals from Rhön Kliniken AG).

Thomas advises on intra group reorganisations, such as the J.C. Decaux group on an ongoing basis in Germany as well as the recent conversion of CEWE AG & Co into a KGaA.

His advice to financial institutions includes the acquisition and disposal of business entities (such as Postbank AG by Deutsche Bank AG) or parts of a business (such as the sale of the credit card business by Valovis AG). His advice on financial transactions covers debt and bond issues, hybrid instruments of credit institutions and other issuers, as well as the securitisation of bank and consumer loans (from the financing of vehicles to other consumer products).

Career

Admitted to bar 1985

Certified Tax Consultant

Certified Public Accountant
(Wirtschaftsprüfer , as
sole practitioner)

University of Augsburg (Dr. jur.)

Tax Division, Associate Deutsche
Treuhand-Gesellschaft, 1981-1982

Medium-sized Family Business,
1982-1985

Associate, Partner and Head of
Department (Department of Tax
and Law) and Head of Branch,
KPMG Deutsche Treuhand-
Gesellschaft, Frankfurt am Main,
1986-1998

Publications

Co-Author:

Wirtschaftsprüferhandbuch, Vol. I
2012 and Vol. II 2014

Vertrags- und Formularhandbuch
zum Handels- und
Gesellschaftsrecht, 4th ed. 2013

Großkommentar HGB,
Konzernrechnungslegung, 2011