



David Pinnock

Director, Sector Head

David Pinnock is a Director in our Corporate & Commercial practice and Co-Head for the Private Equity sector. David specialises in mergers and acquisitions and has experience in a wide range of transactional work (both public and private equity). David also has broad experience in corporate finance and other corporate and commercial work.

Practice areas

Corporate & Commercial

Sectors


Mergers & Acquisitions
The Companies Act
Listings, Stock Exchanges & Public Documents
Private Equity

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Career

David started his career as a candidate attorney at Cliffe Dekker and Todd (now Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr) in 1997. He was appointed as an associate in 1999, senior associate in 2000 and became a director in 2001.

Experience

- Advised on, structured and negotiated numerous domestic and cross-border M&A private equity transactions (including BEE transactions), representing vendors, management and purchasers, including various private equity investors (amongst them Investec Bank, IEP Group, Bud Group, Abraaj Group, Stockdale Street, Absa Bank, RMB Corvest and Calulo Investments).
- Advised various multi-national clients on investment and operations in South Africa and Africa.

Notable transactions

- Advised the shareholders of Vumatel on the multi-billion rand disposal of Vumatel to CIVH, a subsidiary of Remgro.
- Advised Sun International on its attempted R9.5 billion acquisition by Sun International of the Peermont Group. The transaction failed to obtain the necessary regulatory approvals.
- Advised Sun International on the R2.1 billion acquisition by Tsogo Sun of a 40% stake in Sun International's SunWest (Grandwest Casino) and Worcester operations and the partial exit of Grand Parade Investments Limited.

- Advised Sun International in its R663 million staggered disposal of controlling interests in its Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia, Swaziland and Zambia hotel businesses to Minor International Public Company Limited (listed on the Stock Exchange of Thailand).
- Advised IEP Group, formerly the private equity investments business of Investec Bank, on a series of integrated transactions with Khulasande Capital and the shareholders and management of each of the Goscor Group of Companies, Concord Cranes, Prowalco, Uni-Span Holdings and Afrit to create industrial services holding group, InServe.
- Advising IEP Group, Khulasande Capital and the shareholders and management of each of Idwala Industrial Holdings, Ferro Industrial Products, Chlor-Alkali Holdings (CAH) and CJP Chemicals, in a series of integrated transactions to create an industrial chemicals holding group, Synchem.
- Advised IEP Group on a series of integrated transactions with the shareholders of its various portfolio companies to create the Bud Group,
- Advised IEP Group in its multi-billion rand acquisition of Idwala Industrial Holdings, a leading South African miner and producer of industrial minerals and lime, from a private equity consortium. Idwala was vended into Synchem.
- Advised the private equity division of Investec Bank on various acquisitions and disposals, the bulk of the portfolio now forming the Bud Group.
- Advised RMB Corvest, Stockdale Street and Bopa Morua on the acquisition of Autotrader and its disposal to Naspers Limited.
- Advised Keller Group plc on its acquisition of the Esorfranki Geotechnical business of Esorfranki Limited conducted in South Africa and various other African jurisdictions.
- Advised Calulo Investments on a variety of acquisitions and disposals, including in relation to Tosaco (Total SA), Sturrock Grindrod Maritime, Rohlig Grindrod and FFS Refiners.
- Advised Massmart Holdings on various acquisitions of independent FMCG retailers.
- Advised Metorex on the sale by Metorex shareholders to Jinchuan Group (following a failed bid by Vale SA). This major investment by a Chinese entity in the resources sector in South Africa, Zambia and the DRC was the most substantial M&A transaction in the resources field in Sub-Saharan Africa in 2011 and was concluded in the face of several competing bids; transaction value R9.11 billion. The deal was named "Deal of the Year" by DealMakers.
- Advised Anooraq Resources Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiary, Plateau Resources, on the acquisition from Anglo Platinum and its wholly owned subsidiary, Rustenburg Platinum Mines, of, amongst others, an effective 51% of Lebowa Platinum Mines (transaction value R2,6 billion).
- Advised Blue Horizon Investments 41, whose shareholders consists of a consortium of BEE shareholders and communities, on the acquisition of 24% of Richards Bay Minerals, a joint venture between Rio Tinto and BHP Billiton (transaction value R4 billion).
- Advised Clear Channel and Independent Newspapers on the acquisition of the outdoor advertising business of Corpcom, which included businesses and subsidiaries throughout Africa.
- Advised Independent Newspapers on the disposal of its African outdoor advertising business to a private equity consortium (transaction value R1,2 billion).

- Advised CCMP Asia on the acquisition of Waco, a company with interests in South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, Namibia and Zimbabwe, at that time being South Africa's largest ever private equity transaction (value R5,4 billion).

Market Recognition

- Chambers Global 2017 - 2021 ranked David Pinnock in Band 1 for Corporate/M&A: Private Equity.
- The Legal 500 EMEA 2016 - 2020 recommended David for commercial, corporate and M&A.
- Who's Who Legal 2019 ranked David as a leading lawyer in M&A and Governance.
- Who's Who Legal 2017 and 2018 ranked David as a leading lawyer in M&A.
- The IFLR1000 2019 and 2020 recommended David as a notable practitioner in M&A and Private Equity.

Education

- BA LLB, University of the Witwatersrand
- Year of admission as an attorney: 1999
- Enrolled with the Legal Practice Council

Languages

English