

## A clean sweep for Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr - firm leads DealMakers M&A legal adviser rankings

Business law firm Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr, has been ranked number one in the DealMakers' awards, consolidating the firm's position as the top M&A legal adviser in South Africa.

Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr was ranked first by both deal value and deal flow for Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A) activity in 2011, according to the DealMakers legal adviser rankings announced on 29 February 2012.

The firm advised on 77 transactions, giving it a market share of 26.46% of the total number of M&A transactions recorded by DealMakers in 2011. Its nearest rival had 44 deals for the year. The value of M&A deals was R104.7 billion and comprised of 23,6% by value of all transactions.

The law firm was also ranked first by transaction flow, with a market share of 21.05% and 28 transactions, and third by transaction value, R29.8 billion for general corporate finance.

Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr advised Metorex in the acquisition of its shares by Jinchuan, a Chinese company, in a transaction valued at R9 billion, which won 2011 Deal of the Year. The firm also advised shareholders, in the Actis-led management buyout of vehicle tracking pioneer, Tracker, a transaction which won 2011 Private Equity Deal of the Year.

Ian Hayes, National Head of the Corporate and Commercial practice, expressed the firm's delight over the rankings.

*"We are exceptionally proud of these significant accomplishments. We have retained our number one ranking in M&A deal flow for a third consecutive year and we have strengthened our position as a leading business law firm for corporate transactions nationally and cross border in Africa."*

In January 2012, Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr was named Sub-Saharan Africa M&A Legal Adviser of the Year at the FT mergermarket European M&A awards. The law firm also topped the 2011 mergermarket league table as the most active legal adviser in Africa with 31 deals, up from second place in 2010.