

MEDIA RELEASE

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Banking and Finance appointments at Lavan Legal

Lavan Legal is very pleased to announce the appointments of Jennifer Handz and Ben Fong as partners in Lavan Legal's Banking & Finance and Corporate Services teams from 6 January 2014.

Jennifer Handz will bring to Lavan Legal significant experience working in global financial markets. Her most recent experience was as a partner and managing director of Chadbourne & Parke, a New York-based law firm. Jennifer worked as a banking and finance specialist in the firm's London and Moscow offices, managing the Moscow office for four years. Jennifer has a broad range of experience in project finance, syndicated and bilateral lending, equity financing and restructuring. Jennifer has represented lenders, sponsors and borrowers on transactions in the oil and gas, infrastructure, energy, telecommunications, steel and manufacturing and property sectors. Prior to joining Chadbourne & Parke, Jennifer worked in London as in-house senior counsel at the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, was the managing lawyer of the Hanoi office of Freehills, was an associate at Theodore Goddard in London and Warsaw and completed her Articles and Restricted Practice with Freehills in Perth.

Ben Fong joined Lavan Legal's Banking and Finance team as a special counsel in February 2012. Prior to joining Lavan Legal, Ben worked in corporate finance at Allens Linklaters for almost 12 years. Ben is a qualified chartered accountant and, before he joined Allens, was a senior tax adviser at PwC in Melbourne and Perth. Ben's focus as a partner, together with Jennifer, will be developing Lavan Legal's finance practice, acting primarily on institutional and business banking transactions. He will also continue working alongside the partners in Lavan Legal's Corporate Services practice, advising on regulated and unregulated M&A transactions and general corporate and commercial matters.

Managing partner Dean Hely said, "Jennifer will bring an exceptional level of international experience working in some of the world's most complex financial markets to our local banking and finance clients in Western Australia."

"I am confident that Jennifer's wealth of experience, together with Ben Fong's in-depth understanding of financial markets and products in Australia and Asia, will deliver lateral solutions to local issues and an exceptional level of service to Lavan Legal's clients".

About Lavan Legal

Lavan Legal is a proudly independent, Western Australian law firm. Since its launch on 3 April 2006, Lavan Legal has built a reputation as one of the most innovative legal services firms in Australia. Prior to 2006, the firm had a 120-year history under the names Phillips Fox, Lavan Solomon and Lavan & Walsh. Lavan Legal has 20 partners and 180 staff.

Lavan Legal is a full service firm providing legal advice to the banking and finance, insolvency and reconstruction, construction, corporate, electricity, energy, environment, oil and gas, government, hospitality, infrastructure, media, mining and resources, property and planning and sports and tourism sectors. Lavan Legal's litigation team is one of the largest in private practice in Western Australia.

Lavan Legal enjoys an enviable reputation as banking and finance specialists who compete with the big national firms in the WA market. Lavan Legal acts for and advises a broad range of clients

including international banks such as HSBC Bank Australia Limited and Bank of China, Australian banks such as Westpac Banking Corporation, St. George Bank, National Australia Bank Limited and Bank of Queensland, as well as boutique financiers, fund managers and private equity players. Lavan Legal's experienced Banking and Finance Team is recognised for providing innovative, practical and solution focused advice to effectively implement the most challenging finance transactions. We differentiate ourselves from our competitors in a number of ways, particularly on the basis of our quality advisory and technical skills and our commitment to offer real guidance combined with strong service protocols.

If you would like more information about these appointments, please call Business Development Manager Michelle Natta on +61 8 9288 6774 or email michelle.natta@lavanlegal.com.au.