
AUGUSTA & CO STRENGTHENS FRANCHISE WITH SENIOR APPOINTMENTS

London, 13 February 2009

Augusta & Co, the independent merchant bank, today announces a number of senior appointments to strengthen both its debt advisory and restructuring practice as well as its renewable energy advisory business.

James Knight is joining the partnership having worked at Augusta for over five years. James has advised on and successfully closed a variety of M&A, restructuring, corporate finance and renewable assignments. Over the last few years he has helped build the firm's leadership in the renewable energy business. James joined Augusta from the Investment Banking Division of Goldman Sachs where he worked in both the LBO Coverage Group and the UK Advisory Team.

Paolo Pascarelli joins Augusta as a Managing Director to work with financial sponsors and corporates across Europe and develop Augusta's advisory business in Italy. He joins Augusta after 18 years in international investment banking, of which the last 12 were in leveraged finance and high yield capital markets. Between 2004 and 2008, Paolo was a Senior Director, Capital Markets at the Royal Bank of Scotland, London where he was responsible for high yield origination in continental Europe. Previously, he was a Vice President in Leveraged Finance and Sponsor Coverage at CSFB, London and worked for Deutsche Bank in leveraged finance as well as in project and corporate finance advisory.

Michael Johnson joins Augusta as a Managing Director with a career of over 24 years in the investment banking industry, providing corporate finance advice to private equity firms, corporations and entrepreneurs. Michael has over 10 years of experience in each of the US and European leveraged finance markets including loan, mezzanine and high yield capital markets experience as well as significant distressed and restructuring experience. Most recently, Michael was head of BNP Paribas' London-based leveraged finance business. Prior to that he started DLJ's investment banking business in Europe and was Head Of Leveraged Finance at Credit Suisse First Boston in New York.

Mortimer Menzel, head of Augusta & Co's renewable energy practice, said: "James Knight has already made a great contribution to the firm and has played a crucial role in the development of our renewable energy business having closed some of our most important deals. We are delighted that he will be joining the Partnership at this exciting time in the firm's development when we continue to see attractive growth opportunities for our industry leading renewables advisory franchise."

Thomas Warnholtz, of Augusta's sponsor coverage practice, said: "We are delighted to announce the appointment of two senior bankers, with over 40 years' of high yield and leveraged experience between them, to strengthen our capability and coverage reach in both the UK and on the Continent and particularly into Italy".

Robin Menzel, of Augusta's capital market advisory practice, said: "We are very busy with corporate refinancings and restructurings throughout Europe where both Mike's and Paolo's senior experience and contacts will be very helpful."

Mike Johnson commented "Companies with leveraged balance sheets find themselves facing circumstances unprecedented in their recent history. Conversations with these companies confirm a need for independent advice from practitioners who are experienced with leveraged capital structures and familiar with the institutions that provide that capital. The experience of the professionals at Augusta over several business cycles makes the firm ideally placed to work with companies seeking optimal capital structure solutions for the issues which they currently face"

Paolo Pascarelli commented "Sponsors and management teams are now looking for truly impartial advice and effective alternatives to manage their finances in an environment where the traditional sources of capital are unable to meet new funding requirements and existing capital structures are not always appropriate. Augusta and its professionals are well positioned and have the track record to provide independent, experienced advice as well as access to alternative, innovative sources of debt and equity financing solutions".

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Note to Editors

Augusta & Co. plc is an independent merchant bank providing corporate finance and capital markets advice and services to European middle market companies. Since being founded in late 2002, Augusta has placed financings and advised clients on completed transactions with a volume of over €3.5 billion.

Augusta is wholly owned by its partners and employees, enabling us to take an independent and long-term approach to client relationships whilst avoiding the costs and conflicts encountered by many large integrated investment banks.

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