

Partner, London

Mergers and Acquisitions; Corporate Governance



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Education

LLB, Law With German Law, King's College London, 2000

LPC, The College of Law, London, 2001

Bar Admissions

England & Wales

Simon Toms has experience in a wide range of cross-border public and private M&A transactions, joint ventures, corporate reorganizations and equity capital markets transactions, with a particular focus on the technology, fintech, media and telecoms sectors.

Mr. Toms is ranked as a leading individual for high-end M&A in *The Legal 500 UK*. He previously served as general counsel at News International (now News UK) between August 2011 and April 2012.

Since joining Skadden, Mr. Toms' experience includes advising:

- **Iceland Foods** in the acquisition by founder and executive chair, Sir Malcolm Walker CBE, and chief executive officer, Tarsem Dhaliwal, of a 63% stake in Iceland Foods from Brait, a South African private equity fund.

Mr. Toms' experience prior to joining Skadden includes advising:

- **21st Century Fox Inc.** in its US\$30 billion bid for Sky plc.;
- **TransferWise** on its secondary sale valuing the business at US\$3.5 billion;
- **HP** in its £380 million acquisition of Apogee Corporation Limited;
- **VEON** in the formation of its 50/50 joint venture with Hutchison to form WINDTre, Italy's largest mobile operator, valued at €22 billion, and the subsequent sale of VEON's stake to Hutchison for €2.45 billion;
- **Cerberus Capital Management** in its US\$1.2 billion acquisition of HSH Nordbank alongside consortium partners;
- **IHS** in its joint venture with MTN to acquire 9,000 mobile phone towers and IHS' associated US\$2.6 billion fundraising;
- **a consortium of leading financial institutions** in a US\$107 million investment in R3, a distributed ledger technology platform for financial services;
- **21st Century Fox** in its US\$9.3 billion sale of Sky Italia and Sky Deutschland to Sky plc;
- **Toyota** in the formation of Toyota Connected Europe;
- **News UK** in its participation in digital ad platform the Ozone Project, alongside the Telegraph Media Group, Guardian Media Group and Reach plc;
- **Cisco** in its US\$700 million acquisition of Acano, a leading video conferencing and collaboration service provider;
- **Circassia Pharmaceuticals** in its acquisitions of Aerocrime AB and Prosonix Limited and its associated £275 million placing and open offer;
- **Virgin Active** in the sale of an 80% majority stake to Brait for £682 million;
- **Clear Channel** in the sale of its stake in ARN to APN for US\$246 million;
- **Deepmind Technologies** in its US\$500 million sale to Google Inc.; and
- **News Corporation** in its separation into two independently listed companies, 21st Century Fox and News Corporation.