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PRESSE RELEASE

Five new partners at BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS

We are pleased to announce that we have appointed **five new partners** who took up their duty as of the 1st January 2008. BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS now has **40 partners**.

Claire Baufine-Ducrocq, 36 years old, began her career within the firm 11 years ago. Her main areas of work are based on corporate law and more particularly mergers and acquisition operations, restructuring and corporate finance.

Delphine Nowak, 36 years old, joined the firm in 2003 (when Denis Lequai joined BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS as a partner and with whom she worked for 6 years). Delphine's skills in distribution and competition law were gained when she successfully advised an important international group.

Matthieu Lochardet, 35 years old. His main areas of work are based on financial operations (capital risk, LBO, capital development, debt) and corporate restructuring. He intervenes on investment funds and assists company directors with acquisition and patrimonial solutions.

Sébastien Rodriguez, aged 35, is specialised in French and international employment law (labour contracts, breach of contract, litigation, salary, social security and benefits, retirement, shareholding and contingency) and in the social and tax aspects of international transfers. He will play a key role in the continuing development of BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS international Mobility.

Yan Freyria-Courtois, 34 years old. His work is mainly focused on corporate and tax law. He especially advises corporations and their directors and shareholders (in a national or international context) on company transfers, acquisition, restructuring and development by private equity or syndicated bank financing.

Amongst the five new partners are two women, one of which began her carrier at the firm. BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS therefore wishes to underline the **fidelity** of its associates and the firm's willingness to **develop new skills** when faced with a constantly evolving market.

BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS provides advice and assistance to its domestic and international clients including corporations and public authorities. With a multi-disciplinary team of more than 115 attorneys-at-law and legal advisers specialising in all fields of business law, the lawyers of BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS have studied or practised abroad and have acquired significant experience both in France and internationally.

The firm's main practice areas are : corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, banking and financial law, tax law, labour law, RH international mobility, real estate law, public law, environmental law, IP and IT law, competition and distribution law, commercial contracts, insolvency law, white collar crime. It represents its clients in all forms of proceedings before all French and European jurisdictions.

The firm has offices in Paris, Lyon, Lille, Aix-en-Provence, and Shanghai.

BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS is the representative in France of Meritas, an international network of 170 law firms present in 60 countries worldwide.

BIGNON LEBRAY & ASSOCIÉS

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