



# press release

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**subject** **CMS announces new partner appointments in Russia**

## **CMS announces new partner appointments in Russia**

CMS, one of the leading international law firms in Russia, is pleased to announce the appointment of three partners: Ivan Gritsenko (real estate), Karen Young (banking and finance) and Elena Zhigaeva (corporate).

**Ivan Gritsenko** has been specialising on all legal aspects of real estate projects for over seven years, including acquisition and development of land (Greenfield and Brownfield projects), acquisition of use rights for land, project-related due diligence, and development of model structures for joint venture projects with Russian partners. With this appointment Ivan becomes the fourth partner in the top-rated CMS real estate practice in Russia, comprising over 20 lawyers.

**Karen Young** specialises in banking and finance law and, in particular, project and property finance. Her 18 years experience includes advising various clients in relation to loans for the construction finance of commercial real estate property, development finance, loans refinance etc. With over six years of experience in the Russian market, in her new role Karen will continue to develop a growing banking and finance practice for CMS in Russia.

**Elena Zhigaeva** has advised Russian and international companies on corporate law aspects of their business in Russia for over five years, including acquisitions and disposals, and on competition law issues. With her appointment, Elena joins the existing 11-partner corporate team. The growing CMS corporate department now has a total number of 48 fee-earners.

These new partner appointments reinforce the leading position of CMS in the legal market in Russia. "We are delighted to welcome our new partners. The appointment of Ivan, Karen and Elena to the partnership recognizes their professional success and input to our business. They are also evidence of our commitment to continuing to grow our business in the Russian market", says John Hammond, Chairman of CMS in Russia.

CMS in Russia has completed the move into new offices on Gogolevsky Boulevard as of 1 January 2009.

- Ends -

CMS in Russia is a representative office of CMS International B.V. (Netherlands), registered at Gogolevsky 11, Moscow 119019, Russia, state registration number 17483. For more information please visit [www.cmslegal.ru](http://www.cmslegal.ru).

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The members of CMS are in association with The Levant Lawyers with offices in Beirut, Abu Dhabi, Dubai and Kuwait.



## Notes for Editors:

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### 2. About CMS

- CMS in Russia comprises over 130 lawyers, including 25 partners. CMS has over 16 years of experience in the Russian market, advising major international and domestic players on all legal aspects of their business. For more information please visit <http://www.cmslegal.ru/>
- CMS is the Alliance of European law and tax firms of choice for organisations based in, or looking to move into, Europe. CMS provides a deep local understanding of legal, tax and business issues and delivers client-focused services through a joint strategy executed locally across 28 jurisdictions with 56 offices in Western and Central Europe and beyond. CMS was established in 1999 and today comprises nine CMS firms, employing over 2,200 lawyers and is headquartered in Frankfurt, Germany.
- CMS nine member firms are: CMS Adonnino Ascoli & Cavasola Scamoni (Italy); CMS Albiñana & Suárez de Lezo (Spain); CMS Bureau Francis Lefebvre (France); CMS Cameron McKenna LLP (UK); CMS DeBacker (Belgium); CMS Derks Star Busmann (Netherlands); CMS von Erlach Henrici AG (Switzerland); CMS Hasche Sigle (Germany); and CMS Reich-Rohrwig Hainz (Austria). [www.cmslegal.com](http://www.cmslegal.com)

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