



For further inquiry please contact:

Ying-hsiu Yeh
Business Development, Marketing & Communications
Director
+81 3 6271 9404
ying-hsiu.yeh@bakermckenzie.com

Baker McKenzie Advises Yildiz Holding and Godiva Chocolatier on the sale of select business operations in Asia to MBK Partners

Tokyo, Japan, 1 March 2019 – Baker McKenzie acts as the exclusive legal counsel to Yildiz Holding and GODIVA Chocolatier ("GODIVA") on the sale of its retail and distribution operations in four markets: Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand. The transaction also includes the sale of the GODIVA production facility in Brussels.

The transaction is anticipated to close in mid-2019, subject to the customary closing conditions of completion of standard Belgium employee works council consultations and expiry of the relevant competition authority waiting period.

The Firm's team* is led by Jeremy White, a partner in the Corporate/M&A Practice Group in Tokyo. He was ably supported by Kensaku Takase, Byron Frost, Daniel Burkhart, Beelian Tay, Ayako Nakano, Masao Katsuyama, Mami Ohara, Daniel Relton (Tokyo office); Dominique Maes, Francois Gabriel, Jean-Francois Vandenberghe (Brussels office); David Scott, Jannan Crozier (London office); Jur Strobos (FDA specialist Washington DC office); Tracy Wut (Hong Kong office). The team has lead responsibility in advising the clients on the sale structure, legal and regulatory issues, communication with the regulators, and general transaction management.

"We are very pleased that we have been able to draw on our legal capabilities and strengths in advising on M&A and carve outs in order to assist our clients on this landmark deal. Because we are a full service firm, we were also able to advise on all relevant ancillary pieces such as employment, intellectual property, antitrust, environment, and real estate laws." said Jeremy White. "This transaction will add further impetus to the future growth of our client's business, and we look forward to continue supporting their legal needs."

GODIVA Chocolatier is the global leader in premium, artisanal chocolate. Yildiz Holding is the largest food manufacturer in Turkey and the Middle East.

[* This is the second headline transaction in the confectionary market on which the Firm has advised within the last six months. A Tokyo team led by Jeremy White also assisted on [Fuji Oil's USD 750 million acquisition of Blommer Chocolate Company.](#)]

- End -

Baker McKenzie.

Representative Lawyer



Jeremy White
Partner, Corporate/M&A
+81 3 6271 9483

jeremy.white@bakermckenzie.com

Jeremy focuses on outbound and inbound Japan transactions and is recognized as a key individual by Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 where clients have noted his business-focused advice and experience working across cultures. He focuses on cross-border mergers, acquisitions, disposals, spin-outs and joint ventures. His practice also covers alliances between multinationals as well as greenfield corporate and venture investments.

About Baker McKenzie

Baker McKenzie helps clients overcome the challenges of competing in the global economy. We solve complex legal problems across borders and practice areas. Our unique culture, developed over 65 years, enables our 13,000 people to understand local markets and navigate multiple jurisdictions, working together as trusted colleagues and friends to instil confidence in our clients.

www.bakermckenzie.com

Baker & McKenzie (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise), a fully integrated law firm, is one of the leading law firms in Japan, and offers a full range of cross-border and Japanese legal services. As a member firm of Baker & McKenzie, the world's leading international law firm, we are able to draw upon a network to provide high quality solution-oriented legal services through timely delivery.

www.bakermckenzie.co.jp/en/

Follow us on



Baker & McKenzie (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) is a member firm of Baker & McKenzie International, a global law firm with member law firms around the world. In Japan, the services of Baker & McKenzie (Gaikokuho Joint Enterprise) and the other member firms of Baker & McKenzie International are provided through Baker & McKenzie LPC. In accordance with the common terminology used in professional service organizations, reference to a "partner" means a person who is a partner, or equivalent, in such a law firm. Similarly, reference to an "office" means an office of any such law firm.

