

Prominent Matters Walder Wyss's one-firm approach ensures that our fully integrated teams work seamlessly across all our six Swiss locations to handle the most complex cases. More than 290 legal experts make Walder Wyss one of the most successful Swiss commercial law firms. We provide services to national and international clients as the «Law Firm of Choice» in Switzerland.

# walderwyss attorneys at law

"Walder Wyss provides very good deliverables, from both a quality and a time-cost perspective." Chambers Global, 2024

"Their work was perfectly tailored to our requirements: It was precise, fast and efficient." Client Feedback

"Highly professional, responsive and above all a very specific knowledge of the competition challenges in our business. As consultants a very professional, but also pragmatic and risk-oriented approach."

Legal 500, 2024

"Counting on Walder Wyss as a very reliable partner, we can focus fully on our business." Client feedback

"They are very dedicated and committed lawyers. They have a very open style of communication. They are very diligent, don't mind long hours and put in the extra hours if they are needed."

Client feedback

"Very professional team of Swiss lawyers, very available and competent."

Client feedback

Walder Wyss established a leading position in all relevant areas and is once again being top-ranked and law firm with one of the broadest footprints in Switzerland by the «Bilanz / Le Temps» ranking 2024 – the most important ranking by leading Swiss publications focusing on the legal market in Switzerland

We have handled numerous high-profile cases in a wide range of fields of expertise, such as (recent assignments only):

- Handling transactions with an aggregate deal value exceeding CHF 20bn during the last 12 months.
- Advising on many of the most significant domestic and cross-border M&A and capital markets transactions, public tender offers and roughly 50 private M&A transactions (with a deal value exceeding CHF 5m each) during the last 12 months.
- Frontrunner for Swiss structured finance transactions and involved in most public and private ABS transactions, synthetic transactions, covered bond transactions and other securitisations.
- Representing banks and other lenders and borrowers in large scale domestic and international finance transactions, including acquisition finance, corporate finance and asset finance.
- Several substantial real estate transactions (listed and unlisted).
- Several IPOs, advising the issuer or the investment banks.
- Complex domestic and cross-border corporate restructurings and insolvency proceedings.
- Numerous venture capital and private equity transactions.

- Representing banks, securities dealers and fund management companies in regulatory matters (including licensing or enforcement proceedings as well as distribution matters).
- Representing major multinationals in their successful trademark prosecution and litigation efforts.
- Currently representing clients in more than 30 international arbitrations, in particular in construction, joint-venture and post-M&A disputes.
- Representing clients in high profile commercial cases in court throughout the country and before the Swiss Federal Supreme Court.
- Several complex merger control proceedings (phase I and phase II) before the Swiss Competition Commission.
- Representing multinational pharmaceutical companies in their reimbursement & pricing strategies, applications and appeals before Federal Courts.
- Trusted advisor to the Swiss Government in large scale procurement matters.
- Dedicated start-up desk (www.startuplaw.ch) advising founders or investors of more than 150 start-ups in all kind of investment cycles, including numerous spin-offs from leading Swiss Universities (ETH, HSG, and EPFL).

# Finance, Capital Markets & Regulatory

Recent experience includes advising:

- Acted as Swiss counsel to Deutsche Bank, ING, and UniCredit as joint underwriters and bookrunners in the financing of the acquisition of Vodafone Italy by Swisscom AG for an enterprise value of EUR 8bn.
- Acted for AMAG Leasing AG on its issuance of CHF 300m Green Bonds.
- Acted for UBS AG as sole arranger and initial dealer and the other dealers in relation to the establishment of a CHF 20bn program for the issuance of Covered Bonds by UBS Switzerland AG and the initial issuances thereunder.
- Acted for Banca Generali SpA, Milan, on its expansion into the Swiss market through BG (Suisse) Private Bank SA.
- Acted for a systemically relevant Swiss banking group in the reorganization and liquidation of its private equity and private debt portfolio.
- Acted for various Swiss financial institutions, including banks, securities dealers and insurance companies, in regulatory matters, including enforcement proceedings.
- Acted as counsel to BNP Paribas, J.P. Morgan and Mizuho as Joint Active Bookrunners in the issuance of EUR 2bn inaugural Eurobonds by Sandoz.
- Acted as counsel to BNP Paribas as Global Coordinator in the issuance of EUR 700m Eurobonds by Barry Callebaut.
- Acted as lead counsel to Credit Suisse Group AG on the merger with UBS Group AG.
- Acted for Goldman Sachs in the acquisition financing made available to a joint venture vehicle held by Cerberus Capital Management LP and Intrum acquiring a portfolio of loans (SEK 382bn (EUR 33bn) nominal and SEK 11.5bn (EUR 1bn) book value) from Intrum.
- Acted for CAAB group in relation to the issuance of EUR 670m senior secured floating rate notes and 8.75% senior secured fixed rate notes and the new EUR 110m revolving credit facility.
- Acted for Ripple on the USD 250m acquisition of Metaco SA, a provider of digital asset custody and tokenization technology located in Switzerland.
- Acted as Swiss legal counsel to Swiss Life Holding Ltd. on its transaction of CHF 600m Senior Bonds.
- Acted as Swiss legal counsel to Helvetia Group on its transaction of CHF 230m Senior Bonds.

- Advising Citi, Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken, BNP Paribas, Commerzbank, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank and UBS as bookrunners and mandated lead arrangers on a CHF 450m sustainability-linked revolving credit facility agreement for Clariant AG.
- Acted as counsel to UBS Switzerland AG and an international syndicate consisting of 21 additional lenders in the CHF 700m multicurrency credit facility agreement for On Holding AG and its wholly-owned subsidiaries On AG and On Inc.
- Advising various European banks in the context of purchases of trade receivables including, without limitation, via their respective ABCP conduits involving various jurisdictions.

# Corporate, M&A

Recent experience includes advising:

- SIX-listed Credit Suisse on its merger with SIX-listed UBS, combining a market capitalization of USD 6bn.
- SIX-listed Credit Suisse on its USD 60bn marker capitalization merger with SIX-listed UBS.
- DSM on its EUR 42bn business combination with Firmenich through public exchange offer.
- NASDAQ-listed Liberty Media Corporation on the acquisition of Dorna Sports, S.L. from Bridgepoint and Canada Pension Plan Investment Board.
- SIX-listed Nestlé on its CHF 10.2bn sale of its Skin Health Business to EQT and ADIA.
- PE Fund Bregal Unternehmerkapital on the acquisition of a majority stake in BSI Software from Capvis Equity V LP.
- SIX-listed Aluflexpack AG and its majority owner Montana Tech Components on Constantia Flexibles' acquisition and public tender offer of all shares in Aluflexpack.
- PE Fund Astorg on its acquisition of CordonPharma, a global leading pharmaceutical CDMO.
- SIX-listed Montana Aerospace on the divestment of its e-mobility business, Alu Menziken Group, to Mengtai Group.
- Recordati on the acquisition of the worldwide rights for Signifor and Osilodrostat from SIXlisted Novartis.
- Boehringer Ingelheim on its EUR 325m acquisition of Amal Therapeutics.
- PE Fund KLAR Partners on its acquisition of BÜHLMANN Laboratories AG.
- Management of NovImmune on the CHF 515m spin-off of the immunology business unit to STO-listed Swedish Orphan Biovitrum AB
- SIX-listed Tamedia on the acquisition of the SIX-listed media promoter Goldbach Group.
- Aduno Holding on its sale of all shares in cashgate to SIX-listed Cembra Money Bank.

 The Burkard family on the sale of all shares of Schenker-Winkler Holding AG (with controlling stake in SIX-listed SIKA) to Compagnie de Saint-Gobain (Saint-Gobain) for a purchase price of CHF 3.22bn.

# Regulated Industries & Competition

Recent experience includes representing:

- Swisscom in the fibre optic network investigation conducted by the Swiss Competition Commission (ComCo) for an alleged abuse of a dominant position.
- TX Group AG in the merger control proceedings before ComCo related to the acquisition of the Swiss business of the internationally operating Clear Channel Group.
- Aduno Group in the Apple Pay investigation conducted by ComCo.
- Daimler AG and Volvo AB in the merger control proceeding before ComCo regarding their fuelcell ioint venture.
- Medbase AG (part of the Migros Group) in the merger control filing before ComCo with respect to the acquisition of sole control over the Swiss business of Zur Rose Group AG, which is Europe's largest online pharmacy and one of the leading medical wholesalers in Switzerland.
- British Airways in the air cargo investigation and in the appeal proceedings in Switzerland.
- Advising Swiss Army on procurement of specialized IT services.
- Advising Swiss Federal Railways in dispute regarding the operation permits for a new fleet of rolling stock.
- Advising public utilities group on a complete restructuring; various interfaces with federal regulator and state authorities; transfer of permits and concessions, etc.
- Advising Swiss Domain Registry on contract dispute.
- Successful representation of Swiss Nuclear Power Operator against an NGO attempt to shut down two plants due to alleged seismic security issues.
- Expert opinion for Swiss Canton on implementation of new procurement laws.
- Continued advice to Swiss Universities on IT and HR related matters.
- Advising intergovernmental organization on joint IT procurement initiative.
- Successful representation of Federal Railways before the Swiss Supreme Court in a infrastructure project in the Canton de Valais.
- Advising Canton of Zurich on large scale cleanup projects for industrial dump sites.
- Chair of the expert group formed by the Swiss Confederation for the revision of the Federal Law on Public Procurement.
- Advising the Swiss Confederation on procurement of new biometric passport and ID card.

 Advising and representing the Swiss Confederation as well as Swiss cantons in complex public procurement transactions and court cases.

### Litigation & Arbitration

Recent experience includes:

- An international financial services provider in multi-billion litigation proceedings in various jurisdictions.
- An Indian conglomerate in a USD 1.2bn commercial dispute.
- A chemical multinational in a USD 330m dispute.
- Claimant in a USD 100m arbitration regarding a large maritime infrastructure project.
- An eminent national football organization in civil and criminal proceedings in connection with the hosting of the world cup.
- A US metals producer in an ICC arbitration over damages claims in excess of USD 200m.
- An Eastern Europe State in a post M&A dispute over privatization in excess of USD 120m.
- A UHNWI in a USD 120m dispute over a real estate project.
- A commodities trader in a dispute over longterm contracts and damages in excess of USD 100m in various arbitrations and court proceedings.
- A UHNWI entrepreneur in a shareholders' and control dispute in excess of CHF 100m.
- A pharma multinational in a post M&A dispute in excess of CHF 120m.
- A contractor in a USD 90m arbitration over an infrastructure project in the Middle East.
- Respondent in a USD 40m arbitration regarding a dispute arising from a large solar plants project.

### Corporate Crime & Investigation

Recent experience includes:

- Conducting an internal investigation for the University Hospital Zurich regarding alleged conflicts of interests of the head of the department of cardiac surgery.
- Conducting and coordinating a multi-year internal investigation for a major financial institution regarding fraud (civil, criminal, regulatory aspects).
- Conducting an internal investigation for a listed pharmaceutical company regarding alleged accounting and tax related irregularities.
- Representing a European bank against a former manager charged with embezzling more than EUR 700m.
- Representing a listed luxury goods manufacturer in a USD 200m "romance scam" large scale fraud.
- Representing Migros (a leading Swiss retailer) in the criminal proceedings for disloyal management against the former chairman of

- the cooperative Neuchâtel-Fribourg.
- Representing companies such as Nestlé and Ralph Lauren in criminal proceedings for embezzlement against employees (and accomplices).
- Representing a group of health clinics in criminal proceedings for private bribery and disloyal management against their former architect and various contractors.
- Advising various companies in relation to #metoo investigations.
- Defending a former top executive of a bank against money laundering allegations.



#### **Private Clients**

Recent experience includes:

- Advising executors of a non-Swiss UHNWI, who resided in Switzerland, on the Swiss issues of his multinational estate (wealth of approx. USD 800m) and tax issues with regard to the trust established by the deceased.
   Walder Wyss is furthermore engaged to assist in the liquidation of the estate including the sale of a property with a value of approx.
   CHF 60m and the liquidation of a charitable foundation.
- Advising a young entrepreneur, a non-Swiss UHNWI with a wealth of approx.
   USD 150m regarding his cross-border estate planning and the establishment of a charitable foundation to support a sustainable environment.
- Relocation to Switzerland of top executive at NYSE-listed company, including preimmigration estate and tax planning, in particular advice on the Swiss succession and tax treatment of substantial family trusts and import of USD 60m aircraft.
- Advising a Swiss industrialist on the setup of a charitable foundation funding a range of humanitarian, educational and cultural projects in Africa.
- Advising a LATAM billionaire heiress on her intended relocation to Switzerland, including sophisticated analysis of treaty benefits regarding the distribution of very substantial dividends in several jurisdictions.
- Advising a Swiss resident on the sale of a substantial residential property (ultimately owned by a family trust). Tax and legal advice regarding the transaction.
- Advising a large group of Swiss heirs regarding the partition of two estates which belong to the community of heirs since thirty years and comprise highly valuable assets (wealth of approx. USD 200m). Inheritance law and tax advice regarding the liquidation of the estates.

#### Healthcare & Life Sciences

Recent experience includes:

- In recent months, Walder Wyss has won twice before the Supreme Court in pricing matters in the life sciences sector.
- Fastest positive reimbursement & pricing decision for an innovative cancer drug in Switzerland in the last five years. Walder Wyss had helped the company with their strategy and their application.
- Ongoing representation of several pharmaceutical companies before Swiss Government, Swiss Federal Administrative Court and Swiss Federal Supreme Court in market access and pricing matters.
- Advising on and representing numerous pharmaceutical and biotech companies in regulatory matters including white collar crime
- Advising one of the major pharmaceutical trade associations on market access and regulatory matters.
- Advising several Swiss and foreign VC funds in investments in biotech start-ups.
- Ongoing representation of several private and public hospitals and clinics in litigations regarding questions of pricing against healthcare insurers and government authorities.
- Complex outlicensing and financing transaction for client developing novel gene therapies for cardiac diseases.
- Life-Sciences-Regulatory support in various Healthcare company acquisitions.
- Deals with governmental agencies for COVID-19 related pharmaceuticals.

#### Tax

Recent experience includes:

- Focusing on high-end transactional (M&A, PE, real estate), structured finance, capital market, corporate restructuring and relocation work, on leading tax controversy, and on prominent estate planning for domestic and international clients.
- Assisting in the tax-efficient structuring of auction procedures and acquisition transactions including management participation and finance.
- Developing and launching new forms of structured finance and refinance.
- Representing corporate and private clients in audits and contentious matters in all fields of taxation and regularly before the Swiss Federal Supreme Court as one of the leading tax litigation firms in Switzerland.
- Representing large international banks as well as large Swiss industrial companies in matters concerning foreign withholding taxes and foreign tax credits.
- Advising major foreign financial institutions on Swiss dividend withholding tax refunds

- through the judicial system up to the Swiss Federal Supreme Court.
- Advising a U.S.-based fund on the acquisition of several high-performance data centers in different locations in Switzerland (deal value worth several hundreds of millions of dollars).
- Advising a U.S.-based worldwide leading firm for automotive products and services on the structuring of a group-internal restructuring including the transfer of assets and liabilities totalling a single-digit billion USD amount.
- Advising corporate and private clients on inand outbound relocation matters (e.g. dealing with lump-sum taxation, pre-relocation planning, step-up in basis, exit taxation).
- Advising and representing clients in tax regularisation procedures both in Switzerland and on a cross-border level.
- Advising a Dutch-Swiss global leader in health, nutrition and bioscience on its merger with the world's largest privately-owned fragrance and flavour company worth EUR 35bn, which closed in 2023.

# Technology & Intellectual Property

Recent experience includes:

- Representing Merck KGaA and Merck Schweiz
  AG in Switzerland against Merck & Co. Inc.
  and various other MSD group companies in a
  high profile litigation. Merck KGaA, seated in
  Germany, and MSD seated in the US are both
  pharmaceutical companies with a common
  origin.
- Advising a multinational company on a complex multi-jurisdiction litigation in the field of trademark and business secrecy/know-how in relation to major probiotic product. Various injunction proceedings, trademark opposition proceedings, cancellation proceedings and negotiation of distribution agreement.
- Advising a global Swiss-based financial services group on several global IT outsourcing transactions, including drafting and negotiating the contracts and assisting in their implementation.
- Representing and advising major industrial company in a world-wide patent litigation concerning nullity, infringement and vindication of a patent family in the field of beam cutting technology.
- Advising a foreign national broadcaster on the digital re-transmission of TV-programs in Switzerland through OTT-based streaming services on broadcasting, telecommunications and copyright implications with collective societies.
- Acting as official DPO for Swisstransplant, the Swiss foundation appointed to allocate organs on behalf of the Federal Office of Public Health.
- Advising and representing various brands of Richemont (incl. IWC, Cartier, Montblanc, Lange, Vacheron Constantin, Van Cleef &

- Arpels) in trademark, copyright, design right, trade dress and unfair competition disputes.
- Representing a leading credit information agency and a leading Swiss retailer in investigations conducted by the Swiss Data Protection Authority.
- Representing the largest Swiss retailer in different complex trade dress litigations relating to foodstuffs.
- dvising a large number of global as well as domestic companies, including several listed companies, on GDPR compliance.

### Real Estate

Recent experience includes advising:

- A US based fund on the acquisition of several high performance data centers in different locations in Switzerland (deal value of several hundreds of millions USD).
- A number of Nordic and Middle-Eastern sovereign wealth funds on large-scale real estate acquisition and real estate development projects in Switzerland.
- One of Switzerland's leading bank in the course of a sale of a landmark building in Basel.
- A Swiss institutional investor in an asset swap deal with another Swiss institutional investor.
- A Swiss institutional investor in real estate development projects worth more than CHF 1bn situated in the German, French and Italian speaking parts of Switzerland.
- A large multinational company in its
   Swiss construction projects worth overall approximately CHF 1bn.
- Representing a SIX-listed real estate company in its multi-million CHF construction lawsuit.
- Advising a Swiss institutional investor in the sale of a portfolio comprising more than a dozen residential and commercial properties in Switzerland.
- A foreign buyer of a large commercial real estate located in Zurich's central business district.
- A UHNWI in the course of a complex construction project relating to a villa in St. Moritz.
- A foreign buyer in the course of a complex building right transaction.
- Advising a leading Swiss Bank in connection with the purchase of several real estate development projects in the Italian speaking part of Switzerland.

## Employment

Recent experience includes:

 Advising manufacturing company in connection with all employment-related aspects of the closure of its Swiss production site. This particularly included providing detailed advice regarding mass dismissal and transfer of undertaking proceedings,

- preparing tailor-made drafts of various documents needed in this context (i.e., from the documents required for the initiation of the consultation proceedings to the eventual termination letters), and preparing the draft of and negotiating an extensive social plan designed to mitigate the consequences of eventual dismissals.
- Conducting an investigation in an international company based on complaints about sexual harassment, involving many European countries, including the conducting of a thorough assessment of and compliance with all equal opportunities policies.
- Set up of a new equity incentive and investment plan for listed company's top management.
- Advising various companies on all legal aspects of the introduction of a permanent desk sharing and work from home model including cost bearing, social security, tax implications for employees, risk of permanent establishment, health protection.
- Advising, acting as counsel in court proceedings before local and federal courts and negotiating with governmental authorities regarding employee versus independent contractor status and staff leasing when it comes to platform work.
- Lead Counsel to Credit Suisse on the merger with UBS. Advise on the employment law related matters in connection with the signing and closing of the merger agreement.
- Advising and representing the Swiss subsidiary of a listed multinational conglomerate corporation before the labour courts against a former executive regarding alleged.



#### **Employees**

More than 290 legal experts

Around 130 employees in support functions

#### Walder Wyss Ltd.

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