



Covington Strengthens European Corporate Practice with Addition of Kingston

LONDON, May 12, 2008 — Covington & Burling LLP is pleased to announce that Mike Kingston has joined the firm as partner and head of the firm's European corporate practice. Mike will be based in London.

Mike's career spans over 30 years with Magic Circle firms in mergers and acquisitions and equity capital markets. As well as working in London, Mike spent seven years developing an international corporate and commercial practice while based in Paris in addition to shorter periods in Hong Kong and Singapore. His experience includes representing listed companies for takeovers, mergers and equity issues and offerings, and private companies for acquisitions and disposals, joint ventures and other business combinations, both pan-European and in Asia. He has worked with corporate clients, investment banks and private equity funds among others.

"Mike is a key addition to our global corporate practice," said Timothy Hester, chair of the firm's management committee. "As the head of the corporate practice in Europe, Mike joins a strong team of M&A and private equity lawyers in our London office."

Mike Kingston commented: "Covington's commitment to quality, client service and a truly collegial atmosphere, together with its world class reputation and long-established international client relationships, is a compelling story. Combined with the firm's depth in regulated industries, Covington has the key ingredients for success in today's global legal market."

He added: "Covington's reach fits comfortably with my experience in a wide range of business areas, such as the international sports arena and leisure and media sectors. I believe that the firm is well positioned to expand its practice further in Europe and in Asia, as well as in the United States. Covington's Life Sciences Practice is the acknowledged leader globally - an area of particular interest to me and an excellent opportunity for our corporate group to develop further in Europe."

Roger Enock, managing partner of Covington's London office, commented: "We are very pleased to bring Mike on board. Mike is highly regarded for handling a wide range of complex transactions and he brings synergies between his expertise and the firm's existing practice and clients."

Covington has a leading international corporate practice with more than 150 lawyers that covers a broad range of transactional and advisory work, including corporate and securities, corporate governance, mergers and acquisitions, finance, private equity, venture capital, strategic alliances and joint ventures, bankruptcy, and real estate. Covington's global corporate group has been recognised by Chambers, Corporate Board Member, Legal 500, and The Practical Law Company. The appointment of Mike Kingston comes a few weeks after the arrival of partners Tim Clark and Loretta Shaw-Lorello, who joined the firm's corporate and private equity practices in New York.