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## Contacts

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## Hunton & Williams Recognized in Chambers Europe Guide 2008

Hunton & Williams LLP is pleased to announce it was recognized in the 2008 edition of *The Chambers Europe Guide*.

According to the Chambers website, research into the strengths and reputations of lawyers and law firms was conducted through interviews with more than 6,500 clients and attorneys located in 170 countries. With more than 50 full-time researchers, the extensive research was completed over a period of 12 months. Firm practices and individual lawyers were ranked on a scale of one to six, with one being the highest rating. Qualities assessed included technical legal ability, professional conduct, client service, commercial awareness/astuteness, diligence, commitment and other qualities most valued by the client.

Hunton & Williams and its lawyers were ranked in 2008 Chambers Europe as noted practitioners in the areas listed below, along with excerpts of descriptive text from the guide.

### **Belgium: Climate Change**

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Hunton & Williams Rank: 1

**The Firm:** Clients heap praise on this firm for its *“breadth of understanding of international issues, its knowledge of environmental regulations in various countries*

*and its practical approach.”* Sources agree that the firm is distinguished in Brussels by its *“strong relationship with the EC, which is often invaluable in negotiations, and its willingness to hire technical specialists, not just lawyers.”* The team currently includes several chemists, engineers and scientists in its ranks. It regularly advises buyers, sellers and originators of European Union Allowances and Certified Emissions Reductions on trading within the EU Emissions Trading Scheme, and acts for investment banks, brokers and trading companies on such transactions. It also possesses abundant experience of carbon-related corporate deals, including M&A and stock market listings. On the regulatory side, the group advises developers of Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) projects on complying with the Kyoto Protocol and CDM regulations, and is closely monitoring developments in climate change regulations and legislation around the world. Lucas Bergkamp is the key contact for the practice in Brussels.

### **Europe-Wide: Climate Change**

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Hunton & Williams Rank: 2

**The Firm:** Having already established a strong position as a leading firm for air and greenhouse gas issues in the USA, Hunton & Williams is now making inroads into the European climate change market.

The firm enjoys a robust presence and strong links to regulatory agencies in Brussels, and is widely considered to be “punching above its weight” in London. Particularly well regarded for its skill in carbon trading, it possesses ample experience advising clients on the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (EU ETS). The firm regularly advises US-based companies on European Union climate change regulation, and counsels European clients on crossovers with domestic European legislation.

**Belgium: TMT**

Christopher Kuner Rank: 2

As Chambers states, “At Hunton & Williams, Christopher Kuner enjoys a strong international reputation for

his Europe-wide work in the field of data protection. Current work includes advising SWIFT on data protection issues arising from the US government’s access to its banking transaction records.”

**United Kingdom: Corporate/M&A: Mid-Market**

Hunton & Williams Rank: 3

**United Kingdom: Corporate/M&A: Mid-Market**

Martin Thomas Rank: 2

**The Firm:** This firm has a “can-do attitude” that clients appreciate. “One of those you know has in-depth knowledge of AIM,” Hunton & Williams has confirmed its status in the area by advising

on numerous flotations and secondary offerings, acting for a good spread of companies as well as nomads/brokers. The firm’s energy experience informs its capital markets practice and, unsurprisingly, the deal flow benefits from — but is by no means restricted to — capitalising on strong US connections to float Sarbanes-Oxley refugees. “The firm has done a remarkable job of quickly building up its practice from scratch,” remarked one commentator, ascribing the success in particular to the “quite prolific” **Martin Thomas**. Highlights included representing Grant Thornton Corporate Finance as nomad and LCF Edmond Rothschild Securities as broker on the admission to AIM and placing of Vietnamese Infrastructure, valued at USD402.1 million.