

Asset Management and Investment Funds

Matheson

Headquartered in Dublin with offices in London, New York, Palo Alto and San Francisco, more than 650 people work across Matheson's five offices, including 85 partners and tax principals and over 350 legal and tax professionals. Matheson concentrates on serving the Irish legal needs of internationally focused companies and financial institutions doing business in and from Ireland. Matheson's clients include the majority of the Fortune 100 companies and over half of the world's 50 largest banks. Matheson has worked closely with some of the world's largest tech multinationals and high-profile start-ups advising 7 of the top 10 global technology brands.

Matheson's Asset Management and Investment Funds Department is the number one ranked funds law practice in Ireland, acting for 29% of Irish domiciled investment funds by assets under management as at 30 June 2017. We advise on Irish asset management law and regulation, and fund products including undertakings for collective investment in transferable securities (UCITS); alternative investment funds (AIFs); money market funds; exchange traded funds (ETFs); manager platforms; private equity funds; property funds; loan funds; funds of funds; and Shariah compliant funds. We provide a comprehensive and professional service to our clients drawing on the considerable breadth and depth of expertise not only in our Asset Management and Investment Funds Group but also in our taxation, structured finance and commercial litigation departments.

Our specialist team is led by 12 partners and comprises over 50 asset management and investment fund professionals in total. We act for the world's leading institutional fund managers including 7 of the top 10 global promoters of Irish funds, 8 of the top 10 US asset managers and the world's 4 largest asset managers.

Practice highlights and experience

- UCITS – We are experts in all aspects of UCITS including: structured UCITS; UCITS ETFs; money market funds; UCITS platforms; UCITS pursuing alternative or hedge fund strategies; and traditional long-only equity and bond funds.
- Alternative Investment Funds – Our detailed knowledge of the requirements of the Alternative Investment Fund Managers Directive (AIFMD) and its implementation means that we are the Irish legal advisors of choice for Alternative Investment Funds Managers (AIFMs) and AIFs. We have advised on AIFs investing in: pharmaceutical royalties; life settlements; property; currencies; commodities; bank loans; private equity; other hedge funds and on all hedge fund strategies, including long/short, event driven, arbitrage, global macro, distressed debt and multi-strategy amongst others.
- We advised on the first AIFM authorisation in Europe and the first inward AIFMD management passport into Ireland. Other “firsts” include: the first Irish domiciled pharmaceutical royalties fund; the first Irish UCITS structured product platform; the first Irish domiciled US life assurance policies fund; the first Irish China fund investing in China A shares; the first Brazilian-promoted fund in Ireland and the first Irish funds promoted by Dubai and Saudi Arabian financial institutions. We were the first to advise on an Irish ETF intending to use derivatives to track indices and to advise on bank loan funds using special purpose subsidiaries.
- Industry – We are consistently involved in influencing developments in the asset management and investment funds industry in Ireland and Europe. Our partners and associates hold key industry appointments on over 20 committees and taskforces of the Irish funds industry association (Irish Funds). The head of our team, Tara Doyle, is an elected member of the governing Council of Irish Funds and was Chair of Irish Funds in 2017 / 2018. We also hold an appointment to the Irish Prime Minister's International Financial Services Centre Funds Working Group and, at European level, a Matheson partner sits on both the UCITS working group and the Benchmarks working group of the European Fund and Asset Management Association. We established the first university-taught Funds Law Course in Ireland.
- Practice structure – We are one of the few Irish law firms with a specialist derivatives practice, which means we have the capability to provide our clients with combined asset management, tax and derivatives advice. Our regulatory compliance and risk management team assists with authorisations of new investment managers, administrators and custodians, compliance requirements and Central Bank administrative sanctions. In addition to this, we provide a full investment funds listing service, a specialist outsourcing advisory practice and a dedicated investment funds company secretarial service, with online boardroom facilities for our clients.

What others say about us

“Focused on giving top-quality advice.”
Investment Funds: Chambers Europe 2018

Matheson's Investment Funds group are “phenomenally responsive and commercial.”
Investment Funds: Chambers Europe 2017

“Excellent leaders in the field, dynamic and innovative.”
IFLR 2017

Matheson's Investment Funds group are “the best in class for this type of work, they have unrivalled knowledge and expertise, are quick to react and user-friendly.”
Investment Funds: Chambers Europe 2017

“This firm is the gold standard amongst a choice of providers. The lawyers are fantastically knowledgeable and know what is coming down the line and what impact the regulations will have.”
Chambers Europe 2016

Awards and accolades

- Ranked as a tier one investment funds practice group by the European Legal 500 and IFLR1000
- Winner, UCITS Law Firm of the Year 2017, The Hedge Fund Journal
- Number one ranked Irish law funds practice acting for 29% of Irish domiciled investment funds by AUM, Monterey Insight Ireland Fund Survey 2017
- Ireland's Most Innovative Law Firm Financial Times 2017
- Winner, Best Alternative Investments Law Firm Europe 2016, Wealth & Finance International
- Winner, Most Innovative Law Firm Europe 2016, Global Funds Awards
- Winner, Investment Funds Law Firm of the Year in Ireland 2016, Global Law Experts
- Winner, European Law Firm of the Year 2015, The Hedge Fund Journal
- Winner, Best AIFMD Law Firm Europe 2014 and 2015, Wealth & Finance International
- Winner, ICAV Deal of the Year 2016 and 2018, Finance Dublin

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