

THE FIRMS

Blakes Tops Bloomberg's Canadian M&A Tables

Posted by Brian Baxter

As a former editor around these parts used to say, "We're big in Canada." So The Am Law Daily would be remiss if we didn't mention the leading M&A legal advisers from our friendly northern neighbor.

According to data compiled by Bloomberg, here are the top firms for Canadian M&A (all figures in U.S. dollars):

1. **Blake, Cassels & Graydon**--\$30.1 billion, 97 deals, 27 percent market share
2. **Osler, Hoskin & Harcourt**--\$27.8 billion, 80 deals, 25 percent market share (**Note:** Oslers was ranked second by Bloomberg, but first on the **competing Thomson Reuters tables.**)
3. **Stikeman Elliott**--\$21.8 billion, 85 deals, 22 percent market share
4. **Borden Ladner Gervais**--\$14.8 billion, 28 deals, 13 percent market share
5. **Cassels Brock & Blackwell**--\$12.8 billion, 29 deals, 11 percent market share
6. **McCarthy Tétrault**--\$12.7 billion, 76 deals, 11 percent market share
7. **Lang Michener**--\$11.9 billion, 12 deals, 11 percent market share
8. **Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison**--\$11.8 billion, 5 deals, 11 percent market share
9. **Torys**--\$10.3 billion, 36 deals, 9 percent market share
10. **Bennett Jones**--\$9.9 billion, 20 deals, 9 percent market share

It's worth noting that three firms--Blakes, Oslers, and Stikeman Elliott--nearly doubled the market share of their competitors. Blakes, a 550-lawyer firm based out of Toronto, also made its presence felt in **Bloomberg's European M&A tables**, finishing fourth in total deal value behind Magic Circle giants **Linklaters, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, and Clifford Chance.**

Part of the firm's M&A success came from recognizing the importance of having a presence in Calgary, home to Canada's largest oil and gas deals, The American Lawyer's Francesca Heintz reported in **this story from the magazine's August 2008 Canada Report.**

The firm considers its Calgary outpost--its office there opened nearly 20 years ago--so important that last year it elected oil and gas M&A extraordinaire Brock Gibson as its next chairman, Heintz reported. (Click [here](#) for a listing of Blakes' other M&A engagements.)

Stikeman Elliott and McCarthy Tétrault topped the Bloomberg league tables for **legal advisers working on Canadian equity underwritings.**

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