

King & Spalding Opens Moscow Office For Deals, Energy

By Erin Fuchs

Law360, New York (May 10, 2011) -- King & Spalding LLP scored five attorneys from Hogan Lovells and White & Case LLP on Tuesday to launch an office in Moscow that will expand the firm's international energy and transactions practices.

The firm's Moscow outpost will be its 17th office worldwide. Attorneys at the new office will collaborate with its transactions practice in London and its international arbitration practice in Paris, as well as its global energy centers in New York; Houston; London; Singapore; Dubai; Riyadh, Saudi Arabia; and Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

"Moscow is another example of our focus on expanding our global footprint by investing in high-value practices where we are already strong and in markets where our clients are seeking expertise," firm chairman Robert D. Hays Jr. said in a statement Tuesday.

The Moscow team will include Sergey Komolov, who was deputy managing partner and co-head of Hogan Lovells' corporate practice in Moscow. Komolov, who will be the resident office managing partner in Moscow, has represented banks and other companies in major deals and cross-border disputes.

Hogan Lovells transactions partners Olga Kozyr and Alla Naglis are also joining King & Spalding's new Moscow office.

Kozyr practices in corporate and real estate law and life sciences and counsels U.S. and European companies in Russian investments.

For her part, Naglis focuses on cross-border deals, corporate law, and media and entertainment law, as well as intellectual property and antitrust law, according to King & Spalding.

Meanwhile, Jennifer Josefson, who led the Central Eastern Europe/Commonwealth of Independent States oil and gas practice at White & Case, is also joining the team. Josefson, who is a U.S. citizen, speaks Russian fluently and has been located in Moscow since 2002, her new firm said.

Additionally, former Hogan Lovells attorney Iliya Zotkin is joining King & Spalding as of counsel, bringing

experience working in the legal division of a Russian coal mining company, according to his biography on the Hogan Lovells website.

Garry Pegg, King & Spalding's co-managing partner in London, praised the new Moscow team in a statement Tuesday.

"The team we have created is of the highest quality and a great fit personally and professionally. It also enhances our ability to serve clients in and from London and across all legal disciplines and market sectors, including energy and life sciences," said Pegg, who is a former partner at Hogan Lovells.

The opening of the Moscow office comes just a day after King & Spalding announced the addition of Suzanne Rab, who was the former co-leader of Hogan Lovells' antitrust compliance group.

"Suzanne's arrival is an exciting event for the global competition practice," Jeffrey S. Spigel, who heads the firm's antitrust practice, said Monday. "It marks our commitment to expanding the practice to better serve clients throughout Europe — and the world."

--Additional reporting by Melissa Lipman. Editing by Greg Ryan.

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