

### **INSOL INTERNATIONAL**

### News Update

**SHOW ARCHIVE** 

December 2018 | ISSUE NO. 12

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#### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

"Fast away the old year passes" – taking with it gains in equity markets and crude oil prices and leaving a wake of political and financial uncertainty: Brexit, Federal Reserve interest rates, and international trade talks, to name a few.

As 2018 draws to a close, our <u>Highlight Article</u> derives a few useful lessons from U.S. bankruptcy cases over the past year – and another pair of articles consider <u>recent cases</u> defining the scope and limitations of the authority and jurisdiction of U.S. bankruptcy courts.

We also review recent <u>Singapore case law</u>, which provides guidance with respect to the extent and conditions of its statutory moratorium and the ambit and effect of a charge. These case notes serve the dual purpose of illuminating the nation's recently enacted insolvency law – and reminding you to register this month for INSOL Singapore in April 2019.

Among other news, in contrast to recent Australian legislation creating a safe harbour for directors of distressed Australian companies, a landmark <a href="German decision">German decision</a> increases the risk of personal liability for directors by interpreting many D&O policies to exclude coverage for GmbHG Section 64 claims.

I encourage you to take a few minutes out of a busy season for this worthwhile reading. And may December find you "laughing, quaffing all together," even if you don't fa-la-la-la.

#### MEMBER ASSOCIATIONS

If you would like to send an article for inclusion in one of our forthcoming issues please contact our Technical Officer, Louise Jennings

If you would like to introduce a new member to INSOL International please contact our Database Manager, <u>Tony</u> Ashton



David L. Lawton Senior Counsel Bracewell LLP

#### **HIGHLIGHT ARTICLE**

#### 2018 in Review: A Selection of U.S. Bankruptcy Decisions

On 28 November 2018, the Federal Reserve warned that "[a]sset valuations appear high relative to their historical ranges in several major markets, suggesting that investor appetite for risk is elevated." If sustained, such appetite may herald elevated activity for insolvency professionals in the years to come. In anticipation of a less benign credit cycle, this year-end retrospective highlights a few developments in U.S. bankruptcy case law in 2018 in preparation for next year and beyond.

David L. Lawton Senior Counsel David Shim Associate Bracewell LLP

**Highlight Article >** 

### **THE AMERICAS**

**CASES** 

**ARTICLES** 

USA USA

## Third Circuit Confirms There's no Wiggle Room with Jurisdictional Limitations

A precedential decision issued on 28 November 2018 by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit highlights the limits of bankruptcy judges' authority to transfer non-core proceedings to other courts. The Third Circuit's opinion in this case also emphasises the importance of choosing the right forum for filing post-confirmation litigation.

Case Note Squire Patton Boggs, 7
December 2018 >

Case Decision >

#### Fugitive's French Funds Left Fraught: Ninth Circuit BAP Authorises Compelled Consent Directives

When Michael Mastro fled to France to avoid turning over assets in an involuntary bankruptcy case filed against him, the chapter 7 trustee requested "unusual assistance" by asking the bankruptcy court to compel Mastro to sign a consent directive, allowing the trustee to request documents from international banks and financial institutions. This request led to an issue of first impression for the Ninth Circuit Bankruptcy Appellate Panel — do bankruptcy courts have the authority to compel debtors to sign consent directives?

<u>Case Note Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP, 5</u> November 2018 >

Case Decision >

#### **ASIA PACIFIC**

#### **CASES**

#### **INDIA**

#### Binani Cement's Saga: The End!!

The recent decision of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) in the case of Binani Cement Limited considered the rejection of a resolution plan by the adjudicating authority on the grounds that it was discriminatory for not providing for all financial creditors and operational creditors equitably. To decide the various issues the NCLAT reviewed: i) the object of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC); ii) the object of a 'resolution' in accordance with the IBSC and iii) what is expected from the committee of creditors (which consists only of financial creditors).

Case Note, Jayesh H, Senior Partner, Ashish Mukhi, and Sumitava Basu, Principal Associates, Juris Corp Advocates & Solicitors, 12 December 2018 >

Case Decision >

#### **CASES**

#### **SINGAPORE**

# The Ongoing Evolution of Singapore's New Restructuring Law

Two recent (and ongoing) cases have provided valuable guidance on the application of key provisions in Singapore's new restructuring regime, including the qualifying criteria to obtain moratorium protection under section 211B(1) of the Companies Act (Cap 50, 2006, Rev Ed) (the Act); and the level of disclosure required to be provided by a company seeking to obtain moratorium protection pursuant to section 211B(4) of the Act.

Case Note, Shaun Langhorne, Partner,
Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee and Patrick
Bance, Director, Borrelli Walsh, 7
December 2018 >

**IM Skaugen Case Decision >** 

#### **SINGAPORE**

#### A Singapore Court Sets Precedent on the Ambit and Effect of a Charge in Cases of Insolvency and Enforcement Involving a Receiver and Manager

The Singapore High Court in this case considered, in the context of claims of mandatory insolvency set-off and equitable set-off, the effect of a no-assignment clause and a no-charging clause on a pre-existing fixed charge and / or crystallised floating charge over the chargor's assets, setting new precedent and providing much needed comfort and clarity on the manner in which the security interests of secured parties are protected.

Case Note, Cosimo Borrelli, Managing Director and Annabelle Cai, Director, Borrelli Walsh, 11 December 2018 >

Case Decision >

### **EUROPE, AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST**

#### **CASES**

#### **Germany**

#### New Insurance Risks for Directors & Officers in Germany

Claims brought by insolvency administrators under Section 64 of the German Limited Liability Companies Act GmbHG are not only among the most common, but also the most financially significant claims faced by the directors of distressed German companies. In a landmark decision, the Higher Regional Court of Düsseldorf recently determined that claims brought under Section 64 of the GmbHG are not covered by insuring provisions found in many D&O insurance policies.

Jones Day Commentary, November 2018 >

#### **LEGISLATION**

#### **ARTICLES**

#### UAE

# The New UAE Banking Law and its Impact on Islamic Financing in the UAE

On 23 September 2018, the President of the United Arab Emirates promulgated Federal Law No. 14 of 2018 on the Central Bank and Organisation of Financial Institutions and Activities (the New UAE Banking Law) which came into force on 30 September 2018 on the day of its publication in the Official Gazette. The New UAE Banking Law will have impact on the regulatory landscape in the UAE for both fully fledged Islamic financial institutions and also conventional financial institutions operating through an Islamic finance window (Islamic Financial Institutions or IFIs).

Clifford Chance Briefing, November 2018 >

#### **IRELAND**

#### **Dispute Resolution Funding in Ireland**

Dispute resolution funding has been in the spotlight in Ireland following the delivery of the Persona judgment by the Irish Supreme Court in May last year. This article discusses the growing demand for dispute resolution funding in Ireland with reference to the Persona judgment and other industry developments that are driving demand for change.

Vannin Capital's In Conversation Series, November 2018 >

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

## INSOL International Small Practice Paper - Japan November 2018

This study on Japan under INSOL International's Small Practice Technical Paper Series focuses on "Small Practices and Consumer Debt Issues" and was written by Naoki Kondo and So Miyamoto, Oh-Ebashi LPC & Partners, Japan.

INSOL International sincerely thanks Naoki Kondo and So Miyamoto for providing INSOL members with this very informative paper.

View Small Practice Paper

## INSOL International Technical Paper - New Cross-border Insolvency and Restructuring Law in Switzerland

#### November 2018

On 1 January 2019, a revised law on cross-border insolvency – Chapter 11 of the Swiss Federal Code on Private International Law - will enter into force in Switzerland. This paper provides a brief general overview of the Swiss insolvency regime and details the key changes to be implemented by the new cross-border provisions.

INSOL International sincerely thanks Roger Bischof, partner, Bonnard Lawson, *Fellow, INSOL International*, Switzerland for writing this excellent technical paper.

View Technical Paper

#### European High Yield Bond Restructurings - A User's Guide

#### December 2018

This User's Guide provides a wealth of information useful to practitioners and highlights the key factors impacting on a HYB restructuring; the recent trends and what to expect in the near future.

INSOL International sincerely thanks Alastair Beveridge and Mark Sinjakli for leading this project, and the co-authors Jacco Brouwer and John Bruce, all of AlixPartners, for producing this excellent Guide. A significant amount of research was carried out over a long period to produce this publication and INSOL is grateful to the authors for their hard work, continued interest and commitment shown throughout.

View Guide

**CONFERENCES & SEMINARS** 



#### FIVE WEEKS TO THE EARLY BOOKING DEADLINE

INSOL Singapore  $2^{nd} - 4^{th}$  April 2019 features two days of relentlessly relevant and exciting insight on topics as diverse as IP valuation, cryptocurrencies, block-chain and restructuring online businesses. Don't miss this opportunity to learn, debate and connect with key senior professionals from across the globe.... **READ MORE** 

REGISTER

before 14th January 2019 to secure the early bird discount!

#### **INSOL Singapore - Offshore Ancillary Meeting**

#### 2 April 2019

Following on from our very successful one day seminar that took place in New York in April this year, we are holding a further offshore ancillary meeting in 2019 at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre, Singapore on the 2<sup>nd</sup> April before the Annual Regional INSOL conference.

The programme will bring together world class and experienced professionals to discuss hot topics and provide a cutting edge perspective to cross border and offshore insolvency and restructuring.

To securely book your place for the offshore meeting before the early booking deadline of the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2019 register here

INSOL International would like to thank our offshore sponsors:

Main Sponsor: Carey Olsen | LX Legal Breakfast Sponsor: Higgs & Johnson Coffee break Sponsor: KRyS Global Lunch break Sponsor: Walkers

For further information and details of sponsorship opportunities please contact Sarah Smith

## Stockholm One Day Seminar

# **Channel Islands One Day Seminar**

#### Tokyo One Day Seminar



Wednesday 22 May 2019 Stockholm

Co-host: INSOL Europe

INSOL International and INSOL Europe are pleased to announce the date of our joint Stockholm one day seminar on Wednesday 22 May 2019. This is our second seminar in the Nordic-Baltic region, and follows the successful seminar in Helsinki in 2018, also hosted with our member association Finnish Insolvency Law Association.

For further information please contact Penny Robertson



Thursday 20 June 2019 Guernsey

INSOL International are delighted to announce the date for our next Channel Islands One Day Seminar that will take place in Guernsey on the 22 June. Please save the date in your diary.

For further information and details of sponsorship opportunities please contact Penny Robertson



Thursday 7 November 2019 Tokyo

INSOL International will be running its second one-day seminar in Tokyo on Thursday 7 November 2019. Please save the date! The overarching theme will be 'For further development in Asian insolvency and cross-border restructuring'. Details will be available on our website shortly.

For further information please contact Penny Robertson

#### **Electronic Newsletter Editorial Committee**

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Association of Restructuring and Insolvency Experts

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International Association of Insurance Receivers

International Women's Insolvency and Restructuring Confederation

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Restructuring and Insolvency Specialists Association (Bahamas)

Recovery and Insolvency Specialists Association (BVI) Ltd

Recovery and Insolvency Specialists Association (Cayman) Ltd

Restructuring and Insolvency Specialists Association of Bermuda

REFOR-CGE, Register of Insolvency Practitioners within "Consejo General de Economistas, CGE"

Restructuring Insolvency & Turnaround Association of New Zealand

Russian Union of Self-Regulated Organisations of Arbitration Managers Canadian Association of Insolvency and Restructuring Professionals

Commercial Law League of America (Bankruptcy and Insolvency Section)

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Finnish Insolvency Law Association

Ghana Association of Restructuring and Insolvency Advisor

Korean Restructuring and Insolvency Practitioners Association

Law Council of Australia (Business Law Section)

Malaysian Institute of Accountants

Malaysian Institute of Certified Public Accountants

National Association of Federal Equity Receiver

Society of Insolvency Practitioners of India

South African Restructuring and Insolvency Practitioners Association

Turnaround Management Association (INSOL Special Interest Group)

Turnaround Management Association Brasil (TMA Brasil)







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