

News Release

BAKER & MCKENZIE ADVISES ASAHI BREWERIES LTD ON \$1.2 BILLION PURCHASE OF SCHWEPPE AUSTRALIA

Sydney, 5 January 2009 – Baker & McKenzie advised Asahi Breweries, Ltd on the \$1.2 billion share and asset purchase of Schweppes Australia from Cadbury plc. The successful bid was announced on 24 December 2008 and is pending regulatory approval and subject to a right of negotiation for the acquisition of the Schweppes Australia business granted to The Coca-Cola Company until March 2009. The agreement is expected to close by 30 April 2009.

Partner Steven Glanz led the Baker & McKenzie Australia team (with the assistance of Kate Jefferson and Katie Southgate). Hiroshi Kondo led the Baker & McKenzie Japan team (with the assistance of Safar Watanabe, Akifusa Takada and Aiko Yamada) and Skip Rankin led the New York team.

Commenting on the deal, Steven Glanz said, "The beverage sector in Australia is currently going through a period of reorganisation and rationalisation and so there were a number of factors that created quite a complex deal scenario. We were therefore delighted to be able to assist Asahi Breweries in achieving the outcome it was seeking in this transaction."

Freehills acted for Cadbury.

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About Baker & McKenzie

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