

# EXPANDING ABROAD - KEY CROSS-BORDER ISSUES FOR US BUSINESSES MAKING ACQUISITIONS OVERSEAS

July 29, 2020

# **PRESENTERS**



Matthew Moore
Shaw Industries Group, Inc.
Dalton, Georgia
E: matthew.moore@shawinc.com
T: 706.532.1184



Brad J. Pierce
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Calgary, Canada
E: BPierce@blg.com
T: 403.232.9421



Daniel Rosenberg
Charles Russell Speechlys
London, United Kingdom
E: daniel.rosenberg@crsblaw.com
T: +44 (0) 20 7427 6541



Wenjie Sun
Grandall Law Firm
Beijing, China
E: <a href="mailto:sunwenjie@grandall.com.cn">sunwenjie@grandall.com.cn</a>
T: +1 347 822 4391



Kristoffel Vermeersch
Marx Van Ranst Vermeersch
Brussels, Belgium
Frikristoffel vermeersch@myyn l

E: kristoffel.vermeersch@mvvp.be T: +32 (2) 285 01 00



### **OVERVIEW**

- Achieving growth through overseas acquisitions
- What issues surprise Americans the most?
- Jurisdictions specifically considered:
  - Canada
  - China
  - Belgium
  - United Kingdom



#### **OVERVIEW**

- Can I use my favorite US M&A forms abroad?
- Employment law requirements
- Unexpected regulatory consent requirements
- Key cultural issues
- Other surprises



# CAN I USE MY US M&A FORMS ABROAD?

- Choice of law and jurisdiction
- Form of document
  - Common law countries
  - Civil law countries



# EMPLOYMENT LAW REQUIREMENTS

- European countries
  - Asset purchases
    - Automatic transfer of employees
    - Changing employment terms post deal
  - Share purchases
    - Duties to consult or inform
- Other countries



## REGULATORY CONSENTS

- Canada First Nation issues
- China the role of central & local government
- Merger control
- Our increasingly protectionist world
  - National security
  - Covid-19
    - Protecting PPE & vaccine industries
    - Buying assets on the cheap



# KEY CULTURAL ISSUES

- China
- Europe
- Language
  - Table / punt
  - Quite
- Cultural fit
- Starting the meeting



# OTHER SURPRISES

- Duties of good faith
- Local nationality requirements
- Stamp duty
- Notarization (the last word)



# POP UP QUESTION

- If your British boss tells you that your idea is interesting and that she will table it at the next meeting, does she mean:
  - A. She is interested in the suggestion but will not take it forward
  - B. She doesn't think it makes sense and will not take it forward
  - C. She likes the idea and will take it forward
  - D. She doesn't think it makes sense but will take it forward



# **PRESENTERS**



Matthew Moore
Shaw Industries Group, Inc.
Dalton, Georgia
E: matthew.moore@shawinc.com
T: 706.532.1184



Brad J. Pierce
Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
Calgary, Canada
E: BPierce@blg.com
T: 403.232.9421



Daniel Rosenberg
Charles Russell Speechlys
London, United Kingdom
E: daniel.rosenberg@crsblaw.com
T: +44 (0) 20 7427 6541



Wenjie Sun
Grandall Law Firm
Beijing, China
E: <a href="mailto:sunwenjie@grandall.com.cn">sunwenjie@grandall.com.cn</a>
T: +1 347 822 4391



Kristoffel Vermeersch
Marx Van Ranst Vermeersch
Brussels, Belgium
Frikristoffel vermeersch@myyn l

E: kristoffel.vermeersch@mvvp.be T: +32 (2) 285 01 00



#### **CLE & POST-WEBINAR SURVEY**

#### CLE:

- ALFA INTERNATIONAL IS AN APPROVED PROVIDER OF CLE IN CALIFORNIA AND ILLINOIS. If
  you need credit in another state, you should consult with that state's CLE board for
  details on how to apply for approval. ALFAI provides a CLE package that answers
  questions you will likely be asked when applying and also gives direction as to what we
  believe is needed to apply in each state.
- NEW SERVICE: Some state CLE boards require verification of participation in webinars. To satisfy that requirement, ALFAI will now prompt participants to answer questions and/or provide a verification code, as we did in this webinar. If this is required in your state:
  - Please note these items on the Certificate of Completion you will receive after the webinar.

Celebrating 40 Years

- Keep a copy of the certificate for auditing purposes.
- If you encounter any difficulties in obtaining CLE credit in your state, please contact:
  - Taylor Doherty tdoherty@alfainternational.com

#### POST-WEBINAR SURVEY

You will be prompted to complete a Post-Webinar Survey after exiting this webinar. Your feedback will help ALFA International continue to provide quality programming to our members and clients.