Global Groundwork Counsel - Best practices and tools for multi-jurisdictional projects

Dr. Simon Dürr, Partner, PwC Legal Germany Dr. Frederic Mirza Khanian, Partner, PwC Legal Germany Marie-Helene Hauwel, Assistant General Counsel at SAP

29 September 2021

www.pwc.com







Introduction



Legal Ground Work



RfP and Counsel Selection



Deep Dives



Marie-Helene Hauwel

Assistant General Counsel | SAP



35 Rue d'Alsace, 92300 Levallois-Perret, France

Phone: +33 1 4617-8688 **Mobile:** +33 6 9810-7629 marie-helene.hauwel@sap.com

Short CV

Marie-Helene Hauwel is Assistant General Counsel of the SAP Group and Corporate Legal Expert leading Global Legal projects. She joined SAP in 2008.

Experience summary

Marie-Helene is recognized as leading expert in Corporate Law and in Global Project Management such as global reorganizations, post deal integrations, carve-outs, financing, corporate legal compliance and global equity compensation plans.

Dr. Simon Dürr

Partner | PwC Legal | Global Transformations



Friedrich-Ebert-Anlage 35-37 60327 Frankfurt

Phone: +49 69 9585 5943 **Mobile:** +49 151 14551386 simon.duerr@pwc.com

Short CV

Simon Dürr is partner of PwC and heading the legal practice for the Global Transformations Group in Germany. He joined PwC in 2011.

Experience summary

Simon is recognized as leading expert in Global Transformation Projects such as global reorganizations, post deal integrations and carveouts.

Simon was ranked amongst the top 100 lawyers and as N# 2 in M&A by Kanzleimonitor 2020/2021

Frederic Mirza Khanian

Partner | PwC Legal | Global Transformations



Moskauer Straße 19 40227 Düsseldorf

Phone: +49 211 981 2785 **Mobil:** +49 172 2427132

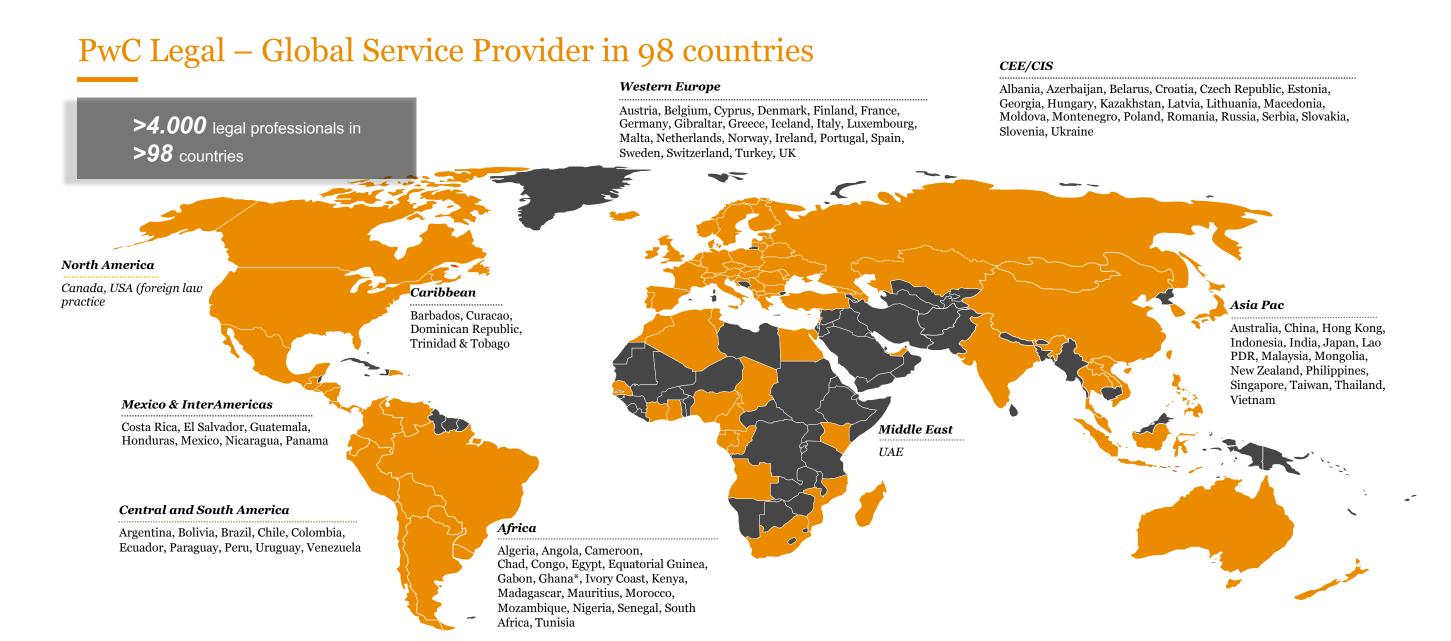
frederic.mirza.khanian@pwc.com

Short CV

Frederic is partner of PwC and heading the legal practice for the Global Transformations Group in Dusseldorf. He joined PwC in 2018.

Experience summary

Frederic is recognized as a leading expert in Global Transformation Projects such as global reorganizations, post deal integrations and carve-outs. Frederic was ranked amongst the top 100 lawyers and as N# 4 in M&A by Kanzleimonitor 2020/2021



Home

Introduction

Relevant Credentials





































Castolin Business

Global Carve-Out

BU Performance Products



Global Integration



of

Global Integration Ariba, hybris & SF



Global Integration Signavio



Global Integration Sigma-Aldrich



Global Integration ΑZ

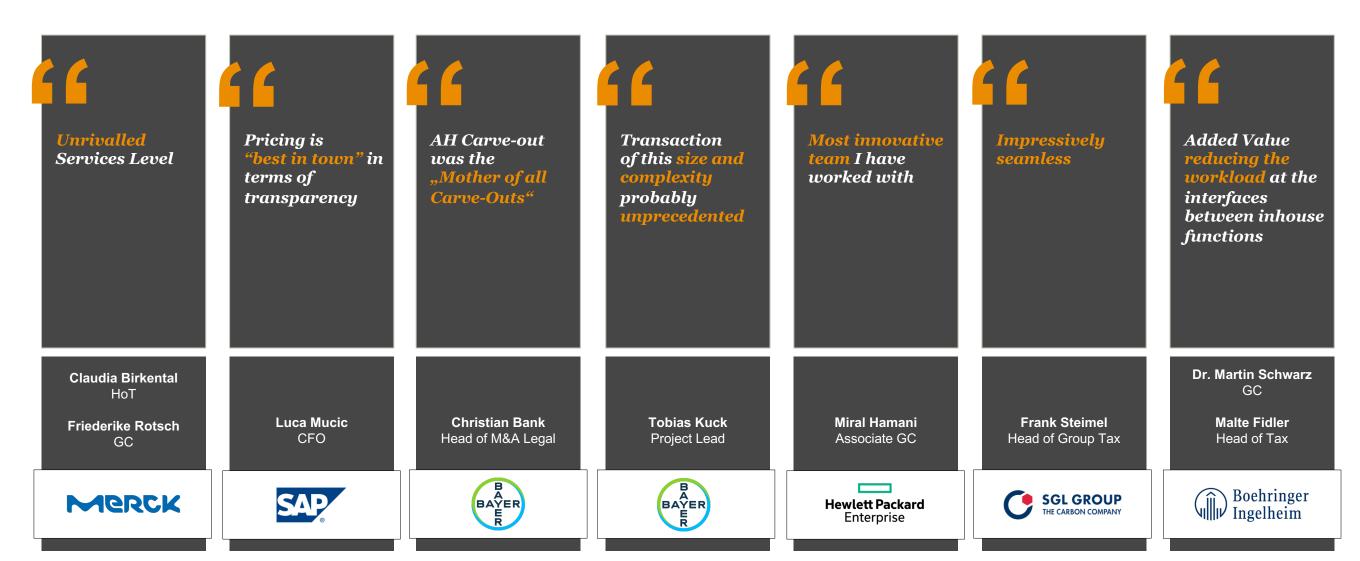




Home Introduction

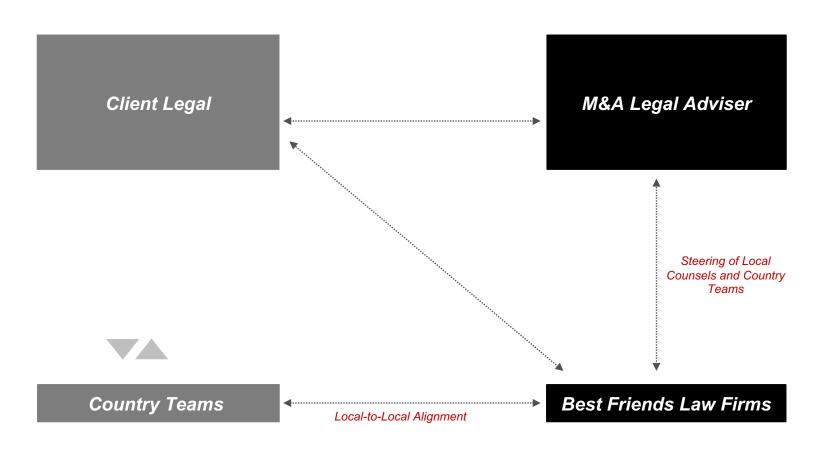
Client Feedback

All of the below quotes were given on global transformation projects centrally coordinated by Simon & Frederic





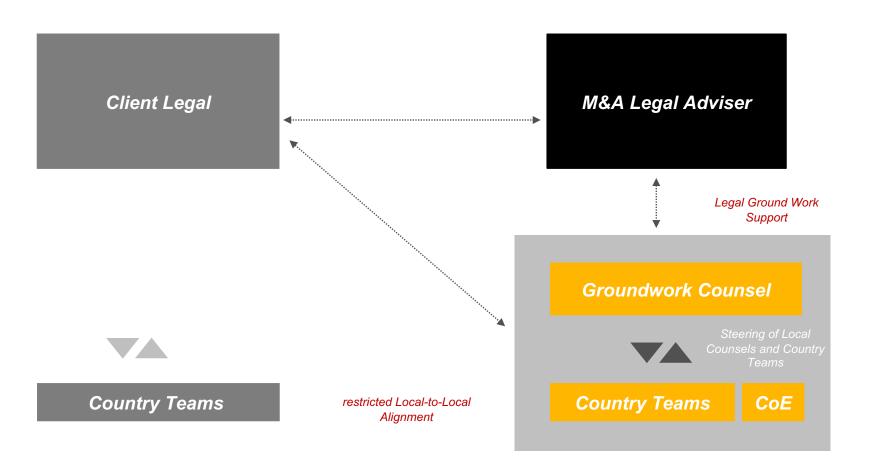
Introduction into "Legal Ground Work" for Carve Outs and Post-Merger Integrations – Project Set-Up



- M&A Deal Adviser used to be responsible for the entire carve-out or integration process, from NDA through Closing and beyond
- In a global transaction with more than a handful jurisdictions, this means:
 - M&A Adviser would usually reach out to "best friends Network"
 - Client would directly contract with each "best friend firm", ending up with dozens of contracts and invoicing
 - M&A adviser would typically not assume liability for the work of best friend firms
 - If at all, fixed budgets would be committed on a case by case basis but not for all jurisdictions
 - Items that can be centralized would stay with M&A Deal Adviser
 - M&A Deal Adviser has little control over work of best friends firms
 - Best friends have strong incentive to incur high fees (collective market failure phenomenon)

PwC | Legal Groundwork | General Counsel Session 29 September 2021

Introduction into "Legal Ground Work" for Carve Outs and Post-Merger Integrations – Project Set-Up

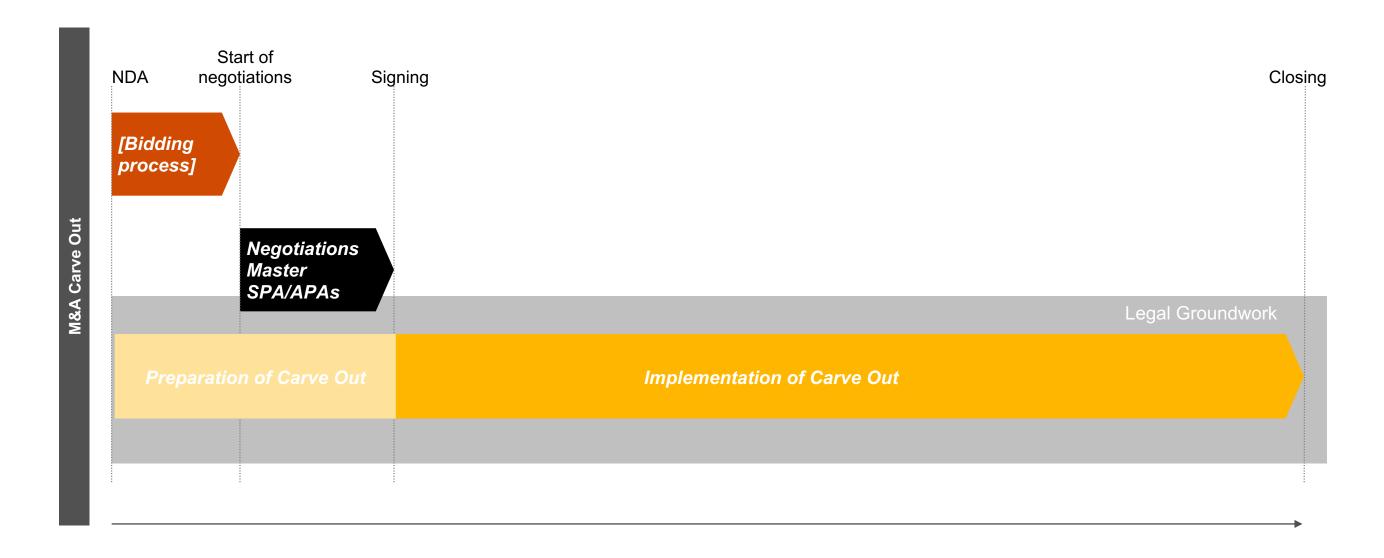


In an optimized approach, M&A Adviser would be responsible for the **Documentation and Negotiation** of the Deal as such, strictly limited to M&A related tasks.

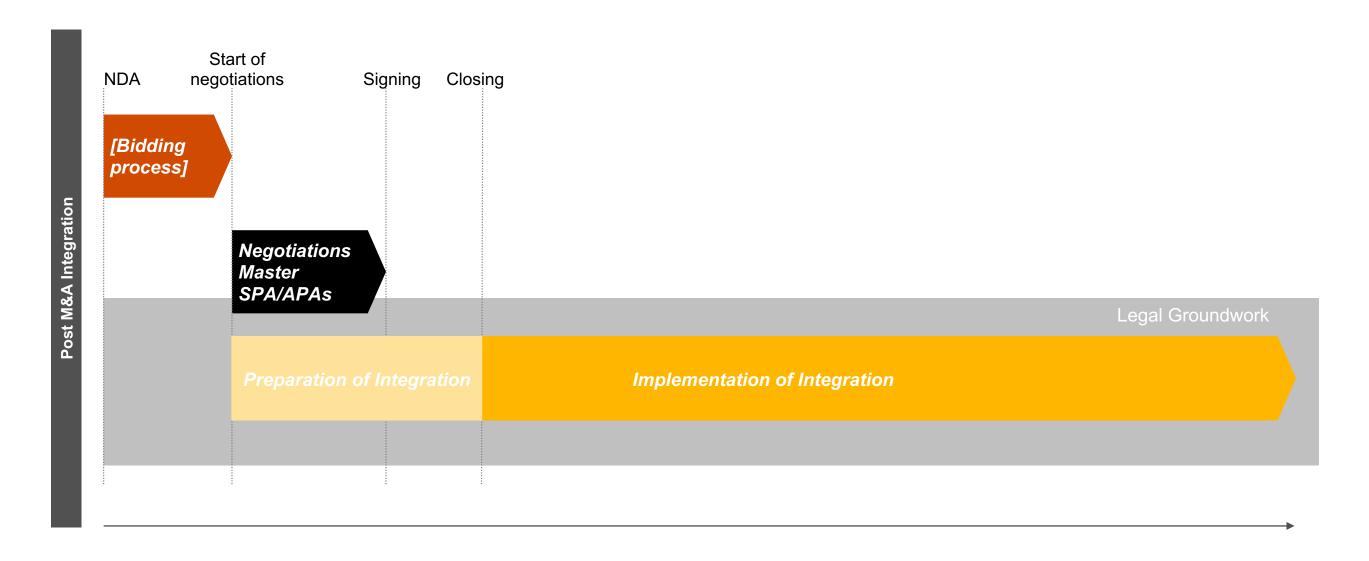
A Global Legal Groundwork Counsel with sufficiently large coverage would support the M&A Deal Counsel with the **Preparation and Implementation of the Deal (in particular in case of carve-out)**, resulting in:

- All countries and all legal disciplines covered by one firm
- One additional contract partner for Client
- Strong incentive for consistent quality and invoicing
- Commoditization of legal groundwork tasks increasing accuracy and pace and decreasing external spent
- Fixed budgets for almost all scope items

Introduction into "Legal Ground Work" for Carve Outs and Post-Merger Integrations— Timing & Activities



Introduction into "Legal Ground Work" for Carve Outs and Post-Merger Integrations— Timing & Activities



Scope Items for Legal Ground Work – Corporate and Commercial Law



























Scope Items for Legal Ground Work – Scope Real Estate Law

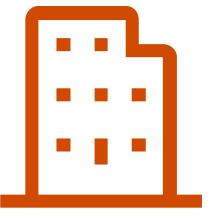


Identification of properties affected and of overlapping use of properties between target and retained groups





Registrations of transfers and leases as required













Due diligence in respect of properties, in particular determination of transferability restrictions such as landlord / third party consents, and intra-group parent guarantees that need to be released/implemented etc

Home

Introduction

Scope Items for Legal Ground Work – Scope Employment Law









Interest solutions and redundancy plans that may need to be negotiated







Transfer of employees in all jurisdictions concerned in line with local requirements







applicable laws on transfer of undertakings





Preparation of RfP and Selection of Groundwork Counsel

Preparation of RfP and Selection of Groundwork Counsel

Decide whether deal is suitable for split between Deal Counsel and Legal Groundwork Counsel

- Deal Value
- Complexity Carve-Out from Zebra Entities or mere Share Deal?
- N# of countries involved / and covered by Deal Counsel?

Chose available Legal Groundwork Counsel

- Panel Law Firms suitable in terms of coverage?
- Map country coverage and deal experience to check whether One Stop Shop is available

Prepare RfP

- Describe Legal Groundwork as precise as possible: Country Coverage, Disciplines (Corporate, Commercial, Real Estate, Labour, IP/IT, Antitrust etc.)
- Try to detail out work in Phases and Deliverables
- Anticipate alignment effort between Deal and Groundwork Counsels
- One Contract
- Fixed fees and Discounts

Chose Groundwork Counsel

- Chose Groundwork Counsel on basis of reference and experience
- Ideally Deal and Groundwork Counsel have worked together on previous Deals
- Pricing (compare to Deal Counsel offering and among RfP recipients)

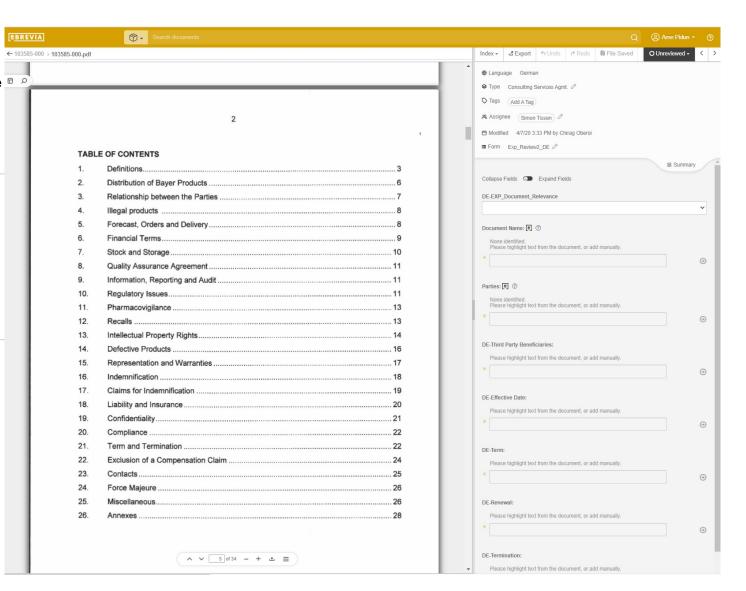
Deep Dive - Use of Legal Tech for Carve-Outs and Integrations

AI Tools for Due Diligence

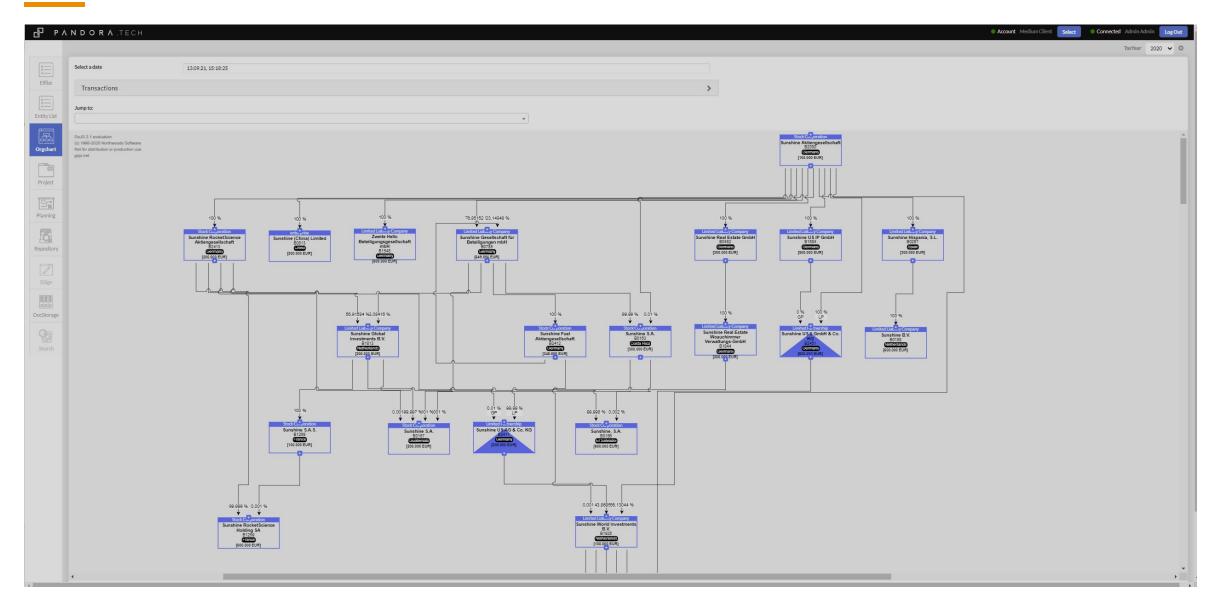
Automated Scan and Recognition of sensitive data before uploading to data room (Parties, Pricing, Intellectual Property etc.)

Vendor Due Diligence

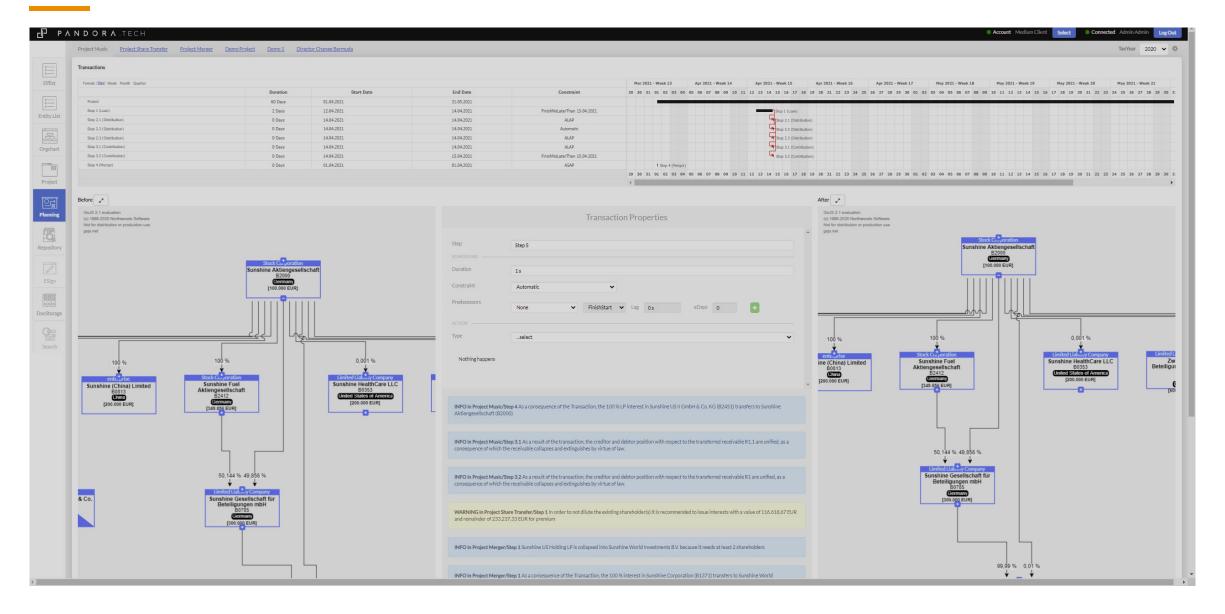
 Automated recognition of "Change of Control" clauses, assignment limitations etc. with help of machine learning



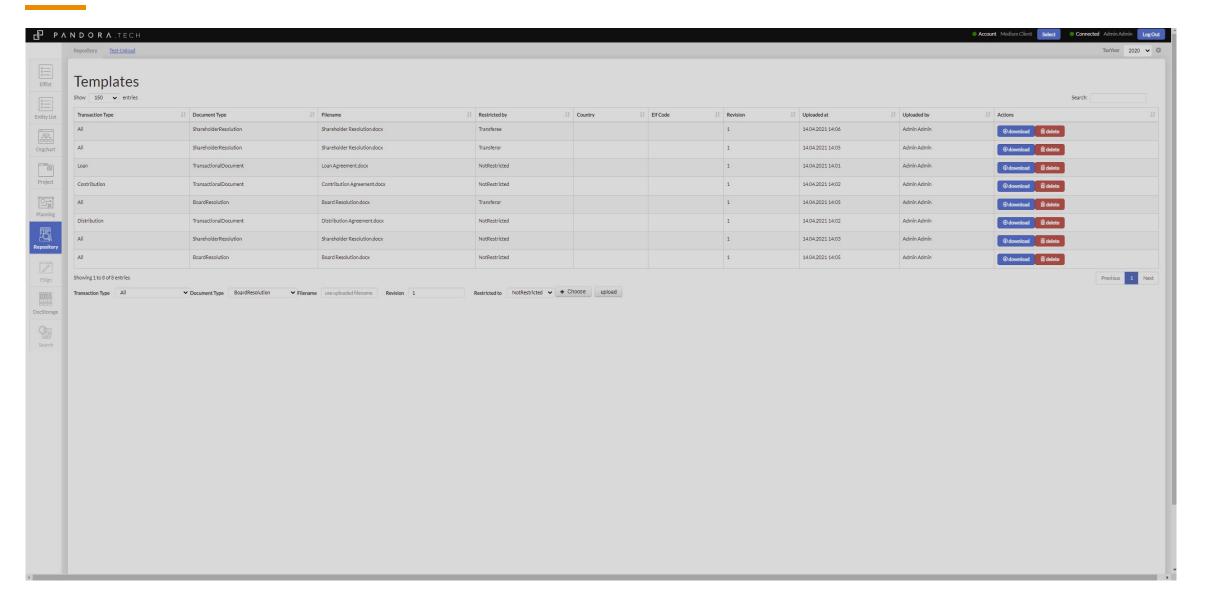
Example: PANDORA Process and Document Automation Tool to plan Transactions and Automate



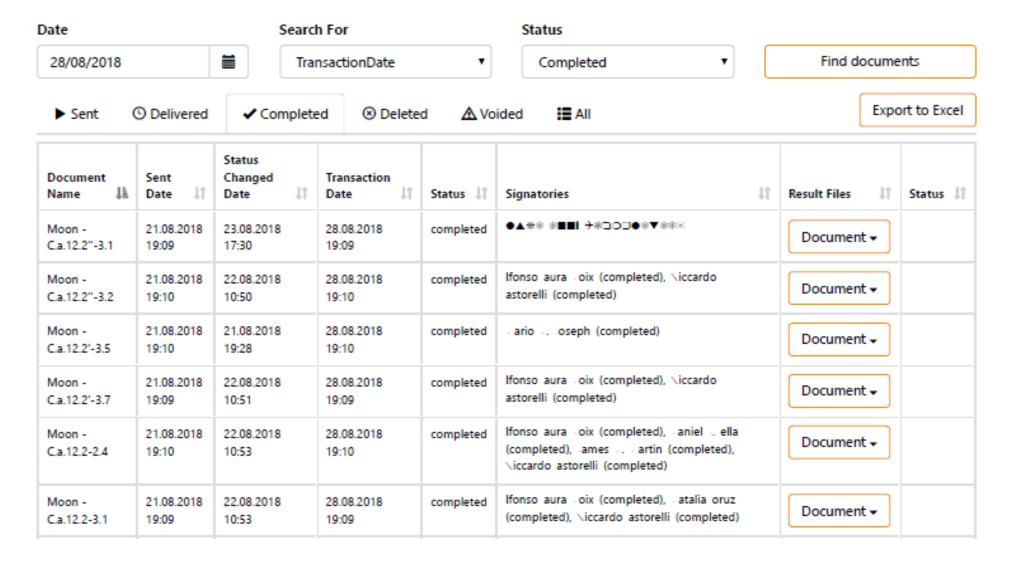
Example: PANDORA Process and Document Automation Tool for Monitoring Dependencies



Example: PANDORA Process and Document Automation Tool for Monitoring Dependencies



Example E-Signature Digital Tool for automated signature collection



5 Deep Dive – Case Studies

Obtaining Third Party Consents (increasing pressure for express consents)

Task

 In a recent 129 countries' carve out, the consent drafting and execution process was automated to a great extent

Traditional Approach

- Parties agree on "best efforts" to obtain express consents
- Until/to the extent express consents cannot be obtained, parties agree to treat each other as if the contract had transferred

Issues with Traditional Approach

- Conversion Rate committed under SPA
- Tacit Consent does not help in case of "shared agreements"
- Concept of Tacit Consent not known in some countries
- Increasing Data Protection
 Regulation and powerful
 authorities (cf. e.g. EUR 350m
 Amazon fine) require at least
 an "opt out" but in many cases
 an explicit "opt in"

Mitigation

- Increasingly more clients have Contract Lifecycle Databases from which contracts can be more easily pulled and analyzed
- In the majority of the jurisdictions a simple electronic signature would comply with applicable requirements
- Automated drafting of consents and automation of the signature process can significantly reduce the burden

Analysis of Contracts (e.g., option to sub-lease)

Task

Sub-leases permissible in 59 countries?

Traditional Approach

- Send contracts to 59 country counsels
- Agree on budget
- Have counsels review
- Collect and structure responses

Issues with Traditional Approach

- Response time depends on time zone and customs
- Counsels have incentive to incur high fees, delivery depends on time zone
- Due to the incentive, the responses will rather be lengthy and will have to be analysed by client and structured

Mitigation

- Have central team check contracts
- Translation of contracts with professional translation software, identification of clauses in CoE
- Only silent agreements would be sent to country for further country analysis

Thank You

Looking forward to working with you

