

A history of sector involvement

Since its establishment over thirty years ago, Maitland has provided legal advice and corporate and trust services to clients in the mining sector, including corporations, multinationals, high-net-worth individuals and their families. Most of Maitland's original clients were mining sector companies or closely associated with mining and throughout our history our focus on this sector has remained very strong. As a result our mining sector practice is a leader in its field.

A range of expertise

Our clients in the mining sector have benefited over the years from our expertise across a range of legal services. These include mergers and acquisitions, fund-raising and listings, joint ventures, structuring of investments and administration of structures, dispute resolution, commodities and international trade and commercial contracts and exchange control.

Maitland's corporate tax team regularly provides structuring and tax advice across a broad spectrum of international corporate tax issues relevant to mining investments.

Our litigation team has handled many high-profile cross-border matters related to mining.

A global outlook

We have a wealth of experience in cross-border investments and have advised on projects in numerous African countries. These include South Africa, Angola, Namibia, Botswana, Lesotho, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Nigeria, the DRC, Congo/Brazzaville, Ghana, Tanzania and the Central African Republic.

We also have experience of dealing with mining-related matters in Europe, Russia, Australasia and the Americas.

Not just top-class lawyers

Our corporate and trustee services division sets up and administers holding structures for international mining groups and provides trustee services where required. For example, we acted as trustee of the Asbestos Relief Trust for victims of asbestosis in South Africa.

United with our clients for the long term

Our clients include blue chip, intermediate and junior mining companies and providers of finance to them, as well as individuals and families with controlling or strategic stakes in the sector. We pride ourselves on being relationship- rather than transaction-driven and are committed to achieving our clients' long-term goals.

Our pioneering attitude enables us to get to grips with both cross-border and local issues, working in conjunction with local lawyers, whether the matter relates to an investment or a dispute. Our tenacity pushes us to see things through when others may give up.

Key contacts

If you would like further information on Maitland's mining sector capabilities, please contact Rupert Weber, John Herholdt or Nizan Olsha in our London office.

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For further information on Maitland please visit our website at maitlandgroup.com



Proactive & Circumspect

Will Maitland come to me with new ideas?

Our clients have come to expect it. Many of them have been with us for decades, and the relationships are still as fresh as the day we met. That's because we are continually re-invigorating their strategies and solutions with new perspectives and approaches. We look at their affairs from every angle.

This ensures continued commercial success as well as the creation, preservation and management of their wealth.

It's not just about having the ideas – we make them happen.

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Mining transactions summary

Maitland has advised on a large number of transactions of various types in the mining sector. A sample follows:

- Playing a leading role in relation to the recent \$1 billion rights issue by De Beers
- Advising the Oppenheimer family and the consortium bidding vehicle on the taking private of De Beers
- Advising De Beers on a \$440 million syndicated loan facility
- Advising E Oppenheimer & Sons Holdings on the sale of a stake of approximately 1.13% in Anglo American to China Vision Resources
- Advising Pangea DiamondFields (a company with operations in South Africa, Angola, the DRC and the CAR) on its AIM listing and related fundraising, its proposed acquisition of a significant minority stake in Lesotho Diamonds, its Canadian private placing and its bridging loan and successful open offer and the recent share for share disposal of its main operating subsidiary to Oslo listed IGE Resources followed by the members' voluntary liquidation and delisting of Pangea from AIM
- Advising a private equity investor on acquiring an interest in a mining exploration project in Congo/Brazzaville and related joint venture arrangements, as well as acquiring a majority interest in a coal mining project in Mozambique
- Advising the founder and majority shareholder in relation to an investment by a major Russian company in a West African iron ore project
- Advising a mining exploration company on an investment in a Serbian exploration project
- Advising a mining major on a major proposed investment in South Africa
- Assisting a major mining house on the restructuring of the Luxembourg holding structure for the Australian and South American sub-groups
- Successfully advising a blue chip mining company on a dispute with a parastatal in an African company, which was eventually resolved by arbitration in which we advised
- Advising a major gold mining company on structuring their exploration activities and joint ventures in Columbia
- Advising a mid-tier listed mining company on a major restructuring of their non-African operations
- Advising a European listed mining company on a proposed scheme of arrangement to achieve a share-for-share merger with a Canadian listed mining company
- Advising Zambian Copper Investments on the sale of a majority stake in the Konkola Copper Mine (KCM) to Vedanta Resources and the subsequent drawn out sale of its remaining stake in KCM to Vedanta. We also advised ZCI on the approximately \$200 million offer to repurchase its own shares to return some of the KCM sale proceeds to shareholders and its relisting on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange
- Advising Green Gas International, a coal-mine methane company, on its initial fund-raising, its subsequent acquisition of G.A.S. Energietechnologie GmbH and its later merger with OKD, a Czech company
- Advising a blue chip mining company and its shareholders on devising a tax-efficient means of achieving a sale of 26% of its South African mining operations to a Black Economic Empowerment group
- Advising a private equity investor on a marine gold mining prospecting project
- Acting for a client with substantial cobalt concessions in the DRC, negotiating with the DRC government at the highest levels and advising the client on the very successful disposal of those interests
- Advising on the sale of a 100% stake in a uranium mining company with operations in Namibia to an Australian listed company for cash and shares
- Advising an international mining company on a \$1 billion bond issue and restructuring of its international holdings
- Acting as co-adviser to Anglogold on the acquisition of Ashanti Goldfields
- Advising a blue chip mining company on a successful hostile takeover of a Canadian company
- Advising an international gold mining company on the sale of its Zimbabwean operations
- Advising Avgold on a project term loan facility and cost overrun facility in relation to the Target gold mine

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