

Davy Corporate Finance wins Mergermarket M&A Adviser Award 2015

Dublin, 9 December 2015 – Davy Corporate Finance [‘DCF’] is pleased to announce that it is the recipient of the prestigious ‘Financial Adviser of the Year – Ireland’ Award at the annual Mergermarket European M&A Awards.

Davy Corporate Finance has advised on a wide variety of deals in 2015, including:

- **Dragon Oil:** financial adviser to the independent committee of the board during the takeover by its majority shareholder, Dubai-based Emirates National Oil Company Ltd (“ENOC”), at a value of €5.7n (£4bn). It was largest takeover of an Irish listed company during the year.
- **Landmark capital markets transactions:**
 - CRH’s €1.6bn placing to fund its acquisition of Lafarge-Holcim assets
 - DCC’s £197m placing to fund its acquisition of Butagaz
 - Malin Corporation €330m IPO
 - Hostelworld Group €175m IPO
- **Dalata Hotel Group:** advised on its transformational reverse takeover of the Moran Bewley’s Hotel Group for an enterprise value of €455m, cementing its position as the largest hotel operator in Ireland.
- **Carrolls Cuisine sale to Cardinal Carlisle.**

Winners are decided using both M&A transaction data from Mergermarket deals database and independent expert opinion from a panel of leading European M&A practitioners.

Ivan Murphy, Managing Director of Davy Corporate Finance, commented:

“Davy Corporate Finance is delighted to have received this prestigious award. This is the third time in the past four years that Davy Corporate Finance has been identified as the leading financial adviser in Ireland, a testament to the consistently high-quality advice that we seek to offer our clients on every transaction. The past year has seen increased corporate activity as the economic recovery in Ireland continues, and we look forward to guiding our clients through further transformational deals in the months and years ahead.”

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Note to Editors:

About Davy

Established in 1926, the Davy group is Ireland's leading provider of wealth management, asset management, capital markets, and financial advisory services. Davy is headquartered in Dublin, with offices in London, Belfast, Cork and Galway. Employing over 610 people, we offer a broad range of services to private clients, small businesses, corporations and institutional investors, and organise our activities around four interrelated business areas – Wealth and Asset Management, Capital Markets, Corporate Finance and Research.

Davy's Wealth and Asset Management business looks after over €14bn on behalf of Irish and International clients.¹ Davy has acquired seven businesses in the Wealth and Asset Management area in the last four years and has a stated plan to continue to grow both organically and through acquisitions. Davy is Ireland's leading wealth manager providing a financial planning led private client service backed up by global investment portfolios driven by a proprietary investment process.

As the leading broker in the Irish market, we accounted for over 43% of all dealings in Irish equities on the Irish Stock Exchange in 2014*. Davy is a primary dealer in Irish Government Bonds and acts as manager on the majority of Irish corporate bond issues. We advise 67% of companies on the Irish Stock Exchange, including 8 of Ireland's top 10 listed companies*. We are Ireland's leading ESM and AIM adviser, representing approximately 73% of companies quoted on the ESM market*, and 17 companies quoted on the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange**. Davy is responsible for over 70% of funds raised on the Irish Stock Exchange over the past four years* and we have been consistently recognised by the world's top names in financial services for the quality of our research and service.

* Source: Irish Stock Exchange ** Source: Irish Stock Exchange ***Source: London Stock Exchange

J&E Davy, trading as Davy, is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Davy Corporate Finance is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Davy Asset Management is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. www.davy.ie

¹ Data correct as of May 2015