



James Ma

Partner, Corporate Department
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James Ma is a Partner in the Paul Hastings Hong Kong office. He has over ten year's extensive experience in the international legal practice related to corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions, reorganizations and banking and financings, with a focus on the structuring and executing cross-border transactions in the greater-China region and Asian markets.

Mr. Ma's practice focuses on leveraged financings, cross-border mergers and acquisitions, investment grade and high yield bond offerings, medium-term-note programs, US and Hong Kong IPOs, privatization of public companies, real estate financings, trade financings, project financings, business reorganizations and refinancings, syndicated banking facilities, revolving and working capital facilities, letters of credit, secured financings and various hedging, securitization and derivatives.

Mr. Ma represents large and medium sized stated owned enterprises, commercial companies, leading international investment banks, commercial banks (including major Chinese banks) and private equity funds in the structuring and negotiation of numerous business projects covering sectors such as commercial and residential real estate, hotel, energy, mining, heavy machinery, manufacturing, export and international trade, retail business, transportation, communication, high-tech, clean energy, biotech and medicine, textile, food and beverage, education, advertising and information technology.

Mr. Ma is a native of China and is fluent in English.

Recent Representations

- COSCO SHIPPING Holdings, the largest integrated shipping company in China, on a loan facility in relation to finance the voluntary general cash offer for all of the issued shares of Orient Overseas (International), made by the wholly-owned subsidiaries of COSCO SHIPPING Holdings and Shanghai International Port (Group) for a total value of up to US\$6.3 billion. The combination will create one of the largest global container liners in the world.

Hong Kong

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Practice Areas

Derivatives
Real Estate Finance
Infrastructure and Energy
Finance
Asia
Mergers and Acquisitions
Securities and Capital
Markets
Alternative Lender and Private
Credit
Corporate
Leveraged Finance

Admissions

Hong Kong Solicitor
New York Bar

Languages

Chinese (Mandarin)

Education

Cornell Law School, J.D. 2003
Peking University Law School,
LL.B. 1998
Peking University Law School,
LL.M. 2000

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This transaction was awarded "Deal of the Year 2018" by the China Business Law Journal.

- CTBC Bank as the lead arranger and agent in the US\$135 million loan facilities to a portfolio company of Partners Group.
- Taipei Fubon Commercial Bank as the lead arranger and agent in the US\$200 million and EUR60 million loan facilities to a portfolio company of IK Investment Group.
- Cathay United Bank as lender in a US\$30 million loan facility to a portfolio company of Zoyi Capital.
- Australia and New Zealand Banking, Commonwealth Bank, Standard Chartered Bank, and Westpac Bank as lead arrangers in a US\$567 million loan facility to Baosteel Resources Australia Pty Ltd.
- Rabobank as mandated lead arranger and agent in its US\$430 million loan facilities to Trammo Inc.
- COSCO in its US\$1 billion loan facility.
- Techtronic Industries in its US\$220 million syndicated loan facilities arranged by Bank of China.
- Techtronic Industries in its multiple loan facilities totaling US\$234 million from Mizuho, BTMU, Bank of China, Citibank and Bank of America.
- Warburg Pincus and e-Shang, one of the largest pan-Asia logistics developers and operators, in obtaining a US\$120 million financing and a US\$100 million add-on facility from institutional lenders.
- Energy Development Corporation in its US\$175 million facility from International Finance Corporation, and US\$90 million and US\$80 million loan facilities from lender groups led by HSBC.
- First Gen Corporation in its US\$265 million and US\$80 million project financing facilities from KfW.
- Hahn & Company in its US\$45 million secured loan facility from HSBC.
- Ping An Fund in its acquisition of a 47.4% interest in New York Stock Exchange-listed AutoHome from Telstra for US\$1.6 billion and related financing facilities. This transaction was awarded "Deal of the Year 2016" by China Business Law Journal.
- Prologis China in its US\$60 million and RMB60 million loan facilities from HSBC.
- ThreeSixty Group in its US\$150 million term loan and US\$30 million revolving loan facilities.
- China (Shipping) in its US\$150 million margin loan facilities from lender group led by Deutsche Bank.
- Taipei Fubon Bank in a GBP46.7 million to a Hong Kong company.
- CTBC Bank in a HK\$300 million and RMB225 million loan facilities to Choice

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Wise International.

- J.P. Morgan and Credit Suisse as mandated lead arrangers of financing for the US\$470 million acquisition by NASDAQ-listed Home Inns & Hotel Management Inc. of Motel 168 International Holdings Ltd. from Morgan Stanley and related shareholders. Home Inns is China's largest, and Motel 168 is China's fifth largest, operator of discount budget hotels. This transaction was awarded "Best China Deal of the Year 2011" by FinanceAsia and "Deal of the Year 2011" by China Business Law Journal and IFR Asia.
- WH Group (formerly known as Shuanghui International) in its US\$1.5 billion syndicated bank financing.
- Nomura and other mandated lead arrangers in the US\$330 million term loan financing for AsialInfo-Linkage, Inc.'s US\$890 million going-private transaction managed by a consortium led by Chinese private equity investor CITIC Capital Partners. AsialInfo-Linkage, Inc. is China's leading provider of telecommunication software solutions. This transaction marked China's second-largest PE sponsored privatization.
- Sino-Ocean Land in its issuance of US\$600 million of perpetual securities. Bank of China, CITIC Bank International, China Merchants Securities, DBS, Goldman Sachs, HSBC, Industrial and UBS were the joint lead managers.
- Yuzhou Properties in its issuance of US\$300 million of perpetual securities. BOCI, Citi, Credit Suisse, HSBC, Huatai, Industrial Bank, Haitong International Securities and Yuzhou Financial were the underwriters.
- New Lion Bridge Co., Ltd. in the issuance of US\$160 million guaranteed senior notes, guaranteed by its sole shareholder, Lionbridge Capital. Guotai Junan International, UBS, ICBC International and Zhongtai International were the underwriters.
- Deutsche Bank, Haitong International Securities, J.P. Morgan, Merrill Lynch International and HSBC as the initial purchasers in the issuance of US\$350 million senior notes due 2020 by Future Land Development Holdings Limited, a Hong Kong-listed Chinese property developer.
- Yuzhou Properties, a leading property developer in China, in its issuance of US\$350 million senior notes due 2022. BOC International, Haitong International Securities, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, Yuzhou Financial, AMTD, China Galaxy International, Citi, HSBC and Zhongtai International were the joint lead managers.
- Yuzhou Properties in its issuance of US\$250 million senior notes due 2023. BOC International, Credit Suisse, Haitong International Securities, HSBC, Deutsche Bank, Huatai Financial Holdings (Hong Kong) and Yuzhou Financial were the joint lead managers.
- China Everbright Limited in its issuance of US\$600 million (RMB\$4 billion)

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panda bonds denominated in RMB.

- Shaoxing City Investment (HK) Limited, a wholly owned subsidiary of Shaoxing City Investment Group Limited (“SCIG”), in the issuance of US\$300 million bonds due 2019. SCIG is the main urban infrastructure investment platform of the Shaoxing Municipal Government. This is one of the first offshore bond issue by a municipal government issuer in the PRC.
- China Ocean Shipping (Group) Company and China COSCO Shipping Corporation Limited in the landmark restructuring, comprising a series of asset acquisitions and disposals among its parent companies and its subsidiaries. The restructuring represents a substantial reconfiguration of two of China’s leading state-owned enterprises which, on a combined basis, will become the world’s fourth largest container-shipping company. This transaction was awarded “Deal of the Year 2016” by Asia Business Law Journal.
- China VAST Industrial Urban Development Company Limited in the issuance of its secured guaranteed convertible bonds due 2018 and 12% secured guaranteed notes due 2018 in an aggregate principal amount of US\$100 million.
- Haitong International Securities Company Limited, Standard Chartered Bank and CMB International Capital Limited as the managers for the issuance of US\$670 million guaranteed bonds due 2020 by Haitong International Finance Holdings 2015 limited, an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Haitong Securities Co., Ltd.
- Baosteel Financing in its US\$500 million issuance of guaranteed bonds, guaranteed by Baosteel Resources International Company Limited.
- Deutsche Bank, Haitong International, HSBC and Huatai Financial Holdings as the managers in the US\$700 million issuance of guaranteed bonds by Haitong International Finance, guaranteed by Haitong International Securities Group Limited.
- Yuzhou Properties in its series of high yield bonds listed in Hong Kong.
- Haitong International Securities Group Limited, a subsidiary of Haitong Securities Co., Ltd., the second largest securities firm in China by total assets, in its approximately US\$150 million issuance of convertible bonds.

Professional and Community Involvement

- Mr. Ma is a member of the State Bar of New York, the American Bar Association and the Law Society of Hong Kong.

Education

- Mr. Ma received his L.L.B. degree in 1998, summa cum laude, and L.L.M. degree in 2000, summa cum laude, from Peking University School of Law, and

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his J.D. degree in 2003 (Dean's List) from Cornell Law School where he was a recipient of the law school fellowship.

News

November 25, 2019

Shanghai Electric Group Issues US\$500 Million Guaranteed Bonds

April 08, 2019

Mei Nian Investment Issues US\$200 Million Guaranteed Senior Notes

July 10, 2017

COSCO SHIPPING Holdings' Proposed Acquisition of Orient Overseas

January 25, 2017

Yuzhou Properties Issues Two Senior Notes Offerings with Combined Value of US\$600 Million

July 29, 2016

China Everbright issues \$600M Panda Bonds

June 28, 2016

Ping An Fund's US\$1.6 Billion Acquisition of AutoHome from Telstra

February 03, 2016

COSCO's Highly Complex Restructuring with China Shipping

April 22, 2015

Paul Hastings Advises Managers on Haitong International Finance Holdings 2015 Limited's US\$670 Million Guaranteed Bonds Issuance

February 02, 2015

Paul Hastings Advises Baosteel Financing on US\$500 Million Guaranteed Bonds Offering

February 02, 2015

Paul Hastings Advises Managers on Haitong International Finance's US\$700 Million Guaranteed Bonds Issuance

December 09, 2014

Paul Hastings Advises Yuzhou Properties on US\$250 Million Senior Notes

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Offering

November 04, 2014

Paul Hastings Represents Haitong in Convertible Bonds Offering

October 06, 2014

Paul Hastings Advises WH Group on US\$1.5 Billion Term Loan Facility

January 21, 2014

Paul Hastings Advises Nomura and Other Banks in Financing AsiaInfo-Linkage Inc.s US\$890 Million Go-Private

May 16, 2013

Paul Hastings Advises Nomura and Other Banks in Financing AsiaInfo-Linkages US\$890 Million Take-Private

May 09, 2012

Paul Hastings Advises Chinatrust in the Cross-border Acquisition Financing of Trimco

October 03, 2011

Paul Hastings Advises J.P. Morgan and Credit Suisse in China Hotel Sector Acquisition Financing

June 28, 2011

Paul Hastings Advises Energy Development Corporation on its US\$175 Million New Club Loan

June 22, 2011

Paul Hastings Advises Energy Development Corporation on its US\$75 Million new loan and PHP4.1 Billion existing loan with IFC

Rankings & Awards

November 29, 2017

2018 Legal 500 Asia

February 27, 2017

Paul Hastings Awarded Asia M&A Firm of the Year