



# TMA AUSTRALIA NEXTGEN EVENT WRAP-UP

MAY 2016

# TERM LOAN B...OR NOT TO B? US DEBT IN THE AUSTRALIAN MARKET



On 23 May 2016, the TMA's NextGen committee held a panel discussion hosted by Herbert Smith Freehills, examining the opportunities US debt instruments offer to the Australian market and how restructuring strategies change when a corporate group holds US instruments. The panel speakers were Laura Sheridan Mouton, David Tozer, Rowena White and Matthew Caddy.

#### Laura Sheridan Mouton

Laura Sheridan Mouton is a finance partner at Herbert Smith Freehills and leads the firm's US capital markets practice in Australia.

#### **KEY INSIGHTS**

- Laura outlined the key features and advantages of US debt – Australian borrowers and issuers can and should take advantage
- US debt instruments give great flexibility and can be tailored to suit the circumstances of the borrower group









## **David Tozer**

David Tozer is a founding partner of the Sydney office of investment bank Houlihan Lokey and leads the firm's restructuring, distressed debt and special situations practice.



#### Rowena White

Rowena White is a Senior Associate in the restructuring team at Herbert Smith Freehills with extensive experience guiding clients through informal workouts and formal insolvency proceedings in Australia and the United States.



### Matthew Caddy

Matt Caddy is a partner at McGrathNicol and has had substantial experience across many high profile and complex restructuring and insolvency engagements.

#### **KEY INSIGHTS**

- US debt instruments are an untapped source of global capital
- Global policy settings have created large pools of capital ready to be invested
- This new capital stream is a chance for corporates to move quickly, re-finance to advantage and put themselves onto a growth track

#### **KEY INSIGHTS**

- Australian companies restructuring US debt may face particular challenges depending on the size and geographical location of the creditor group and the location of the company's assets
- US court proceedings under Chapter 15 of the US Bankruptcy Code can assist an Australian restructuring and insolvency process
- Chapter 11 of the US Bankruptcy Code is available to non-US companies in some cases but generally will not be a workable option for Australian operating companies

#### **KEY INSIGHTS**

- The role of a restructuring advisor is changing as US debt flows into the Australian market
- Advisors need to be flexible and adopt a practical approach to restructuring companies with US debt
- Consider using different restructuring frameworks as you approach each individual case

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To see more photos from this event and to find out about upcoming TMA and TMA NextGen events please visit the TMA Australia Facebook site: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TMA-Australia-441463589386909/?fref=ts">https://www.facebook.com/TMA-Australia-441463589386909/?fref=ts</a>

More information on TMA NextGen and the benefits of becoming a NextGen member can be found here: <a href="https://www.turnaround.org.au/documents/TMA">https://www.turnaround.org.au/documents/TMA</a> NextGen Membership Benefits - updated Nov 2016.pdf

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