



## John L. Robinson

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John L. Robinson is a partner at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. He focuses on mergers and acquisitions, corporate governance and general corporate and securities matters. John's practice includes cross-border and domestic mergers, acquisitions and divestitures, joint ventures, carve-outs and private equity transactions. He also advises companies on takeover defense and in responding to shareholder activism and proxy contests.

John received his A.B. in economics *summa cum laude* from Dartmouth College, where he was a Rufus Choate Scholar. He received his J.D. with distinction from Stanford Law School, where he was a senior editor of the *Stanford Law Review*.

Prior to law school, John worked as an associate consultant at the business strategy consulting firm L.E.K. Consulting, in its Boston and Paris offices.

John has represented clients in a variety of industries, including:

### *Diversified Manufacturing*

- **WESCO International** in its \$4.8 billion acquisition of Anixter International
- **Rockwell Automation** in its response to a \$29 billion unsolicited takeover bid by Emerson Electric
- **Univar** in:

- its \$2 billion acquisition of Nexeo Solutions; and
- its \$640 million disposition of Nexeo’s plastics business
- **AV Homes** in its \$963 million sale to Taylor Morrison Home
- **Eagle Materials** in the separation of its heavy and light materials businesses
- **Hubbell Incorporated** in:
  - in the \$350 million sale of its Commercial and Industrial Lighting Business to GE Current, a Daintree Company
  - its \$1.1 billion acquisition of Aclara Technologies from an affiliate of Sun Capital Partners; and
  - the reclassification of its dual-class common stock into a single class of common stock
- **United Technologies** in its \$3.5 billion sale of its Hamilton Sundstrand industrial products businesses to BC Partners and Carlyle
- **EADS NV** in its proposed €35 billion dual-listed company combination with BAE Systems plc
- **Apollo Management Group** and **CEVA Logistics** in the sale of CEVA’s Pallecon container logistics business unit to Brambles Industries Limited

#### *Technology, Media and Telecommunications*

- **Telesat Corporation** in its \$5.0 billion Up-C transaction with Loral Space & Communications Inc. and PSP Investments
- **M3-Brigade Acquisition II Corp.** in its \$2.85 billion merger with Syniverse
- **CenturyLink** in:
  - its acquisition of Level 3 Communications in a cash and stock transaction valued at approximately \$34 billion, including the assumption of debt; and
  - its \$2.5 billion acquisition of SAVVIS, Inc.
- **Verizon Communications** in its \$130 billion acquisition of Vodafone Group Plc’s 45% interest in Verizon Wireless
- **Maxar Technologies** in the CAD\$1 billion sale of its MacDonald, Dettwiler and Associates business to a consortium of financial sponsors led by Northern Private Capital
- **Creative Artists Agency** in:
  - in its acquisition of ICM Partners
  - the investment by TPG Capital to acquire a controlling interest in CAA, and related debt and equity recapitalization transactions;
  - a \$120 million investment and joint venture transaction with a consortium led by China Media Capital; and
- **Searchlight Capital Partners** in its co-investment in the \$4.3 billion acquisition of Rackspace

Hosting, Inc. by funds affiliated with Apollo Global Management

- **Grupo Prisa** in its \$1.5 billion combination with Liberty Acquisition Holdings and its related rights issuance
- **Goldman Sachs Capital Partners** in the sale of its interests in a joint venture with Canwest Global Communications Corp. in connection with Canwest's approximately C\$2 billion sale of its broadcasting assets to Shaw Communications

### *Healthcare and Biotechnology*

- **Actelion** in its \$30 billion acquisition by Johnson & Johnson and the spin-off of its drug discovery operations and early-stage clinical assets
- **Abbott Laboratories** in the \$4.3 billion sale of its vision care business to Johnson & Johnson
- **Cardinal Health** in:
  - its \$1.9 billion acquisition of Johnson & Johnson's Cordis business; and
  - its \$2.1 billion acquisition of AssuraMed

### *Financial Institutions*

- **Visa** in its €21.2 billion acquisition of Visa Europe Ltd.
- **MetLife** in its disposition of \$7.5 billion in retail banking deposits, representing the majority of its depository business, to GE Capital
- **Knight Capital Group** in:
  - its acquisition of Penson Futures; and
  - the sale of its institutional fixed income and trading business to Stifel Financial
- **Santander Holdings USA** in various public debt securities transactions
- **AllianceBernstein** in its acquisition of SunAmerica's alternative investments group
- **Bank of America** in its \$2.5 billion sale of Grupo Financiero Santander to Banco Santander

### *Utilities*

- **SUEZ** in its €26 billion acquisition by Veolia
- **Duke Energy** in its \$32 billion merger with Progress Energy
- **NextEra Energy** in:
  - its \$6.5 billion acquisition of Gulf Power Company, Florida City Gas and the Stanton and Oleander Power Projects from The Southern Company; and

- its proposed \$4.3 billion acquisition of Hawaiian Electric Industries

### *Retail and Consumer Goods*

- **American Eagle Outfitters** in its \$350 million acquisition of Quiet Logistics and other strategic supply chain investments
- **Altria** in its \$2.8 billion investment in Cronos Group
- **Tim Hortons** in its \$12.2 billion combination with Burger King Worldwide, Inc.
- **Groupe Casino and Cnova N.V.** in:
  - Cnova's initial public offering;
  - Cnova's reorganization of Cnova Brazil within Casino's Brazilian affiliate, Via Varejo; and
  - Casino's take-private tender offer for Cnova
- **Dufry AG** in:
  - its €328 million acquisition of the remaining interest in Folli Follie Group;
  - its CHF 1.4 billion acquisition of The Nuance Group; and
  - its CHF 3.8 billion acquisition of World Duty Free S.p.A.
- **DSW** in:
  - its \$375 million acquisition of Camuto Group's operations; and
  - a joint venture with Authentic Brands Group for the Camuto Group intellectual property

### *Recent Financing and Capital Markets transactions*

- **TPG Capital** and **Sixth Street Partners** in connection with their preferred investment in Vice Media
- **WESCO International** in:
  - its \$2.8 billion senior notes offering in connection with the acquisition of Anixter International; and
  - its cash tender offer for up to \$600 million of Anixter International's notes, and related consent solicitations, in connection with the acquisition of Anixter
- **Edison International** in its \$800 million registered direct offering of common stock
- **American Eagle Outfitters** in its Rule 144A offering of up to \$460 million of convertible senior notes
- **DICK'S Sporting Goods** in its \$575 million convertible senior notes offering with related call spreads
- **Telesat Canada** in:
  - its \$400 million senior secured notes offering and \$1.9 billion term loan refinancing; and
  - its \$550 million senior notes offering

## Recent Publications

[The Legal 500 Country Comparative Guides: Corporate Governance \(United States\)](#), 5th ed. 2023 (4th ed. 2022).

[Corporate Governance in the United States: Overview and Outlook](#), in *In-House Lawyer*, Winter 2022.

[Overview of Recent Public M&A Activity in the United States](#), in *Beck'sches M&A-Handbuch* (Beck's Manual on Mergers & Acquisitions), Verlag C.H. Beck oHG, Second ed. 2022 (First ed. 2017).

[The New SEC Regulation S-K Rules: Practical Advice for Companies](#), in *Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance*, October 14, 2020.

[Regulators Around the World Address Short Selling in Response to the Covid-19 Market Crisis](#), in *Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation*, March 26, 2020.

[Shareholder Activism and Governance in France: Proposed Reforms](#), in *Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation*, October 8, 2019.

[The Maturing Market for Representation and Warranty Insurance](#), in *Harvard Law School Forum on Corporate Governance and Financial Regulation*, April 5, 2018.

[United States of America](#), in *Securities World*, 4th ed., published by Thomson Reuters (Professional) UK Limited, 2014.