

DealMakers[®]

Volume 26: No. 3

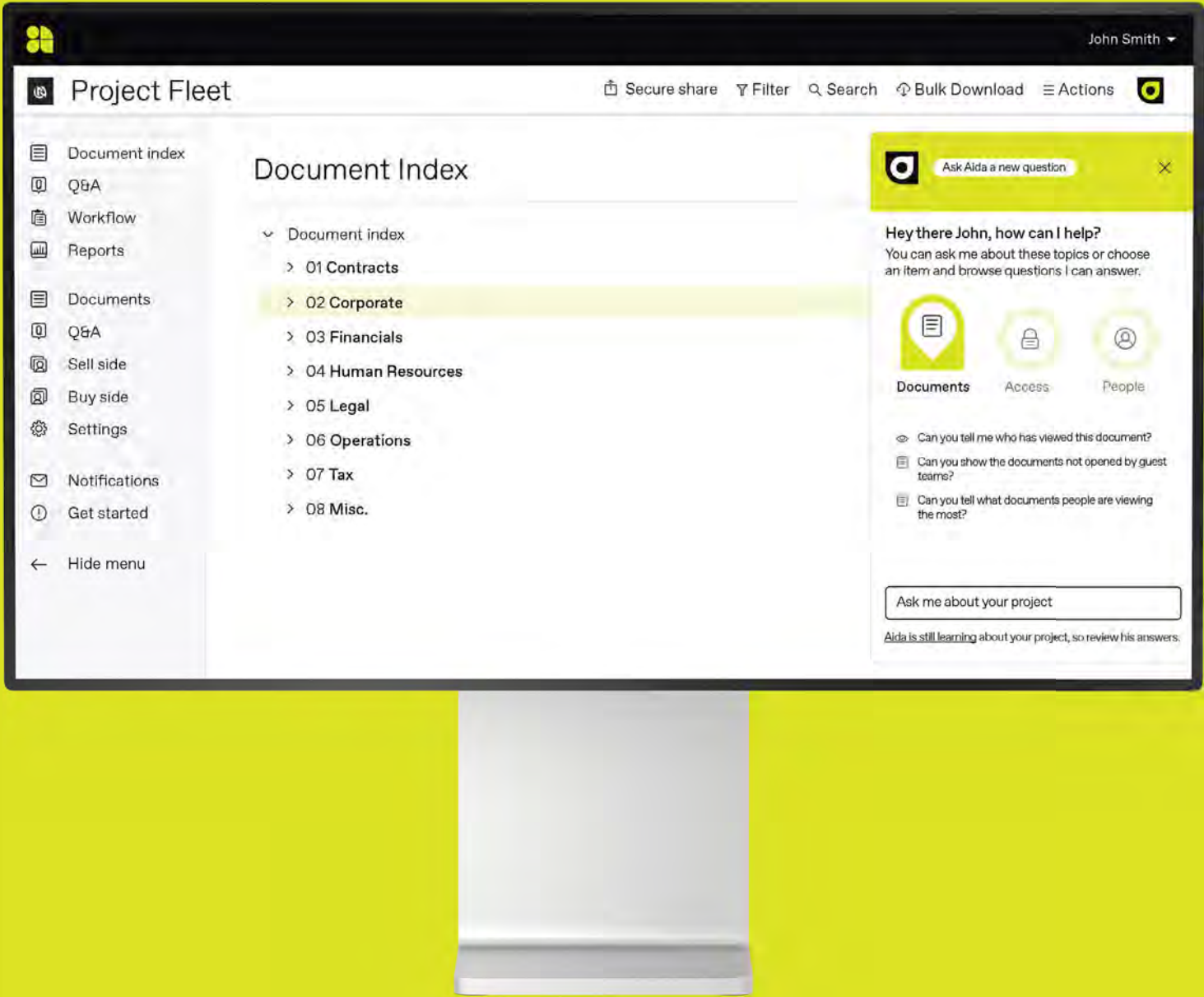
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3RD QUARTER 2025 M&A RANKINGS
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As we hurtle toward the end of the year, the familiar rush is on to get deals over the line. It's never an easy task, and 2025 has been no exception – with geopolitical and economic headwinds, both at home and abroad, weighing heavily on investors' confidence and sentiment.

Looking back at the period Q1 – Q3 2025, deal activity has remained relatively consistent, showing a gradual improvement year on year, when compared with the same period in 2023 and 2024. This year's aggregate deal value of R1,62trn is, however, heavily skewed by the Anglo American | Teck Resources merger, valued at R1,05trn (US\$60bn).



MARYLOU GREIG

Excluding this outlier, total deal value comes to R571,89bn, up from R477,28bn in 2024 and R344,24bn in 2023 (pg 4).

Conversely, BEE deal activity continues to decline, with many of the latest announcements representing extensions of existing, often underwater, structures – symptomatic of the framework's ongoing struggle to deliver its intended

economic outcomes. It will be interesting to see whether, under the current GNU dispensation, ongoing conversations about alternative empowerment mechanisms gain meaningful traction.

Excluding the five failed transactions, 268 deals were recorded during the period, of which 40 were announced by companies with secondary inward listings on one of South Africa's exchanges. The R50m – R200m value bracket once again accounted for the most deals. Sectorally, real estate continues to dominate deal flow, followed by resources and technology (pg 10). South African-domiciled, exchange-listed companies were involved in 44 cross-border transactions, with Africa (13 deals), Europe and the UK (8) the most active destinations – again led by real estate and resources activity.

Companies also continued to return value to shareholders through repurchase programmes. During the first three quarters of 2025, companies repurchased R285,88bn in shares – nearly double the comparable 2024 period – with Prosus leading the charge. The largest General Corporate Finance transaction during this time was the unbundling by Anglo American of its stake in Anglo American Platinum, valued at R96bn (pg 6).

Private equity continues to consolidate its presence in the dealmaking landscape. Over the past few years, the industry has had to adapt to higher capital costs, more challenging exits, and the growing influence of AI. This has prompted a strategic pivot toward private credit, as firms diversify their offerings to provide flexible financing solutions in a high-interest environment. In this context, earlier in the quarter, **DealMakers** – in partnership with Benchmark International and Bowmans – hosted Aligning Futures: Where Private Capital meets family ambition (Catalyst pg 7). The initiative brought together family business owners, private equity professionals and institutional investors to explore how private capital can align with family ambition and legacy-building in Africa.

As we approach the close of the year, it is once again time to invite the M&A community to submit nominations for the **DealMakers** subjective awards (pgs 58 – 67). I am delighted to confirm that James Formby, Nicky Newton-King, and Phuthi Mahanyele-Dabengwa have kindly agreed, once again, to serve on the Independent Panel, tasked with selecting the shortlists and ultimate winners.

The Ansarada **DealMakers** Annual Awards will take place at the Sandton Convention Centre Ballroom on 19 February 2026, marking the 26th year of this flagship celebration. The nomination deadline is 21 November 2025.

My sincere thanks go to our award sponsors for their ongoing commitment to the M&A community. I look forward to welcoming everyone in February, as we come together again to recognise and celebrate the critical role this industry plays in the growth and wellbeing of our country. ■



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Catalyst - the Private Equity and Venture Capital magazine

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Membership of the Oval Table, which is by invitation only, comprises seven of the corporate finance players and five corporate law firms; membership is held on a one-year cycle.

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Q3 2025 4

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MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS ANALYSIS Q1 - Q3 2025 (excludes unlisted M&A)

Q3 2025				Q1 - Q3 2025				Q1 - Q3 2024				Q1 - Q3 2023			
DEAL ACTIVITY		No.	*	Value R'm	No.	*	Value R'm	No.	*	Value R'm	No.	*	Value R'm		
Local Deals		91	(2)	64 505	232	(4)	322 948	229	(8)	218 030	216	(9)	120 592		
Foreign Deals		14	(0)	1 152 788	41	(1)	1 295 940	21	(1)	259 252	26	(1)	223 648		
		105	(2)	1 217 293	273	(5)	1 618 888	250	(9)	477 282	242	(10)	344 240		
DEAL ACTIVITY (excluding failed deals)		No.		Value R'm	No.		Value R'm	No.		Value R'm	No.		Value R'm		
Local Deals		89		51 407	228		263 191	221		208 855	207		120 121		
Foreign Deals		14		1 152 788	40		1 295 940	20		136 406	25		222 845		
		103		1 204 195	268		1 559 131	241		345 261	232		342 966		

BEE AND PRIVATE EQUITY ACTIVITY Q1 - Q3 2025 (includes listed and unlisted M&A)

Q3 2025			Q1 - Q3 2025			Q1 - Q3 2024			Q1 - Q3 2023		
BEE ACTIVITY	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	
Listed M&A	4	(0) 1 438	10	(0) 24 670	5	(0) 13 150	7	(0) 20 830			
Unlisted M&A	1	(0) undisclosed	4	(0) undisclosed	11	(0) undisclosed	12	(0) 4 527			
	5	(0) 1 438	14	(0) 24 670	16	(0) 13 150	19	(0) 25 357			

Q3 2025			Q1 - Q3 2025			Q1 - Q3 2024			Q1 - Q3 2023		
PE ACTIVITY	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	No.	* Value R'm	
Listed M&A	18	(0) 5 625	33	(1) 49 657	35	(0) 37 280	30	(0) 21 725			
Unlisted M&A	24	(0) 1 054	50	(0) 5 088	43	(0) 3 430	57	(0) 13 383			
	42	(0) 6 679	83	(1) 54 745	78	(0) 40 710	87	(0) 35 108			

* No of failed deals



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BIGGEST DEALS Q1 - Q3 2025

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	VALUE R'M
Merger of ■	Anglo American plc and Teck Resources	Anglo Teck	\$60bn	Sep 9	1 047 000
Acquisition by ■	MIH Bidco (Prosus) from Just Eat Takeaway.com minority shareholders	100% shareholding in Just Eat Takeaway.com	€4,1bn	Feb 24	78 720
Disposal by ■	Reinet Investments to Athora Holding	indirect 49,5% stake in Pension Insurance Corporation	£2,92bn	Jul 3	69 788
Acquisition by ■	Primary Health Properties plc from minority shareholders	Assura plc	£1,79bn	May 16	43 318
Acquisition by ■	Sana Bidco (Kohlsberg Kravis Roberts & Co and Stonepeak Partners JV) from minority shareholders	Assura plc	£1,7bn	Apr 9	41 000
Acquisition by ■	Gold Fields from Gold Road Resources minorities	Gold Road Resources	AS\$3,3bn	May 5	38 940
Acquisition by ■	OLX (Prosus) from Providence Equity Partners	100% of La Centrale	€1,1bn	Sep 26	22 330
Acquisition by ■	Harmony Gold Australia (Harmony Gold Mining) from minority shareholders	MAC Copper	\$1,03bn	May 28	18 400
Disposal by ■	Exxaro Resources to Eyesizwe	extension of BEE ownership scheme (waivered right to monetise part of shareholding - 30,81%)	R16,7bn	Mar 13	16 700
Disposal by ■	Life Healthcare to Lantheus Holdings	interest in Life Molecular Imaging	\$750m	Jan 13	13 800

■ Foreign Deal – not included for ranking purposes (unless local adviser's role verified)

— Failed deal – excluded for ranking purposes

BIGGEST BEE DEAL Q1 - Q3 2025

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	VALUE R'M
Disposal by ■	Exxaro Resources to Eyesizwe	extension of BEE ownership scheme (waivered right to monetise part of shareholding - 30,81%)	R16,7bn	Mar 13	16 700
Disposal by ■	MultiChoice Group to consortium of BEE parties [Phuthuma Nathi (27%), 13th Ave Investments, Identity Partners Itai Consortium and Afrifund Consortium and a Workers' Trust (ESOP)]	51% stake in LicenceCo	R5,6bn	Feb 4	5 619
Disposal by ■	Hosken Consolidated Investments to Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union [SACTWU]	54,5% stake in Squirewood	R888,8m	Sep 30	889
Disposal by ■	Hosken Consolidated Investments to Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union [SACTWU]	three properties - Gallegher Estate, HCI Rand Daily Mail and HCI Solly Sachs House	R549,7m	Jul 4	550
Disposal by ■	AECI to the AECI Foundation	effective 15,5% interest in AECI Mining	R522m	Feb 28	522



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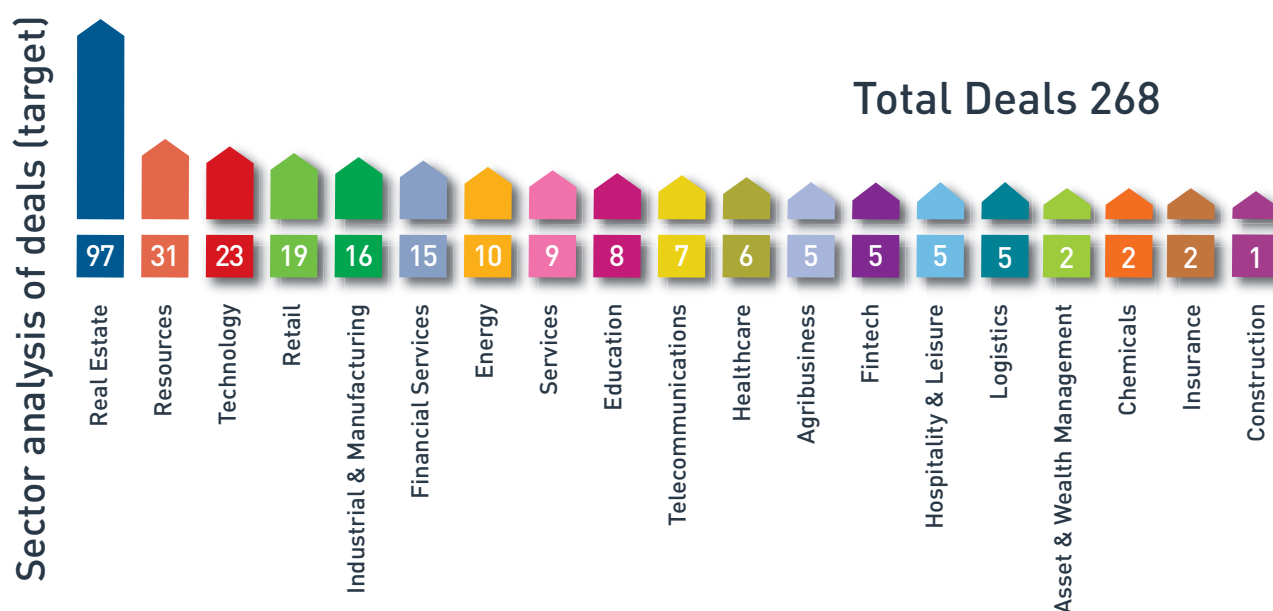


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Of the 268 deals recorded in Q1 - Q3 of 2025, SA-domiciled exchange-listed companies were involved in 44 cross border transactions

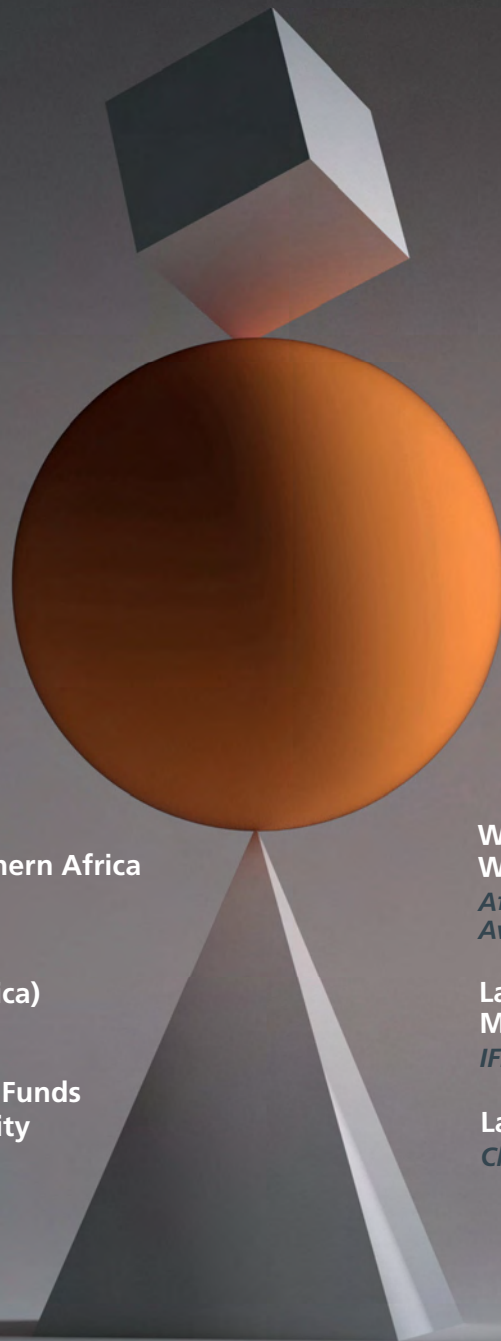


Deals look by value category

Size of transaction	Q1-Q3 2025		Q1-Q3 2024		Q1-Q3 2023	
	No. of deals	Value Rm	No. of deals	Value Rm	No. of deals	Value Rm
> R5bn	20	1 441 512	15	246 670	13	276 405
> R1bn	35	77 442	33	71 842	19	36 187
> R500m	30	21 347	11	8 132	23	15 260
> R200m	37	12 636	36	11 850	29	9 093
> R50m	49	5 394	57	5 782	48	4 770
> R20m	18	618	22	773	31	996
< R20m	27	182	25	212	30	255
Total no. of transactions	216	1 559 131	199	345 261	193	342 966
Total without value	52		42		39	
Grand total	268	1 559 131	241	345 261	232	342 966

* Excludes failed deals

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MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS Q1 - Q3 2025

RANKING THE SOUTH AFRICAN TOMBSTONE PARTIES

RANKINGS BY DEAL VALUE

INVESTMENT ADVISERS*

No	Company	Deal Values R'm	Market Share %
1	PSG Capital	56 574	13,30%
2	Rand Merchant Bank	55 517	13,05%
3	Investec Bank	48 309	11,36%
4	Nedbank CIB	46 472	10,93%
5	J.P. Morgan	44 559	10,48%
6	Itai Capital	33 989	7,99%
7	Goldman Sachs	21 645	5,09%
8	Morgan Stanley	21 069	4,95%
9	Macquarie Advisory and Capital Markets South Africa	18 400	4,33%
10	Tamela	16 700	3,93%
11	Standard Bank	15 499	3,64%
12	Barclays	11 670	2,74%
13	Absa CIB	7 950	1,87%
14	Citigroup Global Markets	5 619	1,32%
	Merrill Lynch	5 619	1,32%
16	Deloitte Consulting	5 010	1,18%

RANKINGS BY DEAL FLOW (ACTIVITY)

No	Company	No of Deals	Market Share %	Deal Values R'm
1	Rand Merchant Bank	16	16,67%	55 517
2	Investec Bank	13	13,54%	48 309
3	PSG Capital	8	8,33%	56 574
	Standard Bank	8	8,33%	15 499
5	Valeo Capital	5	5,21%	2 309
	AcaciaCap Advisors	5	5,21%	488
7	Goldman Sachs	4	4,17%	21 645
	Absa CIB	4	4,17%	7 950
9	Nedbank CIB	3	3,13%	46 472
	Itai Capital	3	3,13%	33 989
	Morgan Stanley	3	3,13%	21 069
12	J.P. Morgan	2	2,08%	44 559
	Java Capital	2	2,08%	2 287
	BSM Advisory	2	2,08%	undisclosed
	Metis Strategic Advisors	2	2,08%	undisclosed
	Valorem Capital	2	2,08%	undisclosed

SPONSORS

No	Company	Deal Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Rand Merchant Bank	1 165 645	72,10%
2	Investec Bank	136 480	8,44%
3	PSG Capital	74 209	4,59%
4	J.P. Morgan	68 649	4,25%
5	Nedbank CIB	56 385	3,49%
6	Java Capital	29 491	1,82%
7	Absa CIB	21 433	1,33%
8	Valeo Capital	18 395	1,14%
9	Tamela	16 700	1,03%
10	Standard Bank	9 631	0,60%
11	Questco	5 819	0,36%
12	Merchantec Capital	5 619	0,35%
13	Deloitte	5 010	0,31%
14	One Capital	1 867	0,12%
15	AcaciaCap Advisors	491	0,03%
16	River Group	400	0,02%
17	Bridge Capital	246	0,02%
18	Vunani Sponsors	176	0,01%
19	Exchange Sponsors	6	n/a

No	Company	No of Deals	Market Share %	Deal Values R'm
1	PSG Capital	23	16,43%	74 209
2	Rand Merchant Bank	17	12,14%	1 165 645
3	Investec Bank	16	11,43%	136 480
4	Java Capital	15	10,71%	29 491
5	Nedbank CIB	11	7,86%	56 385
	Questco	11	7,86%	5 819
7	Valeo Capital	8	5,71%	18 395
8	J.P. Morgan	7	5,00%	68 649
	Standard Bank	7	5,00%	9 631
	AcaciaCap Advisors	7	5,00%	491
11	One Capital	4	2,86%	1 867
12	Bridge Capital	3	2,14%	246
	Absa CIB	3	2,14%	21 433
	Vunani Sponsors	3	2,14%	176
15	Tamela	1	0,71%	16 700
	Merchantec Capital	1	0,71%	5 619
	Deloitte	1	0,71%	5 010
	River Group	1	0,71%	400
	Exchange Sponsors	1	0,71%	6

* Investment Advisers incorporate Financial Advisers and others claiming this category





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MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS Q1 - Q3 2025

RANKING THE SOUTH AFRICAN TOMBSTONE PARTIES (CONTINUED)

RANKINGS BY DEAL VALUE

LEGAL ADVISERS

No	Company	Deal Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Webber Wentzel	1 233 023	47,48%
2	Bowmans	1 080 321	41,60%
3	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	91 604	3,53%
4	ENS	38 160	1,47%
5	Werksmans	35 029	1,35%
6	Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer South Africa	34 279	1,32%
7	DLA Piper South Africa	17 759	0,68%
8	Mokoena Attorneys	16 700	0,64%
	RAMS Attorneys	16 700	0,64%
10	White & Case (SA)	14 287	0,55%
11	TGR Attorneys	5 619	0,22%
12	Alchemy Law	3 817	0,15%

RANKINGS BY DEAL FLOW (ACTIVITY)

No	Company	No of Deals	Market Share %	Deal Values R'm
1	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	26	19,12%	91 604
2	Webber Wentzel	19	13,97%	1 233 023
3	Werksmans	15	11,03%	35 029
4	Bowmans	13	9,56%	1 080 321
	ENS	13	9,56%	38 160
6	White & Case (SA)	12	8,82%	14 287
7	DLA Piper South Africa	8	5,88%	17 759
8	Vani Chetty Competition Law	4	2,94%	2 185
9	Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer South Africa	3	2,21%	34 279
10	Andersen South Africa	2	1,47%	270
	Baker McKenzie	2	1,47%	undisclosed
	Stein Scop Attorneys	2	1,47%	undisclosed

TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

No	Company	Deal Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Deloitte	30 930	28,37%
2	BDO	28 427	26,08%
3	PwC	17 450	16,01%
4	SNG Grant Thornton	13 790	12,65%
5	EY	9 860	9,04%
6	Forvis Mazars	2 707	2,48%
7	Kensington Capital	1 867	1,71%
8	Tamela	1 372	1,26%
9	Moore	926	0,85%
10	Moore Infinity Advisory	877	0,80%
11	CBS	580	0,53%
12	Exchange Sponsors	81	0,07%
13	KPMG	76	0,07%
14	Valeo Capital	54	0,05%
15	DDP Valuation and Advisory Services	22	0,02%

No	Company	No of Deals	Market Share %	Deal Values R'm
1	BDO	10	19,23%	28 427
2	PwC	8	15,38%	17 450
3	Deloitte	6	11,54%	30 930
4	EY	5	9,62%	9 860
	Moore	5	9,62%	926
6	SNG Grant Thornton	4	7,69%	13 790
	Kensington Capital	4	7,69%	1 867
8	Forvis Mazars	2	3,85%	2 707
	Valeo Capital	2	3,85%	54
10	Tamela	1	1,92%	1 372
	Moore Infinity Advisory	1	1,92%	877
	CBS	1	1,92%	580
	Exchange Sponsors	1	1,92%	81
	KPMG	1	1,92%	76
	DDP Valuation and Advisory Services	1	1,92%	22



Challenges accepted.



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GENERAL CORPORATE FINANCE Q1 - Q3 2025

RANKING THE SOUTH AFRICAN TOMBSTONE PARTIES

RANKINGS BY TRANSACTION VALUE

INVESTMENT ADVISERS*

No	Company	Transaction Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Goldman Sachs	355 709	27,20%
2	Morgan Stanley	332 152	25,40%
3	Merrill Lynch	155 827	11,92%
4	Investec Bank	141 758	10,84%
5	Rothschild & Co	140 127	10,72%
6	Standard Bank	45 428	3,47%
7	Valeo Capital	41 166	3,15%
8	PSG Capital	29 159	2,23%
9	Prescient Securities	19 837	1,52%
10	J.P. Morgan	15 472	1,18%
11	Rand Merchant Bank	9 915	0,76%
12	Tamela	9 474	0,72%
13	Java Capital	9 084	0,69%
14	Nedbank CIB	1 309	0,10%
15	Bridge Capital	400	0,03%
16	Citigroup Global Markets	302	0,02%
17	Kela Securities	191	0,01%
18	AcaciaCap Advisors	127	0,01%
19	Questco	106	0,01%
20	Bravura	100	0,01%

RANKINGS BY TRANSACTION FLOW (ACTIVITY)

No	Company	No of Transactions	Market Share %	Transaction Values R'm
1	Goldman Sachs	9	13,43%	355 709
	Morgan Stanley	9	13,43%	332 152
3	Java Capital	7	10,45%	9 084
4	Investec Bank	5	7,46%	141 758
	PSG Capital	5	7,46%	29 159
6	Merrill Lynch	3	4,48%	155 827
	Valeo Capital	3	4,48%	41 166
	Rand Merchant Bank	3	4,48%	9 915
	Nedbank CIB	3	4,48%	1 309
	Citigroup Global Markets	3	4,48%	302
	AcaciaCap Advisors	3	4,48%	127
12	Rothschild & Co	2	2,99%	140 127
	Standard Bank	2	2,99%	45 428
	J.P. Morgan	2	2,99%	15 472
	Tamela	2	2,99%	9 474
	Kela Securities	2	2,99%	191
17	Prescient Securities	1	1,49%	19 837
	Bridge Capital	1	1,49%	400
	Questco	1	1,49%	106
	Bravura	1	1,49%	100

SPONSORS

No	Company	Transaction Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Investec Bank	204 542	28,95%
2	Merrill Lynch	131 179	18,57%
3	Rand Merchant Bank	129 944	18,39%
4	Standard Bank	45 291	6,41%
5	Valeo Capital	41 166	5,83%
6	Questco	36 986	5,23%
7	PSG Capital	32 284	4,57%
8	J.P. Morgan	25 125	3,56%
9	Absa CIB	24 118	3,41%
10	Tamela	15 350	2,17%
11	Java Capital	12 997	1,84%
12	Nedbank CIB	4 627	0,65%

No	Company	No of Transactions	Market Share %	Transaction Values R'm
1	Investec Bank	31	17,13%	204 542
2	PSG Capital	22	12,15%	32 284
3	Questco	17	9,39%	36 986
	Java Capital	17	9,39%	12 997
5	Nedbank CIB	12	6,63%	4 627
6	Standard Bank	11	6,08%	45 291
	AcaciaCap Advisors	11	6,08%	228
8	J.P. Morgan	10	5,52%	25 125
9	Rand Merchant Bank	9	4,97%	129 944
10	Merrill Lynch	8	4,42%	131 179
	Tamela	8	4,42%	15 350
	Merchantec Capital	8	4,42%	292

* Investment Advisers incorporate Financial Advisers and others claiming this category



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2nd by BEE Deal Value.
2nd by BEE Deal Flow.
3rd by General Corporate
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GENERAL CORPORATE FINANCE Q1 - Q3 2025

RANKING THE SOUTH AFRICAN TOMBSTONE PARTIES (CONTINUED)

RANKINGS BY TRANSACTION VALUE

SPONSORS (Continued)

No	Company	Transaction Values R'm	Market Share %
13	BSM Sponsors	1 433	0,20%
14	Pallidus Exchange Services	434	0,06%
15	Bridge Capital	400	0,06%
16	Merchantec Capital	292	0,04%
17	AcaciaCap Advisors	228	0,03%
18	Bravura	100	0,01%
19	Vunani Sponsors	37	0,01%
20	African Bank	28	n/a
21	Exchange Sponsors	8	n/a

RANKINGS BY TRANSACTION FLOW (ACTIVITY)

No	Company	No of Transactions	Market Share %	Transaction Values R'm
13	Valeo Capital	3	1,66%	41 166
	Absa CIB	3	1,66%	24 118
15	Pallidus Exchange Services	2	1,10%	434
	Vunani Sponsors	2	1,10%	37
	African Bank	2	1,10%	28
	Exchange Sponsors	2	1,10%	8
19	BSM Sponsors	1	0,55%	1 433
	Bridge Capital	1	0,55%	400
	Bravura	1	0,55%	100

LEGAL ADVISERS

No	Company	Transaction Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Webber Wentzel	342 975	56,33%
2	Bowmans	115 821	19,02%
3	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	76 191	12,51%
4	Werksmans	26 600	4,37%
5	DLA Piper South Africa	23 320	3,83%
6	AV Advisory	19 837	3,26%
7	White & Case (SA)	1 809	0,30%
8	Falcon & Hume	1 433	0,24%
9	Thomson Wilks	594	0,10%
10	ENS	327	0,05%
11	RDKM Advisory	4	n/a
12	Fluxmans	undisclosed	n/a

No	Company	No of Transactions	Market Share %	Transaction Values R'm
1	Webber Wentzel	15	33,33%	342 975
2	Bowmans	6	13,33%	115 821
3	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	5	11,11%	76 191
	White & Case (SA)	5	11,11%	1 809
5	ENS	4	8,89%	327
6	DLA Piper South Africa	3	6,67%	23 320
7	RDKM Advisory	2	4,44%	4
8	Werksmans	1	2,22%	26 600
	AV Advisory	1	2,22%	19 837
	Falcon & Hume	1	2,22%	1 433
	Thomson Wilks	1	2,22%	594
	Fluxmans	1	2,22%	undisclosed

TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES

No	Company	Transaction Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Deloitte	96 027	79,84%
2	BDO	22 879	19,02%
3	Birch	1 174	0,98%
4	BSM Advisory	200	0,17%
5	Forvis Mazars	undisclosed	n/a

No	Company	No of Transactions	Market Share %	Transaction Values R'm
1	BDO	2	33,33%	22 879
2	Deloitte	1	16,67%	96 027
	Birch	1	16,67%	1 174
	BSM Advisory	1	16,67%	200
	Forvis Mazars	1	16,67%	undisclosed



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GENERAL CORPORATE FINANCE ANALYSIS Q1 - Q3 2025

Q3 2025			Q1 - Q3 2025		Q1 - Q3 2024		Q1 - Q3 2023	
No	Value R'm		No	Value R'm	No	Value R'm	No	Value R'm
Share Issues	16	33 122	51	42 553	61	43 170	48	230 120
Share Repurchases	31	58 337	97	285 977	87	149 875	97	261 776
Restructurings		none		none	1	129	2	919718
Unbundlings	12	94 454	32	222 337	21	29 512	16	35 954
Open Market Transactions	9	85 754	18	118 528	18	94 850	12	91 780
Off Market Transactions	5	1 219	10	9 219	14	8 575	10	9 144
SA Exchange Listings	2	20 404	6	41 833	9	23 161	65	12 548
Total	75	293 290	214	720 447	211	349 272	250	1 561 040

BIGGEST TRANSACTIONS Q1 - Q3 2025

NATURE TRANSACTION	COMPANY	DETAILS	ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	VALUE R'M
Unbundling	Anglo American	136 262 382 Anglo Platinum shares to Anglo American shareholders at R704,72 per share	R96bn	Apr 8	96 027
Unbundling	Anglo American	special dividend	\$4,5bn	Sep 9	80 000
General Repurchase	Prosus	66 029 787 shares at an ave €43,14 per share	€2,81bn	over 2nd quarter	58 255
General Repurchase	Prosus	67 362 550 shares at an ave €39,73 per share	€2,71bn	over 1st quarter	52 714
Open Market Disposal	Anglo American	52 200 000 Valterra Platinum shares (c.19,2% stake) at R845 per share	R44,1bn	Sep 3	44 100
Open Market Disposal	Reinet Investments	43 310 286 British American Tobacco shares at £28,20 per share	£1,22bn	Jan 14	28 182
Specific Issue	Primary Health Properties	27 273 774 562 shares at an ave R21,67 per share	R27,27bn	Aug 13	27 274
Open Market Disposal	lbex	1,05 billion Pepkor shares (28,29% stake)	R26,6bn	Jul 21	26 600
General Repurchase	Prosus	26 957 712 shares at an ave €51,49 per share	€1,38bn	over 3rd quarter	25 679
General Repurchase	Naspers	4 269 425 shares at an ave R4 954 per share	R20,89bn	over 2nd quarter	20 894



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Company Listings Analysis 2025 - 2017*

	Q1-3 2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
JSE	3	11	4	5	8	5	5	12	21
A2X	1	7	64	18	8	8	11	10	5
CTSE	2	1	4	5	2	3	0	2	3
EESE	-	-	1	2	1	0	0	3	1
Total	6	19	73	30	19	16	16	27	30

* excludes convertible bonds, preference shares and other instruments

Profit Warnings Sector Analysis Q3



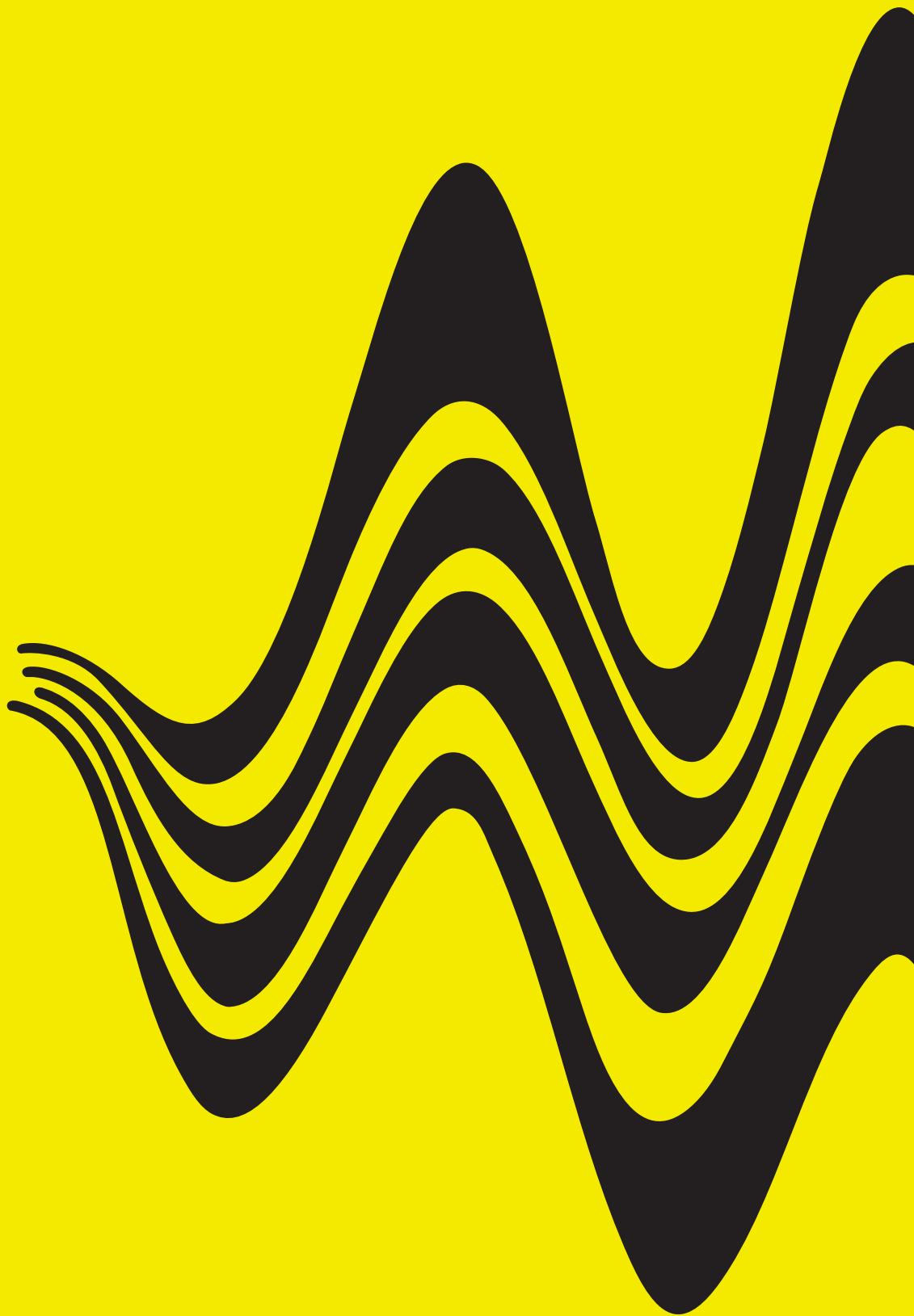
Company Delistings Analysis 2025 - 2017**

	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017
Q1	2	3	3	12	11	4	10	8	5
Q2	2	7	10	6	4	8	5	5	5
Q3	3	5	8	6	7	4	6	5	18
Q4		4	6	3	4	5	5	0	5
Total	7	19	27	27	26	21	26	18	33

* excludes convertible bonds, preference shares and other instruments

+ across all four SA exchanges

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Our third DealMakers PATHFINDERS for 2025 was held in Cape Town.
Special thanks to our great hosts for the night, Bowmans, and to the guest speaker Tsoanelo Ntene, Standard Bank CIB's Head: Sponsor Coverage in South Africa.

Tsoanelo currently serves as Head of Sponsor Coverage for South Africa, where he leads the growth of Standard Bank's private capital allocator client franchise within Corporate and Investment Banking. Prior to this role, Tsoanelo plied his trade as Senior Real Estate Investment Banker and Project Development Manager in the Public

and Private Partnership sector. In both capacities, which combined spanned over a decade, he was responsible for developing deep client relationships, originating and executing complex funding, advisory and development transactions.



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NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	JSE LISTING			TOMBSTONE PARTIES				ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			ACQUIRER	SELLER	ASSET	INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	ATTORNEY/ LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Disposal by	Hyprop Investments to MEP SPV 4 (Millennium Equity Partners)	50% interest in Hyde Park Corner	not listed	Retail REITs	not listed		Java Capital	ENS		R805m	Jul 1
Disposal by	Trellidor to Sole Ceramics (JC Family Trust)	Taylor Blinds and Shutters and NMC South Africa	not listed	Building Materials; Other	not listed		PSG Capital		Valeo Capital	R51,9m	Jul 1
Disposal by	Investec Wealth & Investment International (Investec) to Optio Incentives	share plan software platform	Foreign - Norway	Banks	not listed					undisclosed	Jul 1
Acquisition by	Aspen Pharmacare (Aspen) from Ingelheim Pharmaceuticals	Boehringer Ingelheim (marketing, promotion, sales and distribution rights relating to certain products sold in SA)	Pharmaceuticals	Foreign - Germany	not listed					undisclosed	Jul 3
Acquisition by	Pick n Pay Retailers (Pick n Pay Stores) from vendors	Pick n Pay Plettenberg Bay	Food Retailers & Wholesalers	not listed	not listed					undisclosed	Jul 3
Disposal by ■	Reinet Investments to Athora Holding	indirect 49,5% stake in Pension Insurance Corporation	Foreign - US	Diversified Financial Services	Foreign - Europe		Rand Merchant Bank			£2,92bn	Jul 3
Acquisition by	RMB Corvest (FirstRand) from some founding and investing shareholders	equity stake in Alaris RFTechnology Group	Banks	not listed	Foreign - UK			Werksmans	Moore	undisclosed	Jul 3
Disposal by	Supersport International (MultiChoice) to Siwelele Football Club	PSL soccer club, SuperSport United Football Club	not listed	Cable Television Services	not listed			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R50m	Jul 3
Disposal by †	Hosken Consolidated Investments to Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union [SACTWU]	three properties - Gallagher Estate, HCI Rand Daily Mail and HCI Solly Sachs House	not listed	Diversified Financial Services	not listed		Investec Bank	White & Case (SA); ENS		R549,7m	Jul 4
Disposal by ■	South32 to a subsidiary of CoreX Holding B.V.	Cerro Matoso	Foreign - Turkey	General Mining	Foreign - Colombia	Goldman Sachs (Int)		Freshfields		\$100m	Jul 7
Disposal by	Stefanutti Stocks to East Africa Enterprises	businesses in Mozambique and Mauritius	Foreign - UAE	Construction	Foreign - Mauritius; Foreign - Mozambique		Bridge Capital	Webber Wentzel		\$3,9m	Jul 9
Disposal by	Tsogo Sun Alternative Gaming Invest 1 (Tsogo Sun) to Adistra Properties	stake in One Vision Investments	not listed	Casinos and Gambling	not listed			White & Case (SA)		undisclosed	Jul 11
Acquisition by ■	Supermarket Income REIT plc	Tesco omnichannel supermarket in Ashford, Kent	Retail REITs	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK		PSG Capital			£54,1m	Jul 14
Acquisition by ■	AngloGold Ashanti from Augusta Gold shareholders	Augusta Gold	Gold Mining	Foreign - Canada	Foreign - Canada	RBC Capital Markets	Standard Bank	Womble Bond Dickinson (US); Cravath, Swaine & Moore (US); Stikeman Elliott (Canada)		\$111m	Jul 16
Disposal by °	Redefine Properties to Live Rosebank	property known as Rosebank Corner	not listed	Diversified REITs	not listed		Java Capital			R80m	Jul 17
Disposal by	Schirm GmbH (AECL) to Liberation Chem-Toll	Schirm USA	Foreign - US	Chemicals	Foreign - US	Stifel Europe Bank; The CJ Group	One Capital	Haynes and Boone; Platt Richmond	Kensington Capital	\$60m	Jul 17
Disposal by	Schirm GmbH (AECL) to private German buyers	Baar-Ebenhausen assets	Foreign - Germany	Chemicals	Foreign - Germany	Stifel Europe Bank	One Capital		Kensington Capital	€500 000	Jul 17
Disposal by	AECL to Sana Partners GP2 (Sana Partners Group)	Food and Beverage business	not listed	Chemicals	not listed	Investec Bank	One Capital	Bowmans	Kensington Capital; EY	not publicly disclosed	Jul 17
Acquisition by	Hyprop from MAS minorities	MAS plc	Retail REITs	not listed	Real Estate Holding & Development	Java Capital; Investec Bank	Java Capital; Valeo Capital	Webber Wentzel		R13,05bn	Jul 18
Acquisition by	4Sight Manor (4Sight) from Double Peak Properties 41	properties located at 1001,1005 and 1007 Clifton Avenue in Lyttelton Manor, Centurion	AltX - Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	not listed	not listed		Java Capital		DDP Valuation and Advisory Services	R21,66m	Jul 18
Acquisition by	RMB Investments and Advisory (FirstRand) and Castleview Property Fund	Inali Prop	Banks; AltX - Retail REITs	not listed	not listed					undisclosed	Jul 18
Acquisition by	Sibanye Stillwater	Metallix Refining	Platinum & Precious Metals	Foreign - US	Foreign - US	Goldman Sachs (SA)	J.P. Morgan (SA)	Davis Polk & Wardell		\$129m	Jul 21

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category
■ Foreign Deal - not included for ranking purposes (unless local adviser's role verified)
— Failed deal - excluded for ranking purposes
° Property deal - excluded for ranking purposes
† BEE deal

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	JSE LISTING			TOMBSTONE PARTIES				ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			ACQUIRER	SELLER	ASSET	INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	ATTORNEY/ LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Acquisition by	Natco Pharma from Adcock Ingram minorities	34,85% stake in Adcock Ingram (excludes Bidvest's stake of 64,25%)	Foreign - India	not listed	Pharmaceuticals	Goldman Sachs (SA); Investec Bank	Rand Merchant Bank	ENS; Bowmans; Alchemy Law; Webber Wentzel	BDO; Deloitte	R3,82bn	Jul 23
Disposal by	AfroCentric Health and Medscheme (AfroCentric Investment) to Sanlam Life Insurance (Sanlam)	AfroCentric Distribution Services and Wellworx	Life Insurance	Health Care Services	not listed		Questco		Deloitte	R15m	Jul 24
Acquisition by	Spear REIT from Adrenna Property Group (Islandsite Investments Twenty-Three, Ottawa Investments, JNF Investment Trust, W and J Alcock)	Consani Industrial Park, 29 Epping Avenue in Goodwood, Cape Town	Diversified REITs	not listed	not listed	PSG Capital	PSG Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R437,3m	Jul 25
Acquisition by	Spear REIT from Aria Property Group (Sphinx Trust and Gilsan Street Investments)	Maynard Mall in Wynberg, Cape Town	Diversified REITs	not listed	not listed	PSG Capital	PSG Capital	ENS		R455m	Jul 28
Disposal by °	Integer 3 via 50% held Senzosol (50% held by RMB Holdings)	warehouse based in Montague Gardens	not listed	Diversified Financial Services	not listed		BSM Sponsors			R27,8m	Jul 30
Acquisition by ■	Prosus	investment in AI-tutoring platform Arivihan	Consumer Digital Services	Foreign - India	Foreign - India					undisclosed	Jul 31
Acquisition by ■	Hammerson plc from JV partner	remaining 50% shareholding in Bullring and Grand Central	Retail REITs	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK	Morgan Stanley (Int)	Investec Bank; Morgan Stanley (Int); Peel Hunt	CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang		£319m	Jul 31
Disposal by	Sargras (Deneb Investments) to Earth Instyle	property at 195 Leicester Road, Mobeni in Durban	not listed	Diversified Financial Services	not listed		PSG Capital			R48,5m	Aug 1
Acquisition by °	Nedbank Property Partners (Nedbank) from Heartwood Properties	35% stake in Heartwood Logistics	Banks	Real Estate Holding & Development	not listed		Valeo Capital	Vani Chetty Competition Law		R3,75m	Aug 1
Acquisition by	Sirius Real Estate	business park in Dresden, Germany	Real Estate Holding & Development	Foreign - Germany	Foreign - Germany		PSG Capital			€23,4m	Aug 6
Acquisition by	Sirius Real Estate	business park in Bedford, UK	Real Estate Holding & Development	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK		PSG Capital			£16,13m	Aug 6
Acquisition by	Collins NED Holdings (Collins Property Group) from Budé Beheer	eight retail properties housing Do It Yourself stores in the Netherlands	Real Estate Holding & Development	Foreign - Netherlands	Foreign - Netherlands		Questco			€31,5m	Aug 6
Acquisition by	ADvTECH	Regis Runda Academy in Nairobi, Kenya	Education Services	Foreign - Kenya	Foreign - Kenya		Bridge Capital			R172m	Aug 7
Disposal by ■	Gemfields to SMG Capital	Fabergé	Foreign - US	Diamonds & Gemstones	Foreign - UK		Investec Bank; Panmure Liberum			\$50m	Aug 11
Disposal by	Sappi to Malina Enterprises	Lomati Sawmill in Barberton, Mpumalanga	not listed	Paper	not listed					undisclosed	Aug 11
Acquisition by	Sirius Real Estate	Hartlebury Trading Estate in Worcestershire, UK	Real Estate Holding & Development	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK		PSG Capital			£101,1m	Aug 12
Acquisition by	Nedbank from Apis Partners, Crossfin and the International Finance Corporation	fintech innovator iKhokha	Banks	not listed	not listed	Nedbank CIB; Morgan Stanley	Nedbank CIB	Bowmans; Webber Wentzel	PwC; EY	R1,65bn	Aug 13
Acquisition by ■	Marula Mining plc from Bamba Mining	60% interest in Bamba Manganese Mining Project in Kilifi County, Kenya	General Mining	Foreign - Kenya	Foreign - Kenya	AcaciaCap Advisors	AcaciaCap Advisors			£25 000	Aug 13
Disposal by	Nedbank to Bosquet Investments (A Nkontchou)	21.2% shareholding in Ecobank Transnational Incorporated	Foreign - Cameroon	Banks	Foreign - Togo	Goldman Sachs (SA); Absa CIB; Enko Capital Management (London)	Nedbank CIB	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr; LPA Law		\$100m	Aug 15
Acquisition by	African Rainbow Minerals	further 6,46% stake (25,781,715 shares) in Surge Copper [exercise of rights agreement]	General Mining	Foreign - Canada	Foreign - Canada		Investec Bank			C\$4,5m	Aug 15
Disposal by	Siana Property (Deneb Investments) to Solena Property	property at 9 Warrington Road, Mobeni in Durban	not listed	Diversified Financial Services	not listed		PSG Capital			R170m	Aug 19
Joint Venture	African Infrastructure Investment Managers (Old Mutual) and Motseng Investment	Motseng Ideas Infrastructure Group	Life Insurance; not listed		not listed					undisclosed	Aug 19

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— Failed deal - excluded for ranking purposes
° Property deal - excluded for ranking purposes

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	JSE LISTING			TOMBSTONE PARTIES				ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			ACQUIRER	SELLER	ASSET	INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	ATTORNEY/LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Acquisition by	Luxanio Trading 181 (Dipula Properties) from Pietersburg Property Development (N Oosthuizen)	Protea Gardens Mall in Soweto	Diversified REITs	not listed	not listed		Java Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R478,1m	Aug 19
Acquisition by °	Dipula Properties from various vendors	Airborne Industrial Park, Abland DC, Woolworths Gezina and Jouberton land	Diversified REITs	not listed	not listed		Java Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R215,6m	Aug 19
Disposal by	Equites International (Equites Property Fund)	Unit 1, The Hub situated in Burgess Hill, UK	Foreign - UK	Real Estate Holding & Development	Foreign - UK		Java Capital			£17,6m	Aug 20
Disposal by	PPC Zimbabwe (PPC) to Transvaal Africa (N Dube and P Moyo)	Arlington Estate	Foreign - Zimbabwe	Cement	Foreign - Zimbabwe		Questco			\$30m	Aug 21
Disposal by	Afrimat to CAP Alliance Group	SA Block	not listed	General Mining	not listed					R44m	Aug 22
Disposal by †	Mantengu Mining to BEE consortium (Vitai Resources, Blue Ridge Platinum Mine Employee Trust and the Blue Ridge Platinum Mine Community Trust)	30% stake [20% 5% 5%] in Blue Ridge Platinum	not listed	AltX - Industrial	not listed		AcaciaCap Advisors			R 1	Aug 25
Disposal by °	Delta Property Fund to Afrocentric Intellectual Property	142-144 Fourth Street in Parkmore, Sandton	not listed	Office REITs	not listed		Java Capital			R19m	Aug 26
Disposal by °	Accelerate Property Fund to Dorpsstraat Capital Growth Fund (Dorpsstraat Property Investments, Rabie Property Group, Nedbank Property Partners and Alpha Plus) and Property House Group Investments (Wimson Trust and Gray Trust)	the Buzz Shopping Centre and Waterford Centre in Fourways, Gauteng	not listed	Retail REITs	not listed		Questco			R215m	Aug 26
Acquisition by	Rex Trueform (African and Overseas Enterprises) from major shareholder A Ramdath	further 21% stake in Byte Orbit to 51,02%	Apparel Retailers	not listed	not listed		Java Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R21m	Aug 27
Acquisition by	Trustees of the Jannie Mouton Stigting to shareholders	all issued Curro Shares excluding certain shareholders	not listed	not listed	Education Services	PSG Capital	PSG Capital; BSM Sponsors	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	BDO	R7,34bn	Aug 27
Disposal by	Unitrans Passenger (KAP)	shareholding in Mvelatrans	not listed	Diversified Industrials	not listed					R110m	Aug 28
Disposal by	Sanlam Life Insurance (Sanlam) to Trident Capital Retail	Shelly Centre located in Shelly Beach, KZN	not listed	Life Insurance	not listed					undisclosed	Aug 28
Disposal by	Brimstone Investment	100% of its shares in subsidiary House of Monatic	not listed	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicle	not listed			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R13m	Sep 1
Disposal by	Brimstone Investment	51% holding in Milpark Education	not listed	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicle	not listed					R117,5m	Sep 1
Disposal by †	Spalding Investments 10 RF (PBT Group) to The Intrepid Projects II (The Intrepid PBT Direct Partnership IV [Pulsent OH GP])	2,6% indirect beneficial holding in PBT	not listed	not listed	Computer Services		Questco	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		undisclosed	Sep 1
Acquisition by	Santam	51% stake in Avatar	Property & Casualty Insurance	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK					£3m	Sep 1
Acquisition by	The Prepaid Company (Blu Label Unlimited) from Cell C	further stake in Cell C (debt to equity conversion)	Telecommunications	not listed	not listed	Rand Merchant Bank; Investec Bank; Standard Bank	Rand Merchant Bank	Werksmans; DLA Piper South Africa	SNG Grant Thornton; PwC	R3,68bn	Sep 1
Disposal by	The Prepaid Company (Blu Label Unlimited) to Cell C	Comm Equipment Company	not listed	Telecommunications	not listed	Rand Merchant Bank; Investec Bank; Standard Bank	Rand Merchant Bank	Werksmans; DLA Piper South Africa	SNG Grant Thornton; PwC	R2,15bn	Sep 1
Disposal by	The Prepaid Company (Blu Label Unlimited) to Cell C	Cell C airtime	not listed	Telecommunications	not listed	Rand Merchant Bank; Investec Bank; Standard Bank	Rand Merchant Bank	Werksmans; DLA Piper South Africa	SNG Grant Thornton; PwC	R7,4bn	Sep 1

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° Property deal - excluded for ranking purposes
† BEE deal

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	JSE LISTING			TOMBSTONE PARTIES				ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			ACQUIRER	SELLER	ASSET	INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	ATTORNEY/LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Acquisition by	The Prepaid Company (Blu Label Unlimited) from SPV4 and SPV5 (Blu Label Unlimited employees)	10,47% and 10,00% stakes in Cell C	Telecommunications	not listed	not listed	Rand Merchant Bank; Investec Bank	Rand Merchant Bank	Werksmans; DLA Piper South Africa	SNG Grant Thornton; PwC	R562,9m	Sep 1
Acquisition by	Invicta Global (Invicta) from Twinings Topco (D fox, P Bray, N Whelan, K Smith and Inspirit Fund 1 LP) and members of Spaldings' management	100% of the issued share capital of Spaldings	Industrial Suppliers	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK		Nedbank CIB			£14m	Sep 2
Disposal by	Old Mutual and Sanlam Joint Venture to SS&C Technologies	Curo Fund Services	not listed	Life Insurance	not listed			ENS; Werksmans		not publicly disclosed	Sep 2
Disposal by	Shoprite	Asab Mall Development Company in Nigeria, seven trading stores and one warehouse in Ghana, and five trading stores in Malawi	Foreign - Malawi; Foreign - Nigeria; Foreign - Ghana	Food Retailers & Wholesalers	Foreign - Malawi; Foreign - Nigeria; Foreign - Ghana		Nedbank CIB			undisclosed	Sep 2
Acquisition by	The Prepaid Company (Blu Label Unlimited) from Cedar Cellular Investments 1 (RF)	4,04% stake in Cell C	Telecommunications	not listed	not listed	Rand Merchant Bank; Investec Bank	Rand Merchant Bank	Werksmans		undisclosed	Sep 4
Acquisition by	Fortress Real Estate Investments	industrial property in Wroclaw, Poland	Real Estate Holding & Development	Foreign - Poland	Foreign - Poland					€49m	Sep 4
Acquisition by ■	Prosus Ventures (Prosus)	investment in Intella, an Arabic-first speech-to-text engine	Consumer Digital Services	Foreign - Saudi Arabia	Foreign - Saudi Arabia					undisclosed	Sep 4
Acquisition by	Old Mutual Private Equity (Old Mutual) from Actis	majority stake in Honoris United Universities	Life Insurance	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK	Rand Merchant Bank		Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		undisclosed	Sep 4
Disposal by °	Putprop	the bulk land of Summit Place - G2	not listed	Real Estate Holding & Development	not listed					R30m	Sep 5
Disposal by	Growthpoint Properties to The Beverage Company (Varun Beverages and the BevCo Employee Trust)	Dominic Corner and Saligna properties	Foreign - India	Diversified REITs	not listed					undisclosed	Sep 5
Disposal by	Super Group to Mutares SE & Co KGaE	inTime group (excluding Ader)	Transportation Services	Foreign - Germany	Foreign - Germany					undisclosed	Sep 9
Disposal by °	Newpark REIT to Aviwe Nonya	Crown Mines, an industrial property situated 28 Renaissance Drive, Crown City in Johannesburg	not listed	Retail REITs	not listed		Java Capital			R101,4m	Sep 9
Merger of ■	Anglo American plc and Teck Resources	Anglo Teck	General Mining; Foreign - Canada		Foreign - Canada	Centerview Partners; Morgan Stanley (Int); Goldman Sachs (Int); RBC Capital Markets	Rand Merchant Bank	Webber Wentzel; Bowmans; Latham & Watkins; Torsy; Wachtell Lipton Rosen & Katz (New York); Stikeman Elliott (Toronto); Freshfields (London)		\$60bn	Sep 9
Disposal by	The Spar Group to Tannenwald Holding AG	SPAR Holding AG (Switzerland)	Foreign - Switzerland	Food Retailers & Wholesalers	Foreign - Switzerland	Rand Merchant Bank; Clairfield Switzerland; Homburger	Rand Merchant Bank			R1,69bn	Sep 9
Acquisition by ■	Marula Mining Tanzania (Marula Mining plc) from existing Takela shareholders	remaining stake in Takela Mining Tanzania, the owner and operator of the Kinusi Copper Mine located in the Dodoma Region	General Mining	Foreign - Tanzania	Foreign - Tanzania	AcaciaCap Advisors; Cairn Financial Advisers	AcaciaCap Advisors			£2,5m	Sep 10
Disposal by °	Accelerate Property Fund to Amrichprop 2 Properties (A Mouton and B Viljoen)	73 Hertzog Boulevard situated in The Foreshore, Cape Town	not listed	Retail REITs	not listed		Questco			R68m	Sep 12
Disposal by	OUTsurance	83% of the 14,4% stake in Entersekt	not listed	Property & Casualty Insurance	not listed					undisclosed	Sep 15
Disposal by °	AWIC (Attacq) to Coeng	Waterfall Point Building 2 and Building 4	not listed	Diversified REITs	not listed					R95m	Sep 16
Joint Venture ■	Anglo American Sur SA (Anglo American plc) and Codelco	NewCo (adjacent copper mines Los Bronces and Andina) jointly owned	General Mining; Foreign - Chile		Foreign - Chile		Rand Merchant Bank			undisclosed	Sep 16
Acquisition by ■	Supermarket Income REIT plc	Waitrose in Anglesey, Wales	Retail REITs	Foreign - UK	Foreign - UK					£4,8m	Sep 17
Acquisition by	Main Street 2093 (Mango Holding) from Metrofile minority shareholders	all the issued shares in Metrofile (excluding treasury shares)	not listed	not listed	Professional Business Support Services	Standard Bank; Rothschild & Co (SA)	Standard Bank	Werksmans; Webber Wentzel	Tamela	R1,37bn	Sep 17

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category
■ Foreign Deal – not included for ranking purposes (unless local adviser's role verified)
° Property deal – excluded for ranking purposes

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	JSE LISTING			TOMBSTONE PARTIES				ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			ACQUIRER	SELLER	ASSET	INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	ATTORNEY/LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Acquisition by	Burstone from a trust	remaining stake in Izandla Property Fund	Diversified REITs	not listed	not listed					undisclosed	Sep 17
Acquisition by	Futuregrowth Asset Management (Old Mutual) from BWJN Group	additional 20% stake in residential property development group - WCB Newco	Life Insurance	not listed	not listed			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		undisclosed	Sep 17
Acquisition by	Bidvest Services (Bidvest) from Agile Capital and existing shareholders	Aquatico Capital and Aquatico Investments	Diversified Industrials	not listed	not listed					undisclosed	Sep 17
Acquisition by	Mediterráneo Retail Property (Lighthouse Properties) from Frey Mediterraneo	Hypermarket unit in Espacio Mediterraneo	Real Estate Holding & Development; Retail REITs	Foreign - Spain	Foreign - Spain	Java Capital	Java Capital	Ashurst		€19,5m	Sep 18
Acquisition by	Mustek	51% equity interest in Business AI	Computer Hardware	not listed	not listed					R7m	Sep 19
Acquisition by	Pet Storey (Spar) from Petman Holdings and Cape Consolidated Pets	14 Petmasters stores	Food Retailers & Wholesalers	not listed	not listed			Baker McKenzie; JW Botes	BDO	not publicly disclosed	Sep 19
Disposal by	AgriMark Operations (KAL Group) to Agriplas Holdings (Sana Partners Fund 2)	Agriplas business plus property	not listed	Specialty Retailers	not listed	Valeo Capital	Valeo Capital; PSG Capital	Andersen South Africa		R222,5m	Sep 22
Disposal by	African Infrastructure Investment Managers (Old Mutual) to Norfund and Mahlako Energy Fund	stake in Anthem	Foreign - Norway; not listed	Life Insurance	not listed	Flamingo Capital; Standard Chartered Bank		Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	PwC	\$86m	Sep 22
Disposal by	Optasia (EPE Capital Partners) to an existing investor	partial stake in Optasia	not listed	Closed End Investments	not listed					R138,9m	Sep 25
Disposal by	FirstRand Bank (FirstRand) to Bayete Capital	35 Pritchard Street, Johannesburg	not listed	Banks	not listed					undisclosed	Sep 25
Acquisition by	Finbond Group South Africa (Finbond) from Eclipto	74% stake in Benefits Bouquet	Banks	not listed	not listed		Valeo Capital	Barnard		R116,34m	Sep 26
Acquisition by ■	OLX (Prosus) from Providence Equity Partners	100% of La Centrale	Consumer Digital Services	Foreign - France	Foreign - France	BofA Securities; Goldman Sachs (Int)	Investec Bank	A&O Shearman; Kirkland & Ellis		€1,1bn	Sep 26
Disposal by	KAL Group to Pimms Group	Tego Plastics	not listed	Specialty Retailers	not listed	Valeo Capital	Valeo Capital; PSG Capital	Andersen South Africa		R47,57m	Sep 29
Disposal by †	Hosken Consolidated Investments to Southern African Clothing and Textile Workers' Union [SACTWU]	54,5% stake in Squirewood	not listed	Diversified Financial Services	not listed		Investec Bank	White & Case (SA); ENS		R888,8m	Sep 30
Disposal by	Corvest 100 (FirstRand) to Linbro Holdings	8 Melville Road, Illovo	not listed	Banks	not listed			Werksmans		not publicly disclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Powerfleet from ORBCOMM	ORBCOMM AFRICA	Computer Services	Foreign - US	not listed			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		not publicly disclosed	not announced
Disposal by °	Vukile Property Fund to Indlu Ikhaya Properties (Dickerson Investments, Corvest 6 (FirstRand), and a family trust	Midrand Ulwazi Building located in Ulwazi Business Park, 505 15th Road, Randjespark in Midrand	not listed; Banks	Retail REITs	not listed			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Spar Group	four Spar branded retail supermarkets and associated liquor store businesses in Alberton and Boksburg	Food Retailers & Wholesalers	not listed	not listed			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		not publicly disclosed	not announced
Disposal by	RMI Invest Two (Momentum) to Authenticatio	stake in Entersekt International	Foreign - Mauritius	Life Insurance	not listed			White & Case (SA)		undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Next176 (Old Mutual)	further equity investment in Vault22 Solutions	Life Insurance	not listed	not listed			ENS		not publicly disclosed	not announced
Disposal by	Thungela Operations (Thungela Resources)	Kleinkopje mining assets including the mining right, associated assets, immovable properties, mining residue deposits and contracts in Mpumalanga Province	not listed	Coal	not listed			Bowmans		R1,23bn	not announced

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category
■ Foreign Deal - not included for ranking purposes (unless local adviser's role verified)
° Property deal - excluded for ranking purposes
† BEE deal



DEALMAKERS LEAGUE TABLE CRITERIA

1 – INCLUSION CRITERIA

1.1 A merger or acquisition results in new parties acquiring exposure to new revenue/earnings streams or an exposure to new growth opportunities that they did not have prior to the conclusion of the transaction in question. The economic substance of the entity shareholders are exposed to must change.

General Corporate Finance covers transactions where this is not the case, regardless of the mechanism used to implement the transaction. If there is no agreement concluded with a third party that achieves new economic exposure for the entity in question then the transaction falls under General Corporate Finance.

1.2 For a deal to qualify for ranking:

- at least one entity involved (buyer, seller or target) must be listed on one of SA's stock exchanges (JSE, A2X, CTSE or I-Ex); or
- the entity is a subsidiary (50% + 1 share) held by a South African Exchange listed firm; or
- if the entity is an associate (less than 50% + 1 share) and triggers an announcement on SENS by the listed company, then the transaction will be considered for inclusion in the ranking tables under the listed entities name.

1.3 For deals to be included in the database and used for ranking purposes, the following information must be provided for each submission:

- the name of the target and at least one party to the transaction.
- deal description.
- advisory role and client name.
- date of announcement.
- deal value. If this is not publicly disclosed, the value may be submitted confidentially and used for ranking purposes only; otherwise the deal will count only towards deal flow.

1.4 (i) Deals and transactions which are classified as affected transactions where the Takeover Regulations apply will be captured only when:

- a firm intention or other regulatory announcement has been issued accompanied by;
- a price; and
- a timetable or financial effects.

(ii) Any other deals and transactions submitted by advisory firms which are not classified as an affected transaction or where the Takeover Regulations do not apply will be captured only when submitted with proof of:

- the transaction i.e. front page of the contract;
- role undertaken; and
- price.

1.5 The acquisition and disposal of properties by SA Exchange listed property companies will be included for ranking purposes if:

- a category 2 announcement is issued and one side has an external financial adviser. Where large listed property companies use their own internal counsel, deals will be assessed on a case by case basis; or
- if below R350m, the deal will only be included if there is an external financial adviser to one party.
- If several transactions are announced simultaneously, these will be recorded separately (it is necessary to set this out because of complaints regarding the occasional multiplicity of property deals announced simultaneously but involving different principals). However, in the case of the acquisition of a property portfolio from a single vendor, the transaction will be recorded as a single deal unless adequate proof is provided demonstrating that the major shareholders of portions of the portfolio differ significantly one from the other.

1.6 Private equity deals will be considered as an M&A transaction if:

- the private equity entity is listed; or
- the target or stake acquired is a South African Exchange listed company; or
- the private equity entity is a subsidiary of a South African Exchange listed company and the deal is transacted 'on balance sheet' (proof of this must be provided). In addition, there must be external advisers to both parties. Where an in-house adviser is used, this adviser must provide a confirmatory letter from the other party.

1.7 Deals that are subsequently cancelled, withdrawn or which are deemed to have failed will not be included for ranking purposes. They will be recorded, nevertheless, for record purposes.

- An exception to this rule is where deals fail as a result of successfully conducted hostile defences. A hostile takeover is defined as one launched against the wishes of management and directors. Credit will be applied only to those acting on behalf of a successful defence.

1.8 Foreign deals defined by **DealMakers** as deals between principals domiciled outside South Africa, but a least one has a dual listing in South Africa, will only qualify for ranking purposes if:

- SA subsidiaries of the contracting parties played a critical role in the deal process; or
- SA service providers can demonstrate the extent to which they played a role in the deal process.
- For any deal to be included for ranking purposes, the deal must have been initiated, managed and/or implemented by the SA service provider/providers. Where the deal is between internationally domiciled and/or listed companies, the deal will only qualify if the SA service provider, or the SA branch/arm of an international service provider, was the prime mover, manager or implementer of the transaction. Proof of the SA service provider's role (or the role of the SA branch of an

internationally based service provider) will depend significantly on the allocation of fees earned in respect of such an international deal and **DealMakers** may request appropriate verification before agreeing to the deal's inclusion for ranking purposes.

1.9 Deals transacted in Africa by SA Exchange listed companies will also be captured in the **DealMakers** AFRICA and **Catalyst** magazine tables.

2 – EXCLUSION CRITERIA

2.1 Options will not be included until such time as these are exercised. No exceptions to this rule will be permitted.

2.2 Deals and transactions executed in the normal course of business (other than investment holding companies, permanent capital vehicles whose primary objective is to acquire businesses, SPACs and the like):

- Subject to the inclusion criteria, activity undertaken by companies in the normal course of their business will not be recognised by **DealMakers** for inclusion in the ranking tables. If a dispute as to the interpretation of "normal course of business" arises, this will be dealt with in terms of adjudication.

2.3 Announcements made in respect of section 122(3)(b) of the Companies Act are deemed by **DealMakers** as normal course of business and not included.

2.4 The sale by banks and financial institutions of stakes in property which have been developed and on sold will not be classified as an M&A transaction.

2.5 Foreign deals defined by **DealMakers** as deals between principals domiciled outside South Africa will not qualify for rankings unless certain criteria are met (see inclusion criteria). In the case of property deals, the minimum value of R350m applies.

2.6 Deals announced in a listing document prior to a company's listing will be included only in the unlisted tables.





DEALMAKERS LEAGUE TABLE CRITERIA (continued)

3 – TREATMENT OF DEAL/ TRANSACTION VALUE

- 3.1 All deals and transactions (transactions is the word applied by DealMakers to General Corporate Finance activity) are dated for record purposes on the first announcement date (except for listings, for which the record date is the date of the actual listing). Refer to inclusion criteria 1.4 and 3.4 below.
- 3.2 Only equity value will be used and not the enterprise value. **DealMakers** does not include debt.
- 3.3 Where discrepancies occur in the deal values claimed, **DealMakers** reserves the right to challenge these, if necessary, by requesting clarity from the clients where this is appropriate.
- 3.4 Changes in the value at which deals are transacted will be adjusted when the annual rankings are computed.
- 3.5 Schemes of arrangement, rights issues and share repurchases are valued for record purposes at the maximum number of shares and value that can be purchased or issued until such time as the results are announced.
- 3.6 Only the value of the SA exchange listed partner's stake in a joint venture will be captured and credited to advisory parties.
- 3.7 The value of unbundlings will be treated as follows:
 - if the asset being unbundled is listed then the market value will be used.
 - if the asset(s) is unlisted then the value will only be applied when listed or when details are made available by way of a public announcement.
 - if not to be listed then value must be provided by the client.
- 3.8 Earn-outs or future additional payments based on the ability of the asset acquired to achieve certain financial targets are included. Should targets not be met, the value will be adjusted to the original transaction on date first captured.
- 3.9 No value will be credited to the listing of companies on a secondary SA exchange if already listed on the JSE and vice versa.

4 – ADVISER CREDITS

- 4.1 Credit for ranking purposes is recorded for roles performed in respect of:
 - Investment advisers
 - Sponsors
 - Legal advisers
 - Transactional Support Services (includes due diligence, independent expert and other financial and bespoke legal advice as well as reporting accountant work)
 - PR
- 4.2 So as to achieve fairness, rankings are recorded in two fields:
 - Deal Value
 - Deal Flow (activity, or the number of deals)
- 4.3 Advisers that seek credit for involvement in such deals must be able to demonstrate unequivocally their involvement:
 - by the appearance of the adviser name and/or logo on the announcement.
 - advisers that claim involvement in a deal or transaction, on which their name and/or company logo does not appear on the published announcement recording their specific role, will be asked to provide confirmation from the principals regarding their role/roles. This may be in the form of a copy of the mandate, an email or letter.
 - the same will apply to PR firms but credit will not be awarded on the basis of annual retainers but rather on the specific mandate.
- 4.4 The role of sponsor will be awarded only to specifically announced deals and transactions. Those deals announced in company results will not automatically be credited. The onus will be on the sponsor firm to provide proof of work carried out on the deal claimed. In addition, where a transactional sponsor is named in addition to the company sponsor, only the transactional sponsor will be given credit unless involvement of both parties can be demonstrated.

- 4.5 Where internationally-based service providers are acknowledged as having worked on a particular deal, it is a requirement that they produce acceptable evidence that a significant portion of the work involved was conducted by their South African office. Failure to provide this in the form, for example, of a letter or email from a client will result in **DealMakers** not crediting that particular deal to that service provider.
- 4.6 Where advisers make use of other advisers (secondary advisers), and provided the work undertaken can be verified, secondary advisers will only be credited for ranking purposes to Legal Advisers working on capital markets transactions.
- 4.7 Advisers on the provision of debt are not included.
- 4.8 The full value of each deal is credited to each advisory firm providing a service in respect of that deal. However, if a deal involves more than one listed SA Exchange company, the transaction will be split so as to reflect each listed company's stake. Advisers will be credited accordingly.
- 4.9 Where an advisory firm is advising a member of a consortium, the full value of the deal will be credited – the value will not be pro-rated to the size of the stake of the party advised.
- 4.10 Where advisers act on both sides of any deal, the deal will be brought to account only once.
- 4.11 When there is a merger between two service providers, the merged entity may elect to include, as part of the annual rankings, one or the other party's transactions prior to the merger (but not both).

5 – GUIDELINES

- 5.1 Submissions for the quarter are due by the end of the first week in the following quarter.
- 5.2 For deals to be included in the database and used for ranking purposes, the following information must be provided for each submission:
 - the name of the target and at least one party to the transaction; and
 - deal description; and
 - advisory role and client name; and
 - date of announcement; and
 - deal value. If this is not publicly disclosed, the value may be submitted confidentially and will be used for ranking purposes only.

- 5.3 All deals and transactions are checked by **DealMakers**; any discrepancies that arise will be queried.
- 5.4 Complaints, queries, objections and adjudication:
 - These must be lodged with **DealMakers** not later than the end of the next following quarter, so in respect of Q3 by the end of Q3.
 - In respect of Q4, these must be lodged by the close of business on January 21 or the closest business day. No exceptions will be permitted. This is to ensure that all advisers are aware of transactions to be used in the final ranking process.
- 5.5 The submission of additional deals for quarters prior must follow the same deadlines as in 5.4. In respect of Q4, these must be lodged by January 16 or the closest business day.
- 5.6 So as to avoid tendentious argument, **DealMakers** has appointed an independent adjudicator before whom matters in dispute may be laid. The adjudicator's ruling will be final in each case and no further submissions will be accepted after a ruling has been made.
 - **DealMakers** is conscious that challenges may contain sensitive information. All challenges will be treated, therefore, as highly confidential. Challengers' identities will be protected at all times.
 - Challenges may be made only through **DealMakers**. Advisory firms on both sides may submit documentation supporting their arguments to **DealMakers** who will pass on all information to the independent adjudicator.
 - **DealMakers** reserves to itself the right to challenge claims similarly.
- 5.7 All entities involved in deal-making and/or corporate finance transactions are asked to sign off a summary document prepared by **DealMakers** to ensure that no clerical errors have occurred. No response will indicate acceptance.
- 5.8 Unlisted SA and Africa deal tables have their own set of criteria.
- 5.9 **DealMakers** does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.



UNLISTED DEALS Q3 2025

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	TOMBSTONE PARTIES					ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			INVESTMENT ADVISER*	INVESTMENT ADVISER - FOREIGN	ATTORNEY/ LEGAL ADVISER	LEGAL ADVISER - FOREIGN	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Acquisition by ■	Project Aurora Bidco (KKR)	Spectris Plc at an increased offer of £41.75 per share		Goldman Sachs International; Rothschild & Co; BofA Securities; Barclays; J.P. Morgan Cazenove	Bowmans; ENS	Slaughter and May; Kirkland & Ellis International; Simpson Thacher & Bartlett		£4,8bn	Jul 1
Acquisition by ■	Warburg Pincus	a majority stake in UVEX WINTER Holdings		William Blair; Lincoln International	ENS	Kirkland & Ellis; Poellath; Pestalozzi		undisclosed	Jul 1
Acquisition by	Capdan and Allied (backed by Growth Capital Partners)	Metnor Manufacturing	Deal Leaders International		Girard Hayward			undisclosed	Jul 1
Acquisition by	Intengo Market	Addendum Marketplace						undisclosed	Jul 2
Acquisition by	Henkel Global Supply Chain B.V.	Nordbak						undisclosed	Jul 2
Investment by	Knife Capital	in Sticitt						undisclosed	Jul 3
Investment by	Knife Capital	in Optique Optometrists						undisclosed	Jul 3
Acquisition by	K2025069797 (South Africa) [Respublica Group]	My Space Hostel			Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr			not publicly disclosed	Jul 3
Disposal by	CSSAF (Carlyle)	Safety SA (previously NOSA)		DC Advisory	White & Case South Africa			undisclosed	Jul 4
Acquisition by ■	Capgemini	WNS at \$76.50 per share		William Blair	Bowmans	Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom; Walkers; Latham & Watkins; Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton		\$3,3bn	Jul 7
Disposal by	Motify Group to Pinewood Technologies	Pinewood Dealer Management System						£2,5m	Jul 7
Disposal by °	ONE Eighty Holdings (One Property) to Enyuka Prop	Portfolio of six properties (Kempton Square, Heritage Mall Kathu, Northmead Mall, Southdale Shopping Centre, Vaalgate Mall, and a 50% undivided share in Sasolburg Mall)						undisclosed	Jul 7
Acquisition by	Stitch Group	Efficacy Payments						undisclosed	Jul 9
Disposal by	Phatisa Food Fund 2 to Vaxxinova International B.V.	its stake in Deltamune			DLA Piper South Africa; RSM South Africa			undisclosed	Jul 9
Acquisition by	Management from NTT Data	Britehouse Mobility (now known as Britehouse)						undisclosed	Jul 10
Investment by	P1 Ventures and three angel investors	in MoneyBadger						\$400,000	Jul 15
Acquisition by ■	Tata Motors	Iveco Group (excl the defence business)		Goldman Sachs International; Morgan Stanley India Company	ENS	De Brauw Blackstone Westbroek; PedersoliGattai; Maisto e Associati; Clifford Chance; Greenberg Traurig		€3,8bn	Jul 30
Investment by	Mergence Investment Managers	in Solarise Africa [mezzanine funding through pref shares]	PSG Capital					R60m	Jul 30
Investment by	OneBio Venture Studio, E Squared Investments and other investors	in Altera Biosciences						R29m	Jul 30

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category
■ Foreign transaction – not included for value ranking purposes
° Property deal – excluded for ranking purposes

UNLISTED DEALS Q3 2025

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	TOMBSTONE PARTIES					ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			INVESTMENT ADVISER*	INVESTMENT ADVISER - FOREIGN	ATTORNEY/ LEGAL ADVISER	LEGAL ADVISER - FOREIGN	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Investment by	BSM Investments	in Thunder Brothers						undisclosed	Jul 31
Acquisition by	Sphere Holdings	a stake in Growth Ten (holding company of Richfield Graduate Institute and the A.A.A School of Advertising)					EY	undisclosed	Aug 1
Acquisition by	Afriwise	LawExplorer			Webber Wentzel			undisclosed	Aug 5
Investment by	Ticom Capital, Enza Capital, Incisive Ventures, CVVC and Equitable Ventures	in TurnStay [seed funding]						\$2m	Aug 5
Investment by	CRE.vc and angel investors	in Flood						\$2,5m	Aug 6
Acquisition by	Kogae Rainbow Investment	a 65% stake in Boomgate					Moore Johannesburg	undisclosed	Aug 6
Acquisition by	Knowledge Pele and Bayakha Investment Holdings	a 30% stake in Edge Growth	Benchmark International; EY Advisory Services					undisclosed	Aug 6
Investment by	VEA Capital Partners	in StraTech						undisclosed	Aug 12
Investment by	Alterra Capital Partners	in Cobra Group Holdings	Deal Leaders International		Bowmans			undisclosed	Aug 21
Acquisition by	Norfund and Infra Impact	a stake in Green Create's Southern Africa business						undisclosed	Aug 27
Acquisition by	SmartSpace	a minority stake in Fifatau Holdings	Bravura Capital		Lumen Legal; Shepstone & Wylie; Webber Wentzel			R115m	Sep 5
Investment by	African Forestry Impact Platform (New Forests)	in Rance Timber						undisclosed	Sep 8
Acquisition by	Consortium led by TwoFold Capital and including Octoco	TaxTim						undisclosed	Sep 8
Investment by	Kaltroco and other investors from Nashville, Zurich and Cape Town	in The Invigilator						\$11m	Sep 9
Acquisition by	HOSTAFRICA	Zesha						undisclosed	Sep 9
Investment by	Invenfin, SAAD Investment Holdings and other investors	in Float						\$2,6m	Sep 10
Acquisition by	Rekindle Learning	EpiTek						undisclosed	Sep 15
Investment by	Venture Capitalworks, Fireball Capital, Ke Nako Capital and MAVOVO	in Contactable						\$13,5m	Sep 17
Acquisition by	CFAO Mobility Properties (CFAO Mobility) from Marble Gold	VW Polokwane and Audi Polokwane						undisclosed	Sep 17
Acquisition by	Holistics Remedies	Avroy Shlain Cosmetics						undisclosed	Sep 17
Acquisition by	SMG Gauteng	a stake in Maponya Motors Soweto						undisclosed	Sep 17
Investment by	Sanari Capital and 27four Investment Managers	in Ctrack					EY	R406m	Sep 18
Acquisition by	Street Wallet	of Digitip						undisclosed	Sep 19
Disposal by	Choppies Supermarkets South Africa to the Shingai Itai Consortium	100% of its shareholding in Business Venture Investments No. 2243 (operator of a chain of 45 Jwayelani-branded discount supermarkets in South Africa) as well as the assets of the meat processing factory			DLA Piper South Africa			undisclosed	Sep 22
Acquisition by	Oakleaf Investment Holdings 83	stakes in Oakleaf Investment Holdings 79 and Firefly Investments 253			Werksmans			not publicly disclosed	not announced

UNLISTED DEALS Q3 2025

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	TOMBSTONE PARTIES					ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			INVESTMENT ADVISER*	INVESTMENT ADVISER - FOREIGN	ATTORNEY/ LEGAL ADVISER	LEGAL ADVISER - FOREIGN	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Acquisition by	Dorstfontein Coal Mines	the business of Bochembel Mining and SBS Mining			Werksmans			not publicly disclosed	not announced
Acquisition by °	Apollon Property Fund from Ordiforce	Erf 3270, Cape Town			Werksmans			undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Watchprop	the business of SAProperty.com			Werksmans			not publicly disclosed	not announced
Acquisition by °	Pacific Paramount Properties	Bayside Centre, Mossel Bay			Werksmans			not publicly disclosed	not announced
Acquisition by †	Tamela Group	a stake in Afrihost			ENS			undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Alphacode Venture Partners	a stake in AgrigateOne			White & Case South Africa			undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Black Management Forum Investments from CTRS Investments	an additional stake in Cable Tapes Africa			MVR Attorneys			undisclosed	not announced

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category
° Property deal – excluded for ranking purposes
† BEE deal

UNLISTED DEALS Q1 - Q3 2025 RANKINGS

INVESTMENT ADVISERS* RANKINGS BY DEAL VALUE			
No	Company	Deal Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Bravura Capital	235	56,63%
2	Stadia Capital	120	28,92%
3	PSG Capital	60	14,46%

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category

INVESTMENT ADVISERS* RANKINGS BY DEAL FLOW (ACTIVITY)				
No	Company	No of Deals	Market Share %	Deal Values R'm
1	Deal Leaders International	5	23,81%	undisclosed
2	PSG Capital	3	14,29%	60
	Benchmark International	3	14,29%	undisclosed

LEGAL ADVISERS RANKINGS BY DEAL VALUE			
No	Company	Deal Values R'm	Market Share %
1	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	5 502	51,46%
2	Webber Wentzel	2 694	25,19%
3	Bowmans	1 197	11,20%
4	Werksmans	670	6,26%
5	ENS	200	1,87%
	Herbert Smith Freehills Kramer South Africa	200	1,87%

LEGAL ADVISERS RANKINGS BY DEAL FLOW (ACTIVITY)				
No	Company	No of Deals	Market Share %	Deal Values R'm
1	Bowmans	16	24,62%	1 197
2	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	10	15,38%	5 502
3	ENS	7	10,77%	200
4	Werksmans	6	9,23%	670
5	Webber Wentzel	4	6,15%	2 694

UNLISTED RANKING CRITERIA



Ranking the unlisted deals applies, at this stage, to Investment and Legal Advisers only

1. For a deal to qualify for ranking, it must involve at least one SA entity.

2. Advisers seeking credit for involvement in such deals must be able to demonstrate unequivocally their involvement, if necessary by reference to one or several of the principals.

3. The full value of each deal must be confirmed by the client or appear on documentation provided. If confidential, the value will be treated as such, and used only for ranking purposes.

4. Where advisers act on both sides of the deal, the deal will be brought to account only once.

5. So as to achieve fairness, rankings are recorded in two fields:
Deal Value
Deal Flow (activity, or the number of deals)

6. Where discrepancies occur in the deal values claimed, DealMakers reserves the right to challenge these if necessary, by requesting clarity from the principals where this is appropriate. Changes in the prices at which deals are transacted will be adjusted when the annual rankings are computed.

7. Sale of properties by property companies under a value of R350m will be recorded, but not used for ranking purposes.

8. Foreign deals will only be credited for deal flow ranking purposes if documents provided show sufficient workflow (eg: local competition clearance).
9. Deals that are subsequently cancelled, withdrawn or which are deemed to have failed will not be included for ranking purposes. They will be recorded, nevertheless, for record purposes.

10. All deals are checked by DealMakers; any discrepancies that arise will be queried.

11. All entities involved in deal-making are asked to sign off a summary document prepared by DealMakers to ensure that no clerical errors have occurred. No response will indicate acceptance.

12. When there is a merger between two service providers, the merged entity may elect to include as part of the annual rankings one or the other party's transactions prior to the merger (but not both).

13. Deals/transactions executed in the normal course of business: Activity undertaken by companies in the normal course of their business will not be recognised by DealMakers for inclusion in the ranking tables.

14. Complaints/queries/objections:

These must be lodged with DealMakers not later than the end of the next following quarter, so in respect of Q3, by the end of Q3. In respect of Q4, these must be lodged by the close of business at the end of the third week of January, i.e. by Jan 21 or the closest business day.

15. DealMakers does not accept responsibility for any errors or omissions.

SHARE ISSUES										
DESCRIPTION	COMPANY	SECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES	PRICE/SHARE	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
					INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Specific Issue	Castleview Property Fund	AltX - Retail REITs	30 487 805	R6,56		Java Capital		BSM Advisory	R200m	Jul 2
Specific Issue (conversion of Debt to Equity)	Orion Minerals	General Mining	233 000 000	A\$0,011/R0,13		Merchantec Capital			A\$2,56m	Jul 8
Specific Issue	Orion Minerals	General Mining	13 723 776	A\$0,011/R0,13		Merchantec Capital			A\$150 962	Jul 28
Accelerated Bookbuild	Hammerson	Retail REITs	48 253 994 + 16 173 604	£2,87/R68,80	Investec Bank; Morgan Stanley & Co (Int); Peel Hunt	Investec Bank	Bowmans; Cravath, Swaine & Moore; Freshfields		£138,5m + R1,1bn	Jul 31
Specific Issue	Primary Health Properties	Health Care REITs	27 273 774 562	ave R21,67	PSG Capital; Rothschild & Co (Int); Deutsche Numis; Citigroup Global Markets (Int); Peel Hunt	PSG Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R27,27bn	Aug 13
Specific Issue	Marula Mining plc	General Mining	500 000	£0,05		AcaciaCap Advisors			£25 000	Aug 13
Accelerated Bookbuild	Fairvest	Retail REITs	180 872 707	R5,40	Java Capital	Java Capital			R976,7m	Aug 26
Specific Issue	Rex Trueform	Apparel Retailers	1 694 915 N	R12,39		Java Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R21m	Aug 27
Renounceable Rights Offer	Marshall Monteagle	Asset Managers and Custodians	8 964 377	\$1,20/R21,34		Questco		Grant Thornton (Int)	\$10,76m	Sep 3
Accelerated Bookbuild	Dipula Properties	Diversified REITs	102 946 593	R5,43	PSG Capital	PSG Capital	Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr		R559m	Sep 4
Rights Offer	Copper 360	AltX - Industrial Metals and Mining	800 000 000	R0,50	Bridge Capital	Bridge Capital			R400m	Sep 5
Equity Raise	Africa Bitcoin	AltX - Diversified Financial Services	368 598	R11,00		Questco	RDKM Advisory		R4,05m	Sep 8
Capital Raise	Africa Bitcoin	AltX - Diversified Financial Services	18 265 Class C	R3,40		Questco	RDKM Advisory		R62 101	Sep 8
Specific Issue	Marula Mining plc	General Mining	8 293 100 and 3 450 000	£0,05 and £0,0391	AcaciaCap Advisors; Cairn Financial Advisers	AcaciaCap Advisors			£549 655	Sep 10
Private Placement	Orion Minerals	General Mining	333 330 000	A\$0,015/R0,17		Merchantec Capital			A\$7,6m	Sep 30
Share Purchase Plan	Orion Minerals	General Mining	240 670 000	A\$0,015/R0,17		Merchantec Capital			A\$3,61m	Sep 30

SHARE REPURCHASES

DESCRIPTION	COMPANY	SECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES	PRICE/SHARE	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
					INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
General Repurchase	Argent Industrial	Industrial Suppliers	578 504	R25,95 - R27,10		PSG Capital			R15,65m	Jul 21
Repurchase (DRIP)	Hammerson	Retail REITs	301 059	R69,49/£2,98		Investec Bank			R20,63m	Jul 31
General Repurchase	Datatec	Computer Services	4 147 205	R43,07 - R67,32		Pallidus Exchange Services			R227,6m	Aug 5
General Repurchase	PBT Group	Computer Services	4 120 447	ave R5,67		Questco			R23,37m	Aug 6
General Repurchase	Spur Corporation	Restaurants & Bars	159 264	ave R32,15					R5,12m	Aug 21
General Repurchase	Impala Platinum	Platinum & Precious Metals	5 529 363	ave R105,84					R585.2m	Aug 28
General Repurchase	Brimstone Investment	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	1 548 356	ave R4,63		Nedbank CIB			R7,17m	Sep 1
General Repurchase	Motus	Specialty Retailers	600 000	ave R83,33					R50m	Sep 2
General Repurchase	Cashbuild	Home Improvement Retailers	235 000	R157,30					R36,97m	Sep 3
General Repurchase	Bowler Metcalf	Containers & Packaging	378 468	ave R13,11					R4,96m	Sep 10
Specific Repurchase	Libstar	Food Products	73 049 783	R0,01		Standard Bank			R730 498	Sep 11
General Repurchase	Momentum	Life Insurance	17 500 000	ave R34,40		Tamela			R602m	Sep 17
General Repurchase	Tiger Brands	Food Products	5 420 969	ave R278,61		J.P. Morgan (SA)			R1,51bn	Sep 18
Repurchase (DRIP)	Primary Health Properties	Health Care REITs	to be advised	to be advised					to be advised	Sep 18
General Repurchase	EPE Capital Partners	Closed End Investments	428 514 A	undisclosed					undisclosed	Sep 25
General Repurchase	Stadio	Education Services	813 241	ave R8,81		PSG Capital			R7,17m	not announced

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category

SHARE REPURCHASES (Continued)

DESCRIPTION	COMPANY	SECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES	PRICE/SHARE	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
					INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
General Repurchase	PSG Financial Services	Diversified Financial Services	5 425 429	ave R17,97		PSG Capital			R97,47m	not announced
General Repurchase	Bytes Technology	Software	2 688 009	ave £4,13	Numis Securities; Peel Hunt	Investec Bank			£10,75m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	iOCO	Computer Services	610 000	ave R4,11		Java Capital			R2,5m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Tharisa plc	General Mining	3 070 651	ave R21,6/£4,13	Peel Hunt	Investec Bank			R56,68m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Pan Africa Resources	Gold Mining	1 183 418	ave £0,48		Questco; Peel Hunt; BMO Capital Markets			£650 973	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Glencore	General Mining	88 574 105	ave £3,06	UBS AG, London Branch	Absa CIB			£267,1m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Schroder European Real Estate Investment Trust	Diversified REITs	101 400	ave £0,64		PSG Capital			£65,86m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Ninety One plc	Asset Managers and Custodians	561 888	ave £1,88	Citigroup Global Markets (SA)	J.P. Morgan (SA)			£1,06m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	British American Tobacco	Tobacco	7 900 297	ave £30,91	Goldman Sachs (Int)	Merrill Lynch (SA)			£313,99m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Hammerson	Retail REITs	901 879	ave £2,95	Morgan Stanley (Int)	Investec Bank			£2,66m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Prosus	Consumer Digital Services	26 957 712	ave €51,49	Goldman Sachs (SA); Morgan Stanley (SA); Goldman Sachs Bank Europe SE; Morgan Stanley Bank Europe SE	Investec Bank	Webber Wentzel; Allen & Overy (Dutch); Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison (Hong Kong)		€1,38bn	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Naspers	Consumer Digital Services	2 186 119	ave R5 711	Goldman Sachs (SA); Morgan Stanley (SA); Goldman Sachs Bank Europe SE; Morgan Stanley Bank Europe SE	Investec Bank	Webber Wentzel; Allen & Overy (Dutch); Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison (Hong Kong)		R12,37bn	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	South32	General Mining	4 090 279	ave A\$2,62		Standard Bank			A\$10,75m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Investec	Banks	6 297 811	ave R132,44/£5,57		Investec Bank			R820,9m	over 3rd quarter
General Repurchase	Anheuser-Busch InBev	Brewers	786 256	ave €59,38		Questco			€46,69m	over 3rd quarter

UNBUNDLINGS

COMPANY	SECTOR	ASSET UNBUNDLED	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
			INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
MTN Zakhele Futhi (RF)	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	special distribution of R20,00 per share		Tamela	Webber Wentzel		R2,47bn	Jul 7
enX	Diversified Industrials	special distribution of R1,30 per share		Standard Bank			R237m	Jul 9
Assura	Health Care REITs	special dividend of 0,84 pence/20,03224 cents per share	Nedbank CIB; Lazard & Co; Barclays; Stifel	Nedbank CIB			R651,17m	Jul 15
Life Healthcare	Health Care Facilities	special dividend of 235 cents per share		Rand Merchant Bank			R3,45bn	Aug 7
Grindrod	Marine Transportation	special dividend of 32,3 cents per share		Nedbank CIB			R225,5m	Aug 22
Italtile	Home Improvement Retailers	special dividend of 98c per share					R1,3bn	Aug 25
NEPI Rockcastle	Real Estate Holding & Development	capital repayment - 576 630 154 shares at 27,95 Euro cents per share	Java Capital	Java Capital			€161,17m	Sep 2
Anglo American	General Mining	special dividend					\$4,5bn	Sep 9
OUTsurance	Property & Casualty Insurance	special dividend of 33,1 cents per share					R512,13m	Sep 15
Fortress Real Estate	Real Estate Holding & Development	7 308 524 NEPI Rockcastle shares in lieu of scrip dividend		Java Capital; Nedbank CIB			R930,16m	Sep 15
Remgro	Diversified Financial Services	special dividend of 200 cents per share		Rand Merchant Bank			R1,14bn	Sep 23
Texton Property Fund	Office REITs	distribution of 63,74 cents per share by way of a reduction of the contributed tax capital		Investec Bank			R210,38m	Sep 26

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category

COMPANY LISTINGS

DESCRIPTION	COMPANY	SECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES	PRICE/SHARE	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
					INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
CTSE Listing	PK Investments	Investment Holdings	1 845 293 300	R0,30750	PSG Capital	PSG Capital	Bowmans		R567,4m	Aug 18
JSE Listing (Secondary)	ASP Isotopes	Chemicals	91 413 109	R217,00	Valeo Capital; Prescient Securities	Valeo Capital	AV Advisory; DLA Piper South Africa; Blank Rome	BDO; EisnerAmper	R19,84bn	Aug 27

MAJOR OPEN MARKET TRANSACTIONS

DESCRIPTION	COMPANY	SECTOR	DETAILS	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
				INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Open Market Disposal	Ibex	Diversified Retailers	1,05 billion Pepkor shares (28,29% stake)	Investec Bank; Goldman Sachs (SA); Investec Bank plc; Goldman Sachs (Int); J.P. Morgan Chase & Co		Werksmans		R26,6bn	Jul 21
Open Market Acquisition	Novus	Forms & Bulk Printing Services	22 355 Mustek shares at R13,00 per share		PSG Capital	ENS		R290 615	Aug 5
Open Market Disposal	Growthpoint Properties	Diversified REITs	19 700 000 NewRiver REIT shares at 75 pence per share		Investec Bank			£14,8m	Aug 14
Open Market Disposal	MTN Zakhele Futhi (RF)	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	2 476 448 MTN shares		Tamela	Webber Wentzel		R391m	Aug 22
Open Market Disposal	Anglo American	General Mining	52 200 000 Valterra Platinum shares (c.19,2% stake) at R845 per share	Standard Bank; Merrill Lynch (SA); Goldman Sachs (SA); Morgan Stanley (SA); Rothschild & Co (SA); Merrill Lynch (Int); Goldman Sachs (Int); Morgan Stanley & Co (Int)	Standard Bank	Webber Wentzel		R44,1bn	Sep 3
Open Market Disposal	Remgro	Diversified Financial Services	1 252 712 British American Tobacco shares at an average price per share of R967,18					R1,21bn	Sep 22
Open Market Disposal	Gold Fields	Gold Mining	stake in Northern Star at A\$22,05 per share	J.P. Morgan (SA); J.P. Morgan Securities	J.P. Morgan (SA)			A\$1,1bn	Sep 26
Open Market Disposal	Prosus	Consumer Digital Services	1 503 100 Tencent shares		Investec Bank	Webber Wentzel		undisclosed	over 3rd quarter
Open Market Acquisition	Castleview Property Fund	AltX - Retail REITs	106 178 769 SA Corporate Real Estate shares at R3,00 per share and 125 252 618 SA Corporate Real Estate shares at R2,80 per share		Java Capital	White & Case (SA)		R669,5m	over 3rd quarter

OFF MARKET TRANSACTIONS

DESCRIPTION	COMPANY	SECTOR	DETAILS	TOMBSTONE PARTIES				TRANSACTION VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
				INVESTMENT ADVISER*	SPONSOR	LEGAL ADVISER	TRANSACTIONAL SUPPORT SERVICES		
Off Market Acquisition	Squirewood (Hosken Consolidated Investments)	Diversified Financial Services	1 100 000 HCI shares at R131 per share from SACTWU		Investec Bank	White & Case (SA); ENS		R144,1m	Jul 4
Off Market Acquisition	Astoria Investments	AltX - Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	320 shares in Outdoor Investment	Questco	Questco			R105,79m	Jul 30
Off Market Disposal	Growthpoint Properties	Diversified REITs	47 700 000 NewRiver REIT shares repurchased by NewRiver REIT at 75 pence per share		Investec Bank			£35,8m	Aug 14
Off Market Acquisition	Italtile	Home Improvement Retailers	675 000 shares from Italtile Ceramics at R9,91 per share		Merchantec Capital			R6,69m	Sep 2
Off Market Disposal	Texton Property Fund	Office REITs	remaining stake of 4 945 shares in Blackstone Real Estate Income Trust iCapital Offshore Access Fund	Investec Bank	Investec Bank			R110,8m	Sep 4

* Investment Advisers include Financial Advisers and others claiming this category

LISTINGS

EXCHANGE	COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
JSE Listing (Secondary)	ASP Isotopes	Speciality Chemicals	Apr 24 2025	Aug 27 2025
JSE Listing (Secondary)	Neo Energy Metals	to be advised	Jun 30 2025	to be advised
CTSE Listing	PK Investments	Investment Holdings	Aug 7 2025	Aug 18 2025

DELISTINGS

EXCHANGE	COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	SUSPENSION DATE	TERMINATION DATE	COMMENT
JSE Delisting	AH Vest	AltX - Food Products	Jun 23 2025	Aug 20 2025	Aug 26 2025	Scheme of arrangement (Eastern Trading Company)
JSE Delisting	Ascendis Health	Pharmaceuticals	Sep 12 2025	to be advised	to be advised	Repurchase offer
JSE Delisting	Assura plc	Healthcare REITs	Sep 5 2025	Oct 3 2025	Oct 29 2025	Takeover offer (Primary Health Properties)
JSE Delisting	Ayo Technology Solutions	Computer Services	May 23 2025	Oct 22 2025	Oct 28 2025	Scheme of arrangement (Sekunjalo Investment Holdings)
JSE Delisting (potential)	MC Mining	Coal	May 24 2024	to be advised	to be advised	Mandatory offer (Goldway Capital Investment)
JSE Delisting	MTN Zakhele Futhi	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	Jul 15 2025	to be advised	to be advised	Unwind of BEE deal
JSE Delisting	Rebosis Property Fund	Retail REITs	Jul 8 2025	Aug 26 2022	Jul 18 2025	Entered voluntary business rescue in Aug 2022
JSE Delisting	Trencor	Transportation Services	May 29 2025	Jul 30 2025	Aug 5 2025	Voluntary winding up
JSE Delisting	Trustco Group	Diversified Financial Services	Jan 20 2025	Jan 23 2025	to be advised	Cautionary Voluntary termination

FOREIGN LISTINGS & DELISTINGS

COMPANY	SECTOR	TYPE	COUNTRY	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
FOREIGN LISTINGS Trustco Group	Diversified Financial Services	Primary	US (Nasdaq)	Nov 12 2024	to be advised
FOREIGN DELISTINGS Oando Plc	Oil Refining and Marketing	Primary	Nigeria (NGX)	Jun 23 2022	to be advised
Trustco Group	Diversified Financial Services	Secondary	Namibia (NSX)	Jan 20 2025	to be advised

SUSPENSIONS

COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE	COMMENT
African Dawn Capital	AltX - Consumer Lending	Jul 14 2025	Jul 14 2025	JSE listing requirements : financial statements
aReit Prop	Diversified REITs	Jun 3 2024	Jun 3 2024	JSE listing requirements: annual report
Conduit Capital	Full Line Insurance	Sep 21 2022	Sep 21 2022	Request of directors - subsidiary - Constantia Insurance Company placed in provisional liquidation
Efora Energy	Integrated Oil & Gas	Jul 14 2025	Jul 14 2025	JSE listing requirements: financial statements

SUSPENSIONS (Continued)

COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE	COMMENT
Ellies	Electrical Components	Apr 22 2024	Apr 22 2024	Voluntary business rescue unsuccessful - liquidation to be actioned
Kibo Energy	AltX - General Mining	Aug 13 2025	Aug 13 2025	JSE listing requirements: financial statements
Marula Mining	General Mining	Jul 1 2025	Jul 1 2025	AQSE listing requirements (Primary listing on AQSE)
Murray & Roberts	Engineering and Contracting Services	Nov 22 2024	Nov 22 2024	business rescue of subsidiary, Murray and Roberts Ltd including OptiPower
Neo Energy Metals	Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	Feb 3 2025	Feb 3 2025	Request of directors Suspension on LSE (Primary listing)
PSV	AltX - Machinery: Industrial	Sep 1 2020	Sep 1 2020	JSE listing requirements: financial statements. Placed into BRP March 16 2020. BRPs have applied for liquidation
Sable Exploration and Mining	General Mining	Aug 13 2025	Aug 13 2025	JSE listing requirements: financial statements
Sail Mining Group	AltX - General Mining	Jul 18 2022	Jul 18 2022	JSE listing requirements: financial statements
Salungano Group	Coal	Aug 21 2023	Aug 21 2023	JSE listing requirements: financial statements
Soapstone Investments	AltX - Diamonds & Gemstones	Nov 21 2016	Nov 18 2016	Suspension of Diamondcorp - Guarantor on Notes
Tongaat Hulett	Sugar	Jul 19 2022	Jul 20 2022	JSE listing requirements. BRP announced Oct 27 2022
Trustco Group	Diversified Financial Services	Jan 23 2025	Jan 23 2025	JSE listing requirements: financial statements
Wesizwe Platinum	Platinum & Precious Metals	Jun 3 2025	Jun 3 2025	JSE listing requirements: financial statements

LIQUIDATIONS

COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	STATUS
allaboutXpert Australia (Adcorp)	Business Training & Employment Agencies	Dec 14 2022	Placed into voluntary administration on Dec 12 2022
Constantia Insurance Company (Conduit Capital)	Full Line Insurance	Sep 14 2022	Provisional liquidation order granted Sep 13 2022
Ellies Holdings	Electrical Components	Jan 31 2024	Voluntary business rescue unsuccessful. Liquidation to proceed
Murray & Roberts Holdings	Engineering and Contracting Services	Aug 15 2025	Final liquidation order granted Oct 27 2025
MV Fire Protection Services (previously Jasco Security and Fire Solutions) [Jasco]	Computer Services	Oct 19 2022	Placed in liquidation by Jasco Electronics
PSV	AltX	Apr 16 2024	Business rescue unsuccessful. Provisional liquidation proceeding Apr 16 2024

BUSINESS RESCUE PROCEEDINGS

COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	STATUS
Rebosis Property Fund	Retail REITs	Aug 26 2022	Listing terminated Jul 18 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

NAME CHANGES

COMPANY	NEW NAME	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Altvest Capital	The Africa Bitcoin Corporation	Diversified Financial Services	Sep 8 2025	Sep 23 2025
Altvest Capital A	The Africa Bitcoin Corporation A	Diversified Financial Services	Sep 8 2025	Sep 23 2025
Altvest Capital B	The Africa Bitcoin Corporation B	Diversified Financial Services	Sep 8 2025	Sep 23 2025
Altvest Capital C	The Africa Bitcoin Corporation C	Diversified Financial Services	Sep 8 2025	Sep 23 2025
Blue Label Telecoms	Blu Label Unlimited	Telecommunications Services	Jul 11 2025	Sep 3 2025
Capital Appreciation	Araxi	Computer Services	Sep 5 2025	Oct 1 2025
HomeChoice International	Weaver Fintech	Diversified Retailers	Jun 19 2025	Jul 23 2025
Mantengu Mining	Mantengu	AltX - Machinery: Industrial	Jul 14 2025	Sep 10 2025
PBT Group	PBT Holdings	Computer Services	Sep 5 2025	Nov 14 2025

CHANGE IN SECTOR

COMPANY	SECTOR	NEW SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Cilo Cybin	AltX - Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	Main Board - Open End and Miscellaneous Investment Vehicles	Sep 26 2025	Sep 29 2025

SHARE SPLIT

COMPANY	SECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES	RATIO	NEW NO OF SHARES	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Naspers A	not listed	961 000	1:5	4 806 000	Sep 15 2025	Oct 6 2025
Naspers N	Consumer Digital Services	164 431 000	1:5	783 585 000	Sep 15 2025	Oct 6 2025

INCREASE IN AUTHORISED SHARE CAPITAL

COMPANY	SECTOR	NO OF SHARES	PRICE PER SHARE	AUTHORISED CAPITAL	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
Naspers A	not listed	6 000 000	no par	7 500 000	Sep 15 2025
Naspers N	Consumer Digital Services	1 200 000 000	no par	1 500 000 000	Sep 15 2025

SHARE CONSOLIDATION

COMPANY	SECTOR	NUMBER OF SHARES	RATIO	NEW NO OF SHARES	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	EFFECTIVE DATE
Anglo American	General Mining	1 337 577 913	109 : 96	1 178 050 272	Apr 8 2025	Jun 1 2025

PROFIT WARNINGS

COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
Accelerate Property Fund	Retail REITs	Jul 30	Aveng	Construction	Aug 15
African Rainbow Minerals	General Mining	Sep 4	Bell Equipment	Commercial Vehicles & Parts	Sep 1
AfroCentric Investment	Health Care Management Services	Sep 1	Choppies Enterprises	Food Retailers & Wholesalers	Sep 17
ArcelorMittal South Africa	Iron & Steel	Jul 14	Curro	Education Services	Aug 21
Aspen Pharmacare	Pharmaceuticals	Aug 21	Gemfields	Diamonds & Gemstones	Sep 23

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

PROFIT WARNINGS (Continued)

COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE	COMPANY	SECTOR	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
Hulamin	Aluminium	Aug 22	Randgold & Exploration	Gold Mining	Aug 21
Impala Platinum	Platinum & Precious Metals	Aug 11	Renergen	AltX - Alternative Fuels	Sep 22
KAP	Diversified Industrials	Aug 13	South Ocean	Electrical Components	Aug 15
Master Drilling	General Mining	Aug 14	Super Group	Transportation Services	Aug 29
Merafe Resources	General Mining	Jul 25	Thungela Resources	Coal	Aug 8
Metair Investments	Auto Parts	Aug 7	Trellidor	Building Materials : Other	Aug 28
Metrofile	Professional Business Support Services	Aug 28	Truworths International	Apparel Retailers	Aug 13
Mpact	Containers & Packaging	Jul 16	Valterra	Platinum & Precious Metals	Jul 18
Northam Platinum	Platinum & Precious Metals	Aug 18	Visual International	AltX - Real Estate Holding & Development	Sep 25
Oceana	Farming Fishing Ranching & Plantations	Sep 15	Wesizwe Platinum	Platinum & Precious Metals	Sep 26
			Woolworths	Diversified Retailers	Jul 31

CAUTIONARIES Q3 2025

COMPANY	FIRST CAUTIONARY	NO OF SUBSEQUENT CAUTIONARIES	ANNOUNCEMENT	TERMINATED	COMPANY	FIRST CAUTIONARY	NO OF SUBSEQUENT CAUTIONARIES	ANNOUNCEMENT	TERMINATED
Accelerate Property Fund	21.7.2025		8.8.2025		Metrofile	26.3.2025	4	17.9.2025	
Acsion	27.3.2025	2		17.7.2025	MTN Zakhele Futhi (RF)	22.8.2025			
Adcock Ingram	22.7.2025		23.7.2025		Mahube Infrastructure	26.8.2025			
ArcelorMittal South Africa	19.3.2025	6			Mantengu	11.9.2025			
Ascendis Health	12.9.2025				PSV Holdings	26.2.2020	51	suspended 1/9/2020 in provisional liquidation	
Blue Label Telecoms	16.5.2025	2	1.9.2025		Spear REIT	23.7.2025			
Conduit Capital	21.6.2022	28	suspended 21/9/2022		TWK Investments	11.4.2025	6		
Copper 360	29.7.2025	1			Tongaat Hulett	19.4.2022	34	suspended 19/7/2022	
Gaia Renewables 1	7.2.2025	5	4.7.2025		Trustco	20.1.2025	6	suspended 23/1/2025	
Hulamin	18.8.2025	1			Vunani	18.9.2025			
Labat Africa	15.7.2025	1							
Libstar	16.9.2025								

DEALS THAT DIDN'T

NATURE OF DEAL	PARTIES	ASSET	ESTIMATED DEAL VALUE	ANNOUNCEMENT DATE
Disposal by	Stefanutti Stocks to CCG-Compass Consulting Group	businesses in Mozambique and Mauritius	\$13,5m	Sep 14 2022
Acquisition by	Sun International South Africa (Sun International)	Peermont Group	R3,24bn	Dec 18 2023
Disposal by	Nampak Southern Africa (Nampak) to TSL	51,43% stake in Nampak Zimbabwe	\$25m	Oct 22 2024
Disposal by	Anglo American to Peabody Energy	portfolio of steelmaking coal mines in Australia	\$2,05bn	Nov 25 2024
Acquisition by	Sana Bidco (Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co and Stonepeak Partners JV) from minority shareholders	Assura plc	£1,7bn	Apr 9 2025
Acquisition by	Hyprop from MAS minorities	50% plus 1 share stake in MAS plc	R8,6bn	Jul 18 2025
Disposal by	Sargras (Deneb Investments) to Earth Instyle	property at 195 Leicester Road, Mobeni in Durban	R48,5m	Aug 1 2025



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Individual DealMaker of the Year 2025

The award will be unveiled at the
Annual Awards on February 19, 2026

- This year will be the 18th year in which this award will be made to an individual judged by his/her peers and the Independent Selection Panel, to have provided an exemplary and outstanding service to the industry.
- DealMakers' Advisory Board knows that this award may be controversial but has concluded that individuals are entitled to recognition for the services they provide to an expanding and vital element of the South African economy. This award is not confined solely to those who work for corporate finance firms or units.
- Companies and units are asked to nominate individuals from their own firm by way of detailed motivations. For each individual nominated from their own team, firms must nominate a peer within the M&A industry. From these nominations the Independent Selection Panel produces a short list. Biographical information on each candidate, along with the formal nominations, is collated for the Panel.
- **Nominations close at 12h00 on Friday, 21 November 2025, with no extensions.**
- The announced Individual DealMaker of the Year will receive a framed certificate, a specially minted one-ounce platinum/gold medal, and an inscribed floating trophy.



INDIVIDUALS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

Individual DealMaker of the Year

- **High profile deals/transactions** – that the DealMaker was involved in, particularly in the last year but also the last three.
- **DealMaker's contribution to the deals** – How important was the individual's contribution to the structure and conclusion of the deals?
- **Execution complexity** – the deal/s in which the individual is involved - does the overall deal or transaction involve multiple steps/a number of smaller inter-related deals? Are there numerous conditions precedent that need to be fulfilled? Does it involve many and/or complex regulatory approvals? Are there related debt/equity raising processes and how difficult are they to implement? Was there significant time pressure to conclude the deal/transaction? Did the deal/ transaction exhibit innovative structuring?
- **Peer recognition** – is the DealMaker well regarded by fellow advisors, clients and the industry in general?

**Please submit all nominations to marylou@gleason.co.za
by 12h00 on Friday, November 21, 2025.**

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Deal of the Year 2025

The award will be unveiled at the
Annual Awards on February 19, 2026

- This year will be the 25th year in which this award will be made.
- Deals may be nominated through detailed submissions by the advisory firms involved. To qualify, **the deal must have been announced during the 2025 calendar year** (closing is not required). DealMakers, in consultation with the Independent Selection Panel, will prepare a shortlist of qualifying transactions.
- **Nominations close at 12h00 on Friday, 21 November 2025, with no extensions.** Where qualifying deals are announced after this date, DealMakers must be informed in advance, and full details submitted no later than **19 December 2025.**
- The winning deal will receive a framed certificate, a specially minted one-ounce platinum/gold medal, and an inscribed floating trophy.



NOMINATIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

Deal of the Year – (by a South African company)

- **Transformational transaction** – does the deal or transaction transform the business or even the industry in which it operates? What is the extent of potential transformation as a result?
- **Execution complexity** – does the overall deal or transaction involve multiple steps/a number of smaller interrelated deals? Are there numerous conditions precedent that need to be fulfilled? Does it involve many and/or complex regulatory approvals? Are there related debt/equity raising processes and how difficult are they to implement? Was there significant time pressure to conclude the deal/transaction? Did the deal/transaction exhibit innovative structuring?
- **Deal size** – not an over-riding determinant but a significant factor.
- **Potential value creation** – to what extent could shareholders and other stakeholders benefit from the transaction over time?

Please submit all nominations to marylou@gleason.co.za by 12h00 on Friday, November 21, 2025.

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Catalyst Private Equity Deal of the Year 2025

The award will be unveiled at the
Annual Awards on February 19, 2026

- This year will be the 21st year in which this award will be made.
- Deals may be nominated through detailed submissions by the advisory firms involved. To qualify, **the deal must have been announced during the 2025 calendar year (the deal does not necessarily have to be closed)**. DealMakers, in consultation with the Independent Selection Panel, will prepare a shortlist of qualifying transactions.
- **Nominations close at 12h00 on Friday, 21 November 2025**, with **no extensions**. Where qualifying deals are announced after this date, DealMakers must be informed in advance, and full details submitted no later than **19 December 2025**.
- The winning deal will receive a framed certificate, a specially minted one-ounce platinum/gold medal, and an inscribed floating trophy.



NOMINATIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

Private Equity Deal of the Year

- **Asset with good private equity characteristics** – cashflow generative business and able to service an appropriate level of debt? A business model that is resilient to competitor action and downturns in the economic cycle? Strong management team that is well aligned with shareholders and capable of managing a private equity balance sheet? Predictable capex requirements that can be appropriately funded?
- **Deal size** – is a factor to filter deals but plays a limited role for acquisitions. It does carry more weight for exits.
- **Potential/actual value creation** – Was the asset acquired at an attractive multiple? If the deal is an exit, was it sold at an attractive price? What is the estimated times money back and/or internal rate of return?

Please submit all nominations to marylou@gleason.co.za by 12h00 on Friday, November 21, 2025.

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BEE Deal of the Year 2025

The award will be unveiled at the
Annual Awards on February 19, 2026

- This year will be the 7th year in which this award will be made.
- Deals may be nominated through detailed submissions by the advisory firms involved. To qualify, **the deal must have been announced during the 2025 calendar year** (closing is not required). DealMakers, in consultation with the Independent Selection Panel, will prepare a shortlist of qualifying transactions.
- **Nominations close at 12h00 on Friday, 21 November 2025**, with no extensions. Where qualifying deals are announced after this date, DealMakers must be informed in advance, and full details submitted no later than **19 December 2025**.
- The winning deal will receive a framed certificate, a specially minted one-ounce platinum/gold medal, and an inscribed floating trophy.



NOMINATIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:

BEE Deal of the Year

- **Transformational transaction** – does the deal or transaction transform the business or even the industry in which it operates? What is the extent of potential transformation as a result?
- **Execution complexity** – does the overall deal or transaction involve multiple steps/a number of smaller interrelated deals? Are there numerous conditions precedent that need to be fulfilled? Does it involve many and/or complex regulatory approvals? Are there related debt/equity raising processes and how difficult are they to implement? Was there significant time pressure to conclude the deal/transaction? Did the deal/transaction exhibit innovative structuring?
- **Deal size** – not an over-riding determinant but a significant factor.
- **Potential value creation** – to what extent could shareholders and other stakeholders benefit from the transaction over time?

Please submit all nominations to marylou@gleason.co.za by 12h00 on Friday, November 21, 2025.

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Business Rescue Transaction of the Year 2025

The award will be unveiled at the
Annual Awards on February 19, 2026

- This year will be the 6th year in which this award will be made.
- Deals may be nominated through detailed submissions by the advisory firms involved. To qualify, **the successful conclusion of the BR process must have been announced during the 2025 calendar year**. DealMakers, in consultation with the Independent Selection Panel, will prepare a shortlist of qualifying transactions.
- **Nominations close at 12h00 on Friday, 21 November 2025, with no extensions.** Where qualifying deals are announced after this date, DealMakers must be informed in advance, and full details submitted no later than **19 December 2025**.
- The winning deal will receive a framed certificate, a specially minted one-ounce platinum/gold medal, and an inscribed floating trophy.



**NOMINATIONS WILL BE JUDGED ON THE
FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

Business Rescue Transaction of the Year

- **Execution complexity** – nature of the BR process (restructure, sale of assets etc.) If assets sold, was it as a whole or broken up and sold off in parts? Were there numerous parties/multiple bids involved? What criteria was used to achieve the ultimate outcome? Did it involve many and/or complex regulatory approvals?
- **Transformational transaction** – did the transaction save the business or even the industry in which it operates? Did the transaction strike a balance between divergent and competing interests? To what degree were the various stakeholders accommodated?
- **Time frame** – was the process successfully completed within an acceptable time frame?
- **What were the positive take aways from the transaction?**

**Please submit all nominations to marylou@gleason.co.za
by 12h00 on Friday, November 21, 2025.**

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South Africa's equity capital markets – in terminal decline or turning a corner?

Richard Stout

For even the most casual of observers, it would be easy to believe that the South African equity capital markets are in a state of gradual and irreversible decline.

We have all seen headlines lamenting the seemingly inexorable wave of delistings (and the corresponding lack of new listings to fill the void), denouncing the penal costs

of getting and then staying listed, and bemoaning the endless red tape that stymies corporate action within the listed environment.

While these headlines may be somewhat sensationalist by design, the claims are not completely lacking in substance. For

example, since the end

of 2018, Johannesburg Stock Exchange (JSE) data confirms that the number of companies listed on the Main Board of the JSE has reduced by almost a quarter, falling from 326 to 250, with blue chip names such as Imperial Logistics, Liberty, Massmart, Medi-Clinic and Distell among those that have departed.

Offsetting these debits, the credit column contains only two initial public offerings (IPOs) that have raised R1bn or more in that period – Premier Group and Boxer. And while markets such as the UK and US saw a wave of proactive, 'safety first' capital raisings in the midst of the COVID

pandemic to insulate balance sheets against the unknown, many companies on the JSE sat tight, in no small part due to the fact that they would have needed to go through the lengthy process of seeking shareholder approval before being able to raise capital.

The net result is that since the beginning of 2018, we have had six of the seven quietest years of equity issuance in the last twenty years.

While the above does indeed paint a gloomy picture and lend support to the claims of a failing equity market, context is everything. The lack of capital raising activity, whether via IPO or follow-on activity, is far less of a surprise when assessed against the backdrop of the tepid economic growth that has characterised this period.

This can largely be attributed to various factors including, but not limited to, the slow pace of government reform, increased sovereign indebtedness, political instability, geopolitics, and signs that globalisation is being eschewed for more nationalistic foreign and economic policies.

It is this backdrop and the uncertain outlook it has created that has given listed corporates every encouragement to become more inwardly focused, driving efficiencies and cutting costs as a means of increasing net earnings, and deferring big capital expenditure projects (whether organic or inorganic) for as long as the returns profile of such initiatives remains difficult to forecast.

Similarly, it has given those unlisted companies who have the luxury of choice, good reason to shelve their IPO plans



Stout

until they can show a stronger track record of growth and achieve a more attractive valuation upon listing.

To illustrate the impact this has had on South Africa's equity capital markets, one only needs to look at how much growth capital has been raised on the JSE since 2018. According to Dealogic data, only six companies outside the real estate sector have raised R1bn or more to fund growth, and capital raised across all sectors for this purpose accounts for less than 20% of total issuance volumes for the period.

This suggests that the dearth of activity is as much a function of absent supply as it is a failing marketplace, and an analysis of the market's response to the deal flow that has taken place of late appears to corroborate this conclusion.

In the last 12 months, we have seen four deals that have raised over R8bn – a notable pick-up in large cap issuance activity relative to the prior 60 months – and each of these

transactions has generated healthy levels of oversubscription and delivered attractive pricing for the selling shareholders.

Perhaps most notable amongst those four transactions is the most recent – September's R44bn placement of Anglo American's residual 19.9% stake in Valterra Platinum – a deal on which Standard Bank acted as Joint Global Coordinator.

Despite being the largest ECM transaction ever executed on the JSE, it achieved substantial oversubscription, with orders exceeding R250bn generated during the two hours that the deal was live. The facts that the demand originated from over 150 individual investors from South Africa, the UK, the US and Continental Europe, and that the deal priced at a mere 0.5% discount to the 3-day pre-launch volume weighted average price (VWAP) both illustrate that institutional investors sit on bountiful liquidity, and that their appetite for (and willingness to pay for) high quality South African equity stories is nothing short of robust.



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So wherein lies the truth? The fact is that equity markets are cyclical and, by extension, so are equity issuance volumes. While the most recent cyclical downturn has tested the patience of even the most hardened of ECM bankers, it remains just that: a downturn from which activity will recover.

With the market taking confidence from the incrementally improving political and economic backdrop at home, and adjusting to the seemingly new norm of a global backdrop characterised by ongoing geopolitical uncertainty and nationalistic policy, there are signs that confidence is slowly returning. With an IPO pipeline that

appears busier than at any time since the advent of the COVID pandemic, and with selling shareholders having reminded C-suites across the country that the market is open and operating efficiently, there are signs that we may be coming to the end of this latest cyclical downturn, and able to look forward to a sustained recovery into 2026 and beyond. ■

**Stout is Head of Equity Capital Markets,
South Africa & Sub-Saharan Africa |
Standard Bank CIB**



Business Rescue Practitioners: the dealmakers of the future

Tobie Jordaan and Jess Osmond

For many years, “business rescue” has been a phrase that made company directors and lenders uneasy. It carried the sense of failure, of a business reaching a dead end. In boardrooms, its mention often brought to mind job losses, creditor disputes and liquidation sales.

But that perception is changing. In South Africa, business rescue has evolved into one of the most effective and creative tools for restructuring and dealmaking. It is no longer merely a defensive measure to delay collapse; it has become a strategic process for unlocking value, facilitating acquisitions, and preserving businesses that would otherwise be lost.

At the heart of this shift is a new breed of professional: business rescue practitioners who are not traditional insolvency specialists, but restructuring specialists. They bring commercial and financial insight into distressed situations, often shaping outcomes that deliver real value. Increasingly, they are becoming the dealmakers of the

future; professionals who can turn moments of financial distress into structured opportunities for investors, creditors and employees alike.

Recent South African examples illustrate this evolution. The restructurings of Rebosis Property Fund, the sale of West Pack Lifestyle, and the earlier turnaround of AutoTrader show how business rescue can act as a bridge between crisis and opportunity. These are not stories of collapse, but of reinvention – of brands surviving and thriving under new ownership. They show how business rescue can serve both as a lifeline for struggling companies, and as a springboard for investors looking for structured opportunities in the distressed market.

Business rescue provides a legal and commercial “safe harbour” for companies facing financial pressure – a chance to pull off the highway, take stock, and chart a new route before getting back on the road. It gives



management the space to reorganise, while protecting against creditor action and creating a stable environment for negotiations. For investors, this creates a unique



Jordaan

opportunity. Deals can be structured within a regulated framework, with defined timelines and transparent processes. Buyers can often acquire assets free from legacy liabilities, allowing the business to restart cleanly and sustainably. Because the process is governed by statute and subject to court oversight, outcomes carry enforceability and certainty rarely found in informal restructurings.



Osmond

Unlike liquidation, where value is eroded and operations cease, business rescue is designed to preserve going-concern value. It protects employees,

maintains business continuity, and supports competitive sale processes that help achieve better recoveries for creditors. In an economy marked by volatility, weak demand and tight liquidity, that structure and predictability are invaluable.

The role of the business rescue practitioner has also changed significantly. Today's practitioners act as strategists, negotiators and facilitators – coordinating stakeholders, engaging investors, and managing the commercial process from stabilisation through to exit. Empowered by the provisions of Chapter 6 of the Companies Act, business rescue practitioners are uniquely positioned to design and

execute transactions that balance competing interests and unlock value. Supported by legal representation, they are financial advisors who, through the business rescue process, are also able to act, in many respects, as investment bankers — the glue that holds complex restructurings together.

In many ways, they are the navigators who help distressed companies find a new path when the road ahead seems blocked. By bridging the gap between law and commerce, practitioners have become key enablers of South Africa's modern restructuring ecosystem.

Business rescue also offers features that make it particularly suited to structured transactions. Outcomes are guided by a

statutory plan and subject to oversight, which reduces the risk of challenge or reversal. Buyers often acquire businesses free from old liabilities, providing a clean foundation for growth. The process itself is controlled and transparent, giving stakeholders visibility and confidence, while

structured and accelerated sale processes typically attract more bidders and deliver better value than informal distressed sales.

Two mechanisms stand out as powerful levers in this environment: post-commencement finance (PCF), and the acquisition of secured claims. PCF keeps a business trading through the rescue process, and gives financiers both repayment priority and influence over key decisions. For investors, providing PCF is often the best way to gain a seat at the table and help shape the direction of the

At the heart of this shift is a new breed of professional: business rescue practitioners who are not traditional insolvency specialists, but restructuring specialists. They bring commercial and financial insight into distressed situations, often shaping outcomes that deliver real value.



restructuring. Similarly, acquiring secured claims – as seen in the Murray & Roberts restructuring – allows investors to step into the position of major creditors. With that voting power comes the ability to drive outcomes that preserve value and create long-term strategic advantage.

The message for boards and investors is clear: business rescue is not the end of the road; it is a reset button. It creates the space for reinvention, the structure for credible transactions, and the framework for real value recovery. Those who learn to engage early – by identifying distressed assets, providing PCF, acquiring claims, and

partnering with practitioners – will be best placed to seize the opportunities that these processes create.

When the market begins to see business rescue through this positive lens, business rescue practitioners will rightly be recognised as the dealmakers of the future; the professionals who help turn financial dead ends into new routes, and guide South African businesses back onto the road to recovery. ■

Jordaan is a Partner and Osmond a Senior Associate | Bowmans South Africa



Assessing the risk of the culture to be acquired

Lindy Taylor

Everyone enjoys a growth story, and mergers and acquisitions (M&A) often stand out as the fastest way to scale effectively. Whether it's snapping up a competitor, expanding into new markets or acquiring new capabilities, the appeal of an M&A deal is clear. However, beneath the spreadsheets and legal jargon lies a major risk that is often overlooked: the company culture being acquired.

Even the strongest financials, the best product fit, and the most promising synergy projections cannot compensate for a toxic culture. The 2025 Culture Killers Report by Cape Town-based consulting firm 5th Discipline surveyed 150+ professionals in South Africa's fast-growing climate change sector, a sector attracting increasing investment. The report reveals that poor culture and weak leadership drive employee disengagement and turnover, which can severely undermine ROI. Disengaged employees are estimated to cost companies upwards of 30% of their

salary in lost productivity and related expenses.

South African M&A deals: the blind spot

M&A due diligence tends to focus heavily on financials, legal compliance, and market position. The most successful and profitable dealmakers, however, also give serious attention to company culture, due to the risks and rewards created by the people within the organisation being acquired. The Culture Killers Report highlights that nearly 20% of employees struggle to face work daily because of toxic cultures. These toxic environments often lead to domino effects – one exit can set



Taylor





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exhausted all
possibilities,
remember this
- **you haven't.**”

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off multiple departures as team cohesion breaks down. The time to hire takes, on average, three months, which means businesses may be suffering a two-month inefficiency period between departures and replacements.

Ironically, the harshest cultural critics are often those with long tenure and senior roles, who are precisely the key leadership and strategic talent buyers want to retain. This presents a significant risk to leadership value and organisational stability. Poor culture correlates with abysmal retention rates; nearly all employees in toxic environments leave within 15 months, while the average ROI on an employee is typically only realised between six to 12 months.

Under these circumstances, acquisitions can appear less like lucrative investments and more like costly liabilities that drain resources.

Money alone can't fix culture

A common response is to inject capital and appoint a new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or managing director (MD) to lead the acquired firm, hoping new investment and fresh leadership will spark a turnaround. Yet the Culture Killers data reveals that almost half of employees identify poor communication, lack of motivation, leadership trust and insufficient coaching as major leadership failings. Without addressing these root causes, financial investment is unlikely to translate into productivity gains or improved talent retention, especially where new leaders do not have trust capital.

Furthermore, replacing a CEO or MD alone does not necessarily solve cultural issues deeply embedded within the organisation. Entrenched behaviours, attitudes and feelings about the company persist far beyond leadership changes. It is entirely possible to invest millions yet lose the talented individuals and competitive edge that originally made the business valuable.

Culture as a core due diligence metric

For M&A to succeed from both strategic and commercial perspectives, culture due diligence must be as

comprehensive as financial audits, as many cultural factors are quantifiable in monetary terms. This entails detailed evaluation of leadership styles, employee sentiment, communication clarity, 360-degree feedback, retention, absenteeism, hiring, and training data.

The 5th Discipline report underscores that companies with engaged leaders and supportive cultures retain their talent longer. Nearly all respondents rating their culture 4/5 or higher reported strong retention beyond 15 months, which translates to three to nine months of additional ROI. Conversely, those who remain solely for compensation or job security tend to rate culture poorly and are more inclined to leave when better opportunities arise. Notably, pay and benefits were less commonly cited as reasons for leaving; the truth remains that *people leave people*.

Practical steps for M&As

Culture integration is notoriously complex, yet embedding cultural considerations throughout the M&A process can dramatically improve outcomes:

- ▶ **Culture audits:** Beyond financial due diligence, asking employees what they tell friends about working at the company reveals important cultural insights. Third-party culture assessments encourage candid feedback and uncover gaps early.
- ▶ **Leadership assessment & investment:** Conducting 360-degree reviews and online performance evaluations identifies leadership strengths and development needs.
- ▶ **Leadership enablement:** Training leaders in emotional intelligence, effective communication and coaching enhances their ability to inspire and retain teams through transitions.
- ▶ **Alignment workshops:** Facilitating sessions to unify teams around shared mission, values and operational practices fosters cohesion post-merger or acquisition.
- ▶ **Measurement & management:** Setting clear KPIs linked to engagement, innovation, productivity and career

development not only boosts retention, but aligns culture with business goals.

► **Transparent communication:** Maintaining open channels about upcoming changes and providing forums for genuine feedback builds trust and reduces resistance.

► **Tailored integration plans:** Recognising that culture cannot be “one-size-fits-all,” integration plans must adapt to different departments, experience levels and functions.

The bottom line: culture drives profits

Almost half of employees surveyed desire better communication and inspiring leadership, which the report identifies as essential for retention and productivity.

Investing in these areas leads to lower recruitment costs, heightened engagement and improved returns – precisely what shareholders seek after a deal.

Ignoring culture means embracing a high-risk investment where multi-million-rand acquisitions could backfire.

For South African companies targeting significant ROI in renewable energy M&A, culture is not merely a “soft” factor or “PR buzzword”; it is a critical commercial lever. Collaborating with specialists who can transform culture data into practical, financially tangible strategies unlocks enduring impact, agility and market resilience.

Before deciding to buy, merge, or invest capital in a net-zero economy business, it is essential to understand the culture being acquired, and ensure the readiness to lead, nurture, and invest in the people who will drive sustainable profits.

Within South Africa’s evolving business landscape, mastering the culture equation is where authentic, lasting financial value begins.

To access the report by 5th Discipline, follow this link: <https://the5thdiscipline.com/home/access-the-culture-killers-report/> ■

Taylor is the CEO & Founder | 5th Discipline

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The perils of oversimplifying technology due diligence in acquisitions

Rakhee Dullabh and Ridwaan Boda

Whether your company makes food, builds houses, manages logistics, sells products or provides services, your critical functions run on information technology. As such, it is no longer meaningful to draw a hard line between “tech” and “non-tech” businesses. In most businesses, sales and marketing depend on digital channels, operations rely on data and automation, finance sits on cloud platforms, and HR manages people through software. In practice, nearly every business is a technology business, and in transactions, technology should not be viewed as a side consideration – it is the engine of value and the source of risk. Yet in many acquisitions, especially by non-tech acquirers, technology due diligence remains dangerously superficial. Too many acquirers treat it as a checklist, while missing the deeper questions that determine whether a target’s technology is and can remain compliant, can scale, and can integrate easily, seamlessly and without undue expense.

IT as the business backbone

Modern enterprises are stitched together by technology. Cloud computing hosts enterprise applications; SaaS tools drive collaboration and CRM; mobile apps connect staff and customers; APIs integrate partners and supply chains. Even seemingly simple functions (like invoicing, timekeeping



Dullabh

and customer support) operate on digital rails. The more essential these systems become, the greater the legal and operational exposure if they fail, are misused, or are implemented without appropriate governance.



Boda

What to consider in M&A deals

The traditional, superficial approach to technology due diligence is fraught with shortcomings and, given the reliance that a business places on technology as part of its day-to-day operations, a simple glance at technology contracts is insufficient for a company to mitigate the risks.

1) How clean is the target’s technology stack?

Superficial diligence often stops at verifying that systems “work.” But functioning systems can conceal serious structural weaknesses. This, in turn, creates a myriad of risks, including integration paralysis (especially where the target has legacy and fragmented systems), vendor lock-in, hidden fragility, and valuation mismatch.

2) Overlooking cyber and data risks

Many acquirers still regard cybersecurity as an IT hygiene issue. In reality, it is a regulatory, financial and reputational risk zone, giving rise to issues such as



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inherited vulnerabilities, regulatory penalties, customer attrition (trust is easily lost by clients where cyber breaches occur), and operational disruption.

3) Underestimating technical debt

Every system carries “technical debt”, i.e. the accumulated shortcuts and legacy code that slow innovation and inflate maintenance costs. The risk to the acquirer includes unexpected capital expenditure, erosion of deal value (especially where high maintenance costs affect the EBITDA or end-of-support systems require replacement at significant cost), delayed synergies, and innovation bottlenecks.

4) Ignoring intellectual property (IP) traps

Technology value rests on ownership and control. Yet hurried diligence often stops at confirming that “the company owns its IP” and does not consider the hidden risks, such as unknown ownership claims (by staff or contractors), open source contamination, AI and data disputes, and jurisdictional misalignment.

5) Misjudging integration and scalability

A target’s systems may work well in isolation, but fail under the scale or compliance expectations of a larger enterprise. Most due diligence processes do not fully consider the risks in relation to integration costs, business disruption, compliance risks and cultural resistance.

6) The false economy of “light touch” diligence

Under deal pressure, acquirers often scale back on the diligence scope or timeline, especially on technology. This short-term saving often becomes long-term pain, especially where deal fatigue and distractions mean that hidden liabilities emerge after the deal is done, with an inability to renegotiate post-closing, resulting in reputational fallout.

A strategic approach to due diligence

Savvy acquirers are shifting from transactional to strategic technology diligence, treating it as a lens into capability, not just compliance. A well-structured technology due diligence

mitigates key risks by assessing the architecture – which reveals scalability and technical debt before it becomes a capital burden – and the cybersecurity posture of the target, with a view to quantifying its exposure and defining remediation budgets pre-closing. It also assesses the data governance framework by identifying unlawful or high-risk data flows early; the intellectual property ownership position, ensuring that the target has clear title to all software, datasets, and AI models; integration readiness (including predicting real integration cost and time); and the technical leadership, in order to gauge whether the engineering culture can deliver on post-deal strategies.

In practice, nearly every business is a technology business, and in transactions, technology should not be viewed as a side consideration – it is the engine of value and the source of risk.

Changing perspective

The ultimate goal of a well-structured and comprehensive technology due diligence is to transform the technology due diligence from a cost centre exercise into a predictive risk and value tool. Oversimplifying technology due diligence may save days on a timeline, but can cost years of recovery. In the digital era, the real liabilities are embedded not in balance sheets, but in codebases, data and dependencies.

For any acquirer, understanding the target’s technology landscape is no longer optional. It is the difference between buying an asset that accelerates growth and inheriting a liability that erodes it. ■

Boda is Head of Department and Dullabh an Executive: Technology, Media and Telecommunications | ENS



Control AltX delete? Is there still a place for the JSE's Growth Board?

Johann Piek

Launched in October 2003, the JSE's Alternative Exchange (AltX) was designed as a "nursery board" for ambitious small- and mid-cap issuers. Its purpose was clear: to give high-growth companies access to capital and a pathway to the Main Board once they achieved the necessary scale and maturity.

The AltX has, at times, delivered on this mandate. Several companies have successfully graduated to the Main Board, with Curro Holdings and Sirius Real Estate standing out as notable examples.

By February 2008, the AltX hosted over 75 issuers with a combined market capitalisation exceeding R28bn. However, since then, numbers have gradually declined amid a difficult macroeconomic environment, emerging peers, limited investor interest and weak liquidity, and the increasing allure of private capital.

This trend has not been unique to South Africa. London's AIM – on which the AltX was modelled – and other international peers have also seen waves of delistings and take-privates, coupled with higher cost of capital and lower valuations.

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Two bottles of Cederberg wine are shown in the foreground: a dark bottle of Shiraz 2021 and a lighter bottle of Sauvignon Blanc 2024. The background features a scenic view of a vineyard in a mountainous region, with a close-up of hands harvesting grapes and two men smiling in a winery setting.

To address this issue, the JSE has, over recent years, introduced reforms aimed at improving competitiveness and increasing investor appetite. Chief among these was the Segmentation Project, which split the Main Board into two tiers: the Prime Segment – catering to larger, more liquid counters under the traditional regime – and the

By February 2008, the AltX hosted over 75 issuers with a combined market capitalisation exceeding R28bn. However, since then, numbers have gradually declined amid a difficult macroeconomic environment, emerging peers, limited investor interest and weak liquidity, and the increasing allure of private capital.

General Segment, which offers a lighter touch, more enabling version of the JSE Listings Requirements, while still safeguarding transparency and disclosure.

The creation of the General Segment and the dwindling interest in the JSE's growth board in recent years raises important questions about the AltX's long-term future

within the JSE ecosystem. This article explores seven focus areas through which the JSE could enhance the AltX's role as a growth platform while supporting the strength and competitiveness of South Africa's capital markets.

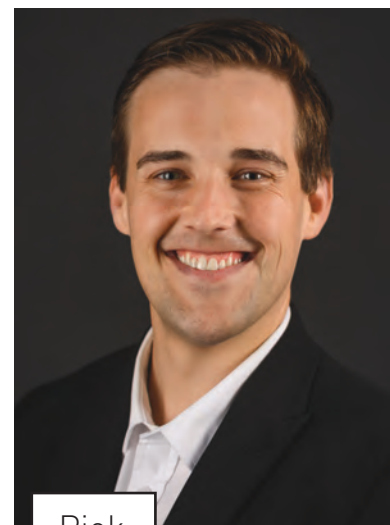
1. Roadmap the journey: JPP → AltX → General Segment → Prime Segment

For the JSE to truly unlock its growth potential, it needs to clearly map out the journey that companies can take as they evolve on the exchange – starting with JSE Private Placements (JPP), progressing through the AltX and the General Segment, and ultimately graduating to the Prime Segment. By positioning these boards as interconnected stages of growth, rather than isolated platforms, the JSE can demonstrate how it supports issuers at every step of their corporate lifecycle.

The JPP, as a digital marketplace for private equity and debt, should be marketed as the ideal pre-listing ecosystem. It enables companies to raise capital privately, while building the governance, scale and resilience

needed for a successful public listing. From there, a stronger, better-prepared pipeline of issuers can naturally transition to the AltX, revitalising the platform with credible growth businesses that attract investors and deepen liquidity.

Layering this roadmap with dedicated mentorship, governance training and global investor reach would create a compelling ecosystem that not only elevates the quality of listings, but also boosts market turnover and strengthens South Africa's capital markets. Over time, as issuers mature, they can seamlessly evolve from the AltX to the General Segment and, ultimately, to the Prime Segment – building a virtuous cycle of innovation, credibility and liquidity that cements the JSE as Africa's premier listing destination.



Piek

2. Unlock institutional investment

Ownership of JSE-listed companies is largely concentrated among institutional investors. For AltX-listed firms, this poses a challenge, as pension funds, asset managers and insurers are often restricted by mandates that limit investment in smaller or higher-risk companies, making it harder for AltX firms to attract significant capital. We understand that there are ongoing discussions in this regard, and continued active engagement between the JSE and representatives of South Africa's largest institutional investors will be essential to explore practical

mechanisms for addressing mandate restrictions and facilitating greater institutional investment in AltX-listed companies.

3. Incentivise, incentivise, incentivise

To encourage AltX participation, listing, trading, clearing and settlement fees for smaller issuers could be reduced or waived – similar to the 50% relief offered during COVID-19 – to lower entry barriers and stimulate liquidity. Simultaneously, investors could be incentivised through tax deductions, credits or capital gains relief, enhancing after-tax returns and making investment in AltX-listed companies – as major contributors to economic growth – more attractive and financially rewarding.

4. Rename, rebrand and market

A strategic rebrand could transform the AltX's identity and appeal. Just as Outspan Rusks became the beloved Ouma Rusks and BackRub evolved into the global giant Google, a stronger, more resonant AltX brand can

attract new businesses and investors. Coupled with a targeted marketing campaign highlighting success stories, growth potential and investment opportunities, the AltX can position itself as the premier launchpad for South Africa's growth-stage companies.

5. AltX-focused indices and exchange traded funds (ETFs)

Creating AltX-focused indices and ETFs could provide demand, improve liquidity, and increase investor participation. These products would also offer institutional and retail investors simplified access to the growth-stage segment of the market.

6. Educate

The JSE could collaborate with retail investment platforms to raise awareness and educate investors about companies listed on the AltX. Furthermore, through JSE-sponsored analyst coverage, the JSE can help lessen informational gaps among both retail and institutional investors.

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7. Rule Review

The JSE should undertake a detailed review of the AltX-related provisions in the JSE Listings Requirements to determine whether such provisions are still fit for purpose. A careful balance will have to be struck between ensuring sufficient protection for investors and not overburdening issuers with unnecessary obligations.

Conclusion

By implementing these strategies, the JSE can transform the AltX into a high-impact platform for early growth-stage companies. Its success is critical, not only for investors and

listed firms, but for a broad range of stakeholders, and South Africa's economy at large. A thriving AltX fuels growth, drives innovation, creates jobs, promotes entrepreneurship, attracts foreign capital, and strengthens confidence in the country's markets – helping to position South Africa as a truly competitive investment destination. ■

Piek is an Executive | PSG Capital



Beyond the ESOP: A shift toward practicality in public interest enforcement

Shawn van der Meulen, Lebohang Noko and Gina Lodolo

South Africa's merger control landscape has been undergoing a quiet shift, as the South African Competition Commission's (Commission) approach to public interest remedies evolves. After years of the Commission rigidly applying its "ownership" requirements, usually in the form of mandatory Employee Share Ownership Programmes (ESOP) imposed on merger parties – often with the associated delay of transactions and frustration of investors – the Commission has quietly started adopting a more pragmatic and commercially-aware approach to its public interest considerations. This transition (from its previously inflexible 5% ESOP benchmark established post-Burger King and the publication of its Public Interest Guidelines) to a more flexible approach represents an encouraging development for business.

The Commission's 2021 recommendation to prohibit ECP Africa's acquisition of Burger King (South Africa) and

Grand Foods Meat Plant (Pty) Ltd, because the transaction would result in significant reduction in ownership by Historically Disadvantaged Persons (HDPs) in the target, marked a significant moment. Although the transaction was ultimately approved through a settlement before the Competition Tribunal, the initial prohibition garnered much criticism for the Commission's rigid approach to the public interest criterion under section 12A(3)(e) of the Act. This provision requires that the Commission consider whether a merger results in the



van der Meulen



Noko

“promotion” of a greater spread of ownership, particularly by HDPs and workers (language that remains open to interpretation as to whether there is an obligation on parties to propose HDP and worker ownership in every transaction). To date, the Competition Tribunal has not

substantively opined on the scope or application of this provision, leaving its precise meaning and boundaries unresolved. This continues to generate debate among practitioners.

From 2021, the Commission adopted a rigid stance: that all transactions must promote HDP and worker ownership, and other public interest benefits could not offset any

ownership dilutions or neutral ownership positions. This approach gave rise to the imposition of specific ownership-related remedies, most notably the requirement for ESOPs as a condition for approval. At the time, the appropriate threshold to remedy

such dilution remained unclear, until the Commission published its Public Interest Guidelines on 20 March 2024. While these guidelines are non-binding, they introduced a de facto benchmark, signalling that a 5% (or more) ESOP would be regarded as the appropriate remedial measure for mergers which did not have any other positive BEE or HDP ownership component. This rigid approach and insistence on the imposition of ESOP “remedies”, even



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where there was no negative effect on ownership, was to the detriment of many deals, which either became too impractical or too costly for the parties.

The regulatory shift: From rigid requirements to pragmatic solutions

Recent developments reveal a nuanced shift toward pragmatism by the Commission. As evidenced by trends in its annual reports, and in our experience as advisors, we have observed that the Commission has begun adopting a more pragmatic, balanced and commercially-aware application of the public interest test. Notably, in transactions where there is no dilution of HDP ownership (or a neutral effect), the Commission has shown a willingness to forgo the imposition of a 5% ESOP or similar ownership remedies. In transactions where it is not commercially or practically feasible for parties to include ownership commitments, the Commission has been open to adopting alternative public interest remedies.

While the promotion of HDP and worker ownership remains a critical policy objective, the Commission appears more open to assessing deals on a case-by-case basis, and considering broader commercial and contextual factors. Increasingly, we are seeing mergers approved subject to a range of alternative public interest commitments, instead of ownership conditions, across the following three categories:

- ▶ Enterprise and supplier development, localisation and growth conditions involving commitments to procure products from local small, micro and medium-sized enterprises (SMMEs) and HDP suppliers.
- ▶ Employment and head office conditions, including moratoriums on retrenchments, the creation of new jobs, commitments to maintain aggregate employment levels, and training commitments, such as setting up learnerships and providing bursaries.
- ▶ Capital investment and production conditions encompassing commitments to invest in localisation initiatives, programmes to support and develop SMMEs and

firms controlled by HDPs, training, bursaries, new outlets or facilities, and reskilling initiatives.

From a transaction advisory perspective, this trend towards pragmatism by the authority is positive. It provides greater flexibility in structuring deals and conditions while maintaining public interest objectives, making the South African market more attractive to both local and foreign investors. The shift suggests that the Commission is aware

Recent developments reveal a nuanced shift toward pragmatism by the Commission. As evidenced by trends in its annual reports, and in our experience as advisors, we have observed that the Commission has begun adopting a more pragmatic, balanced and commercially-aware application of the public interest test.

of the need to balance transformation objectives with economic growth and investor confidence, an approach that better serves the complex realities of modern commercial transactions. However, merger parties must still exercise caution and carefully assess the commercial feasibility of any alternative

commitments offered or agreed with the Commission (which may still have a material financial impact on deal values and purchase prices), and not to over-promise on commitments which can't be delivered later. It is essential for dealmakers to understand and be advised on this evolving landscape when structuring transactions and strategically navigating competition approvals. ■

Van der Meulen is a Partner, Noko a Senior Associate, and Lodolo an Associate | Webber Wentzel

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South Africa's retail revolution

Ben Lowther and Mike Adams

In the shadow of South Africa's sluggish economic recovery, where GDP growth has hovered below 1% for several years and total retail sales growth has been anaemic, the retail sector is undergoing a seismic transformation.

Gone are the days of siloed shopping experiences; in their place, a bold revolution is unfolding. South African retailers, no longer content with capturing a single sale transaction, are now engineering comprehensive customer ecosystems that weave together shopping, delivery, financial services and loyalty into seamless digital portals.

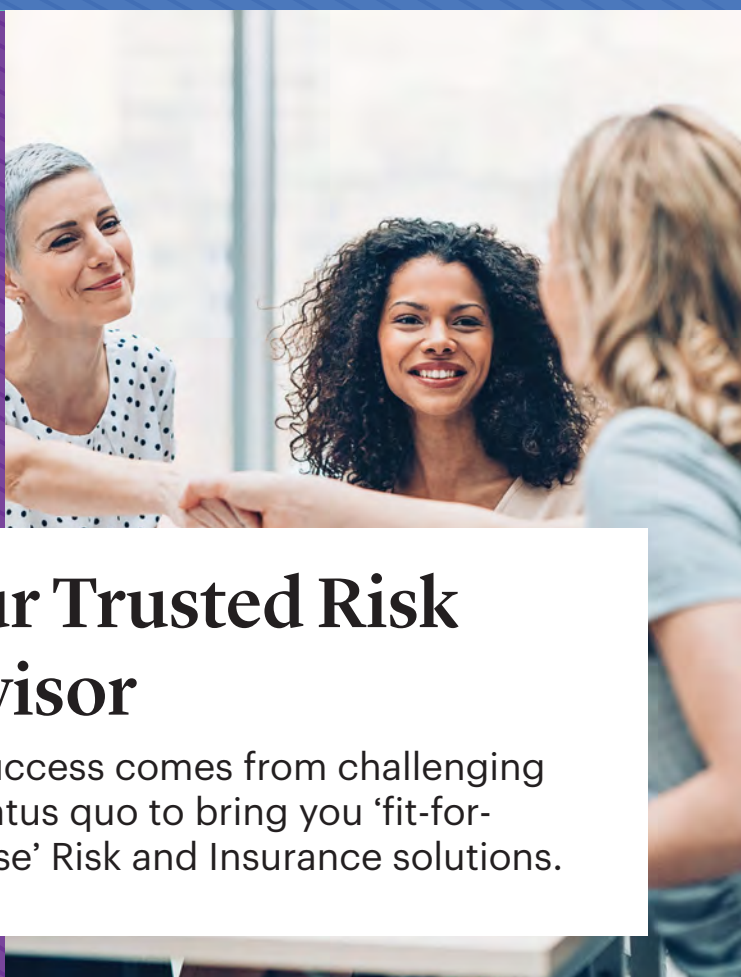
This isn't mere convenience; it's a calculated bid to dominate the "share of wallet" in a low-growth environment, where every rand counts. This shift is not just

reshaping consumer habits – it is likely to fuel a wave of mergers, acquisitions and collaborations that could redefine the power dynamics across the retail, banking and cellular sectors.

The ecosystem builders

At the vanguard are South Africa's major retailers, leveraging unique strengths to build multifaceted platforms and vying with SA's banking giants, cellular operators, and fintech players to capture spend.

Shoprite, via Checkers Sixty60, pivoted from high-velocity essentials to a full-service retail hub. What began as ultrafast grocery delivery now includes meal planning, exclusive deals and financial nudges, capitalising on the 20 million-plus daily customer touchpoints the group commands.



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Meanwhile, **The Foschini Group (TFG)** has deployed Bash to unify its retail portfolio (apparel, homeware and sportswear) into a lifestyle companion. Bash is a personalised curator of fashion, styling advice, credit offerings and rewards benefits, drawing on TFG's expertise to enhance customer retention.

E-commerce leader, **Takealot** has transcended pure retail by integrating its proprietary fleet and the Mr D food platform, resulting in an unparalleled logistics business. It is now expanding its suite of solutions to include a marketplace and fulfilment product to support other merchants' e-commerce offerings.

Weaver Fintech, having put financial services at the core of its business, leveraged its Homechoice retail legacy to build a two-sided marketplace. It now serves consumers with integrated retail and financial services (PayJustNow® Buy now, pay later (BNPL) and FinChoice credit), while expanding the e-commerce reach of over 3,300 merchants.

Starved of organic growth due to macroeconomic headwinds and high interest rates, retailers are aggressively encroaching on adjacent territories. Financial services, once exclusive to banks, are a lucrative expansion, with retailers eyeing BNPL, cryptocurrencies, embedded micro-loans and insurance to boost wallet share and lifetime value.

Accelerants and AI

The revolution is not happening in a vacuum.

It's propelled by South Africa's high smartphone penetration (surging past 90% of adults), which has turned every pocket into a storefront.

The real accelerants are infrastructural leaps. Delivery ecosystems have matured dramatically, especially in groceries, where same-day or even same-hour fulfilment is standard. Checkers Sixty60 boasts sub-60 minute delivery in urban hubs, far exceeding the capability and reliability of a decade ago. Fintech advancements complement this:

Peach Payments and PayU enable diverse, convenient payment options (including payments spread over time), while embedded insurance via platforms like Pineapple or Naked streamlines coverage.

Loyalty programmes have levelled up from punch-card relics to sophisticated engines of stickiness. Retailers have established branded Mobile Virtual Network Operators (MVNOs), adding products that offer airtime as a new loyalty currency. Integrated across apps, they offer tiered rewards, cashback, and personalised perks.

TFG's Rewards programme syncs with Bash, offering cross-category bonuses. This sophistication is a moat against discounters and pure-play e-tailers (like Shein and Temu), turning browsers into evangelists.

The emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) supercharges this by allowing retailers to build bespoke credit scoring solutions from transaction data, automatically match customers with financial products, manage large support volumes, and monitor for fraud.

Risks and collaborative imperatives

The evolution is intriguing due to incumbents attacking from divergent flanks, each informed by their DNA. Shoprite's edge is its grocery fortress: over 2,800 stores and private labels fund Sixty60, which mines data from



Lowther



Adams

frequent, low-value interactions to predict needs. TFG thrives on its diversified stable (Foschini, @Home and Sportscene), using Bash to curate “shop the look” experiences that blend online discovery with in-store try-ons. Takealot, the digital native, leads with scale and convenience: its 2024 marketplace, GMV, topped R50bn, bolstered by a fleet handling 10 million parcels annually, positioning it as a logistics backbone.

Yet, this ambition carries risks and opportunities for adjacent sectors.

Retailers’ finance foray poses a credible threat to banks, given their massive, overlapping customer bases. Shoprite alone serves 25 million shoppers monthly; imagine those distribution touchpoints laced with instant credit or savings tools, with zero incremental acquisition cost. Banks, with entrenched legacy infrastructure, must contend with “shoppertainment” apps that erode transactional primacy. Retailers, however, tread warily.

Unfamiliar with the labyrinth of financial sector regulations, and coupled with a cautious Reserve Bank, retailers risk missteps in compliance-heavy domains like lending or insurance. Fintech players, such as Weaver Fintech and Shop2Shop, are also providing services that may soon face heavier regulation.

We’re witnessing a proliferation of cross-sector pacts, blending retail’s reach with finance’s rigor. FNB’s eBucks partners with Pick n Pay (PnP) and Spar to amplify rewards (eBucks users spend 30% more). Shoprite’s tie-up with Absa embeds banking services (account openings, remittances) directly into its app, leveraging Absa’s regulatory expertise. Takealot collaborates with PnP on hyperlocal deliveries, merging e-commerce with physical store pickups. The latest is Dis-Chem’s partnership with Capitec to link financial rewards with health behaviour (Better Rewards).

These alliances are strategic imperatives. Retailers gain finance credibility and scale without building from scratch;

banks tap granular consumer data. For dealmakers, it’s a greenfield for advisory: structuring collaborations demands navigating commercial objectives, revenue/profit shares, administrative hurdles (like POPIA compliance), and anticipating antitrust scrutiny from the Competition Commission.

M&A and the future

Beyond partnerships, the revolution demands portfolio recalibration.

Retailers are divesting non-core assets to fund complementary bets: fintech stacks, AI-driven personalisation, and last-mile tech. Omnichannel mastery is non-negotiable: e-commerce must sync with bricks-and-mortar, as seen in TFG’s “buy online, pick up in-store” surge, which boosted conversion by 25% last year. Investments in drone deliveries (piloted by Takealot) and blockchain signal a future where efficiency trumps volume.

This convergence will likely drive cross-sectoral M&A activity. Scale begets scale: expect consolidation among mid-tier players, with leaders like Shoprite eyeing tuck-in acquisitions for fintechs or logistics startups.

Portfolio refinement will drive additions and divestitures (e.g., Pepkor’s acquisition of Retailability’s Legit and other brands). Collaborations will proliferate, blending retail with telco spectrum (Vodacom/Mr D Food) or insurtech innovators.

As macroeconomic clouds linger, those who master these ecosystems will own the wallet.

The question is not if more deals will flow, but who will orchestrate them. ■

Lowther is Lead Transactor and Adams is Head of Tech, Media & Telecom M&A | RMB



Blank shares and board powers

Navigating section 36(1)(d) of the Companies Act

Ian Hayes and Storm Arends

In terms of section 36(1)(d) of the Companies Act, No 71 of 2008 (Companies Act), the creation of “blank shares” in a company’s memorandum of incorporation (MOI) is not unusual. However, practical and legal uncertainties often arise in respect of the timing of the determination of the associated preferences, rights, limitations or other terms of those shares, the issuance of the shares, and the filing of the amendment to the MOI with the Companies and Intellectual Property Commission (CIPC).

Relevant provisions

S36(1)(d) of the Companies Act provides that the MOI may set out a class of shares which does not specify the associated preferences, rights, limitations or other terms of that class (Share Terms). The section empowers the board of the company to determine the Share Terms, and states that the shares must not be issued until the board has made such determination.



Hayes

In terms of s36(4), if the board acts in terms of s36(1)(d), it is required to file a Notice of Amendment of its MOI with CIPC, which sets out the changes effected by the board (Board Amendment Notice). We also see that this

constitutes an amendment of the MOI by the board in s16(1)(b) of the Companies Act.

An amendment to a MOI, as set out in s16(9)(b) of the Companies Act, takes effect (i) 10 business days *after receipt* of the Notice of Amendment

by CIPC, unless endorsed or rejected with reasons by CIPC prior to the expiry of such period; or (ii) such later date, if any, as set out in the Notice.



Arends

Analysis of relevant provisions

Once a board has determined the Share Terms, the question often arises as to when such shares can be issued. Given that the most common habitat in which blank shares are encountered is the preference share funding environment, more often than not, time is of the absolute essence, and every day counts. Particularly, the question is whether:—

- ▶ these shares can only be validly issued after the Board Amendment Notice has been “registered” by CIPC; or
- ▶ the company is able to proceed forthwith with the issuance of the shares after the board resolution has been passed, and only thereafter file the Board Amendment Notice with CIPC.

The question has become even more important and relevant pursuant to the Companies Act amendments which took effect in December last year. Those amendments effectively clarify that CIPC performs a similar reviewing and registration role which it had under the previous Companies Act – it now has 10 business days within which to accept or reject the resolution. A rejection can sometimes occur on extremely technical, administrative grounds, or due to an inadvertent mismatch between the company's and CIPC's respective records of what the share capital of the company is (there could be historical issues in this regard). This makes it vitally important to know when exactly the parties can go ahead and close the section 36(1)(d) issuance.

The Companies Act is regrettably ambiguous when it comes to addressing this question. A strong argument exists that the company is able to issue the shares once the Share Terms have been determined by the board, with an ex post facto CIPC filing. This argument is based on the grounds discussed below.

In terms of section 36(1)(d) of the Companies Act, No 71 of 2008 (Companies Act), the creation of "blank shares" in a company's memorandum of incorporation (MOI) is not unusual.

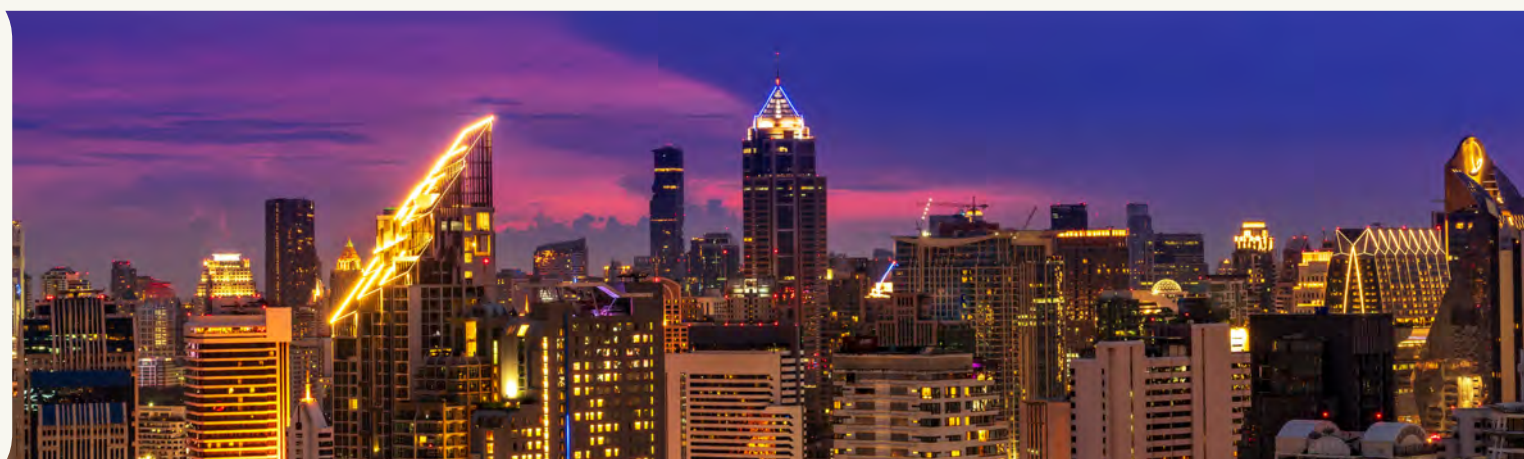
S16(9)(b)(i) of the Companies Act refers to an amendment of a company's MOI taking effect "*after receipt of the Notice*".

Considering s16 of the Companies Act as a whole, we note the Notice of Amendment is referred to in s16(7) and 16(9) only.

S16(7)(b) of the

Companies Act refers to the filing of a Notice of Amendment if a new MOI will substitute the existing MOI in terms of s16(5)(a), or the existing MOI is altered in terms of s16(5)(b). When we consider s16(5), we see that this section refers to amendments that were effected under s16(1)(c), which requires a special resolution of the shareholders, and not s16(1)(b), which deals with a board amendment. Consequently, s16 does not deal with the

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filing of the Board Amendment Notice where the MOI was amended by way of board resolution. Thus, a textual argument (albeit a tenuous one) may be made that (i) s16(9) only deals with the filing of a Notice of Amendment for amendments in terms of s16(1)(c) (special resolutions of shareholders), and that (ii) s36(4) is a different procedure that applies for amendments by the board as contemplated in s36(3).

Consideration of the language in s36(4) of the Companies Act, specifically that the Board Amendment Notice must set out “*the changes effected by the board*”, implies that once the board

resolution to determine the Share Terms is passed, the changes to the MOI are in law, “effected”. Therefore, the filing of the Board Amendment Notice is merely a formality for record purposes – much like the return a company files with CIPC, recording changes to its directorship. From a contextual and purposive perspective, this interpretation is also logical as the board’s powers are limited to an

amendment which relates only to share capital, with one of the obvious purposes of enabling the company to raise equity finance. Companies would normally require equity finance to be raised as quickly as possible, and without being delayed by CIPC’s processes. Therefore, given the context and purpose of s36(3) of the Companies Act, it is sensible and businesslike to interpret s36(4) as allowing the board to issue shares immediately upon determining the Share Terms.

S36(1)(d) of the Companies Act has given companies the flexibility to create “blank shares”.

However, the Companies Act remains ambiguous with regard to the timing of the determination of the Share Terms, the issuance of the shares, and the filing of the MOI amendment with CIPC.

The point above also garners support from s36(1)(d)(iii) of the Companies Act, which prohibits the issuance of the shares until the board has determined the Share Terms. This section does not require that the determination by the board be filed with CIPC and, thus, the only requirement prior to issuance of these shares is that the Share Terms be determined by the board.

However, it must be noted that regulation 15(3) of the Companies Regulations, 2011 requires the Notice to be filed together with any required supporting documentation and the filing fee within 10 business days after an amendment to the MOI has been effected in any manner contemplated in s16(1) of the Companies Act. As this regulation covers s16(1)(b) as well, the Notice with the board resolution which determines the Share Terms should be filed with CIPC within the prescribed time period.

Conclusion

S36(1)(d) of the Companies Act has given companies the flexibility to create “blank shares”. However, the Companies Act remains ambiguous with regard to the timing of the determination of the Share Terms, the issuance of the shares, and the filing of the MOI amendment with CIPC. While a strong case exists for the issuance of the shares the moment that the board determines the Share Terms, to mitigate any potential legal and compliance risks, we recommend that companies proceed with caution and only issue such shares after they have “registered” the board resolution with CIPC. Alternatively, if the parties really cannot wait, then the special resolution of the shareholders approving the initial MOI amendment should, in anticipation, include a specific reference to s38(2) which allows the retroactive authorisation of shares that were issued before their creation in law. ■

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Returns in South African solar

FEATURE: Where Private Capital meets family ambition

Q3 deal activity

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Where investable returns still live in South African solar

Willem Rautenbach and Lushano le Roux

The investment landscape for South African solar has evolved dramatically over the past decade, necessitating a relook at where returns are possible for investors.

Tariff compression, grid congestion and policy changes have shifted the centre of gravity away from price and toward execution, requiring investors to navigate transmission queues and increasingly complex offtake structures. However, with installed capacity expected to reach 12.2 gigawatts (GW) by 2030, expanding at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10.6%¹⁰ from 2025, the market remains an appealing investment prospect for those who can cut through the noise.



Rautenbach



Le Roux

(PPAs) at predictable tariffs through transparent auction processes, a structure robust enough to draw international capital. When Eskom stalled on signing Round 4 agreements in 2016, it exposed the vulnerability of the single-buyer model. Subsequent rounds became increasingly competitive, driving bid prices down from roughly R1,170 per megawatt-hour (MWh)² in Round 3 to between R420 and R490 per MWh¹ by Round 7. Margins tightened, and success began to favour players with strong balance sheets and proven execution track records.

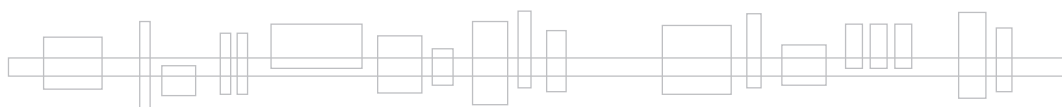
Policy liberalisation then opened the door to private and industrial offtake models, introducing flexibility, but also greater investment complexity. Diverse business models emerged, along with structural market shifts. Grid constraints, market liberalisation, curtailment risk, storage economics, and the rise of distributed generation are redefining the investment logic of the sector. Add policy developments to that mix, and investors have their hands full trying to find their next investment.

A changing market landscape: a brief history

In the early 2010s, the path to returns was more straightforward. Early Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (REIPPPP) rounds offered government-backed power purchase agreements

1. Grid constraints determine growth

Transmission bottlenecks determine which projects proceed, with connection queues, substation upgrades and node-specific constraints gating development. In Round 7, despite over 10.2GW of bids submitted³, only projects with credible grid access advanced, and



the Minister of Electricity and Energy stated explicitly that the grid has become a binding concern.

Eskom's transmission approval process averages 24 months for connection studies⁴, while its historical build rate of approximately 300 kilometres (km) of transmission lines per year⁵ falls short of the 2,500 km required annually to meet system needs⁹. The National Transmission Company of South Africa was established as a separate subsidiary with a R112bn capital plan over five years⁶, and a mandate to integrate about 56 GW of new capacity between 2025 and 2034. That requires roughly 14,500 km of new lines and 210 transformers⁶, representing a fivefold increase over the previous decade.

Execution risk remains material, but projects with early queue positions, credible substation upgrade plans, and the balance sheet to post guarantees have measurable advantage. Grid access has become a source of competitive differentiation.

2. Liberalisation opens the market to opportunities and complexity

The removal of generation caps and the emergence of a wholesale market are changing contracting and trading dynamics, particularly in the Commercial and Industrial (C&I) segment, where monthly or pay-as-consumed structures are gaining ground. These models expand access and stimulate innovation in trading and retail, but they also shift risk allocation, and require more sophisticated diligence.

Eskom's contested trading positions and evolving relationship with private generators add friction. While some curtailment protocols have been clarified, the interplay between transmission control, market participation and regulatory oversight creates ongoing complexity that investors must navigate carefully.

Returns now accrue to platforms that can manage contracting risk, shape exposure operationally, and build portfolios across multiple offtake models.

3. Daytime oversupply compresses tariffs and elevates storage

Rapid PV buildout has depressed midday prices in several regions, and curtailment (forced output reduction to protect grid stability) is being used to manage scarce transmission capacity. Revenue depends on shaping output to match demand curves and grid availability, not just contracted MWh pricing. REIPPPP Round 7 introduced a 10% curtailment cap⁴, replacing uncapped rights from earlier rounds, which creates bounded but material revenue risk that must be priced accurately.

Subsequently, batteries have become increasingly important. At grid scale, they stabilise supply and allow producers to dispatch when prices are higher, while in C&I installations, they mitigate curtailment exposure, optimise time-of-use tariffs, and provide backup during outages. Battery Energy Storage Round two showed 35% price compression versus Round 1¹, signalling both improving economics and rising competition.

Conservative models should assume realistic depth-of-discharge parameters, and account for augmentation typically required at year 8 to 10. Investors need to interrogate cycling regimes, degradation assumptions, augmentation plans, warranty coverage, and replacement cost pathways, because projects that treat storage as an afterthought carry downside risk.

4. Distributed generation remains a growth outlet

Behind-the-meter solar expanded rapidly, with installed private capacity climbing from roughly



2.26GW in 2022 to about 7.3GW in 2024⁷, a 220% increase over just two years.

Momentum slowed in 2024 as load-shedding eased and regulatory clarity lagged, with new project volumes down 60 to 80% year-on-year⁸.

Despite this slowdown, distributed generation remains compelling for equity because project cycles are short, exposure to Eskom's grid congestion is limited, and customers value the resilience premium that reliable onsite power provides. Individual assets generate modest returns, but portfolio speed and efficient origination can deliver strong risk-adjusted outcomes.

Municipal feed-in tariffs, now active in roughly 80 to 100 of South Africa's 257 municipalities⁸, allow surplus electricity to be sold back into the grid, creating an additional revenue stream that shortens payback periods and stabilises cash flow. Municipalities that formalise and standardise these tariffs represent the next frontier for scalable distributed portfolios.

Policy and market signals to watch

Supply and demand trends are not the only market forces at play here: investors must also take notice of the latest policy changes, which promise to impact the market even further.

■ Private transmission opening:

Government has introduced Independent Transmission Projects to allow private participation in grid expansion. Seven pilot schemes, covering about 1,164 km in the Northern Cape, North West and Gauteng are planned, with pre-qualification expected by July 2025⁹. If successful, this model could unlock stalled nodes and ease grid congestion; if not, grid scarcity will continue to limit new project growth.

■ Market design and regulatory reform:

The Renewable Energy Masterplan is beginning to give South Africa's power sector a clearer industrial and infrastructure direction. Efforts to formalise private participation and develop a wholesale electricity market could improve liquidity and project bankability over time. However, overlapping mandates and regulatory disputes show that reform remains uneven. Investors should structure deals to remain profitable under current rules, but flexible enough to benefit as reforms mature.

■ Municipal frameworks for distributed generation:

Local regulation will be decisive for the growth of commercial and residential solar models, such as solar-as-a-service and rent-to-own. Standardised tariffs, streamlined approval processes, and stable wheeling frameworks are essential to attract private capital. While regulation is still fragmented, a growing number of municipalities are setting early examples of how coherent local policy can drive replicable and bankable investment opportunities.

What this means for capital allocation

Returns no longer flow from favourable tariffs or cheap capital. They now accumulate to platforms that have developed three specific capabilities: (1) securing early grid queue positions and maintaining relationships with Eskom and NTCSA to navigate transmission approvals, (2) managing battery dispatch optimisation and degradation across asset lifecycles, rather than treating storage as passive equipment, and (3) structuring portfolios across multiple offtake models while maintaining construction discipline when grid capacity constrains.

Most developers lack one or more of these capabilities. Grid queues are long because



projects enter without credible substation upgrade plans or balance sheets to fund connection guarantees. Storage is being added to meet bankability requirements, but without in-house expertise to optimise dispatch strategies or manage augmentation economics. This capability gap creates genuine selection opportunity in what appears to be a crowded market.

For investors, this means evolving the diligence process. The critical questions become:

- Does the target have existing queue positions at substations with identified upgrade pathways?
- Have they successfully connected projects to constrained nodes before?
- Do they have in-house storage expertise to optimise dispatch and manage degradation proactively?
- Can they demonstrate discipline to slow deployment when grid capacity constrains?

Portfolio construction should favour concentrated positions in platforms with proven execution capability over diversified exposure

across earlier-stage developers. Execution capability is now the dominant success factor, and it's not evenly distributed.

Where returns live

South African solar is still investable, but it has become more selective. Returns are concentrated in platforms that can manage grid access, integrate storage effectively, and navigate contracting complexity.

The investors who will outperform are those who recognise that complexity creates advantage for platforms with genuine capability. Strong returns remain, but they belong to investors who can distinguish platforms that execute from those that merely promise to do so. That distinction requires rigorous operational diligence, and making that investment in due diligence capability creates an edge. ♦

Rautenbach is Vice-President and Le Roux is an Associate | Singular Advisory Africa



- ¹ Solar Wins South Africa's REIPPPP 7 Renewable Energy Auction, TaiyangNews (<https://taiyangnews.info/markets/south-africa-announces-preferred-bidders-reipp-7>)
- ² 2023 Large-Scale Renewable Energy Market Intelligence Report, GreenCape (https://greencape.co.za/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/RENEWABLE_ENERGY_MIR_2023_DIGITAL_SINGLES.pdf?utm_source)
- ³ REIPPPP: Grid challenges in SA limit rollout of new energy projects, ESI Africa (<https://www.esi-africa.com/renewable-energy/reipp-pp-grid-challenges-in-sa-limit-rollout-of-new-energy-projects/>)
- ⁴ Eskom clarifies the issue of "curtailment" for IPPs, CDH (<https://www.cliffedekkerhofmeyr.com/news/publications/2024/Practice/Corporate/corporate-commercial-alert-20-march-eskom-clarifies-the-issue-of-curtailment-for-ipp-pp>)
- ⁵ Eskom needs the private sector to help with its R200 billion load shedding problem, BusinessTech (<https://businesstech.co.za/news/energy/768586/eskom-needs-the-private-sector-to-help-with-its-r200-billion-load-shedding-problem/#:~:text=Eskom%20Chairperson%20Mteto%20Nyati%20said,service%20from%20the%20inside%20out.>)
- ⁶ NTCSA targets 'five-fold' infrastructure delivery expansion over next decade, Energize (<https://www.energize.co.za/article/ntcsa-targets-five-fold-infrastructure-delivery-expansion-over-next-decade>)
- ⁷ Rooftop solar, now at 7 300MW, overtakes all Eskom's IPP capacity, Moneyweb (<https://www.moneyweb.co.za/news/south-africa/rooftop-solar-now-at-7-300mw-overtakes-all-eskom-ipp-capacity/>)
- ⁸ Rooftop solar expected to rebound in 2025, Energize (<https://www.energize.co.za/article/rooftop-solar-expected-to-rebound-in-2025>)
- ⁹ South Africa Takes a Decisive Step Towards Private Investment in Power Grid Expansion, Africa Digest News (<https://africaenergynews.co.ke/south-africa-takes-a-decisive-step-towards-private-investment-in-power-grid-expansion/amp/>)
- ¹⁰ Solar Energy in South Africa Market Size & Share Analysis - Growth Trends & Forecasts (2025 - 2030) (<https://www.mordorintelligence.com/industry-reports/south-africa-solar-energy-market>)



Catalyst snippets

2025

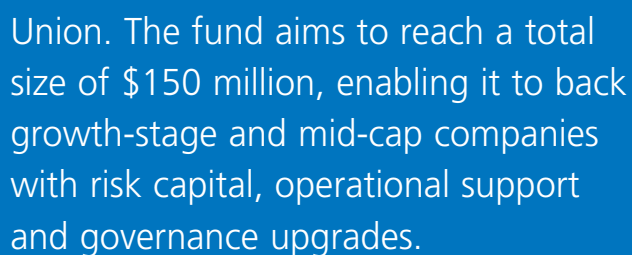
Climate Fund Managers (CFM), a climate-focused blended finance investment manager, closed its second blended finance facility, Climate Investor Two (C12), at R18 billion (US\$1,06 billion). The October close also marked the introduction of a Bridge-to-Bond mechanism, facilitated by CFM's partner, Sanlam Investments. The facilities structure includes a bridge loan from Sanlam Alternative Investments, supported by a guarantee from the European Commission. The mechanism creates a pathway for fixed income markets to access CI2's underlying asset base.

In October, Accion announced the final close of a US\$61,6 million fund, which will invest in early-stage fintech companies meeting the needs of financially underserved people globally. Accion Venture Lab Fund II builds on a decade-long investment strategy focused on delivering social and financial objectives through early-stage venture capital investments. The fund closed with commitments from both existing and new investors, including commercial and impact asset managers, development finance institutions,

foundations, family offices, and strategic financial service companies. Limited Partners in the fund include the Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank FMO, Proparco, ImpactAssets, Ford Foundation, MetLife and Mastercard.

Africa-focused alternative asset manager Enko Capital, with US\$1,3 billion in assets under management, announced the first close of its impact focused private credit strategy in October. It raised \$100 million toward its target of \$150 million at final close, with a hard cap of \$200 million. Investors in the first close included British International Investment (BII), the UK's development finance institution; IFC, a member of the World Bank Group; SICOM Global Fund Limited; one of Africa's leading asset managers and a European impact investor, alongside African pension funds and family offices.

The European Investment Bank is to invest US\$38 million in Tanmiya Capital Ventures Fund II, a private equity vehicle aimed at strengthening Egypt's private sector, while enhancing trade and investment links with the European



In September, 27four launched LoanChomi, a national township-linked economy fund aligned with South Africa's priorities for inclusive growth, job creation and broader economic participation. Structured as a blended-finance vehicle, the fund mobilises both institutional and retail investment to provide catalytic, fit-for-purpose finance and targeted enterprise support that helps scale-ready and growth-stage businesses to expand production capacity, deepen localisation, and integrate into competitive value chains. The mandate places deliberate emphasis on black women- and youth-owned enterprises, with a clear focus on delivering return on investment and impact, translating growth into work opportunities and measurable socio-economic outcomes alongside commercial performance.

Alliance for Green Infrastructure in
Africa Project Development Fund

(AGIA-PD), a fund managed by Africa50, announced in August the first close at US\$118 million, marking a major milestone in accelerating the delivery of green infrastructure across the continent. The fund aims to bring together public, commercial, and philanthropic capital to unlock early-stage investment for transformative, climate-resilient projects in Africa. AGIA's first close attracted leading investors, including the African Development Bank, the German Development Cooperation through KfW, the West African Development Bank, the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office, the Soros Economic Development Fund and the African Climate Foundation.

In July, venture capital firm HAVAIC announced the second close of its US\$50 million African Innovation Fund 3. Supported by financial services group Sanlam Multi-Manager, and with follow-on investments from cornerstone investors Fireball Capital and the SA SME Fund, the fund secured \$25 million in commitments. The second close coincides with the fund's latest investments into SAPay, and a follow-on investment into Sportable. ♦



Aligning Futures

Where Private Capital meets family ambition

An exclusive event designed to foster dialogue and collaboration at the critical intersection of private capital and family enterprise.

In today's dynamic landscape, the unique opportunities and complex considerations where these worlds meet demand focused attention.

Date Held: Wednesday 10 September 2025

Venue: The Venue Green Park



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The Agenda

Time	Type	Topic	Speakers
08:00–09:00	Arrival and registration		
09:00–09:15	Welcome	<i>Opening Remarks</i>	John Bellew, Bowmans
09:15–10:15	Panel discussion	The rise of African private capital in family-driven businesses. <i>Drivers and enablers for private capital investment, including private credit, venture capital and private equity</i>	Panellists: 1. Gomolemo Mangwathe, Zazi Capital 2. Ulrike Naumann, Bowmans 3. Arnold van Wyk, Standard Bank Investment Banking Moderator: Anthony McCardle, Benchmark International
10:00–10:30	Tea break		
10:30–11:15	Panel discussion	Capital & Legacy: Navigating successful private equity exits in Africa. <i>Transitioning to new ownership and beyond - the good, the bad and the ugly</i>	Panellists: 1. Gift Pule, Sanlam Private Equity 2. John Loubser, Benchmark International 3. Susi Astengo, Coach Matching 4. Jamie Surkont, Getworth Moderator: Joshua Janks, Bowmans
11:15–12:00	Keynote address		JJ Njeke
12:00–13:00	Lunch		
13:00–13:45	Panel discussion	Progress in a time of uncertainty - AI and trade winds <i>Current trends and impact on M&A and investment</i>	Panellists: 1. Martin Hopkins, Bowmans 2. Gys Kappers, Catalyst Digital Fund 3. Arie Maree, Ansarada 4. Warren Chetty, Boston Consulting Group Moderator: Samir Ellary, Bowmans
13:45–14:00	Closing		Andre Bresler, Benchmark

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FOREWORD

The Aligning Futures initiative was designed to bring together family business owners, private equity professionals, and institutional investors to explore how private capital can align with family ambition in Africa. The forum sought to bridge the gap between investors seeking opportunity and families pursuing growth, legacy, and sustainable value creation.

Across the continent, the modern family office is evolving beyond a traditional focus on wealth preservation. Today's emphasis lies in strategic capital allocation, driven by technology, data

insights, and a deeper understanding of Africa's unique market dynamics, regulatory frameworks, and government-supported initiatives.

By fostering dialogue among legal, financial, and entrepreneurial leaders, the forum delivered practical insights into structuring transactions, navigating successful exits, and shaping the next chapter of Africa's business landscape, one where private capital and family ambition move forward in alignment.

Marylou Greig | DealMakers

WELCOME - John Bellew, *Bowmans*

John Bellew is a leading voice in the world of pan-African private capital, including fund formation, mergers and acquisitions, management arrangements and acquisition finance. His expertise extends to public market mergers, acquisitions and listings, and he has led a number of take-private transactions.

John has advised prominent South African and international private equity houses on some of the largest private equity transactions undertaken in the South African and broader African markets. He has represented private equity borrowers and high yield lenders and has formed numerous private equity funds with a focus on South and Sub-Saharan Africa. On behalf of the South African industry body SAVCA, he has been involved in various lobbying activities, especially in regard to pension fund participation in private equity funds, taxation and exchange control.



KEY NOTE SPEAKER - JJ Njeke

JJ Njeke is a seasoned business leader with over 30 years of experience spanning investment, advisory and executive leadership in South Africa's corporate landscape. A former Partner at PwC and co-founder of Kagiso Trust Investments, JJ helped shape one of the country's most respected investment firms. He has served on the boards of several JSE-listed companies, including ArcelorMittal South Africa, Metropolitan, Momentum, MTN, Resilient and Sasol, and currently chairs both the Clicks Group and Motus, while serving as a non-executive director of Datatec.



CLOSING - Andre Bresler, *Benchmark International*

Andre Bresler, Managing Partner of Benchmark International South Africa, began his career as a mechanical engineer at AECL before spending 15 years starting, buying, and selling engineering businesses. After exiting his last venture in 2007, he shifted focus to business rescue and M&A, drawing on firsthand experience as an entrepreneur, acquirer, and investor. Over the years, he has authored and presented on innovation, commercialisation, and business sales across four continents. Andre has built strong global relationships with corporates, private equity, and family offices, helping clients unlock maximum value and achieve successful exits through Benchmark International's unique process.



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The rise of African private capital in family-driven businesses.

Moderator: **Anthony McCardle**, *Benchmark International*

Anthony McCardle has over 13 years of experience in the M&A industry, covering the full spectrum of sell-side advisory activities. He has developed bespoke marketing materials, supported businesses in their preparation-for-sale phase, and managed live-to-market processes, including direct client and prospect interactions.

These hands-on experiences have equipped him with the expertise to engage effectively with business owners considering a sale. Anthony focuses on communicating the benefits, risks and realities of the process, while highlighting the rewards of partnering with Benchmark International as their chosen sell-side adviser.



Gomolemo Mangwathe, *Zazi Capital*

Gomolemo Mangwathe has been an investment banker for 13 years, and has worked in real estate banking, real estate private equity, and leveraged finance in both South Africa and West Africa.

Prior to joining Zazi Capital, Gomolemo held roles as a credit analyst, investment manager, and transactor. He has built strong relationships with numerous family offices, entrepreneurs and founders.

In his free time, Gomolemo enjoys spending time with his family, watching all kinds of sports, and serving in his local church.



Ulrike Naumann, *Bowmans*

Ulrike Naumann, head of the South African Finance Practice at Bowmans, is a highly-regarded African finance lawyer with extensive expertise in a broad range of private capital transactions, including those involving private equity firms, family offices, and family-owned businesses.

She advises on complex debt restructurings and leveraged buyouts, with a deep understanding of the full spectrum of financing instruments, from syndicated lending to more specialised areas like structured finance and private credit.



Arnold van Wyk, *Standard Bank Investment Banking*

Arnold van Wyk is the Head of Equity Investments for Standard Bank South Africa. In this role, he leads the team responsible for providing tailored equity-investment solutions including mezzanine financing and fund-facility structures to growth-oriented businesses across Africa.

Prior to this, he has held senior roles in corporate and investment banking, giving him deep experience in originating and executing complex funding transactions in emerging markets.

Arnold holds professional credentials in finance, and has developed a strong reputation for bridging local deal-flow with international capital markets through Standard Bank's pan-African footprint.



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South Africa is experiencing a surge of interest and investment in family businesses

Ulrike Naumann is Head of the General Finance Practice |
Bowmans (Johannesburg)



The role of private capital in financing family business

South African family businesses are experiencing a surge of investment interest from private capital providers, including private creditors, private equity, and venture capital firms. This is largely because of the success of family businesses in the past 30 years, their increasing sophistication, and the significant wealth they've generated.

Many family business owners are now at the point where they are ready for the intergenerational transfer of wealth, pointing to a growing role for private capital investors.

If external capital is required, family businesses will need to assess who to partner with, and what their preferred capital structure should look like.

There is a 'natural tension' that tends to exist between private capital and family businesses. While both can gain from an investment relationship, especially a compatible partnership, their objectives may also be at odds in some respects.

Areas of common ground and divergence

An area of potential common ground and mutual advantage is that private capital providers typically offer family businesses the benefit of flexibility in financing terms.

Private debt providers may be able to offer longer tenors, capital payment holidays and interest rollovers, and less stringent financial covenants than traditional lenders. This is because private equity providers are able to structure their investments through different instruments, including ordinary shares, preference shares, convertible loans, and other structured investment instruments.

In addition, private capital providers may have a higher risk appetite than traditional financial institutions, bearing in mind that there is a direct correlation between the higher risk and the return expectations by private credit providers.

This is a price that some family businesses are prepared to pay for the flexibility of having funding tailored to their needs, strategies and timelines, which are often geared towards leaving a legacy and creating 'forever money' for future generations.

On the other hand, private capital providers may require family businesses to relinquish some of the control they have over their companies, which could entail giving up some of their equity.

Private capital providers may also have reservations about aspects of the family businesses they consider investing in, such as their governance and management structures, which may be less rigorous than they require.

Private investors may be flexible and less risk-averse than traditional lenders, but their objective is to increase the value of their investments, which may call for more structured, formalised governance, management processes and reporting practices than are currently in place.

Investable and lendable

To find strong partners and make family businesses as attractive as possible to investors, business owners should assess the readiness of their entities to go out and raise capital. Strategic readiness is essential before engaging with private capital providers. This means having a clear business plan and a well-defined strategy, including clarity on whether they want future growth to come from acquisitions or internal growth. Family businesses should also ensure that they formalise their governance structures, policies and procedures, develop strong reporting systems, and prepare management for the transition from being a family business to a business with a third-party investor in place. Professional advice is usually helpful in this regard.

When looking for a partner, they may seek those with a natural fit with the business, such as experience in the same sector, presence in industry networks, and expertise that can be tapped into. The right fit also means matching what the partner can offer with the requirements of the business. For example, a family business should not approach a bank if it requires flexible financing terms. Similarly, if it wants to maintain control over its equity, a private equity firm might not be what it's looking for.

When exploring the market and reaching out to potential investors, business owners should ensure that the negotiating team includes people who actually run the business. Investors are often more interested in meeting a hands-on team than dealmakers.

Finally, business owners should be aware that private investors will look beyond the visible elements of the business, such as financial results, to how the owner responds to stressors, such as a period of low or no growth.

Last word

Depending on its commercial needs, a business may well attract numerous types of capital, including private equity, private credit, and traditional bank loans. These forms of financing should therefore not be seen as exclusive, but can be brought together in a well-considered capital structure. ■

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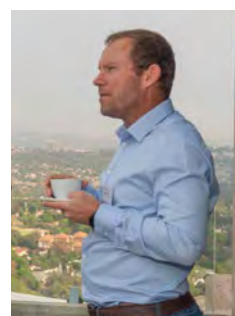
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“ What was your biggest takeaway from the event?
Ethical fund raising and networking platforms still exist. ”



“ What was your biggest takeaway from the event?
There is more private capital available to grow SMEs than I believed. ”



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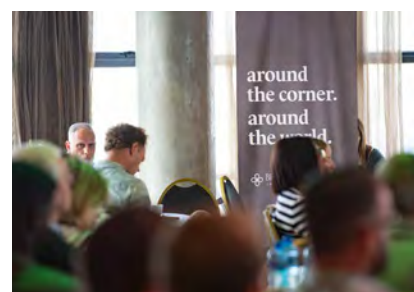
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“ What was your biggest takeaway from the event?
Private Capital is gaining a lot of ground in RSA. ”



“ What was your biggest takeaway from the event?
Realising that I am not alone! ”



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Capital & Legacy: Navigating successful Private Equity exits in Africa.

Moderator: **Joshua Janks**, *Bowmans*

Joshua Janks, a partner in the M&A and Private Equity practices at Bowmans, helps businesses grow by combining his transactional expertise with deep industry knowledge. He works with a range of clients, including private equity firms, family offices, and venture capital funds, and is particularly focused on the FinTech and Renewables sectors. As an expert in M&A, finance transactions, and fund formations, he is well-known for his cross-border work in Africa, where he delivers forward-thinking and practical advice.



Gift Pule, *Sanlam Private Equity*

Dr Gift Pule is a Senior Principal at Sanlam Private Equity (SPE), having joined the firm in 2020. He has over 10 years' investment experience, gained as an Investment Analyst at Value Capital Partners (VCP) – an activist shareholder firm in several JSE-listed companies – and at Allan Gray (Pty) Ltd, one of the leading asset management firms in South Africa. Gift holds an MBA, and a Doctoral degree in Medicine from the University of Cape Town. He served his Doctoral fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, Texas.



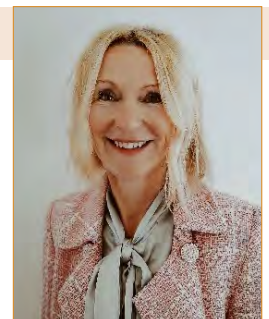
John Loubser, *Benchmark International*

John Loubser completed his BCom in Economics and Law, and a postgraduate LLB at the University of Cape Town, followed by an MPhil in Corporate Strategy at the Gordon Institute of Business Science. His career spans diverse areas of corporate finance, including cross-border acquisitions, private and public M&A, and upstream and downstream private equity. He has also worked extensively on project finance and general financial transactions. This broad experience has equipped John with strong strategic insight and transactional expertise, enabling him to advise clients effectively across complex deal structures and international markets.



Susi Astengo, *Coachmatching*

Susi Astengo spent 10 years as an International Management Consultant based in London, working across 37 countries around the world. She moved to South Africa in 2003, working for Deloitte. After seven months' market research into the coaching industry in 2007, Susi founded Coachmatching in 2008. She has been published in Business Day and other professional broadsheets, and received a number of awards. She was named Business Woman of the Year in the entrepreneurial category in 2016, and acclaimed for her work as a Woman in Technology in 2024, having built a world class platform for the coaching industry. Susi is a cancer survivor, a single mother of a 21 year old son, and a published author. Susi sold her business in early 2025, with the assistance of Benchmark International.



Jamie Surkont, *Getworth*

Jamie Surkont is a seasoned CEO, entrepreneur and strategist, with over two decades of experience building and optimising businesses. A natural problem-solver from a family of entrepreneurs, he has started multiple businesses some that succeeded and others that didn't. As the co-founder of GetWorth, he led the tech-driven automotive company from its inception to over R600 million in turnover. He's known for navigating complex challenges, from negotiating a R10 billion multinational transport contract to fixing an international investor's business, operating in a turbulent socio-political environment.



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Why exiting a family business is something to think about early on

Joshua Janks, Partner in the Private Equity Practice |
Bowmans (Cape Town)



For any founder, exiting their family-owned business can be a scary and emotional decision, but may be crucial to the sustainability and legacy of the business. Being deliberate about working towards an exit can help manage those issues and maximise outcomes for the owners.

A family business is for life and, hopefully, for the lives of that family's future generations. This is the intention of many founders of such businesses, who seldom imagine when they start out on their own that taking on a partner or exiting completely might one day be a possibility.

Private capital providers, on the other hand, are thinking about their exit strategy even before they sign the contract to invest in a business. Their aim in buying into an enterprise is invariably to build an even more successful business that can fetch the best possible return, five to seven years down the line.

But these approaches might not be as incompatible as they initially seem.

Being the founder of a business has been described as one of the loneliest jobs in the world. Founders often lack a trusted sounding board, and work exceptionally hard, causing fatigue. Alternatively, the vision of passing the business on to the next generation may dissipate if young family members pursue other career directions, decide to emigrate, or are simply uninterested in taking over.

In South Africa, only 30% of family businesses become second-generation businesses, and only 12% become third-generation enterprises.

A partner could be exactly what a business needs to enjoy a new lease on life and resolve the 'energy crisis' that some founders experience after many years at the helm. The right partner can bring in fresh energy and ideas, along with access to capital, networks and skills.

Is it only about the money?

The question is, will a new partner feel the same passion for the business as the founder has, or will they only care about the money?

The answer is that the right partner can do both – care about the business and focus on making it as economically valuable as possible – provided the business is already in decent shape.

At the Family Business event, we explored success strategies around finding the right partner to take an equity stake or buy the business outright.

Here are some of the points made during the discussion:

- A 'clean' business is a sellable business; i.e., a business with effective governance and management structures, good contract management, proper record keeping, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations, among other things.
- The business may have had these qualities all along, arguably because the founder adopted the mindset from the outset that they were building a company to exit. This mindset, if it has been translated into practice, can significantly increase the value of the business if and when the time comes to sell it.
- However, if there are shortcomings, it is imperative to disclose these to the potential buyer early on. Trust is critical in any deal, and private capital providers will almost certainly walk away if they feel important issues have been withheld.
- Many founders see their company as their 'baby', and have a strong emotional attachment to it. Understandably, revealing their child, warts and all, to an outside party can cause fear and anxiety. This is why it is so important to seek a buyer who will share the founder's vision and excitement for the business, be aware of the problem areas, if any, and still choose to invest. Interestingly, potential buyers are often more likely to be interested in a business whose owner is passionate about it.
- Do not underestimate the importance of strategic and cultural alignment between the founder and potential buyer. The right buyer should share the founder's values and culture, be excited about the business, understand the industry and its challenges, and bring in expertise the company currently lacks. Even the most successful and knowledgeable business owner has blind spots that the right partner can help to fill.

Finally, the earlier a founder starts to think about a future exit, the better for the business and its potential saleability – even if the founder has no intention of exiting right now. ■

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“

How has this event added value to you/your business?

I believe/hope it will in future. It added value in terms of being able to meet representatives of

private capital and family-offices.

And all the plans which I had and had to park/put on hold, could become an opportunity again.

”



“

How has this event added value to you/your business?

I've realised the true value of venture capital

”



Aligning Futures

Where Private Capital meets family ambition



“

How has this event added value to you/your business?

We expanded our network and gained affirmation of the journey we are on, as well as other perspectives from the industry.

”



“

How has this event added value to you/your business?

It has provided ideas about growth and exit solutions.

”



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Progress in a time of uncertainty - AI and trade winds

Moderator: **Samir Ellary**, *Bowmans*

Samir Ellary, a partner in the Tax Practice at Bowmans, has more than 13 years of experience in corporate tax. He brings specific expertise in advising private equity firms and family offices on a range of matters, including corporate restructuring, and mergers and acquisitions. Samir is known for his work in structuring and implementing large Black Economic Empowerment (BEE) transactions and the establishment of BEE trust vehicles.



Martin Hopkins, *Bowmans*

Martin Hopkins is the Head of Reward Advisory Services at Bowmans, specialising in executive remuneration and compensation matters for companies, including family-owned businesses and family offices. With a background in applied mathematics and computer science, he helps boards and committees design and implement effective strategies for performance management and reward. A respected expert in his field, Martin has served as President of the South African Reward Association (SARA), and is a member of the Institute of Directors Remuneration Committee Forum.



Arie Maree, *Ansarada*

Arie Maree leads growth for Ansarada across Africa and the Middle East, helping businesses streamline M&A and Corporate Development processes with digital solutions. He brings deep experience from prior roles at Deloitte, and a strong focus on deal readiness in emerging markets.



Warren Chetty, *Boston Consulting Group*

Warren Chetty is a Managing Director & Partner at Boston Consulting Group (BCG), where he leads the Principal Investors & Private Equity (PIPE) Practice across Africa. He works with leading African and global investors on their investments across the continent, spanning investment and fund strategy, commercial due diligence, and post-acquisition value creation.

Warren has supported transactions across a wide range of sectors and geographies in Africa, and is deeply passionate about the growth of the private capital industry on the continent. He is committed to helping investors unlock both commercial success and long-term impact, and to building the ecosystems that will enable private capital to play an even greater role in Africa's development story.



Gys Kappers, *Catalyst Digital Fund*

Gys Kappers is a straight-talking CEO founder and systems thinker, who has spent 25+ years building and transforming manufacturing and technology businesses across Africa, Europe and the US. A former CEO of DataProphet and founder of Wyzetalk, he's led AI driven operational turnarounds, scaled frontline engagement platforms to nearly a million users, and previously built Africa's largest privately owned concrete masonry group with 19 factories, deploying OEE and world class manufacturing. Known for joining dots and telling stories that move teams to act, Gys is a ferocious reader with an acerbic sense of humour—a sceptic who loves evidence and refuses fluff. Today, he focuses on industrial transformations that cut scrap, energy and carbon while lifting throughput, and is pursuing doctoral research on how AI and Kaizen improve family owned manufacturers. A YPOer and pay it forward evangelist, he builds high trust teams, lasting partnerships and narratives that get results.



Aligning Futures

Where Private Capital meets family ambition

Private equity transactions, mergers and acquisitions are on an upward curve as investors take the long view

Samir Ellary is a Tax Partner | Bowmans (Johannesburg)



Despite difficult market conditions, opportunities are presenting themselves for those willing to adapt and take on the risk. This article looks at some of the African private equity (PE) and merger and acquisition (M&A) trends raised during a panel discussion.

It has taken several years for the continent's PE and M&A markets to recover from the pandemic, but there are clear signs of a resurgence. Transaction volumes are, surprisingly, up 22%, and values 25% in 2024/25, according to panellist Arie Maree, who heads up growth across Africa and the Middle East at Ansarada. Although we are not yet seeing the kind of megadeals of pre-COVID days, the data suggests a definite increase in bigger deals.

At this stage, sectors benefiting the most from renewed M&A activity include mining – where transaction values have increased by over 50% – followed by property and real estate, and telecommunications, media and technology (TMT), which are both up around 30% in terms of value. Transactions in retail, health and renewables have also been picking up.

AI is worth watching

There are positive signs that business in Africa is becoming attuned to the possibilities that artificial intelligence (AI) presents. Investments in AI have contributed significantly to the high levels of dealmaking activity in TMT on the continent, signalling a boost in business confidence in the technology, which has been slow to take off.

What could fuel greater interest in AI investments is credible evidence of AI's business benefits, such as case studies showing the positive impact of AI on energy efficiency.

Gys Kappers, a leading entrepreneur in the tech/IT and manufacturing space, emphasised that the AI boom is here to stay, potentially reinvigorating certain sectors. He shared during the panel discussion that one of his current passion projects is working on AI solutions to help reignite the South African clothing and manufacturing sectors, in light of the efficiencies these AI tools can bring.

Uncertainty over the impact of tariffs

Meanwhile, concerns have understandably arisen over the possible impact of United States-imposed tariffs on economies and companies, and by extension, African PE and M&A activity.

According to Warren Chetty, managing director of PE and

principal investment at Boston Consulting Group, it seems likely that tariffs will become a first-order driver of performance, meaning that tariffs will be a factor for all economies in Africa. However, because of the way the tariffs have been structured around countries' balances of imports and exports, the impact will not be uniform.

South Africa might be squeezed on both sides, with steel, automotives and agricultural products under pressure on the export side while on the import side, some manufacturers might experience supply chain pressures. In oil economies such as Angola and Nigeria, the impact of tariffs is likely to be narrow and probably secondary to price volatility.

On a brighter note, the imposition of tariffs might also create opportunities to build resilience into business models by localising supply chains, giving businesses greater agility, flexibility and control. Experts are also forecasting a shift in trading blocs, resulting in more South-to-South trade from which countries such as South Africa stand to benefit.

Furthermore, if trade liberalisation materialises across Africa, the prospect of pan-African trading growth becomes increasingly likely.

Pan-African platforms could be a major drawcard for international investors, especially those who take a long view, potentially opening up an array of new PE and M&A opportunities.

Martin Hopkins, head of Reward Advisory at Bowmans, ended the panel discussion by sharing some ideas and solutions on how family businesses can incentivise and retain executives and key staff members, even during times of uncertainty. Hopefully, when the markets turn and some of the macroeconomic and geopolitical tensions start to settle, these individuals will be ready to take their businesses to the next level.

Last word

Businesses and investors currently face extremely high levels of uncertainty amid radical shifts in global trade markets and supply chains. The panellists agreed that coming to terms with uncertainty as the new normal, and focusing on the opportunities that go with it – including those presented by AI and other technologies – could be a pragmatic position to take in a world in flux. ■



Companies revisit incentive schemes amid continuing business uncertainty

Martin Hopkins is Head of Reward Advisory | Bowmans (Johannesburg)



Economic and market uncertainty is prompting more South African businesses, from listed companies to family businesses, to rethink their reward and incentive models. Simpler structures with a shorter duration are gaining traction. This article discusses how this current climate of persistent disruption has triggered the desire to derisk remuneration, both in the public listed space and, to some extent, in private capital as well.

The trend towards the simplification of remuneration and incentives began during the COVID-19 pandemic, but the uncertainty that marked the pandemic period has continued. Hard on the heels of the pandemic came geopolitical conflict in the Ukraine, the Middle East and Africa, followed more recently by global trade and tariff turmoil.

Simpler, more streamlined structures

Performance share plans linked to longer-term vesting periods have been a key target for derisking.

In South Africa, share plan periods have typically been set at three years, subject to performance conditions but this may no longer be realistic, given the volatility many companies are experiencing. They are finding it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to set performance targets for three or even two years' time.

On the other hand, corporates are still comfortable with their short-term targeting processes. Therefore, one of their remuneration responses since COVID has been to bundle all bonuses and share plans together into a single incentive plan and scorecard that balances financial and non-financial factors, including ESG.

The incentives themselves tend to consist mostly of cash and deferred shares, which are popular because they vest over regular, predictable periods, protecting companies' capital positions and offering participating employees greater certainty as to when they can access their benefits.

Meanwhile, the employee share option scheme (ESOP) is experiencing a resurgence.

For the better part of two decades, ESOPs have been important for broad-based black economic empowerment (B-BBEE) transactions, and that has not changed. ESOPs are often mandatory, in terms of Competition Commission requirements. Over and above B-BBEE requirements, however, ESOPs are also enjoying attention as an incentive to lock in talent by enabling employees to acquire shares or other units of ownership in the company, usually at a discount.

In line with the general trend towards streamlining incentive structures, we are seeing a departure from the complex and complicated ESOPs of the past, in favour of greater simplicity. Some new ESOPs entail regular awards of restricted shares to participants, with no funding elements and full dividend rights from day one. In this way, new-generation ESOPs avoid some of the pitfalls of the past where, over time, the funding costs outstripped the value of the shares. Other ESOPs only provide rights to the dividends

from ESOP shares, while some provide a mixture of dividend rights and capital vesting, but with simplified funding models and structures.

Family businesses may prefer cash-settled 'phantom' share schemes

For family businesses, which, in South Africa, are undergoing a surge of interest from investors, share plans and ESOPs seldom feature as incentives. These businesses may be reluctant to give up any shares at all. In such circumstances, cash-settled share schemes may be more appealing as participating employees do not own shares, but rather receive cash payouts linked to the company's share price, with appropriate liquidity safeguards.

Cash-settled share schemes can also be simple and straightforward to administer, which fits with the move towards the simplification of incentives. On the downside, these plans can, if they are not carefully structured, create risk for a company through future financial liabilities and possible impacts on cash flows, which must be mitigated by appropriate liquidity safeguards.

Regardless of whether share schemes are based on real or "phantom" shares, the tax aspects should be considered.

Employee share schemes in South Africa are governed by section 8C of the Income Tax Act (ITA), which taxes gains on the vesting of equity instruments, such as shares, options or any rights linked to share value, as ordinary income at a rate of up to 45%, rather than capital gains tax. Vesting occurs either on acquisition (if unrestricted) or when restrictions limiting disposal or imposing financial penalties fall away. Employers must apply for a directive and withhold PAYE at the time of section 8C vesting.

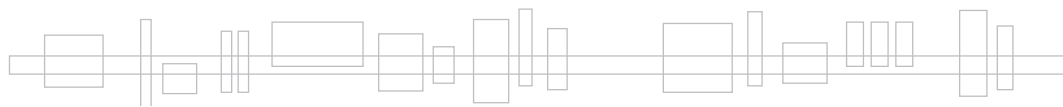
Artificial intelligence adds a new dynamic

While managing incentives amid uncertainty is a priority for public and private companies alike, another factor to keep in mind for remuneration and incentive structures down the line is the impact of artificial intelligence (AI).

Some South African corporates are already using AI to identify patterns in their remuneration data to predict which high-performing employees might leave, and responding by tailoring personalised incentives to retain them. The use of AI, and use cases for it in the incentives environment, is likely to increase significantly in the relatively near future. Companies will need to stay abreast of these developments while, at the same time, considering ethical and compliance aspects that AI use will inevitably raise.

That is not the only possible impact AI could have on employee remuneration and incentive systems. With AI advancement burgeoning by the day, reinventing the world of work as it does so, we may also have to reinvent our reward systems.

For the time being, simpler, more streamlined structures with a shorter tenor are the order of the day. ■



PRIVATE EQUITY DEALS Q3 2025

NATURE	PARTIES	ASSET	ADVISERS	ESTIMATED VALUE	DATE
Disposal by	Hyprop Investments to MEP SPV 4 (Millennium Equity Partners)	50% interest in Hyde Park Corner	Java Capital; ENS	R805m	Jul 1
Acquisition by	RMB Corvest (FirstRand) from some founding and investing shareholders	equity stake in Alaris RF Technology Group	Werksmans; Moore	undisclosed	Jul 3
Investment by	Knife Capital	in Sticitt		undisclosed	Jul 3
Investment by	Knife Capital	in Optique Optometrists		undisclosed	Jul 3
Disposal by	CSSAF (Carlyle)	Safety SA (previously NOSA)	DC Advisory; White & Case South Africa	undisclosed	Jul 4
Disposal by	ONE Eighty Holdings (One Property) to Enyuka Prop	portfolio of six properties (Kempton Square, Heritage Mall Kathu, Northmead Mall, Southdale Shopping Centre, Vaalgate Mall, and a 50% undivided share in Sasolburg Mall)		undisclosed	Jul 7
Disposal by	Phatisa Food Fund 2 to Vaxxinova International B.V.	its stake in Deltamune	DLA Piper South Africa; RSM South Africa	undisclosed	Jul 9
Investment by	P1 Ventures and three angel investors	in MoneyBadger		\$400,000	Jul 15
Disposal by	AECI to Sana Partners GP2 (Sana Partners Group)	Food and Beverage business	Investec Bank; One Capital; Bowmans; Kensington Capital; EY	not publicly disclosed	Jul 17
Investment by	Mergence Investment Managers	in Solarise Africa [mezzanine funding through pref shares]	PSG Capital	R60m	Jul 30
Investment by	OneBio Venture Studio, E Squared Investments and other investors	in Altera Biosciences		R29m	Jul 30
Investment by	BSM Investments	in Thunder Brothers		undisclosed	Jul 31
Acquisition by	Sphere Holdings	a stake in Growth Ten (holding company of Richfield Graduate Institute and the A.A.A School of Advertising)	EY	undisclosed	Aug 1
Investment by	Tlcom Capital, Enza Capital, Incisive Ventures, CVVC and Equitable Ventures	in TurnStay [seed funding]		\$2m	Aug 5
Investment by	CRE.vc and angel investors	in Flood		\$2,5m	Aug 6
Acquisition by	Kogae Rainbow Investment	a 65% stake in Boomgate	Moore Johannesburg	undisclosed	Aug 6
Investment by	VEA Capital Partners	in StraTech		undisclosed	Aug 12
Acquisition by	Nedbank from Apis Partners, Crossfin and the International Finance Corporation	fintech innovator iKhokha	Nedbank CIB; Morgan Stanley; Bowmans; Webber Wentzel; PwC; EY	R1,65bn	Aug 13
Joint Venture	African Infrastructure Investment Managers (Old Mutual) and Motseng Investment	Motseng Ideas Infrastructure Group		undisclosed	Aug 19
Investment by	Alterra Capital Partners	in Cobra Group Holdings	Deal Leaders International; Bowmans	undisclosed	Aug 21
Disposal by	Accelerate Property Fund to Dorpstraat Capital Growth Fund (Dorpstraat Property Investments, Rabie Property Group, Nedbank Property Partners and Alpha Plus) and Property House Group Investments (Wimson Trust and Gray Trust)	the Buzz Shopping Centre and Waterford Centre in Fourways, Gauteng	Questco	R215m	Aug 26



PRIVATE EQUITY DEALS Q3 2025 (Continued)

NATURE	PARTIES	ASSET	ADVISERS	ESTIMATED VALUE	DATE
Acquisition by	Norfund and Infra Impact	a stake in Green Create's Southern Africa business		undisclosed	Aug 27
Disposal by	Spalding Investments 10 RF (PBT Group) to TheIntrepid Projects II (The Intrepid PBT Direct Partnership IV [Pulsent OH GP])	2,6% indirect beneficial holding in PBT	Questco; Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	undisclosed	Sep 1
Acquisition by	Santam	51% stake in Avatar		£3m	Sep 1
Acquisition by	Invicta Global (Invicta) from Twinings Topco (D fox, P Bray, N Whelan K Smith and Inspirit Fund 1 LP) and members of Spaldings' management	100% of the issued share capital of Spaldings	Nedbank CIB	£14m	Sep 2
Acquisition by	Old Mutual Private Equity (Old Mutual) from Actis	majority stake in Honoris United Universities	Rand Merchant Bank; Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr	undisclosed	Sep 4
Investment by	African Forestry Impact Platform (New Forests)	in Rance Timber		undisclosed	Sep 8
Acquisition by	Consortium led by TwoFold Capital and including Octoco	TaxTim		undisclosed	Sep 8
Disposal by	Super Group to Mutares SE & Co KGaE	inTime group (excluding Ader)		undisclosed	Sep 9
Investment by	Kaltroco and other investors from Nashville, Zurich and Cape Town	in The Invigilator		\$11m	Sep 9
Investment by	Invenfin, SAAD Investment Holdings and other investors	in Float		\$2,6m	Sep 10
Acquisition by	Bidvest Services (Bidvest) from Agile Capital and existing shareholders	Aquatico Capital and Aquatico Investments		undisclosed	Sep 17
Investment by	Venture Capitalworks, Fireball Capital, Ke Nako Capital and MAVOVO	in Contactable		\$13,5m	Sep 17
Investment by	Sanari Capital and 27four Investment Managers	in Ctrack	EY	R406m	Sep 18
Disposal by	AgriMark Operations (KAL Group) to Agriplas Holdings (Sana Partners Fund 2)	Agriplas business plus property	Valeo Capital; PSG Capital; Andersen South Africa	R222,5m	Sep 22
Disposal by	African Infrastructure Investment Managers (Old Mutual) to Norfund and Mahlako Energy Fund	stake in Anthem	Flamingo Capital; Standard Chartered Bank; Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr; PwC	\$86m	Sep 22
Disposal by	Corvest 100 (FirstRand) to Linbro Holdings	8 Melville Road, Illovo	Werksmans	not publicly disclosed	not announced
Disposal by	RMI Invest Two (Momentum) to Authenticatio	stake in Entersekt International	White & Case (SA)	undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Next176 (Old Mutual)	further equity investment in Vault22 Solutions	ENS	not publicly disclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Alphacode Venture Partners	a stake in AgrigateOne	White & Case South Africa	undisclosed	not announced
Acquisition by	Black Management Forum Investments from CTRS Investments	an additional stake in Cable Tapes Africa	MVR Attorneys	undisclosed	not announced

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