Bullivant Houser joins forces with Lehman, Lee & Xu

Houser Bailey PC and Beijingheadquartered Lehman, Lee & Xu will join forces in a strategic alliance designed to increase their ability to offer Chinese clients greater access to foreign capital markets and M&A funding. The two firms will maintain separate identities and will serve as co-counsel on specific matters.

"With Chinese clients growing more proactive in seeking American investors to raise capital for their companies, our strategic alliance will help clients expand their businesses globally," said Edward Lehman, managing director of Lehman, Lee & Xu.

The statistics reveal that the union is perfectly timed. US government figures indicate that US direct investment into China has peaked over the last few years, accounting for nearly 11% of the average total annual inflow of foreign direct investment. Likewise, Chinese

investment in the US is rumoured to be pushing the US\$127bn mark, with the Olympic Games as well as impending regulatory changes in both countries expected to increase these amounts by as much as 20% over the next five years.



Edward Lehman, Lehman, Lee & Xu

As much as this strategic alliance is about helping clients navigate the complex legal environments of both jurisdictions, it is also about getting a foot in the door to establish credentials in a Chinese legal market that is bleeding red, white and blue. So far 2008 has seen US firms such as Covington & Burling, Taylor Wessing, Weil, Gotshal & Manges, Nixon Peabody and Taft Stettinius & Hollister, to name a few, all enter the Chinese market. ALB

Bullivant Houser与雷曼结盟

际事务所Bullivant Houser Bailey PC和总部位于北京的雷曼律师事务所近日结成战略同盟,旨在增强服务中国客户进军国外资本市场和筹集并购资金的能力。这两家律师事务所仍将相互独立,在个别案件中协力合作,共同为客户提供法律服务和咨询。雷曼律师事务所的执行董事Edward Lehman表示,"随着中国客户日益积极地吸引美国投资者为企业发展筹措资金,我们的战略结盟将帮助客户在全球拓展业务。"

数据显示,这两家律师事务所结盟的时机已经成熟。美国政府数据表明,过去几年来,美国在华直

接投资屡创新高,几乎占外商直接投资年均总额的 11%。据传,中国在美国的投资即将突破1270亿美元。随着奥运会开幕和两国监管条例的调整,这个数字有望在未来五年增加20%。

这对盟友将为客户在两国复杂的法律环境中保驾护航,并助Bullivant 在美国律师事务所云集的中国的法律市场稳占一席。2008年,美国科文顿•柏灵律师事务所、泰乐信律师事务所、威嘉律师事务所、Nixon Peabody & Taft律师事务所等已进驻中国市场。