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## Raiffeisen Bank, Raiffeisen Bausparkasse and Bausparkasse Schwäbisch Hall acquisition of HVB Banca Pentru Locuinte

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Vilau & Mitel, one of the leading law firms in Romania, has advised Raiffeisen Bank, Raiffeisen Bausparkasse and Bausparkasse Schwäbisch Hall on the successful acquisition of HVB Banca pentru Locuinte from UniCredit Group.

The acquisition marked one of the largest deals in the Romanian banking system, and Raiffeisen Bank received the 'Deal of the Year 2008' award from the Romanian business publication, Business Review. This was also the first acquisition to take place in the Romanian Bausparkasse (building society) market.

Sorin Mitel and Gabriela Anton of Vilau & Mitel acted as head counsels to the three acquiring banks. Gabriela Anton witnessed that the transaction rep-

resented a challenge in terms of structuring the acquisition and dealing with multiple parties which required legal scrutiny in several jurisdictions, including at EU level.

Wolf Theiss was also involved throughout the transaction and provided legal advice to Bank Austria and Vereinsbank Victoria Bauspar.

Christian Mikosch, lead partner on the deal from Wolf Theiss Austria, said: "We are very happy to have had the opportunity to act as advisers to Bank Austria and Ver-einsbank Victoria Bauspar on this transaction. It gave us a chance to use our experience in carrying out complex acquisition structures. We congratulate Raiffeisen on the award and are pleased that this large, important deal was carried through to a successful conclusion, especially in these challenging times."

Sale of HVB Banca Pentru Locuinte S.A. to  
Raiffeisen Group

legal adviser to:

Raiffeisen Bank Romania, Raiffeisen Bausparkasse,  
and Bausparkasse Schwäbisch Hall AG

**Vilau & Mitel**

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Legal adviser to Bank Austria:

**WOLF THEISS**