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## **Kellerhals Carrard expanding to Ticino**

*The Kellerhals Carrard Law Firm (KC) is expanding into Ticino and merging with PSM Law. With almost 160 professionals and more than 260 employees overall, the firm is continuing its successful growth trajectory to form the third largest firm in the Swiss legal market and the largest in Ticino. Professor Thomas Nösberger, a US Certified Accountant and licensed auditor, will simultaneously join the firm as a consultant and reinforce its interdisciplinary approach.*

The Kellerhals Carrard Law Firm (KC) will merge with the leading Ticino law firm PSM Law SA on 1 September 2017. The resulting firm will be called "Kellerhals Carrard Lugano."

### **Leading Firm in Southern Switzerland**

With over 20 lawyers, PSM Law is Ticino's leading business law firm and one of the few Ticino firms rated Tier 1 by the Legal 500 rating agency. Its four equity partners have a comprehensive business law portfolio with domestic and foreign mandates, actively serve on numerous administrative boards, advise on complex tax structures, trials and arbitrations including FINMA liquidations, and maintain close contact with authorities:

- **Henry Peter**, Managing Partner of PSM Law and Board member of Swiss Life, Ermenegildo Zegna, Lombard Odier & Cie, among others. Focuses on international arbitration and corporate law and is Professor and Chairman of the Business Law Department of the University of Geneva, is a member of the Disclosure Commission of the SIX Swiss Exchange and was a member of the Federal Takeover Commission.
- **Max Maestretti**, former General Counsel of Ferrari SpA, primarily involved in the areas of mergers & acquisitions and sports law.
- **Giovanni Stucchi** provides tax law advice to well-known international companies and private individuals, among others.
- **Ivan Paparelli** is involved in banking law and as a litigator (engaged by FINMA, among others), primarily for Italian industrial companies.

Kellerhals Carrard Managing Partner Beat Brechbühl says "Kellerhals Carrard is continuing its successful growth path. With the PSM Law merger, Kellerhals Carrard will be the leading business law firm of Ticino. Lugano is one of Switzerland's most important economic centers and also enables deeper business relations with Italy, which is Switzerland's third most important trading partner."

PSM Law SA, headquartered in Lugano, has a large network that also includes the Northern Italian economy. "A presence in Ticino is important for a dynamic law firm that operates nationally and internationally," says Brechbühl. In addition, he added that Henry Peter gives Kellerhals Carrard a strong presence in Geneva.

PSM Law SA/Carrard Kellerhals Lugano Managing Partner Henry Peter adds: "By integrating into the Kellerhals Carrard family, we are able to bring our regional law firm to a national level and provide our clients with better advice in all matters of commercial law." Lawyers at both firms have been working together successfully for decades.

### **Thomas Nösberger – New Consultant at Kellerhals Carrard**

Simultaneously with the merger, Professor Thomas Nösberger, a US Certified Accountant and Certified Auditor, joins the firm as a consultant, thus strengthening its interdisciplinary approach. Following a career of over 20 years as an auditor of large listed and owner-managed companies, most recently in a leading position in one of the four large auditing firms, Thomas Nösberger will offer his services as a director (among other as chairman of the Audit Committee of the Rehau Group) and independent consultant. His focus is on transactions, succession planning and accounting. He has broad knowledge in the areas of life sciences, software and the energy sector, among others.

[www.kellerhals-carrard.ch](http://www.kellerhals-carrard.ch) at a glance:

- Formed in 1885
- Almost 160 professionals (partners, associates, of counsels, tax advisers, auditors and notaries)
- Offices in Zurich, Basel, Bern, Lausanne, Sion and Lugano as well as representatives in Binningen and Shanghai
- All aspects of commercial law such as litigation/arbitration, corporate law, transactions, sports law, special start up desk
- Working languages: German, French, English, Spanish, Italian, Dutch, Portuguese, Chinese, Russian, Polish
- As one of the leading law firms throughout Switzerland, listed under Chambers, Legal 500, Acquisition International, Global Law Experts, Finance Monthly, among others

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