WERKSMANS
ATTORNEYS



Gerhard Johannes

DIRECTOR

Phone: +27 21 809 6165 **Email:** gjohannes@werksmans.com **Location:** Stellenbosch

Gerhard Johannes is a Director in the Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions practice area. Gerhard specialises in corporate finance; public offerings and private placements; black economic empowerment transactions; international transactions; exchange control; leveraged and acquisition finance; leveraged and management buy-outs; listings/flotations; private equity; project and limited recourse finance; and mergers & acquisitions.

Gerhard is named as a leading lawyer in Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions by Chambers Global: The World's Leading Lawyers for Business (2007 – 2023); and a recommended lawyer in Corporate/Mergers & Acquisitions by The Legal500 (2010; 2016 – 2023)

Years of Experience: 35 years

PRACTICE AREAS

- Corporate Mergers & Acquisitions

EXPERTISE

- Corporate finance
- Public offerings and private placements
- Black economic empowerment transactions
- International transactions
- Exchange control
- Leveraged and acquisition finance
- Leveraged and management buy-outs
- Listings/flotations
- Private equity
- Project and limited recourse finance

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

- Advised **Strawinsky Properties B.V.** and **Isisthmar World Private Joint Stock Company** on its acquisition of the V&A Waterfront.
- Advised **Strawinsky Properties B.V.** and **Isisthmar World Private Joint Stock Company** on the sale of the V&A Waterfront to Growthpoint Properties Limited and the Government Employees Pension Fund.
- Advised **Eqstra Holdings Limited** in respect of the disposal of its fleet management and logistics division to enX Group Limited.
- Advised **Bidvest Bakery Solutions (Pty) Ltd** and **Bidcorp Food Africa (Pty) Ltd** in the establishment of a joint venture with Puratos Group N.V.
- Advised **IQ Business (Pty) Ltd** in the acquisition of all the shares in ITQ Business Solutions (Pty) Ltd.

- Advised **Long4Life Limited** on its takeover by Old Mutual Private Equity Fund V.
- Advised **Ci Collective Investments (RF) (Pty) Ltd** in subscribing for shares in Gaia Fund I Limited, a fund listed on the 4 Africa Exchange.
- Advised **Berkshire Partners LLC** on its indirect acquisition of Teraco Data Environments (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **Drive Control Corporation (Pty) Ltd** on the disposal of its business to DCC Technologies (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **Beijer South Africa (Pty) Ltd** and Beijer Ref AB on its acquisition of the business of Tecsa (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **The Bidvest Group Limited** in respect of its acquisition of Brandcorp Holdings (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **ArcelorMittal South Africa Limited** in respect of the acquisition of certain assets and liabilities from Sishen Iron Ore Company (Pty) Ltd.
- Assisted **The South African Investment Partnership III** and **Capitalworks Fund II SPV Partnership** in acquiring an equity interest in IQ Group Holdings (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **Capitalworks Private Equity Partnership II** and **Capitalworks Private Equity Fund II L.P.** in acquiring a 74.5% equity interest in Robertson and Caine (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **The Bidvest Group Limited** in its acquisition of Plumblik SA (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **Capitalworks Private Equity Partnership II** and **Capitalworks Private Equity Fund II L.P.** in respect of its disposal of its equity interest in Robertson and Caine (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **Capitalworks Fund II SPV Partnership** and **The South African Investment Partnership III** in respect of the disposal of its equity interest in **IQ Business (Pty) Ltd** to Reunert ICT Holdings (Pty) Ltd.
- Advised **Bidvest Commercial Products** (Pty) Ltd on numerous acquisitions.
- Advised **Kerry Ingredients South Africa** (Pty) Ltd on various acquisition.

CAREER

- **Admitted as an Attorney**, 1988
- **LLB**, University of Stellenbosch, 1983
- **BA**, University of Stellenbosch, 1981
- **Higher Diploma** in Company Law
- **Higher Diploma** in Tax Law

HIGHLIGHTS

- Ranked by Chambers Global | **Band 4** | Corporate/M&A | 2026
- Ranked by Chambers Global | **Band 3** | Corporate/M&A | 2007 – 2024, 2025
  - He receives strong praise for his focus on the needs of the client. One source also noted that "his work product is consistently good," while emphasising that "he has a good sense of when things are urgent and when they aren't."
- Ranked as a **highly regarded** practitioner by IFLR 1000 | M&A | 2018 and 2023, 2024, 2025
- Ranked as a **recommended** practitioner by The Legal 500 | Corporate M&A | 2010, 2016 – 2023
- Ranked a **recommended** lawyer in M&A Africa – Private Practice Powerlist (2024), by The Legal 500