



The Banker

Investment Banking Awards 2021

INVESTMENT BANK OF THE YEAR FOR LEVERAGED FINANCE WINNER: CREDIT SUISSE

During a period where leveraged finance has come to the fore for a range of purposes, Credit Suisse has continued to deliver tailored structures and solutions for its clients around the globe, whether to enable mergers and acquisition activity, leveraged buyouts for refinancings and repricings, or dividend recapitalisations, to name just a few. Its strength is evident in both the leveraged loan and high-yield bond markets.

Jeff Cohen, the bank's global head of leveraged and acquisition finance, says: "Credit Suisse has remained a leader in leveraged finance during one of the busiest issuance periods on record, developing bespoke structures and placing financing solutions for our clients across industries, transaction types and geographies. Our relentless commitment to delivering best-in-class solutions for our clients will continue to drive innovation within our business."

Notable successes include it acting as left-lead on the multi-tranche and multi-billion-dollar financing package to support

Apollo's take-private, leveraged buyout of US arts and crafts retailer Michaels, and leading a \$3.8bn refinancing for T-Mobile, which was upsized in market, enabling an even better outcome for the client.

As the global economy thawed, following the worst impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, the complexity of the deals the bank has been supporting has increased, as issuers look to engage in more ambitious and global transactions. During the deal period, Credit Suisse has executed on multiple cross-border financings with strong outcomes for clients.

The bank can deliver a holistic service via its experienced and deep global teams across origination, capital markets, liability management, and sales and trading.

During this period of strong demand, Credit Suisse has also been able to leverage its strength in the market to innovate and deliver bespoke solutions for clients, including green and sustainability-linked products as issuer and investor demand alike has grown. This includes being lead bookrunner on the sterling tranche of Virgin Media O2 UK's £1.3bn equivalent inaugural green bond, with the sterling tranche worth £675m, and joint bookrunner on the \$850m US dollar tranche. The green bonds were



OUR COMMITMENT TO DELIVERING BEST-IN-CLASS SOLUTIONS FOR OUR CLIENTS WILL CONTINUE TO DRIVE INNOVATION *Jeff Cohen*

issued under the newly merged group's green bond framework, which will support green projects like the rollout of full fibre broadband networks — a more sustainable option than other networks, such as traditional copper.

JUDGING PANEL

Luis Galindo is global head of debt capital markets research at Dealogic

Marie Kemplay is investment banking and capital markets editor at *The Banker*

Sarah Mook is a restructuring and insolvency partner at Linklaters

Virginie O'Shea is a capital markets fintech research specialist and founder of Firebrand Research

Rikard Scoufias is an expert on environmental, social governance and sustainability strategy and holds a number of senior roles, including being chairman of Hellenic Hydrocarbon Resource Management

James Stacey is a partner and global director, climate change and low-carbon economy transition at sustainability consultancy ERM

Matt Toole is director of deals intelligence within Refinitiv's investing and advisory division

Nick Villiers is director of the Centre for Sustainable Finance, University of Cambridge Institute for Sustainable Leadership