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Memery Crystal and Woodsford Launch innovative Litigation Funding Arrangement

First litigation funding arrangement of its kind

Memery Crystal and Woodsford Litigation Funding are pleased to announce that they will cooperate to offer litigation funding, with a strategic focus on supporting companies in the energy and mining sectors.

The arrangement is the first between a litigation funder and law firm focusing on claimants within energy and mining. It will enable claimants to fund the costs of various legal disputes which could include disputes with joint venture partners or with governments, both via litigation in the courts or international arbitration. The Memery Crystal and Woodsford combined offering is designed to assist in both hedging risk and in managing exposure to legal costs.

Until recently, well-funded defendants were often able to outspend their opponents, making claims high risk, even when a business had an excellent claim. Litigation funding can bear much of the cost and risk, enabling sound actions to go ahead when they might otherwise stall.

Jane Marsden, Head of Dispute Resolution, Memery Crystal LLP, said:

“We are delighted to be working with Woodsford. They are one of the most established funders in the market. At the same time, they maintain a very commercial and flexible approach to funding. We believe that Memery Crystal’s energy and mining sector expertise and award winning track record as litigators, combined with Woodsford’s global funding expertise, represents a really strong proposition for energy and mining clients seeking to bring claims.”

Steven Friel, CEO, Woodsford Litigation Funding, added:

“We look forward to working with Memery Crystal, and bringing our combined expertise to bear for the benefit of claimants in the natural resources sector. Our skillsets of legal and financial expertise, supported with our significant capital resources, ensures we can move quickly to deliver tailored funding solutions. Litigation can be a daunting, costly and time consuming process. However, with a funder, litigation can become an asset for a company rather than a liability.”

A copy of Memery Crystal and Woodsford’s guide to litigation funding for energy and mining disputes can be viewed at:

<http://www.memerycrystal.com/what-we-do/dispute-resolution/litigation-funding-disputes/>

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Notes to editors

Memery Crystal is an independent law firm providing high-quality advice to businesses and individuals. We are recognised leaders in key industry sectors, including natural resources, technology, financial services, retail and sport. We have an in-depth knowledge of the legal and commercial issues within each of our sectors, as well as years of experience working with the full range of industry players, providing us with a strategic advantage in helping clients to achieve their specific goals.

Woodsford Litigation Funding was founded in 2010 and with offices in London, Philadelphia and Singapore, Woodsford provides tailored litigation financing solutions for businesses, individuals, and law firms. This includes both single case and portfolio litigation funding and arbitration funding. Woodsford's Executive team blends extensive business experience with world-class legal expertise. Woodsford is a founder member of the Association of Litigation Funders of England and Wales.