

Breaking News – 1 June 2014

Knight Turner stays personal, while going global

Leading independent law firm Knight Turner has joined forces with global legal firm, Eversheds LLP. The affiliation has seen the Durban firm re-brand as Eversheds with a dramatically expanded scope and reach of its product offering, while retaining its reputation for unpretentious, personalised service.

Eversheds is one of the largest full service law firms in the world with offices in major cities across Europe, Middle East, Africa and Asia.

Knight Turner's founding partner, Andrew Turner, described the tie-up as a once in a lifetime opportunity that offered huge benefits, both for the respected La Lucia Ridge firm and its clients. He is, however, at pains to reiterate that the community spirit and personal approach at Knight Turner would not change.

"The affiliation will give us increased reach within South Africa, Africa and beyond. It will also vastly increase our access to legal knowledge and resources," Turner said. "We will retain our distinctive culture and value system; our people are our greatest asset – and our clients our first priority. This will remain our focus."

Eversheds unveiled a new pan-African strategy last year, outlining its plans to invest in and establish its brand in key African jurisdictions.

The agreement with Knight Turner now gives Eversheds a presence in KwaZulu-Natal at the centre of one of Southern Africa's key commercial and logistics hubs.

Said Bryan Hughes, Chief Executive of Eversheds: "This latest agreement with established firm Knight Turner, forms a key part of our strategy as we firmly establish a presence in South Africa. Durban offers a strong commercial and logistics hub and we look forward to working collaboratively with Knight Turner to offer a seamless client experience."

Turner said the agreement offered the firm the opportunity for expansion, but that this would be organic in nature and based on the needs of clients.

"Our clients value the personalised, specialist attention that they receive from our staff and relationships are deeply entrenched. Now, thanks to the affiliation with Eversheds, and in particular with the existing Eversheds Southern African presence, our clients will continue to enjoy the same level of one-on-one attention, with all the additional resources afforded by a global company." Turner said.

"For the Knight Turner 'family', we will just keep our focus on our clients' needs – just as we have always done" Turner reiterated.

As part of the affiliation exercise, the firm has seen the appointment of three additional directors.

