

Venture Capital and Emerging Companies Group

When you are seeking capital or structuring your business for growth, a misplaced legal step can be catastrophic. As an entrepreneur, you need advice that combines legal knowledge with an understanding of your business, your markets, and your risks.

With almost 100 Venture Capital and Emerging Companies lawyers in Minneapolis, on both U.S. coasts, and in major international business centers around the world, Dorsey & Whitney provides both legal and business services for the breadth of issues faced by a growing business. Our Venture Capital and Emerging Companies practice acts as point of entry for emerging company clients, and consists of attorneys from various Dorsey practice groups relevant to the needs of entrepreneurial businesses, including corporate, intellectual property, employee benefits, and tax planning.

We represent venture capital firms and national, regional and local investment banks that serve as the source of funding for emerging companies in medical technology, biotechnology, computer technology, software, electronics, consumer products, cleantech, telecommunications, and various other industries.

Attract Capital to Build Value

Angel and Venture Capital Financing

Having counseled emerging company and venture capital clients in more than 270 financings in the past 5 years, we provide connections to private capital and have the know-how to close your deal quickly. According to *Private Equity Analyst*, a publication of Dow Jones, Dorsey ranked #20 based on the number of private equity or venture capital deals closed in 2010.

Public Offerings

We regularly help our emerging company clients with their first and multiple follow-on public offerings. We also assist with the complicated compliance obligations of a public company.

Mergers & Acquisitions

Whether expanding through acquisitions or ultimately selling your company, Dorsey is the firm of choice. We ranked #4 for the number of completed U.S. deals and #12 worldwide in 2010, according to Thomson Reuters. This marks the 17th consecutive year that Dorsey has been ranked in the top 5 of all law firms based on the number of U.S. deals completed.

Maximize the Strategic Value of Your IP

Protecting Innovation

We help you develop and implement a patent strategy that aligns protection of your innovations with your business plan, protecting your place in the market and attracting investors. According to *Intellectual Property Today*, Dorsey ranked in the top 25% of law firms and individuals for patents issued in 2009. Dorsey has been ranked in the Top 20 of all law firms for the overall quality of its US Patents (2011 *IAM/Ocean Tomo Patent Rankings*).

Branding and Authorship

Dorsey ranked #20 nationally among the Top 100 Trademark Law Firms during 2010, according to *Trademark Insider*. We help identify and register the trademarks, servicemarks, and trade names that identify your products and services in the marketplace, as well as protect your unique works of authorship.

Development, License, and Sale Rights

With broad experience in constructing and negotiating commercial contracts and relationships across numerous industries, we can help you maximize the return on your IP investment through commercialization.

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