

COSTA RICAN FIRMS BATALLA AND AFC MERGE

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Costa Rican law firms Batalla Abogados and AFC Tax & Legal are to join forces under the name Batalla Salto Luna.

The merger will take effect from 1 January, 2016.

The new firm will be home to more than 40 lawyers as well as a team of professionals, including economists, international trade professionals, and support staff.

AFC specialises in complex tax advisory, planning, and consulting, as well as tax litigation and corporate legal advice. Batalla Abogados offers legal services in business law, dispute resolution, public law, and international trade.

Mariano Batalla, managing partner of Batalla Salto Luna, said: "For Batalla Abogados this merger is the outcome of a strategic innovation and positioning process. We were looking to improve our

value proposition and keep serving our clients with excellence and quality. This requires very strong capabilities in key practice areas such as tax law, where AFC is the undisputed market leader."

Diego Salto, partner at Batalla Salto Luna, said: "Recent changes in the world economy have impacted the way companies hire professional services. Merging with Batalla Abogados was a natural move for AFC, it's a firm with the sophistication and quality standards identical to ours. This merger will certainly help us offer clients better solutions for their complex challenges."