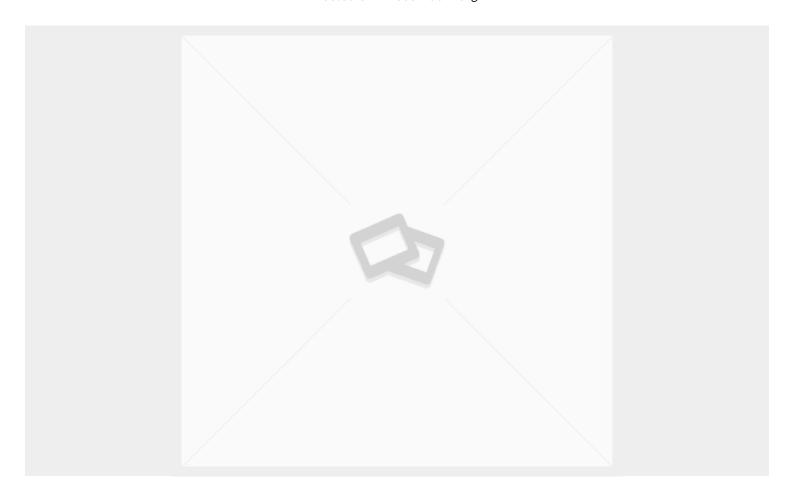
DENTONS TO OPEN IN COLOMBIA AND MEXICO

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Global law firm Dentons, the world's largest by headcount, is set to merge with Colombian law firm Cárdenas & Cárdenas, and Mexico firm López Velarde, Heftye y Soria (LVHS).

The announcement follows Dentons' recent high-profile mergers with Australian law firm Gadens and Singapore's Rodyk, as well as the historic merger with China's Dacheng.

Elliott Portnoy, Global CEO at Dentons, said: "In addition to the leading position that each of these elite firms holds in their respective markets, they add substantial experience across our practices and sectors.

"Many of our clients are already doing business in Mexico, Colombia and throughout the region, and a combination with Cárdenas & Cárdenas and LVHS will bring more than a century of experience in the community along with valuable knowledge in key areas."

Bernardo Cárdenas, managing partner of Cárdenas & Cárdenas, added: "Having been a leading law firm in Colombia for the past 100 years, and as one of the first firms to work with foreign investors in the country, we are ready to take the next step. We firmly believe that the globalization of legal services is a reality and that joining such a prominent and large firm as Dentons is the right decision."

Meanwhile, LVHS founding parter Rogelio Lopez-Velarde commented: "After almost 20 years of being the leaders in legal services in Mexico in the energy, infrastructure, telecommunications and other industries, we are convinced that joining with the world's largest law firm, which so quickly has taken such a prominent position in the legal market worldwide, will significantly enhance our capabilities and allow us to continue providing excellent service in Mexico for international clients, and for Mexican companies wherever the Dentons global footprint reaches."