

John Verpeleti FAPI, FRICS

Assoc. Dip. Vals., Dip. Bus., Grad. Dip. Prop. (RMIT University, Melbourne)

Over 35 years in senior real estate positions - with extensive experience in management (businesses, people and deals), investment, negotiation, development and financing, valuations, business re-structuring, client management, agency and consultancy - predominantly in the C&EE region.

John Verpeleti is one of the longest-serving property practitioners in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE).

He arrived in Budapest in January 1991 following a 13-year career in his native Australia. John started his career as a Municipal Valuer before moving into property development and financing, between 1985 and 1990, with the Property Division of the Elders Finance Group.

His duties in Budapest commenced in Price Waterhouse's Real Estate Services Department where he rose to the position of Director, before he moved to join the Tesco Stores (UK) Hungarian subsidiary as Property and Development Director.

In 1996, he was recruited by DTZ Central and Eastern Europe (now Cushman & Wakefield), initially as Director of Real Estate Services, and was appointed Regional Managing Director in 1998. He was also Head of Investment and acted as adviser to a number of major transactions in the region. Additionally, during 2003 and 2004, he acted as Link Partner to DTZ's Australasian businesses, assisting in the restructure and transformation of local units.

In 2005, John established and then ran AXA REIM's Central and Eastern Europe operation. The group managed some €1.0 bn. of assets in CEE at the end of 2008.

In May 2010, he was appointed Managing Director – CEE Investment Services for Colliers International, with responsibility for the group's investment activities. He was elevated to the position of Chairman of the Management Board (Eastern Europe) in May 2013 and was Chairman – Eastern Europe until the end of 2015.

He currently provides real estate consultancy services in the CEE region and continues to assist in the training of property professionals. Since 2016, he has been an External Adviser to Tomlin Kft., a Project and Cost Management consultancy.

John holds academic qualifications in Real Estate Valuations, Business Studies and Property, and is a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), as well as a Fellow of the Australian Property Institute (API). He is currently a Chairman of RICS assessment panels in Europe and was, for 5 years, External Examiner to the Nottingham Trent and Budapest Technical Universities for their post-graduate property courses in Budapest. John also assists in determining the winner of the annual Chris H. Bennett Memorial Award for outstanding RICS membership candidates in CEE.

He is a former editor of the Municipal Valuers' Journal (Victoria, Australia) and a former editor of Victorian Bulletin, a quarterly publication for property professionals in Victoria.