

SE MarketWatch
 HD **M&A in region hits record**
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Continued from Page 19 raised a \$US6bn Asia fund last year, was rebuffed in its attempt to **buy** Australian winemaker Treasury **Wine** Estates for \$US2.85bn, while homegrown private **equity firm** PEP bid \$US1.1bn for compliance services provider SAI Global.

Southeast Asia's tycoons are also aggressively pursuing deals, a trend that started a few years ago. Singapore's Frasers Centrepoint, controlled by Thai **billionaire** Charoen Sirivadhanabhakdi, this month agreed to pay \$US2.5bn to **buy** Australand, an Australian residential developer and office landlord.

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Singapore's Wilmar International and **Hong Kong's** First Pacific, run by Indonesian tycoon Anthoni Salim, jointly bid for Australian food producer Goodman Fielder this year.

"We are seeing an increase in family groups pursuing cross-border deals that would not have been contemplated a few years ago, driven by a desire to diversify and expand out of their core home markets," said Deutsche Bank's head of Asia **M&A**, Mayooran Elalingam.

It is unlikely these hunters — whether private **equity**, corporations or tycoons — are going to stop scouting deals anytime soon. "Deal activity is extremely broad and diverse, across sectors, countries and types of transactions," Mr Elalingam said. "In the past, Asia **M&A** was primarily led by **China** and natural resources, whereas currently it is a lot more diversified."

CO fdgl : Goodman Fielder Ltd | trzwn : Treasury Wine Estates Ltd
 IN i41 : Food/Beverages/Tobacco | i426 : Wine | ialco : Alcoholic Beverages/Drinks | ibevrge : Beverages/Drinks | icnp : Consumer Goods
 NS cacqu : Acquisitions/Mergers | c171 : Share Capital | c17 : Corporate Funding | c18 : Ownership Changes | c181 : Acquisitions/Mergers/Divestments | cactio : Corporate Actions | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter
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