

# CAR WASH OPERATION

Thiago Moreira

12/05/2018

Car Wash Operation and its impacts in the Brazilian Construction **Industry** 



## WHAT IT IS ABOUT?

- ➤ The scandal initially began as a money laundering investigation in March 2014, but quickly transitioned into a wider exploration of allegations of corruption at state-controlled Petrobras and a number of other firms. Some of Petrobras's directors have been accused of taking bribes from construction companies in return for awarding lucrative contracts.
- Petrobras directors had been deliberately overpaying on contracts, including for office construction, drilling rigs, refineries and exploration vessels.
- ➤ Petrobras directors then used the diverted funds to funnel money to the politicians who had appointed them to Petrobras and to the political parties such politicians represented.

# WHY IT IS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE?

- ➤ Enactment of the Anticorruption Law (Law No. 12,846/2013) and of the Organised Crime Law (Law No. 12,850/2013).
  - ➤ Although "Collaboration" has existed in Brazilian criminal law since at least 1995, the Organised Crime Law provided for a detailed road map for collaboration. One or more of the following results must be achieved:
    - identification of co-authors and participants in the criminal organization, and of their respective crimes;
    - exposure of the hierarchical structure and division of functions within the organization;
    - total or partial recovery of proceeds.

## WHY IT IS DIFFERENT FROM BEFORE?

- > Persuasion of suspects to provide detailed confessions in exchange for reduced penalties ("rewarded collaboration").
  - ✓ Judge Sergio Moro helped prosecutors to put pressure on suspects by approving lengthy "preventive detentions" (i.e. before trial), denying bail to them. In practice: make a deal or stay in jail.
  - ✓ Legal discussions on the constitutionality/legality of such measures Brazilian Constitution provides for the principle of "presumption of innocence".
  - Media extensive coverage of the operation and massive support from the public opinion - Virtuous or Vicious Cicle?.

## **IMPACTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

- ➤ The biggest construction companies have lost market share prohibition to contract with the Public Government; lack of financing; stricter compliance rules and procedures from Employers and Financial Institutions, main shareholders/offices arrested; antitrust investigations.
- ➤ Change of the "concession model" *i.e.* practical market refusal of the usual structure of having construction companies in both sides of the same project.
- > Small and medium size construction companies started to participate in infrastructure projects, specially in Sanitation, Airport expansions and Highways.
  - ✓ Easier segregation into in several packages.
  - ✓ Easier to obtain financial guarantees.

# **IMPACTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

- Opening of the market to foreign companies, including through:
  - ✓ M&As Ex. CCCC acquiring Concremat and Vinci Construction acquiring Orteng;
  - ✓ Financing of projects with the retreat from BNDES and other financing sources, direct foreign investment is expected to increase its importance in the development of infrastructure projects – e.g. financing and/or credit guarantee from ECAs;
  - ✓ Public Bidding Rules which now foster larger foreign investment participation in key industry sectors e.g. airport concessions which were directed to national players in the past.

# **IMPACTS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY**

- > Owners and Financial Institutions more concerned with compliance rules and procedures:
  - ✓ Previous due diligence in the main contractor and its main subcontractors;
  - ✓ Very strict and hard anticorruption clauses in the Construction Contracts (including right to terminate the Contract or suspend the payments in case of suspected violations;
  - ✓ Audit rights during construction phase, including by a third party hired by Owner;
  - ✓ Elaboration of very comprehensive internal Codes and Standards of Ethics and Conduct.



## SÃO PAULO - PAULISTA

Al. Joaquim Eugênio de Lima 447 01403 001 São Paulo SP Brasil T 55 11 3147 7600

### SÃO PAULO – FARIA LIMA

Rua Campo Verde 61 3º andar 01456 000 São Paulo SP Brasil T 55 11 3035 4050

## BRASÍLIA

SHS Q6 Bloco C Cj. A sala 1901 70322 915 Brasília DF Brasil T 55 61 3218 6000

#### RIO DE JANEIRO

Praia do Flamengo 200 11º andar 22210 901 Rio de Janeiro RJ Brasil T 55 21 3231 8200

#### **NEW YORK**

712 Fifth Avenue – 26<sup>th</sup> floor New York NY USA 10019 T 1 646 695 1100

#### LONDON

5<sup>th</sup> floor, 32 Cornhill London UK EC3V 3SG T 44 (0)20 7280 0160