CorporateINTL

2016 GLOBAL AWARDS

SETTING THE INDUSTRY STANDARD FOR PRACTICE EXCELLENCE

Ober & Beerens is a fully independent mid-size Luxembourg law firm advising a large national and international client base on areas of practice including:

corporate law,
corporate finance,
private equity,
transactional business law,
banking and finance,
investment management.

The firm has developed non-exclusive, yet close relationships with foreign law firms in order to deliver a bespoke and seamless international service, whenever and wherever needed.

Explore Luxembourg legal practice with new vision



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CorporateINTL PRESENTS THE 2016

GLOBAL AWARDS

SETTING THE INDUSTRY STANDARD FOR PRACTICE EXCELLENCE

Corporate INTL has been running its awards for the last eight years, and we are proud to present another awards – and commemorative publication – based on our comprehensive research process.

There is regional and practice exclusivity for each category, and so a Global Award is a significant accolade for each entrant within the publication. The inclusions themselves represent a diverse cross section of lawyers and law firms, as well as a large array of other industry experts and consultants.

Corporate INTL is read by business and legal advisers, leaders and investors globally. Accordingly, this awards publication is launched in hard copy and e-magazine formats in order to provide maximum exposure.

See the coming pages for details of our profiled firms' and individuals' service excellence in a multitude of practice areas and jurisdictions around the world. Entrants/contributors have chosen to highlight their award wins, as well as their unique service offering(s) and expertise, through industry commentary, firm summary editorials, or advertisements.

This awards publication also features a separate Listings section towards the back of the edition – for those firms that have chosen to highlight their accolade(s) in the form of contact details of a nominated spokesperson/award recipient.

Congratulations to each of the winners of 2016's Global Awards.

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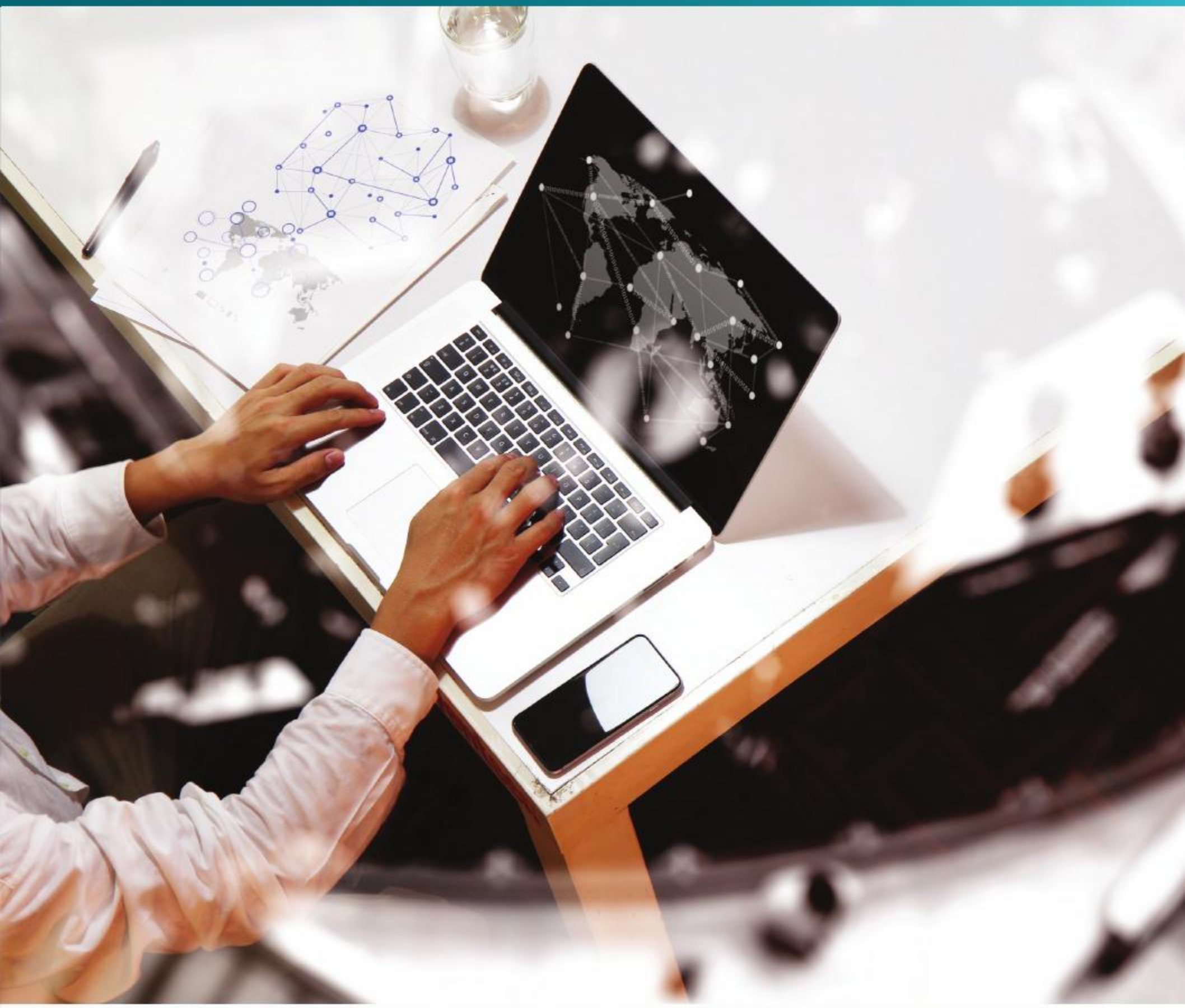
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EUROPE WINNERS



The European Union comprises 27 nations with a total population of around 500 million, and accounts for around 30% of the value of global GDP. Internationally, the EU aims to strengthen Europe's trade position, as well as its political and economic status.

After slowing to 2.4% in 2014 from 3.7% in 2013, regional growth weakened further in early 2015. This reflected spillovers from the oil price decline and geopolitical tensions, which more than offset the benefits from the moderate recovery in the euro area. In the eastern part of the region (Eastern Europe, South Caucasus, and Central Asia), growth slowed sharply to 1.5% in 2014 (one-fifth of the average in 2000–10), reflecting recessions in the Russian Federation and Ukraine, and downturns in oil-exporting economies.

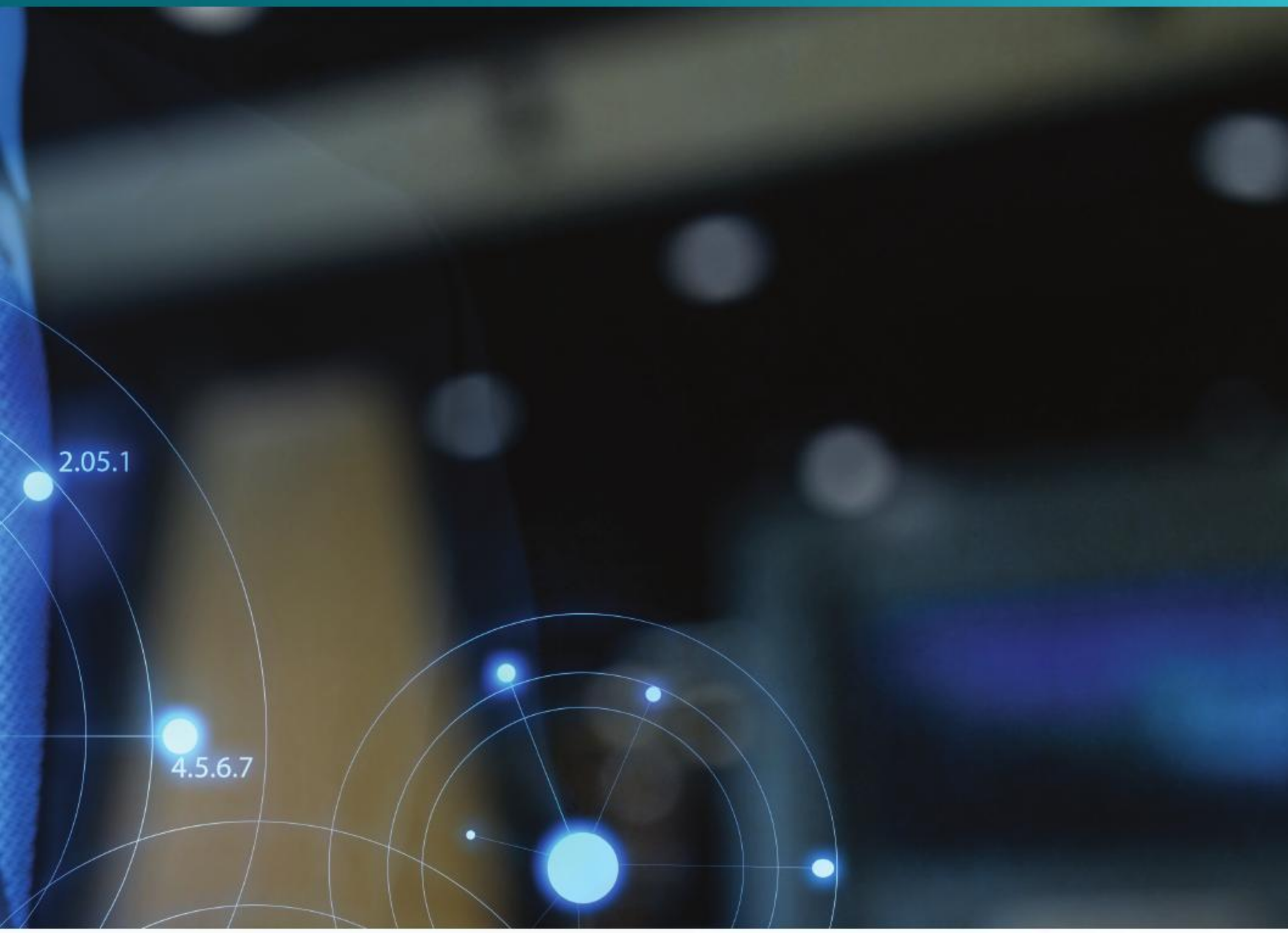
In contrast, growth accelerated modestly in the western part of the region, supported by tailwinds from the recovering euro area. Growth in Russia continued to slide in 2015 (a 1.9% contraction 2015 Q1), following a modest 0.6% expansion in 2014. This reflected the impact of sharply lower oil prices (oil accounts for 54% of Russia's exports) and the adverse impact of sanctions amid an ongoing trend growth slowdown related to structural bottlenecks. A plunge in export revenues, a sharp devaluation of the ruble, and trade restrictions on food imports in Russia lifted inflation into double-digits. The contraction of real incomes and purchasing power weighed on consumer spending, which had been the single largest contributor to growth since 2012.



Investment also shrank on falling business confidence, tightened financing conditions, and restricted access to international capital markets as a result of sanctions. Decisive policy actions and resources from the Reserve Fund cushioned the contraction in Russia in 2015 (World Bank 2015 – final 2015 data not available at the time of compiling the 2016 Global Awards), but resulted in significantly eroded buffers. Key stabilisation policy measures included the switch to the free-float on November 10, 2014, a policy rate hike in December 2014, which helped to bolster confidence in currency markets, and the swift bank recapitalisation programme in December of that same year. According to Global Economics Prospects, in Russia, a 2.7% contraction is expected to be followed by a moderate recovery in 2016 supported by policies that are shifting the economy to a lower oil price environment. In Turkey, growth was projected at 3% for 2015. Assuming a slight rise in oil prices in 2016-17, no further deterioration in the geopolitical situation, and continued macroeconomic stabilisation policies in major economies, regional growth is expected to strengthen to 3.5% in 2016-17.

Trade and current account balances improved, helped by the weaker ruble, related decline in imports and expansion of exports, despite a 34% decline in the nominal value of oil exports. Beginning in February, the ruble and asset prices recovered some of their earlier losses, monthly inflation eased, and interest rate spreads declined to their October 2014 levels. The fiscal deficit is projected to increase to 3.5% of GDP in 2015, from 1.3% in 2014, even though amendments to the 2015 federal budget imply some consolidation of expenditures, and could severely deplete the Reserve Fund (currently equal to 4.7% of GDP).

In Kazakhstan, growth declined to 4.3% in 2014, half of the average rate in 2000-10, and continued to ease in 2015, despite fiscal stimulus mostly financed from the country's oil fund. This reflects the combination of falling oil prices (crude petroleum oil accounts for about 70% of exports), recession in Russia (exports to Russia accounted for around 7% of exports in 2010–14), declining confidence and lower capital inflows. Unlike Russia, Kazakhstan relied heavily on foreign exchange reserves to defend the exchange rate peg after a 19%



devaluation implemented in February 2014. This was done to mitigate depreciation-induced inflation, and to buffer corporate and household balance sheets with large liabilities denominated in US dollars.

Despite weaker domestic demand and slower import growth, the current account surplus has narrowed, as a result of the sharp drop in commodity exports. Fiscal balances have deteriorated significantly. A 3% deficit was projected for 2015's final figures, largely reflecting lower revenues from oil exports (World Bank 2015).

In Ukraine, output contracted by 6.8% in 2014, reflecting a deep decline in the conflict-affected East and a moderate recession in the rest of the country. Exports fell sharply, as exports to Russia (one-quarter of exports in 2010–14) dropped by one-third. Depreciation and administered price increases contributed to an increase in inflation to 60.9% in April 2015. Banks have come under considerable stress, facing worsening asset quality, weakening profitability and large deposit withdrawals amounting to one-quarter of deposits (12% of GDP) since January 2014; however, the IMF approved a four-year support programme for Ukraine in March 2015.

Weak investment is a common challenge in Europe. Cheaper oil and stronger euro area recovery are supporting faster growth in the Baltics (Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia), Central and Eastern Europe (CEE – Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia), and in Turkey. Yet, persistent structural weaknesses and an incomplete private sector balance-sheet clean-up have prevented Southeastern Europe (SEE – Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia FYR, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia) from fully benefitting from the same tailwinds.

Jörg Decressin, Deputy Director in the IMF's European Department, noted: "CESEE countries face a challenging dilemma: strengthen private sector balance sheets that have been damaged by the slump in demand and employment caused by the financial crisis; and, at the same time, achieve again investment levels that will support the growth rates their economies need to catch up with the more advanced European countries."

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Capital Markets Law Firm of the Year in Austria

BRANDL & TALOS
RECHTSANWÄLTE · ATTORNEYS AT LAW

UNDERSTANDING WHAT MATTERS

The team has excellent knowledge of the law and is also fun to work with. It does not just tell us what does not work, but finds a way for us to come to a solution that is legally viable and commercially meaningful.

(Chambers Europe)

www.btp.at

CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

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Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year in Austria





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BLS Attorneys at Law

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B|L|S
attorneys at law

BLS Attorneys at Law has 40 years of experience in all areas of commercial law, corporate law, insurance law, finance, employment law, real estate law, dispute resolution, litigation and tort. The firm's practical application of its philosophy – to provide a sustained and personal client support – has been recognised several times in the past years by many renowned trade journals, such as Corporate INTL, Legal 500 and Chambers and Partners, among others.

Wolfgang Schubert, partner, believes that BLS is distinguished from its competitors because of its unique approach. He noted: "The preparation and winding up of both the procedural matter accompanying the legal proceedings and the documentation and evidence on hand, is of particular importance to BLS. To us, litigation does not only mean the committed representation of interests during the proceedings before court. In fact, it includes a variety of preparation and ancillary services, which we bestow great care on, and ultimately ends up saving time and costs."

Further, the law firm's function as legal representatives includes arbitral proceedings, particularly within the framework of international trade disputes. Mr Schubert added: "The times when the technical and economical aspects of a legal case could be solely left to the clients are over. An efficient legal representation requires the economical and technical facts of the case to be fully understood by us also."

BLS has attained a great recognition by judges at the court due to our sound preparation and litigation. Managing partner, Mr Wolfgang Schubert, who is also leading the litigation practice group, has gained experience in more than 3,000 court and arbitral proceedings. He is highly respected among lawyers and has represented in the Kaprun case and Bawag case, both cases being one of the largest cases ever trialed in Austria. Mr Scheuba is currently acting on behalf of a major D & O liability insurance company in connection with the Immofinanz scandal in Austria. Aside from Boller's focus on labour law, which has been growing strong over the years, he is very invested in the field of corporate and finance law. One of his focal points is the advising and representation of financial institutions and large and prestigious companies in their financing and granting of securities.

Thus, BLS is particularly known for handling cases which greatly exceed the normal volume of documents and number of court hearings. The law firm has gained a special knowledge in the area of industrial damages, in particular acting on behalf of industrial insurance companies in the defeat of claims raised against their insurees.

In 2013, the independent certification body TÜV Austria Cert GmbH certified the business law firm's quality management system, attesting to its practice and client orientation. BLS was the first Austrian law firm to undergo this examination.

Thomas Boller, partner, noted: "Getting certified allowed us to increase the transparency of our processes and to identify further enhancement potential, thus, ensuring that the focus remains on the core activities. We can address the needs of our clients quicker and more efficiently. On the whole, it allows us to ensure the sustainable maintenance and continuous advancement of a high quality level pertaining to our services and our employees."

Editors' Choice - Corporate Restructuring Law Firm of the Year in Austria



Lugger | Bankler Attorneys at Law

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Lugger | Bankler Attorneys at Law is a modern, independent Austrian business law firm. It provides its clients personal, individual and efficient legal advice to the highest professional standards.

Lugger | Bankler primarily provides legal advice in the areas of business and commercial law with a strong focus on M&A / corporate and dispute resolution. It also has particular strength in environmental law and energy law. Further major practice areas of the firm are commercial, banking and finance, public administration, employment and real estate.

The firm offers all kinds of services within the area of corporate law, including incorporation of companies/setting up of branches, restructuring, corporate compliance, preparation of shareholder meetings, board meetings and resolutions, corporate compliance as well as and any kind of corporate housekeeping (including any company register matters). It also offers a full company secretarial service.

Corporate restructuring and strategic reorganisations is one of the firm's core practice areas and is part of its daily business.

The firm advises national and international commercial entities, as well as public institutions in all areas of business and commercial law. It also advises private clients on commercial issues.

"We advise businesses of all sizes both in Austria and abroad on corporate matters," said Kersten Bankler, partner. "We match our expertise to the specific needs of your business, whether it is a small or mid-sized business or a multi-national enterprise.

"What makes us stand out is our strongly personal approach, tailor-made advice, short decision-making routes, quick response time and an efficient, solution-oriented way of working."

He stated that the firm's Austrian clients as well as its international clients especially appreciate its expertise in the area of corporate law and its mission to fully understand their business and to provide tailor-made solutions according to their commercial and personal needs.

"We always aim to understand our clients business or personal needs," continued Mr Bankler. "Therefore we ask the important questions and work together with our clients to help them to work out strategies, resolve problems and find solutions.

"We have a fresh and innovative approach to the practice of law and we deliver prompt, efficient and practical advice. For many of our clients, beside the high quality of our legal advice, our major advantage is our highly personalised service. We do care about each and every client," he concluded.

Community Law Firm of the Year in Belgium



Pappas & Associates

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Pappas & Associates is a law firm located in Brussels and specialised in EU Law and Policies.

Located at the heart of the 'European Quarter' of Brussels, Pappas & Associates was founded in 2004 by Spyros Pappas who reverted to private legal practice in 2003 after several years of service as director-general in the European Commission, where he first held the portfolio of Consumer Policy that he set up in 1995, converted later on in SANCO and then of Information, Communication, Culture and Audio-visual Policy (DG X) that, on his proposal, merged in 1999 with DG Education to become DG EDUC (Education and Culture). Prior to this he was a professor of law and director general at the European Institute for Public Administration (EIPA-Maastricht), Secretary General of the National Centre of Public Administration that he also set up in 1985 and a judge at the Supreme Administrative Court of Greece (Conseil d'Etat).

Pappas & Associates is based on the conviction that the best way to understand Union law is to appreciate that it is qualitatively different from its national counterparts. In contrast to national laws where legal analysis prevails over other considerations, Union law is much more the result of the interaction between legal principles and political objectives; it is law that has been formulated and interpreted in a unique, specific and complex supranational political context, and consequently not necessarily amenable to normal methods of legal analysis.

While covering a large range of issues related to EU policy formulation and litigation Pappas & Associates focuses in particular on **Competition Law** (by way of illustration in state aids: C-521/06 P et C-362/09; T-384/08; T-419/11; T- 14/12; C 16/2004; CP 103/2003 ETBA Bank; C 16/2004, C(2008)3118/13.08.2008; CP 142/2010; 2011/002621-case SA.32060 (CP/10); SA.39119 (2014-CP) C-4 2015/071997; C-4 2015/078217; in antitrust: T-COMP/39416 Ship Classification; COMP/39064-EITISEE/ EBU-ERT; COMP 2009/054507(39713); in mergers: T-163/03 Scania AB v. Commission; COMP/M.1980- Volvo/Renault VI); on **Internal Market** issues such as public procurement (recent example T-351/15, T-403/12, T-192/12, T-422/11) or free movement of services and establishment {CHAP(2015)03232}; and on cases related to **Health and Consumer Protection** varying from the authorization and registration of chemical products to the protection of data (T-296/12, C-673/13 P).

Other fields of policies: Energy (T-338/13); Environment (C-60/05; Complaint 2005/4978, Complaint 2007/4534); Taxation {CHAP(2015)02723}; Financial Regulation and Audits (T-59/11, T-104/15, T-306/15, T-484/15), OLAF (T-447/11, OF/2012/0662/ A2), Audiovisual services (broadcasting of TV channels), IT services, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and PPP products, banking sector, games of chance, construction sector, shipping and employment cases.

In providing its advice and defending its clients Pappas & Associates is guided by the commitment to guaranteeing and maintaining a high standard of ethical and professional client-oriented service.

International Tax Law Firm of the Year in Belgium



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Vanbelle
ADVOCATENKANTOOR · CABINET D'AVOCATS · LAW FIRM

Jo Vanbelle commenced his career as a specialised lawyer in company and (international) tax law in 1995, directly after obtaining his Master of Laws degree with *cum laude* from Louvain University (LLM, K.U. Leuven). His own law firm, which he successfully founded in 1999, is best classified as a highly specialised boutique-style law firm: every case and everyone is unique and should be treated with the highest level of professionalism!

Mr Vanbelle has published books, over 30 essays and many more court case reviews on specific legal topics related to real estate, company law, and contracts, financial and banking law – some of which are still used as references within the profession. He was also editor-in-chief of several prestigious law reviews and a member of the European Association for Banking and Financial Law. To date he has been serving as professor of law and lecturer at seminars and trainings for the Brussels Bar Association, several international private banks, insurance and audit companies – activities he started in 1990.

Since 2006 he has been appointed by the Belgian King as a deputy judge at several Brussels courts and therefore has a complete overview of law-in-action both as a lawyer and a judge, an experience of which his clients still benefit like nowhere else.

Vanbelle Law offers highly specialised advice, assistance and solutions for the professional market covering both (inter)national companies and enterprises wishing to establish, merge, acquire or improve their business in Belgium or elsewhere in Europe, or wanting to obtain tax and company advices, audit or assistance during court proceedings, rulings or (inter) national tax planning operations.

The firm also offers similar services to high-net-worth individuals or families in their quest for solutions or improvements regarding their assets and wealth, both privately held as through their companies or other legal structures.

The team consists of several (internal and external) highly qualified, trained and experienced lawyers, mostly with an additional degree in tax or company law, and several paralegals. Given its boutique size and solid partnerships, the firm excels in offering efficient, detailed and personalised services covering Belgium and EU member states, within the legal field as well as in accounting, audit, financial analysis, real estate, notary issues, banking and insurance.

Vanbelle Law is located on the prestigious Avenue Louise in Brussels, from where all core services of the firm and its partners operate. Thanks to a solid network association with "Navas & Cusi Abogados", the firm also covers similar operations with a group of over twenty lawyers in Madrid, Barcelona and Marbella (Spain).

Boutique - Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year in Bulgaria



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PAVLOV & CO
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND LAW OFFICE

Pavlov & Co is a law firm established to provide a full range of intellectual property services, covering consultation, analysis and assistance on all types of IP right matters, representation before the Patent Office of Republic of Bulgaria, the EPO, the OHIM, the Bulgarian and EU court. Combating intellectual piracy and counterfeits is another major area of our work, where we have achieved significant results in representing major international and national brands and patent owners. In addition to the intellectual property protection which is our main activity, we provide consultations and litigation also in the area of competition, privacy and data protection, corporate and commercial law. As such we are able to cover a broad range of the business interests of our clients.

Pavlov & Co offers high quality professional services in a sector where quality matters the most. Our practice covers a wide range of national and international clients, ranging from large corporate enterprises, to smaller businesses and individual entrepreneurs. The most important values for the clients working with us are our objective analysis, professional assessment and adequate strategy for protection according to their needs and future plans.

Our team of professionals has near 15 years of extensive experience in the field of intellectual property protection. In teamwork the team does the work! In law, business personality and individual character are just as important, as are experience and professional qualification. In Pavlov & Co you will find a team of individuals that combines both, with different approaches to specific cases and shared commitment to our client's goals.

In every case it is of utmost importance to have the integral approach to the creation, protection and commercial usage of your product – either a product of the entertainment industry where we focus mainly on copyright and trademark protection or a product of the manufacturing industry where we face a mix of inventions, trademarks, industrial designs, geographical indications and copyright.

Vasil Pavlov

Vasil Pavlov, managing partner, is a Bulgarian attorney at law, patent and trademark attorney, as well as an European trademark and design attorney, with over 15 years of experience in intellectual property protection. He is also a pioneer in global data privacy, protection and compliance in the context of the rapidly changing technological landscape.

With more than 200 court cases, more than 200 procedures before the Patent Office against decisions of the office and more than 120 oppositions, Mr Pavlov ranks among the top litigators in Bulgaria.

Alongside his practice before the local institutions, Mr Pavlov has also developed an intensive practice before the OHIM and in 2011 he established himself among the top five Bulgarian representatives by number of filings of CTMs.

Editors' Choice - Full Service Law Firm of the Year in Cyprus / Arbitration Law Firm of the Year in Cyprus / Banking & Finance Law Firm of the Year in Cyprus / Commercial Law Firm of the Year in Cyprus



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A. & E. C. Emilianides, C. Katsaros & Associates LLC is a law firm located in Nicosia providing a wide spectrum of legal services and advocacy. Our firm specialises in all aspects of civil and commercial litigation and counselling, including banking law, competition law, employment law, insurance law, media law and internet law, succession law, sports law, land law, public procurement law, religion law etc. Its parent company, the Law Firm of Achilles & Emile C. Emilianides, has excelled in providing legal services for more than a century.

A. & E. C. Emilianides, C. Katsaros & Associates LLC is a full service firm with main focus in all aspects of civil, commercial law (including contracts, tort, land, family, succession, sports, employment, banking, competition, intellectual property, public procurement, corporate law), as well as European Union law, human rights, constitutional and administrative law and media law.

Led by Professor Achilles Emilianides and Costas Katsaros, the firm engages in both complex litigation and extra-judicial advice. Its clientele includes public and semi-public institutions and major national and multi-national companies.

Arbitration and Litigation

The firm is active in litigation matters in Cyprus, in all fields of civil, commercial and public law, banking and insolvency law, the law of torts, family, succession and land law as well as employment law, competition, insurance, public procurement, EU and sports law and furthermore regarding all matters arising from contractual and commercial relations. The firm's experienced litigation team regularly handles complex cases before all District Courts of the Republic, as well as the Supreme Court of Cyprus.

Furthermore, the firm handles a wide variety of arbitration cases and alternative dispute resolution matters.

Banking Law

Members of our firm have a wide and diverse, international experience in banking law, including the drafting of contracts, litigation before the courts, arbitration and mediation proceedings, as well as negotiations with banking authorities and bank clients about loans and restructurings. The firm handles complex disputes in the field of banking law and offers advice to creditors and debtors alike in the whole range of banking law issues.

Commercial and Corporate Law

The firm is providing to its corporate clients all the required legal advice with respect to the incorporation and management of companies, drafting and registration, legal opinions, regulatory issues, opening bank accounts, secretarial and directorships services, setting up of trusts, winding up/liquidation, as well as legal representation in all commercial law matters. The firm has represented and acted as the legal advisor for multinational, as well as major national companies and appears in all kinds of procedures before the Registrar of Companies. The firm further drafts international contracts and provides legal opinions on several aspects of Cypriot commercial and financial law.

Financial Services Sector Law Firm of the Year in Cyprus



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Constantinos Messios and his financial services team have been dealing with advising Cyprus Investment Firms (CIFs) and Funds since 2004. The team offers the full range of advice for the sector. It handles all applications and regulatory dealings with the Cyprus Securities and Exchange Commission (CySEC). The team advises on related corporate and commercial matters. Mr Messios has particular expertise in handling disciplinary proceedings against regulated entities and appears regularly before the CySEC Board representing CIFs.

The firm has advised several large established clients, as well as overseeing and managing applications to CySEC for the granting and activation of CIF licenses for a variety of activities, from forex trading and binary trading to portfolio management.

"The firm is a reliable partner when it comes to the continuous and varying requirements of a CIF in today's fast-paced and ever-changing environment," said Mr Messios.

He stated that C.D. Messios LLC was one of the first, if not the first, law firm in Cyprus to have a dedicated financial services team. The firm has therefore built up a wealth of experience which allows it to stay at the top of its game.

"Another great strength is the close relationships we maintain with our clients," he continued. "The clients know team members personally and know they can call upon their assistance at any time. Response time is quick and always aims to be to the point and commercially realistic in its outlook. We strive to maintain an open line of communication between everyone working with any certain client and with the client themselves, and aim to be the client's first point of call in any circumstances."

A significant issue for the firm's clients is the new regulatory regime implemented by the banking sector in the wake of the financial crisis of 2013, which has of course affected investment and financial services generally.

The firm has built up a wealth of experience which allows it to stay at the top of its game.

Trust Administration Service Provider of the Year in Cyprus



Fiduciana Trust (Cyprus) Limited

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FIDUCIANA TRUST
(CYPRUS) LTD

Fiduciana Trust (Cyprus) Limited is a "boutique" Cyprus trustee and fiduciary services company with international coverage.

At Fiduciana, we take pride in the fact that we offer a friendly and personal service. We focus on offering the highest level of personalised trust, corporate and accounting services and solutions to our clients, operating as a "home office". The "boutique" nature of the business ensures that our clients' affairs are kept strictly confidential and the most personal approach is offered in the handling of all matters.

Our personnel consist of chartered accountants, lawyers and paralegal administrators – high calibre professionals, carefully recruited and suitably trained to meet the needs of the most demanding situations. Our team, although relatively small, are extremely dedicated, working long hours in order to give our clients the best service possible. Fiduciana clients are certainly not treated as a number. Each client is known to us on a first name basis. We build a committed team of people who take total responsibility for our services, locally as well as internationally. Our aim is to always exceed the client's expectations.

We lead the field in providing added value to our clients, where we provide directors for a client company, we have the ability and experience to understand the business of our clients and thus conduct the entire business of the company, liaising with the company's owners only where appropriate.

At Fiduciana, we pride ourselves in sourcing highly qualified employees in order to provide a service to our clients of extraordinary quality.

Anna Homenko

Anna Homenko is a managing partner of Fiduciana Trust (Cyprus) Limited. Prior to that Ms Homenko served as a chief executive officer at IFG Trust (Cyprus) Limited, an international corporate and financial services company based in Cyprus, where she was responsible for the establishment and development of the company's operations in Cyprus, development of corporate strategy, business vision and ensuring overall business growth. She advised on the strategy and implementation of several large corporate acquisitions of IFG. Prior to joining IFG Anna worked with a large corporate services provider firm as head of their corporate department.

Ms Homenko has 15 years of tax, compliance, trust corporate and fiduciary experience. She is proficient in dealing with all aspects of corporate law, including management and structuring of Cyprus and international corporate entities as well as advice, structuring and ongoing management of complex multijurisdictional trust structures. Ms Homenko studied International Law in the Institute of International Relations, Kyiv Taras Shevchenko University and continued her academic development in the UK, where she graduated from Keele University, with a dual Bachelor Degree in Law and International Politics. Following that, she completed the legal Practice Course (LPC) in Chester, UK. She is a member of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP) and ITPA.

Dynamic - Construction Law Firm of the Year in Denmark



Søby & Partners

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SØBY & PARTNERS

Søby & Partners is a law firm specialised in advising parties in the legal aspects of construction. Its goal is to maintain and expand its leading market role in advising the parties within the field of construction, always focusing on prompt services and quality so that its advice has the highest possible value to the client.

The firm is focused on the following areas of expertise: Construction law, contract law, professional liability and product liability, insurance law, mergers and acquisitions, EU law and international law, among others.

Søby & Partners assists clients in connection with legal proceedings, as well as assisting in contract preparation, claims in connection with variations and delays. It advises its clients during construction and in connection with legal proceedings and arbitration proceedings, and with claims related to builder's guarantee and contractor's guarantees.

Primarily, the firm advises Danish and international contractors. But it also advises owners, architects, engineers and other parties in the field of a construction project, for example banks and financial institutions.

Niels Søby, Partner, specialises in construction law, insurance law, mergers and acquisitions, EU law, and international law, and court and arbitration proceedings. He is an experienced counsel in international arbitrations in London and Paris. Niels Søby was admitted to the Danish Supreme Court in 1980 and has a Master of Laws from the University of Copenhagen, 1971. Further, he speaks Danish, Scandinavian, English, German, French and Italian.

Søby & Partners has been a valuable consultant for participants in major Danish construction projects and supply contracts such as the Great Belt and Øresund links, the Copenhagen Metro, highway expansions, off shore wind farms and IC4 trains, among others. It also advises guarantor banks and insurance companies in the construction business.

Moreover, it has also handled a number of disputes involving foreign projects.

AIM Law Firm of the Year in England / Client Choice - Litigation Law Firm of the Year in England





Kerman & Co. LLP

KERMAN & Cº LLP

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About Kerman & Co.

Kerman & Co. is a corporate and commercial law firm with offices in London and Dublin. It delivers high quality legal services to clients across a range of specialist sectors and has a long-standing reputation for successfully managing complex deals and disputes. All matters are managed by experienced and commercially astute partners, who are committed to ensuring the best possible outcomes for the firm's clients.

Kerman & Co. is a member of the Alliuris Group which enables it to provide clients with access to a network of well respected lawyers across EMEA, Asia and America. The firm has also won a number of awards and is recognised in the leading legal directories.

The firm is extremely proud to have won two awards this year; Litigation Law Firm of the Year and AIM Law Firm of the Year.

1. Litigation Law Firm of the Year in England

In the last few years, Kerman & Co.'s experienced dispute resolution team has come to greater prominence amongst larger City and Magic Circle law firms through winning and retaining quality work and clients.

The team advises on a wide variety of commercial disputes, including commercial contracts, oil and gas licence agreements, natural resources, company and partnership disputes, minority shareholder claims, professional negligence, injunctive relief, matrimonial, freight forwarding, intellectual property, sport and media-related cases, opposition and trade mark infringement proceedings, defamation, data scraping and property disputes. The team also has a depth of experience in alternative dispute resolution including mediation and international arbitration under the LCIA, ICSID and ICC rules.

The litigation team have excellent connections in the litigation funding sector and are experienced in structuring funding and After the Event (ATE) insurance products to meet the requirements of individual clients. This includes organising funding and ATE insurance for high value group litigation claims through to helping individuals redress the balance in small to mid-size claims which the clients may not otherwise be able to pursue.

Clients appreciate the expertise and hands on approach of the firm's partners, who are at the forefront of the strategic decision making and case management from start to finish. Their accessibility to clients and commercial pragmatism ensure that the teams deployed in any contentious matter quickly become an extension of the client, thereby ensuring confident, cost effective decision making and a smoothing of the inevitable upheaval that any litigation causes the client's business.

2. AIM Law Firm of the Year in England

Kerman & Co is an acknowledged market leader ranked in the top 10 of all law firms in England & Wales for advising AIM clients on a range of matters, including pre-IPO fundraising, admission to the public markets, due diligence and verification. Our capital markets team is recognised as one of the most active and successful in equity fundraisings and stock exchange transactions.

The team works closely with clients and their professional advisers, to project manage all aspects of the IPO process to ensure it is achieved on time and on budget. The Partner led team then continues to provide on-going legal services to clients post IPO to meet their corporate and regulatory needs, including advising on institutional placings, acquisitions, takeovers, schemes of arrangement and disposals.

The team has significant experience of listing foreign holding companies on AIM, having listed companies incorporated in: the UK, The Channel Islands, Isle of Man, the British Virgin Islands, Bermuda, Cyprus and Singapore.

International clients, who may be unfamiliar with the UK capital markets, are offered a packaged solution which includes; identifying and introducing appropriate brokers, nomads, accountants, registrars, company secretaries and PR advisers who will be appropriate for the nature and size of the transaction being undertaken.

The team works with companies operating in a broad variety of sectors, but has particular expertise working with technology and life sciences, natural resources and agriculture focused clients.

Kerman and Co. currently advises 37 AIM clients operating in 28 countries. We are currently ranked 6th by number of AIM listed clients in the latest AIM Advisers Rankings Guide (January 2016).

The team has significant experience of listing foreign holding companies on AIM.

Boutique - Employment Alternative Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year in England



Redmans Solicitors

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Redmans solicitors

Redmans Solicitors is a firm of employment solicitors and specialist litigators based in London.

Employers

We can advise employers on the full range of employment law issues, from drafting new employment contracts and updating staff handbooks, to advising on grievances, disciplinaries, tribunal claims, redundancies and dismissals.

Senior executives and directors

We also act for many senior executives and directors, regularly reviewing job offers and advising on exit arrangements (including compromise agreements and settlement agreements). We have particular experience advising executives with complicated remuneration structures, including bonuses, deferred compensation and carried interest.

Employees

Our specialist employment law solicitors advise our clients on the full range of employment law issues, from working rights and employment contracts, to advising on compromise agreements, Employment Tribunal litigation, grievances and disciplinaries.

With Redmans Solicitors you will get an experienced employment lawyer, dedicated to your needs, and equipped with the knowledge, skills & technology to meet them. If we can negotiate an effective solution for you, and it's appropriate in the circumstances, we would always rather keep you out of the Employment Tribunal. However if it's necessary and appropriate to fight, that is exactly what we will do. Whether you need advice on redundancy, settlement agreements, unfair dismissal, unlawful discrimination, employment tribunal claims, employment contracts or general employment law guidance, we can help.

Litigation & dispute resolution

Whether it's taking your case to court, reaching a settlement with the other side or simply providing you with some preliminary advice on your issue, our solicitors can help you find the result for your problem. We have particular experience in personal injury claims, breach of contract claims, property disputes, and building disputes.

Employment law solicitors

Employment solicitors at Redmans Solicitors only represent employees and not employers. Our expert employment solicitors will work with you to find a solution to your workplace problem, regardless of what issue you are facing.

Redmans' expert employment lawyers offer employment law services to individuals in both litigious and non-litigious circumstances. Our legal services range from drafting and reviewing employment contracts to preparing and conducting complex Employment Tribunal proceedings.

We offer our employment law services on an hourly and a fixed fee basis and, when appropriate, use "no win no fee" agreements to fund litigation in the Employment Tribunal. However, we believe that negotiation is always preferable to litigation in the Employment Tribunal or the civil courts and will try and settle your matter before proceedings are issued if possible. This may involve the drafting, review and signature of a compromise agreement. Once proceedings have been issued we will continue to try and settle your matter through the use of a compromise agreement or COT3 form.

Boutique - Family Financial Disputes Law Firm of the Year in England

Rayden Solicitors







RAYDENSOLICITORS

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"A superb reputation for private family law matters, most notably the representation of high net worth individuals in matrimonial finance disputes and other complex matters." – Chambers UK 2016

Rayden Solicitors is a multi-award winning niche family law boutique based in St Albans and dedicated to private family law.

The firm's solicitors are experts in financial and children matters relating to relationship breakdown, divorce and separation. This includes expertise in complex financial arrangements involving family businesses partnerships, complex share structures or tax issues; off-shore vehicles; high net worth financial cases and pre and post-nuptial agreements. Much of its work has an international element.

Rayden Solicitors distinguishes itself from regional, multi-disciplinary firms by specialising in family law and has one of the largest family law departments in Hertfordshire.

"We are an agile niche boutique with a low cost base, employing solicitors who have trained and worked successfully in top firms in London," said Katherine Rayden, partner. "Our practice is squarely at the top end of the market."

Both the firm and individual solicitors have consistently been recognised as leaders in their field by Legal 500, Chambers and Partners, and the Citywealth Leaders list.

The firm has the distinction of being involved in four reported cases since it began, a significant achievement which sets it apart from other new firms, particularly in the Thames Valley area.

Julian Bremner, partner, noted that financial disputes are complex and vary from individual to individual and family to family.

"We routinely deal with international assets and complex financial structures, as well as the family home, and advising on how finances can be divided to the benefit of our clients, he explained. "We focus on listening and understanding their individual needs before providing a clear strategy for their case.

"We are experts in our jurisdiction, England and Wales, and routinely deal with family disputes with an international element. We have a network of professionals and family lawyers based in other jurisdictions as often clients may live abroad."

Rayden Solicitors' clients are medium to high net worth figures from the worlds of commerce, television, fashion, media and music, as well as high-flying medical, legal and accountancy professionals. The firm's clients are based nationally, in London or abroad with the majority of referrals coming from top London practices.

"These firms advise clients of significant net worth and insist on the highest levels of service, delicacy and expertise," added Paula Butterworth, partner. "Their confidence in our ability and the City credentials of our solicitors has driven our practice's spectacular growth."

In 2016 Rayden Solicitors will be expanding into Guildford, Surrey and Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire.

Ms Rayden concluded: "Our key focus for the next 12 months is to demonstrate the excellent levels of client care we offer our clients. Our new campaign includes a professional series of videos which will focus on reassuring prospective clients of our expertise and on how we will approach their case."

HEADLINE NEWS

www.mytas.co.uk

MYTAS FOR THE WIN-WIN

MYTAS, the innovative, all-inclusive temporary housing solution, offered by Basingstoke-based relocation company, HCR Group, has won the esteemed award of Relocation Service Provider of the Year in England, at the 2016 Corporate Intl Magazine Global Awards.

THE RELOCATION MARKET has developed rapidly with two key new drivers:

• A growth in the number of 6-12 month mobile assignments for key mobile staff

• Changing customer preference for an all-in-one accommodation solution at affordable cost.

Recognising the situation that many organisations find themselves in, HCR the launched its MYTAS service in 2014. (MYTAS stands for My Total Accommodation Solution). HCR identified that many companies have a requirement for quality corporate leased accommodation for their employees lasting more than 6 months.

However these companies wanted a simple solution that removes the requirement for their staff to become embroiled in searching for homes in a very competitive market, negotiating with landlords and arranging utility connections. This can be very time consuming for staff, eating substantially into working time.

The only other real alternative to leased accommodation is serviced apartments or hotels but these can prove very costly. Indeed, serviced apartment providers do not seriously discount for long terms lets to avoid margins being eroded.

" WITH MYTAS, HCR CAN DEMONSTRATE AN OPTION THAT OFFERS MUCH BETTER VALUE "

If a company or organisation knows in advance they have a requirement for more than 6 months substantial savings can be made by accessing the Private Rented Sector. MYTAS enables customers to gain all the economies and savings from signing a long term agreement but we also include all the ancillary services and benefits – and more – than you would expect from a serviced accommodation supplier.

This is then chargeable in one monthly invoiced fee. As properties are rented from private landlords, the choice of property is only limited by the availability of property in any particular area at any particular time. Invariably this will always be more advantageous than being limited to one particular development in any given geographical zone.

Further, HCR is able to offer MYTAS on a Multiple Occupancy basis. This means that in circumstances where a group of staff were being relocated to the same place, we can source housing for the employees together. This sharing often enables staff to enjoy better quality accommodation but at economic prices. It also retains the element of choice. If an employee is likely to spend more than six months in a property, they are likely to want more of a say as to their location preferences on the basis that they are seeking a "home" rather than an impersonal dwelling.

The key elements of MYTAS are:

• Unique complete accommodation service
• One fixed monthly payment – it saves all that processing of multiple invoices and the unknown amounts
• Quality Homes Landlord negotiation
• Active customer care

MYTAS

CUSTOMER USER EXPERIENCE MYTAS is currently being operated by a number of our valued corporate clients. They particularly value the fact that the service is very easy to use whilst still being able to offer their employee an element of choice.







CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

Mid-Market - Relocation Service Provider of the Year in England

Regional - Corporate & Commercial Law Firm of the Year in England



Churchers Bolitho Way

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CHURCHERS BOLITHO WAY solicitors

Churchers Bolitho Way is one of the leading law firms on the South Coast of England providing legal services on a regional and national basis from offices based in Portsmouth, Fareham, Gosport, Cosham, Isle of Wight and Lee-On-Solent. Headed up by Andrew Morgan, the Corporate Department's chief areas of practice include mergers and acquisitions as well as general transactional work.

The firm was formed from the merger of Churchers and Bolitho Way, and both firms have a long heritage dating back some 150 years. Both firms also share the same ethos of providing quality legal services from local offices in convenient town centre locations, so the merger is very much a natural progression. It is also part of the firm's ongoing development plan and means it will be able to offer a greater breadth and depth of expertise across the Solent region, especially to its business clients.

In light of the economic challenges that have prevailed since the onset of the Financial Crisis in 2008 CBW's strategic vision focuses on its core values of service delivery including the provision of swift and efficient advice to a competitive fee structure. CBW continues to challenge itself, embracing the need to adapt and change to ensure that the manner and delivery of advice remains of the highest quality.

"It is true to say that our clients have required more support than ever before in these last few years not just in terms of the provision of the best legal advice possible but also as concerns the need for the client to know we are there sometimes just to share their experience day to day. Consequently, I like to think that our clients view CBW as an integral part of their team, on hand to help in more than just a one dimensional manner," explained Andrew Morgan, Partner.

CBW recognises that its relationship with corporate clients is built not just around the provision of the very best advice but ensuring that the client is supported day to day in their commercial venture and activities, essentially becoming a part of that client's team. The need to provide sound and appropriate legal advice comes hand in hand with empathy and commitment to the client which is of paramount importance to the firm.

The CBW Corporate Department values a close working relationship with clients at all times. The firm's ethos is to try to go that 'extra mile' for clients. CBW supports all types and sizes of businesses, from owner managed businesses to large national and international clients. As a consequence of this variety and diversity of workflow comes an experience and understanding which enables the firm to tailor a service to suit each client's individual needs.

Risk Management Consulting Firm of the Year in England



Protiviti

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protiviti®
Risk & Business Consulting.
Internal Audit.

Powerful Insights. Proven Delivery.®

Protiviti is a premier global internal audit and business risk and technology consulting firm helping clients solve complex business problems and manage their critical risks.

"At its core, Protiviti is a client-centric, relationship-based organisation," said Peter Richardson, managing director of the firm's Financial Services Industry Practice.

"This approach has helped us to achieve success with a variety of clients across a broad range of industries."

"We serve as trusted advisors to our clients, helping them manage their critical risks through a combination of people, process and technology transformation. We enable our clients to achieve better control and to be more effective and efficient in navigating risks and taking advantage of the opportunities doing so presents. We do this by helping our clients prioritise their activities where it matters the most – i.e. in focusing on critical areas within their business first."

Protiviti's core focus is different from many other consulting firms. Whereas other firms tend to focus primarily on efficiency and effectiveness, with a passing consideration given to risk management and control,

Protiviti's primary focus is risk management and control.

"All of our consultants are risk management professionals," continued Mr Richardson. "It is ingrained in all that we do. We believe that this is the reason that Protiviti is seen as a leader in the field. In addition, our industry and technical expertise are both broad and deep enabling us to serve our clients across the broad spectrum of risks and compliance drivers that they face. "

The firm understands what it means to build best in class risk management and compliance functions. In the past 12 months it has delivered projects from across its portfolio of solutions in:

- Regulatory Compliance
  - Anti-Money Laundering
  - Supervisory assessments / Thematic visits
  - Enforcement advisory services
  - Compliance function design & support
  - Compliance function co-sourcing / outsourcing
  - Regulatory change programme management and delivery
- Enterprise Risk Management (ERM)
- Model Risk and Capital Management
- Operational Risk

> *The firm understands what it means to build best in class risk management and compliance functions.*

Mr Richardson stated that cyber security risk now has visibility at the board level and addressing it has become a business driven initiative rather than something purely technology focused.

"Our ability to translate IT risks into business risks puts us in a strong position to help our client leadership teams establish their risk appetite and focus on key business risks facing a company. This top down approach helps clients focus on what matters most to them, thereby reducing key business risks. Providing proactive services throughout the client's business lifecycle helps them prevent, detect and respond to security breaches more effectively - anticipating risks on the horizon and reducing risks before they can materialise," he concluded.

International Product Liability Law Firm of the Year in France



EBA Endrös-Baum Associés

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EBA | Endrös-Baum Associés
Avocats / Rechtsanwälte

EBA Endrös-Baum Associés deals with the questions, plans, problems, projects and visions of international enterprises and companies with interests in France, providing services in a prompt, efficient, purposeful and pragmatic manner, at a reasonable cost. The Franco-German firm intervenes, both as a consultancy and as a litigation firm, in the practice areas of industrial risk, plant construction, industrial product liability and safety, and the related insurance law. Its clients are international industrial groups as well as international insurance companies.

International companies operating in cross-border business between French, German and English speaking countries often encounter communication difficulties. These may arise from language differences, different cultures or sometimes from substantial differences in law.

EBA Endrös-Baum Associés and its trilingual partners, Dr. Florian Endrös, Marguerite de Vaublanc, Myriam Bennaïm, Muriel Mazaud, and Céline Lustin-Le Core, not only offer their clients detailed knowledge of the French legal system, but also the understanding of linguistic and cultural differences necessary for efficient dealings and well-organised international negotiations with cross border counterparts. This applies also to intra-company communication between parent and subsidiary.

> *The firm also gives advice on reinsurance and related cross border insurance problems.*

Practice areas

EBA Endrös-Baum Associés gives advice and assistance in the field of supply contracts, construction law and plant construction, and provides contract coordination as well as claim handling, from the stage of entering into contracts with public or private clients, through to subcontracts, including questions of insurance and liability. This enables the client to conduct business transactions and legal proceedings as free of legal risks as possible or in full knowledge of the risks involved.

The firm also gives advice on reinsurance and related cross border insurance problems, particularly in cases where the local insurance coverage is linked to a master or umbrella policy stipulating a governing law different from the one applicable to the local policy.

EBA Endrös-Baum Associés has longstanding experience in expertise proceedings involving French court-appointed experts and European party-appointed experts. The firm works at the interfaces between law and technology, language and culture, offering its clients assistance in several languages as well as prompt local assistance.

EBA Endrös-Baum Associés cooperates closely with commercial law firms all over Europe, mainly in German, French and English, but also in Danish, Russian, Portuguese and Hebrew.

Wine Law Firm of the Year in France



IP SPHERE

IP SPHERE
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IP SPHERE is an Industrial Property Law Firm registered with the National Industrial Property Institute (INPI), the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

IP SPHERE assists and represents companies and project leaders, from both the private and public sectors, in obtaining, maintaining and defending intellectual property rights (patents, trademarks, drawings and models, copyrights, software, domain names, databases) in France and abroad.

Competence, creativity, responsiveness and close cooperation are the key features of our firm; while we are active in all sectors of economic life, we have special expertise in the agribusiness, winegrowing and information and communications technology (ICT) domains.

Renowned for its major involvement in the field of intellectual property law, IP SPHERE also lends its expertise to the educational domain, particularly at Montesquieu Bordeaux IV University (Masters II courses in Vine and Wine Law – Masters II courses in Economic Intelligence and the Management of Organizations), vocational training (European Business and Industrial Property Institute) and legal communication in the regional and national press (Sud-Ouest, L'Union Girondine, APS, Objectif Aquitaine, La Vie Economique, La Revue des Marques, etc.).

IP SPHERE is a member of the National Society of Industrial Property Attorneys (CNCPI), a mark of professionalism, independence and high ethical standards.

IP WINE Department

Vine and wine law is a legal corpus of unusual complexity. Whether in terms of product protections (from indications of origin to unique features of wine sector brand law), consumer protections (from advertising regulations to fraud prevention), or the legal and economic issues involved in distribution, there is a veritable labyrinth of French and European Community regulations, and it is growing constantly.

Conscious of the specific nature of the wine market, IP SPHERE has developed unique expertise, which is recognized among professionals and academics. Consultants from the IP WINE department offer a wide range of legal services in the domain of winery law. These services include:

Legal risk analysis

- Consultations regarding the lawfulness of wine trademarks
- Wine sector brand availability search
- Wine sector trademarks liberalization strategy
- Assistance and consultation regarding compliance with standards for labeling and traceability
- Analysis regarding fraud and related offenses

Acquisition and Maintenance of Rights

- Worldwide registration of wine sector trademarks
- Management of review and release procedures (notifications of irregularities, commentary from INAO and other French and foreign authorities, opposition proceedings, title issuance)
- Expiration and renewal monitoring

Development and Leveraging of Rights

- Negotiation, drafting and validation of contracts
- Evaluation and development of wine sector brand portfolios
- Security for communication projects in France (Evin Law)
- Registration of wine sector brands with national registries, European and international
- Audits during the acquisition or alienation of vineyard properties

Rights Monitoring and Advocacy

- Monitoring of trademarks, trade names and domain names
- Customs Surveillance
- Competitive intelligence
- Oppositions, litigation and pre-litigation negotiations
- Legal actions in cooperation with lawyers highly specialized in wine sector law

Boutique - Cross Border Business Crime Law Firm of the Year in Germany

CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

PROF. DR. MÜLLER & PARTNER
Rechtsanwälte mbB

SPECIALIST CRIMINAL LAW FIRM



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Prof. Dr. Müller & Partner is a boutique law firm specialised in white-collar crime.

We are involved in many leading cases relating to serious fraud, bribery, tax offences etc. and represent and defend both individuals and corporations.

Our defence lawyers are experienced, supportive and continuously trained on current developments.

We are specialists in criminal law and dedicated to the defence of our clients. They come to us when they are facing trouble. We care. We offer strategic, sensible and practicable advice.

Boutique - Industrial Property Law Firm of the Year in Germany



Andreas Jacob, Dr. Dorothea Hofer, Dr. Andreas Oser, Jürgen Feldmeier, Dr. Friedrich Emmerling
Senior Partners

PRÜFER & PARTNER mbB

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PRÜFER & PARTNER was established in 1972 and quickly became a well-known IP-boutique firm working with worldwide contacts in the field of Intellectual Property.

The performance of PRÜFER's work is guided by the principles of Accuracy, Promptness and Highest Quality.

With a team of more than 80 highly qualified members, such as patent attorneys, attorneys at law, patent engineers, patent professionals, paralegals, specialized translators and clerical assistants, PRÜFER is in a position to offer a specialist in almost every technical field of physics, electronics, mechanical engineering, chemistry, pharma, life science, medical devices, food technology, optics, etc.

Particular focus lies on both, prosecution and litigation.

In **prosecution**, PRÜFER's expertise and long-lasting experience supports clients in obtaining strong patents before the German as well as the European Patent Office.

In **litigation**, PRÜFER covers the full range of IP litigation matters, such as:

- evaluation of patents for litigation
- representation in revocation actions before the German Federal Patent Court (GFPC) and the German Federal Court of Justice (GFCJ)
- representation in opposition and appeal proceedings before the European Patent Office (EPO) and the German Patent and Trademark Office (GPTO)/GFPC
- representation in revocation proceedings before the GPTO/GFPC
- representation before the Unified Patent Court (UPC)
- assisting and acting in infringement proceedings before District Courts/Upper District Courts and GFCJ
- support of litigation cases in other jurisdictions
- assisting and acting in arbitration proceedings
- support in technical and legal discussions for licensing negotiations

Further, PRÜFER covers the full range of all IP-related matters, including:

- preparation of expert opinions and freedom-to-operate analysis
- negotiation and conclusion of license agreements
- conducting searches and supervisions
- development and counselling on strategies for preserving intellectual property rights
- worldwide administration and maintenance of protective rights
- IP Due Diligence and assisting M&A projects in IP aspects

Boutique - Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year in Germany



LexDellmeier
intellectual property law firm

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Chemical Patents Law Firm of the Year in Germany



Schiweck Weinzierl Koch

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Schiweck Weinzierl Koch
, *life science*

Schiweck Weinzierl Koch is a dynamic, relatively young yet highly experienced team with a strong technical background across the chemical, pharmaceutical and life science sector.

The firm is particularly experienced in antibody inventions and inventions relating to artificial binding molecules with antibody-like properties. These technologies have become the driver in pharmaceutical development, including (cancer) immunotherapy and diagnostic applications. The firm has an additional focus on opposition and appeal proceedings before the EPO, and on freedom-to-operate and due diligence work.

Partner Wolfram Schiweck noted: "In 2014, we also added medical devices to our technical expertise – to meet the demand of our clients and we continued to grow in this area in 2015 as well as in the classical pharmaceutical (small molecule) field."

He added: "What separates us from our peers is that we aim to have as much direct contact with our clients, and to engage them in discussion to work as a team and to get the best possible result for them. In addition, we are a multi-cultural team with, for example, English, Chinese (Mandarin), Polish, and German native speakers, and thus have the ability to overcome potential communication barriers."

According to Mr Schiweck, common legal issues that Schiweck Weinzierl Koch encounters include those related to building strong IP position for its clients' key technology, especially antibody inventions / artificial binding molecules with antibody-like properties. "But yes, we have the expertise to develop such strong IP positions," noted Mr Schiweck. "Also, conducting due diligence and freedom-to-operate work to assist our clients in securing business deals is quite common."

Today, the firm's clients are highly focused on research and innovation, whether it is an academic institution, a start-up company or a multinational corporation. Its client base consists of a mix of clients from academic institutions, small and medium enterprises as well as multinational corporations.

Also in 2015 Schiweck Weinzierl Koch assisted a number of clients in securing investments from strategic investors, or in being acquired by multi-national companies that were looking to boost their product pipeline. One of these deals included the acquisition of one of the firm's clients by a NASDAQ listed company for over $US 200 million. Another major deal was the acquisition of another client by a US pharmaceutical company for $US21 million.

Looking to the future, Mr Schiweck noted: "We will be further expanding, and taking on new attorneys to complement our expertise with their technical background – and, ideally, multilingual background."

Competition Economics Consulting Firm of the Year in Germany



EE&MC

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EE&MC

EE&MC is an economic consulting firm specialized in competition law proceedings. The economic assessment of agreements, mergers, abuses of dominant positions or state aid and regulatory issues are the main areas of our expertise. To support its clients in challenging cases, EE&MC applies highly advanced econometric tools embedded in scientific theories. The company has a strong record on cartel damages calculations as well.

Professor Doris Hildebrand manages the EE&MC teams in Bonn, Brussels and Vienna. EE&MC economists apply the 'more economics-based' approach in EU competition law, which was co-founded by Professor Hildebrand in the 90ties. This economic approach, also known as *European School*, is unique since it reflects the type of economics as applied by the EU Court of Justice and stated in EU law. Economics in the European School tradition is the firm's special area of expertise: our economic analyses are fully embedded in the legal framework. In this respect, EE&MC benefits from academic research on this subject at the University of Brussels (VUB). Professor Hildebrand also publishes and lectures on this European approach.

Whereas some US rooted economists apply e.g. Chicago School thinking ('big is beautiful') to EU competition law cases, EE&MC contributions take into account the framework of the Lisbon Treaty. The use of economics in this European tradition increases the likelihood that the European Commission, antitrust authorities or courts assess the results of EE&MC analyses more favorably. This difference counts. Due to this specific expertise, the firms' economists are extremely successful in all areas of competition law enforcement. In addition, clients and authorities value EE&MC for its pragmatic and goal-oriented style. Since the firm is active for more than twenty years, it holds a broad expertise in many sectors and markets. Moreover, EE&MC reports are easy to understand for non-economists, which in turn increases the value of EE&MC's working products.

The firm works in all EU Member States and provides advice usually on the management/ board level. Our clients know exactly what kind of services they are looking for. They search for the best economists with a high reputation and strong empirical skills to solve their competition problems. In particular, clients appreciate the firm's interdisciplinary approach, the strong network as well as the academic affiliations of most of the EE&MC economists.

EE&MC's biggest successes of the past 12 months is that the company is involved in a number of high profile damage cartel cases. The company has a special area of expertise in retailing, media and various industrial products. The company is expanding with a special focus on hiring high academic potentials. For 2016, objectives are continuing to manage the expanding business of the company thereby continuing to focus on quality.

The firm works in all EU Member States.

Editors' Choice - Patent Litigation Law Firm of the Year in Germany



Bosch Jehle

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Bosch Jehle
Patentanwaltsgesellschaft mbH

Bosch Jehle is an intellectual property law firm with offices in Munich, Düsseldorf, Alicante (Spain) and Shenzhen (China). The firm's focus is to support its domestic and international clients in acquiring, expanding, defending, litigating and managing intellectual property rights throughout the world.

As European and German patent attorneys, Bosch Jehle represents its clients before the European Patent Office (EPO), the German Patent and Trademark Office (GPTO), the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM) and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).

Bosch Jehle has established over the last several years its litigation practice involving patent infringement actions in Germany. The firm has extensive experience in pre-trial negotiations, as well as handling complex patent infringement proceedings. In litigation, Bosch Jehle handles all technical and patent law related aspects in team with specialised patent law litigators, as is customary in Germany.

Dr Matthias Bosch, senior partner, practices in the fields of mechanical engineering, particularly in the areas of automotive, tooling, medical and process engineering; and electrical engineering, particularly in the areas of telecommunication, wireless and computer engineering.

Dr Bosch has worked in the intellectual property field since 1993, when he began his doctoral thesis at the Max- Planck-Institute for Intellectual Property in Munich. During his German law studies, Dr Bosch was a scholar at the University of Washington School of Law in Seattle, comparing US, European and German patent law for inclusion in his doctoral thesis related to medical process patents.

In his current practice, Dr Bosch works closely with his team prosecuting medium and large international patent portfolios comprising several thousand patent applications and patents. His work also includes coordinating the patent prosecution of Chinese, Taiwanese and Korean patent counterparts. During the last several years, he has built strong alliances with Asian patent law firms enabling the firm to offer consolidated intellectual property services.

A primary focus of his practice is to coordinate and synchronize his clients' international patent prosecution so that potential litigations and licensing arrangements can be seamlessly handled and pitfalls avoided. Dr Bosch has also deep experience in European opposition proceedings.

Dr Bosch manages his team with respect to major patent litigation proceedings before the German courts. The Bosch Jehle team also works with specialised litigators to provide technical expertise and assistance. Dr Bosch's work also includes counselling, prosecuting and enforcing European Community Design Rights for both small and large international companies.

His publications include: Medico-technical procedures and apparatus in German, European and U.S. patent law, Schriftenreihe zum gewerblichen Rechtsschutz, Vol. 111, Carl Heymanns Verlag 2000.

Germany-China Investment Advisory Firm of the Year in Germany



BDO provides a comprehensive range of services in audit, accounting, tax, corporate finance and advisory services. Our clients benefit from our extensive experience in cross border activities, provided by interdisciplinary teams of bilingual professionals.
BDO is close to your business - delivering exceptional client service by over 64,000 professionals in 154 countries world-wide. Thanks to our 10,000 partners and staff in 58 offices in Greater China and Germany, BDO has been awarded by the magazine CorporateINTL as 'Germany-China Investment Advisory Firm of the Year 2016 in Germany'.

Assurance | Tax/Legal | Advisory
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CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

BDO

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IP Due Diligence Law Firm of the Year in Germany



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IP Due Diligence: identifying risks and raising the commercial value of your IP assets

Often enough, when assessing the potential revenue that can be obtained from corporate assets, companies focus on tangible assets, overlooking or being unaware of the various methods available for extracting additional value from their IP. With the increasing number of intellectual property transactions, IP due diligence is growing in importance.

Nowadays, performing IP due diligence is essential when acquiring IP, raising capital, or seeking to obtain financial assistance. Especially in M&A operations, information about the strength of a company's IP assets is key for influencing prices in M&A negotiations and taking prudent decisions on investing in, licensing-in/out, or acquiring/selling IP assets.

For *sellers*, IP due diligence can help improve the marketability of their company by allowing them to identify the strengths and address any gaps in their IP portfolio which might hinder or compromise the sale. For *buyers*, assessing any risks associated with the seller's IP portfolio is fundamental in determining whether the acquisition or investment is worthwhile.

More generally, every entrepreneur should aim to take a more strategic approach to their IP. As a starting point for setting a realistic IP development plan, it is recommended to make the exercise of having one's IP portfolio examined. IP due diligence will help create a commercialization strategy connected to the reality and serve the purpose of better exploiting products or services.

IP due diligence investigations are performed by IP experts and involve several steps. In a nutshell, the analysis consists of:

- Identifying the company's IP assets (patents, trademarks, designs, copyrights, domain names, contracts, etc.);
- Verifying the status;
- Verifying the ownership of each IP asset: sole or joint ownership, license, assignment agreements, etc.;
- Checking the chances of success of the IP, in particular for a patent application the chances of being granted a patent;
- Ascertaining any restrictions on IP asset use (Freedom-to-Operate);
- Auditing whether the IP really covers the products or services sold by the owner;
- Trying to get on idea about potential competing products or possibilities to circumvent the IP;
- Getting an idea about the chances of actually enforcing the IP.

What makes Dennemeyer's IP Due Diligence service unique is:

- It is complete in its scope;
- It is modular in its approach;
- It has a proven economic efficiency;
- We can offer fixed fees.

Dennemeyer's strength in offering this service results from being the only firm offering a scientifically proven efficiency in IP due diligence, demonstrated and practiced over the years. Further, our modular and fixed fee price structure is very appealing to our clients.

Our IP Due Diligence service is handled by a team of experts in our Frankfurt office, headed by Dr. Malte Köllner.

Qualified as a German Patent Attorney, European Patent, Trademark and Design Attorney, Dr. Köllner holds a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry and a diploma in Physics from the University of Heidelberg. His areas of expertise include physics, physical chemistry, optics, lasers, biotechnology, medical devices and software. With a vast experience in the field of intellectual property, Dr. Köllner furthermore acts as the editor-in-chief of the well-known German journal for patent law "Mitteilungen der Deutschen Patentanwälte" and is lecturer at various conferences and universities. His notable achievements in the IP area have, for several years in succession, listed him as one of the World's Leading Lawyers and IP Strategists.

Dr. Köllner has extensive experience in performing hundreds of due diligence investigations for smaller clients, investors and Fortune 500 companies, in particular for venture capital investments. Based on his practical experience and on the work done in the German standards committee on patent valuation, Dr. Köllner developed the Dennemeyer approach to IP due diligence that is at the same time complete in its scope and economically efficient (see Malte Köllner: "Due Diligence or Discount, Monetary effect of legal aspects in patent valuation", Les Nouvelles, Volume XLIV No. 1, pages 24-37, March 2009).

Utilizing the resources of the local Dennemeyer & Associates offices across the world, the IP Due Diligence team can quickly perform insightful investigations and provide clients with a solid basis for decision making.

Our unique approach has earned us the *IP Due Diligence Law Firm of the Year - Corp Intl.* award several times in a row.

With the IP Due Diligence service, Dennemeyer & Associates reinforces its scope of providing the full range of legal services relating to intellectual assets.

Established in 1962, in Luxembourg, Dennemeyer & Associates has come a long way in over 50 years, growing from a patent law firm into a multinational IP law firm with offices in ten countries (Luxembourg, Australia, Germany, Poland, Romania, US, Japan, Croatia, United Arab Emirates, Brazil) and new locations being constantly added. Its lawyers offer world-class expertise in IP law for the following intellectual assets: patents, trademarks, designs, copyrights, domain names and licenses.

As a pioneer in internationalising strategic intellectual asset management, the firm is specialised in the preparation and worldwide registration of patents, trademarks and designs.

Looking to carry out an IP due diligence assessment of your IP portfolio?

Contact our team at info-ffm@dennemeyer-law.com.

Life Sciences, IP Litigation and Patents Law Firm of the Year in Germany



WHAT´S ON YOUR MIND?

Any questions?
www.df-mp.com
or call +49 (0)89 210 29 60

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WINNER 2016

- Patent Law Firm of the Year 2016
- IP Litigation Law Firm of the Year 2016
- Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences Law Firm of the Year 2016

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Tax Consulting Firm of the Year in Germany



KBHT Kalus + Hilger

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KBHT

Mehr Beratung. Weniger Steuer.

KBHT is a medium-sized accountancy, audit and law firm which was established by Michael Kalus, Ullrich Bork, Herbert Hilger and Ernst Thomas, who previously had worked in the Düsseldorf Price Waterhouse office. KBHT stands for the initials of the four founding partners.

Over the years the firm undertook a steady growth so that nowadays KBHT is headed by 13 partners and employs approximately 140 staff members. Its head office is still in Neuss very close to Düsseldorf, but KBHT also maintains further offices in the area of North Rhine-Westphalia.

The focus of KBHT is on serving for smaller and medium-sized operations, the famous German Mittelstand, which in our definition means owner managed companies. The SME focus also refers to international companies. For the time being, KBHT is serving for about 100 branches or subsidiaries of foreign located headquarters.

KBHT´s services comprise standard services, such as payroll and financial accounting, but also audit services which are carried out by the registered audit firm KBHT Steuer- und Wirtschaftsberatung GmbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft. KBHT's main focus is on providing highly qualified tax advice which is reflected in the service motto 'More advice. Less tax'.

KBHT´s clients very much appreciate that also legal services are rendered by in-house lawyers who closely cooperate with a local notary.

With regard to international companies KBHT has developed a unique experience and expertise in providing outsourcing services which means that apart from payroll and financial accounting KBHT also offers customised services and solutions which allow our customers to concentrate on the essential - their business. In order to support the clients when crossing the border, KBHT is a long-standing member of IAPA, a worldwide association of independent accountancy firms with representations in more than 300 countries.

When it comes to tax advisory services, KBHT is preparing creative and tailor-made solutions for its clients. The expertise here is evidenced by the award Top Tax Adviser in the category of large accountancy firms which was awarded to KBHT by business magazine Focus Money seven times in consecutive order. Last but not least we may refer to the award "Tax Consulting Firm of the Year in Germany".

At the end of the day our personal and tailor-made services always aim at contributing to the economic success of our clients.

With our experience and expertise, our highly motivated team, we are convinced that we will meet the challenges of the future and will further strengthen our market position in Germany.

KBHT's main focus is on providing highly qualified tax advice.

Trade Law Firm of the Year in Germany



FRANZ
RECHTSANWÄLTE

FRANZ Rechtsanwälte

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All trade law matters are being handled by the lawyers of the practice group "Commercial / Outsourced Legal Department" of FRANZ Rechtsanwälte.

The practice group comprises of a core team of five well experienced lawyers (Udo von Fragstein/ Karsten Korrat/Sebastian Henning/Antonio Calderon/ Frank Marek) who are clearly focused on providing continuous advice and support to clients on all legal questions related to clients' business operations. This includes in particular all areas of trade law, often within an international context. For example, the team helps national clients as well as multi-national corporations to set up their distribution systems, to draft and negotiate sale and purchase agreements, and supports them in other co-operations, projects and joint ventures. All members of the practice group have extensive expertise in all areas of law that are typically involved therewith, which includes trade law as such, but also involves other legal areas, for example anti-trust law and intellectual property law.

According to their clients, the practice group "Commercial / Outsourced Legal Department" of FRANZ Rechtsanwälte offers them what they want from business lawyers: genuine expertise, continuity, consistently high quality, efficiency, availability, advice in plain language and an eye for the broader picture.

The clients of the firm include small / medium-sized enterprises as well large multinational corporations. In many projects international legal aspects or implications are to be considered. Moreover, a considerable number of clients have their headquarters abroad, especially in the US, Great Britain, France, Austria, Switzerland, the Benelux countries and Asia. Thanks to the international education of the team members of the practice group, and a broad network of longstanding contacts to other advisors in other jurisdictions, the firm is able to offer seamless cross-border support.

Members of the practice group are frequently recommended lawyers in various publications and market research instruments for many years. Clients describe them as "competent and pragmatic" or as "very innovative".

It has also been proven a great benefit that the team can make use of experience both as external lawyers as well as from the in-house perspective. Due to their longstanding experience, all lawyers are familiar with internal company processes and are therefore used to working with and within corporate structures to achieve effective results for the clients, either together with their legal department or in direct contact with managing directors or operational departments.

Depending on their position on the respective markets, the clients of FRANZ Rechtsanwälte often have to consider competition law / anti-trust law requirements, not only in distribution agreements, but also in other purchase, license or R&D related forms of co-operations / joint ventures. As FRANZ Rechtsanwälte strives to establish long-lasting relationships with its clients, they not only consider those issues in the individual project, but also address them to create awareness and to improve clients' processes, hence helping to reduce risks and to facilitate future projects.

The practice group perfectly fits within the full service approach of FRANZ Rechtsanwälte, which is an independent law firm of 20 business lawyers, based in Düsseldorf (Germany) with a branch office in Basel (Switzerland).

Private Client Trust Advisory Firm of the Year in Guernsey



Rawlinson & Hunter

RAWLINSON & HUNTER

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Rawlinson & Hunter is an international grouping of professional firms, specialising in financial and taxation advice. Our offices stretch from London to New Zealand, through Guernsey and Jersey to Switzerland, Bermuda, the Cayman Islands, the British Virgin Islands, Singapore and Australia. Our skill lies in maximising the rewards that prosperity can bring. For the private client, we can take the strain, safeguarding their assets, leaving them to enjoy the benefits, rather than suffer the burdens, of wealth.

The maze of UK and international law is complex to navigate alone, particularly for clients with profiles in many jurisdictions. Our grouping of offices can provide global advice and solutions. We administer billions of dollars of assets in offshore jurisdictions and specialise in providing trust and company administration services.

Our expertise is not limited to individuals. Our partners are all qualified professionals who are trained to look at the big picture. Both private and corporate clients can equally benefit from our skill at finding solutions to match their own distinctive financial circumstances.

We are different, as is our way of working. Our partners like to get to know their clients well and carry out much of the work in person, often face to face. Most of our clients have come to us through a personal recommendation, evidence of our reputation as leaders in our field.

Guernsey

Rawlinson & Hunter has been present in Guernsey since 1980. Guernsey is recognised as one of the best regulated and well respected offshore financial centres in the world. It has long established Trust and Company legislation and is known for its modern and innovative legislation within the financial services arena. This specialised and established legal framework enables us to offer excellence and expertise to our international client base.

As a locally owned and managed fiduciary service provider, we have the autonomy and independence which allows us to focus on our clients' needs. We pride ourselves on our personal and flexible approach to client servicing.

We provide trustee and corporate administration services, family office and private trust company administration services, together with advisory and accounting services associated with international structures. We work for both private clients and corporations located around the globe.

We have a team of experienced and dedicated professionals providing these services. We have developed bespoke proprietary software solutions which are designed and tailored to meet clients' individual reporting requirements.

In addition to the fiduciary business, R&H Funds Services (Guernsey) Limited offer a highly competitive fund administration service for both Open and Closed Ended collective investment vehicles.

Rawlinson & Hunter Limited and our service companies, R&H Trust Co. (Guernsey) Limited, Granary Trust Limited, Portman Welbeck Limited and International Company Management Limited are licensed to carry on fiduciary business in accordance with the Regulation of Fiduciaries Administration Businesses and Company Directors (Bailiwick of Guernsey) Law 2000 as regulated by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission. Portman Welbeck Limited is also licensed by the Guernsey Financial Services Commission as an Insurance Manager. R&H Fund Services (Guernsey) Limited is licensed to carry on Controlled Investment Business.

Business Finance Bank of the Year in Ireland

Operate in the Food Chain? Then we're the bank for you.

Wherever you are in the global food chain – producer, trader, processor or retailer – Rabobank is uniquely qualified to help you succeed. As the world's leading F&A bank, we offer specialised products and services at each link in the chain.

From financing harvest and inventory to hedging against volatile commodity prices or optimally structuring capital, we are there for you. Rabobank has been in Ireland since 1994, and we now have a strong and growing position in banking the Irish F&A sector. With our roots as a farmers' cooperative, Rabobank has consistently provided financial backing and expertise in your field. From farm to fork.

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Rabobank

Business Restructuring Advisory Firm of the Year in Ireland



Bridgewater

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Bridgewater was formed in 1999 to meet the needs of companies experiencing strategic challenges and undergoing significant business transformations. Since formation, the company has built a client base of successful SMEs, multinational and blue chip clients. It has been instrumental in adding significant value to these organisations and has a track record of success – many of these in the SME sector.

The company provides the following services:

- Strategy / business model development
- Financial / accounting services
- Business restructuring – operational, organisational, strategic
- Business planning and feasibility studies
- Training and business mentoring

Bridgewater is at the forefront in helping fledgling businesses reach their potential. Alan Carey, Bridgewater managing partner, noted: "Our team of experienced and dedicated strategy professionals are chosen for their broad range of skills and are expected to have practical hands on entrepreneurial experience allied with sound academic knowledge.

"Our consultants have more than 50 years' experience in delivering business strategies, transformation and organisational change programmes. We focus on the achievement of business value along with very strong analytical and communication skills which enable us to manage change initiatives to solution delivery.

"We are experts in business plan development, market research, finance consulting for growth or restructuring and business training / coaching."

Bridgewater has recently been appointed as consulting partner to BusinessChallenger.com,

Bridgewater is at the forefront in helping fledgling businesses reach their potential.

an innovative cloud-based solution to provide consistent and expert reviews of business plans. This solution is currently in use among several Enterprise Support agencies and bodies across Ireland and the UK.

Mr Carey commented: "At Bridgewater, we understand strategic business requirements and processes, and turn them into practical workable solutions through strategic guidance, business analysis, design, planning and solution delivery. It is our passion for helping small businesses grow that makes Bridgewater the best there is."

Client Choice - Patents Law Firm of the Year in Italy



GLP Intellectual Property Office

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GLP is a European IP firm recognized and respected worldwide. The firm specializes in the protection and enforcement of IP rights in Europe and overseas, wherever our Clients operate. GLP brings an instinctive commitment to cultivate all the skills required to deliver world-class services tailored to its Clients.

Since 1967 GLP has grown by word-of-mouth marketing among satisfied Clients that share our top commitment to delivering high-quality services and developing long-term partnerships. We like to be involved because we believe that partnerships ensure our Clients' satisfaction and ours.

In GLP we believe in partnership with our Clients, understanding their real needs, their industry and market, counseling them on the real world with the most efficient solutions to enable them to share the widest range of opportunities.

Clients describe us as "having a very deep knowledge – both technical and legal – and being effective, efficient, flexible, available and pleasant".

We are a quality top-ranked firm in Europe and in Italy always innovating our approach and looking at each success as a starting point.

We are extremely committed in always providing the best practice. We work in an international market with multi-sized Clients and we strive to use this to spice our approach with all the best flavours we experience or develop over time.

Most of our team has decades of experience in the IP field, from counseling to drafting applications, oppositions, contracts, legal and technical opinions. We draft and prosecute patent, trade mark and design applications all around the world, with the full awareness of the complexity of our work and the full responsibility of the trust our Clients place in us.

We have developed our own anti-counterfeiting system to monitor the web, from market places to social networks, and our IT team is able to meet and exceed every Client's expectation.

We push our team to communicate and to compare approaches and points of view.

Our knowledge counts over 100,000 cases, and when it comes to each Client, the "C" is in capital letter.

The Legal Department of GLP is headed by the managing partner Davide Luigi Petraz, who has an international experience. Mr. Petraz started his career after an L.L.M in Washington DC. Actually he is a Italian lawyer, a European, Italian and San Marino patent, design and trademark attorney.

Mr. Petraz is Member of the List of Neutrals of the WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Center. He is also a Council Member at EPI, Member of Executive Board of AIPPI Italy and Member of ECTA, INTA, LES, AIDB, MARQUES and INDICAM.

We now have offices in Udine, Milan, Republic of San Marino, Perugia and Zürich.

Commercial Tax Litigation Law Firm of the Year in Italy



GENESIS Avvocati

genesis AVVOCATI

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GENESIS Avvocati with office located in Milan, Italy, is one of the founders of the alliance "GENESIS" with offices strategically located in Paris and Brussels, who joined the forces of more than forty European lawyers dedicated to meet the legal needs of a diverse list of clients, prestigious industries and promising start-ups on local, national and international fronts. GENESIS is committed to expand its presence beyond the European borders to intercept the opportunities to provide legal services in the most dynamic economies.

GENESIS Avvocati provides services in areas of practice that are essential to domestic and international corporations and business entities operating in the following fields: general constructions, iron and steel manufacturers, technology vendors and distributors, books and magazines publishers, banks and financing corporations, etc.

GENESIS Avvocati has a strong expertise in commercial and taxation, providing sophisticated tax planning for national and foreign companies across a range of transactions and situations and undertaking due diligence activities to verify the accuracy and correctness of the procedures adopted by the business with respect to revenue taxes, VAT - Value Added Tax and other applicable taxes. The firm provides services including the examination of corporate structure, fiscal analysis of the foreign country in order to enable the client to estimate the convenience of doing business there, and the analysis of the international aspects concerning the transfer of the gain obtained (operating income, royalties, etc.) to Italy.

GENESIS Avvocati enhanced through the GENESIS network its capacity to handle complex operations and tax controversies having international profiles as well.

When tax controversies arise, GENESIS Avvocati is skilled at representing corporate entities before the Italian Tax Courts and the Supreme Court (Corte di Cassazione), being experienced in all types of taxes as: corporate income tax, capital gains, VAT, stamp duties, real estate taxes, etc. with a very high percentage of success based on the amount/value of taxes under judgment before the competent courts. Being for a second year in a row the winner of "Corporate Intl Magazine Global Award - Commercial Tax Litigation Law Firm of the Year in Italy" we believe is a confirmation of our skillful commitment.

Fulvio Di Domenico is a founder of the firm and he is the head of the tax department of the firm. He graduated in law (magna cum laude) from the University "La Sapienza" of Rome in 1992 with a thesis in income tax law on fund management and the reserves in the tax withholding under Prof. Augusto Fantozzi. He then completed a master in fiscal law and fiscal corporate accounting at the University LUISS – Guido Carli, 1993. He was admitted to the Bar on January 11, 1996. His professional activities began in 1993.

International Business Advisory Firm of the Year in Italy



Dalla Verità & Partners

DALLA VERITA' & PARTNERS

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www.dallaverita.it

STEP
ADVISING FAMILIES ACROSS GENERATIONS

Dalla Verità & Partners, founded by Gianluca Maria Dalla Verità, is a team of experienced professionals who provides services to international Groups and high-net-worth individuals (HNWI). The team combines longstanding experience with in-depth knowledge of corporate law and international taxation.

The firm is young and innovative and matches legal expertise with the ongoing analysis of global economics; its staff regularly takes part in international events, forums and studies.

An extensive, worldwide network of fellow professionals and organisations ensures a friendly, tailored approach: this not only makes Dalla Verità & Partners the ideal investment advisor, but also an invaluable partner for the optimisation and restructuring of existing entities from a legal, tax and financial perspective.

Gianluca Maria Dalla Verità, a chartered public accountant, a qualified auditor and TEP, is the founder of Dalla Verità & Partners, with branches in Bologna and London, specialized in advisory, M&A (advisor and originator) and cross-border taxation. He is experienced in financial instruments and securitisation vehicles in compliance with EU legislation, and has a remarkable and successful track record in the Far East and in African countries.

An extensive, worldwide network of fellow professionals and organisations ensures a friendly, tailored approach.

He is a member of various bodies operating in the field of international tax law and a member of STEP, the London-based Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners.

Gianluca Maria Dalla Verità works with HNWI in areas such as tax structures for managers and sportsmen, real estate tax planning and regulations, and Arts. His considerable experience in trusts and probate proceedings makes him the best counsel for wealth management and family businesses.

Moreover, he is a regular contributor to leading publishers such as WOLTERS KLUWER with more than a hundred publications on taxation and corporate, trust and business law. He regularly lectures on these subjects for private entities and associations.

Gianluca Maria Dalla Verità has been studying worldwide trends and habits for decades. His analyses are marked by an insatiable curiosity about the individual motivations and behaviours that underlie macroeconomic phenomena. He is equally at ease both exchanging ideas with common people and scholars or leading entrepreneurs. His desire to understand the "stories behind the story" underpins astute strategic analyses of future events - insights that he enjoys sharing with clients and friends alike in open conversations.

Multi-Level Marketing Law Firm of the Year in Italy

Maiano Pisano & Partners

Maurizio Maiano
Senior Partner
Tel: +39 (0)2 72 22 201
info@mpplaw.it
www.mpplaw.it

International Business and Corporate oriented Law Firm

The firm originated in 1961 with the opening of the first Italian office of Graham & James, a US law firm based in San Francisco which sought to assist foreign businesses doing business in Italy and, in particular, Italian subsidiaries of American corporations. In 1981, Paolo Pisano, an American attorney and senior partner of Graham & James, together with Maurizio Maiano, also a member of Graham & James, established Pisano De Vito Maiano Catucci & Partners, which then evolved in Maiano Pisano & Partners. Strong of its cross-border nature, Maiano Pisano & Partners continue to assist national and international corporate clients and high net worth individuals in business transactions and in resolving disputes in both Italian and international forums. As one of the earliest international corporate practices in Italy, the firm had and continue to hold a key role in making the Italian market accessible to international corporates, assisting from the incorporation of the Italian subsidiary, the acquisition of a target, the structuring of joint trading operations and advising on efficient distribution models.

Direct Selling and Multi-Level Marketing

In the context of the Italian legal market, Maiano Pisano & Partners may be considered as a leading specialist advisors on Direct Selling and Multi-Level Marketing business structures, having assisted some of the largest global organizations in the industry. Since 1992, the firm has developed an expertise in one of the most flourishing niche area where industrial and commercial concerns choose to implement and enjoy the advantages of door-to-door home sales and multi-level marketing activity for the sale and distribution of their products and services worldwide.

The constant support and advice to Multi-Level Marketing Business has been consisting of revisiting and drafting agreements with door-to-door home salespersons ("Incaricati alle Vendite a Domicilio") and other commercial and contractual documents to be implemented (Compensation Plan, Rules of conduct, Policies and Procedures and ancillary documentation), assessing legal conformity of marketing and promotional plan and adaption to local rules and practices, monitoring the constant evolving legislation and interpretation by the Italian Anti-Trust Authority, including anti pyramid regulations, ensuring compliance with Consumer protective legislation, advising on special legal, tax and social security treatments applicable to Distributors.

Maurizio Maiano, acting as Managing Partner of the Firm since 1997, is a member of the Milan Bar Association since 1983, qualified as a Non-Executive Company Director and a Certified Public Accountant. He is also a member of the State Bar of California (International Section), having completed his postgraduate studies at the McGeorge School of Law, California and having practiced at Attia, Bartel, Eng & Torngren in Sacramento, California. Bilingual in Italian and English, and fluent in French, he has been a point of reference for international individuals and corporations looking to access the Italian market.

Spanish Company Advisory Firm of the Year in Italy



SITAX – Studio Tributario Internazionale

Ferdinando De Feo
Partner
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f.defeo@sitax.it
www.sitax.it

SITAX - Studio Tributario Internazionale is a professional partnership of Certified Public Accountants, tax experts and Registered Auditors. The firm's strategic goal is to provide qualified assistance for companies and organisations operating on the national and international market. SITAX team is multilingual and services are offered in English, French and Spanish.

Thanks to the long-standing experience of its partners and professionals, the firm offers highly qualified professional advice in the tax, corporate and accounting fields and in cases of tax litigation. SITAX also provides actuarial audit services (in English and Spanish) and asset management consulting and is sole sub-contractor in Italy for providing financial audit services for the EU within the Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration activities (FP7).

"A close-knit team made up of experienced experts and young CPAs coming from first-tier firms and universities and supported by international partnerships is a guarantee of all-round professional advice and assistance for foreign clients interested in investing in Italy as well as for Italian clients aiming at the development of international business opportunities," said Ferdinando De Feo, partner.

"The key to our success, and a guarantee of the high level of the advice we offer, is our clients' trust in us, based on our concern for loyal relationships, the constant pursuit of total satisfaction, and absolute transparency.

"Our technical know-how and the experience of our professionals are at the client's service for turning strategy into reality."

SITAX can number among its clients first-tier corporations and organisations operating nationally and internationally in various industries, in the tertiary sector, and in finance and insurance services as well as individuals in need of better management of their family assets. SITAX procedures are certified ISO 9001:2008 by SQS Swiss Association for Quality and Management Systems.

"The care we take over details for clients' particular characteristics and needs - independent of their nature (corporations, organisations, individuals or families) - is the key to our success," continued Mr De Feo.

The firm's advice and consultancy is always tailored and always based on a thorough preliminary analysis of the client's situation, market and specific requests.

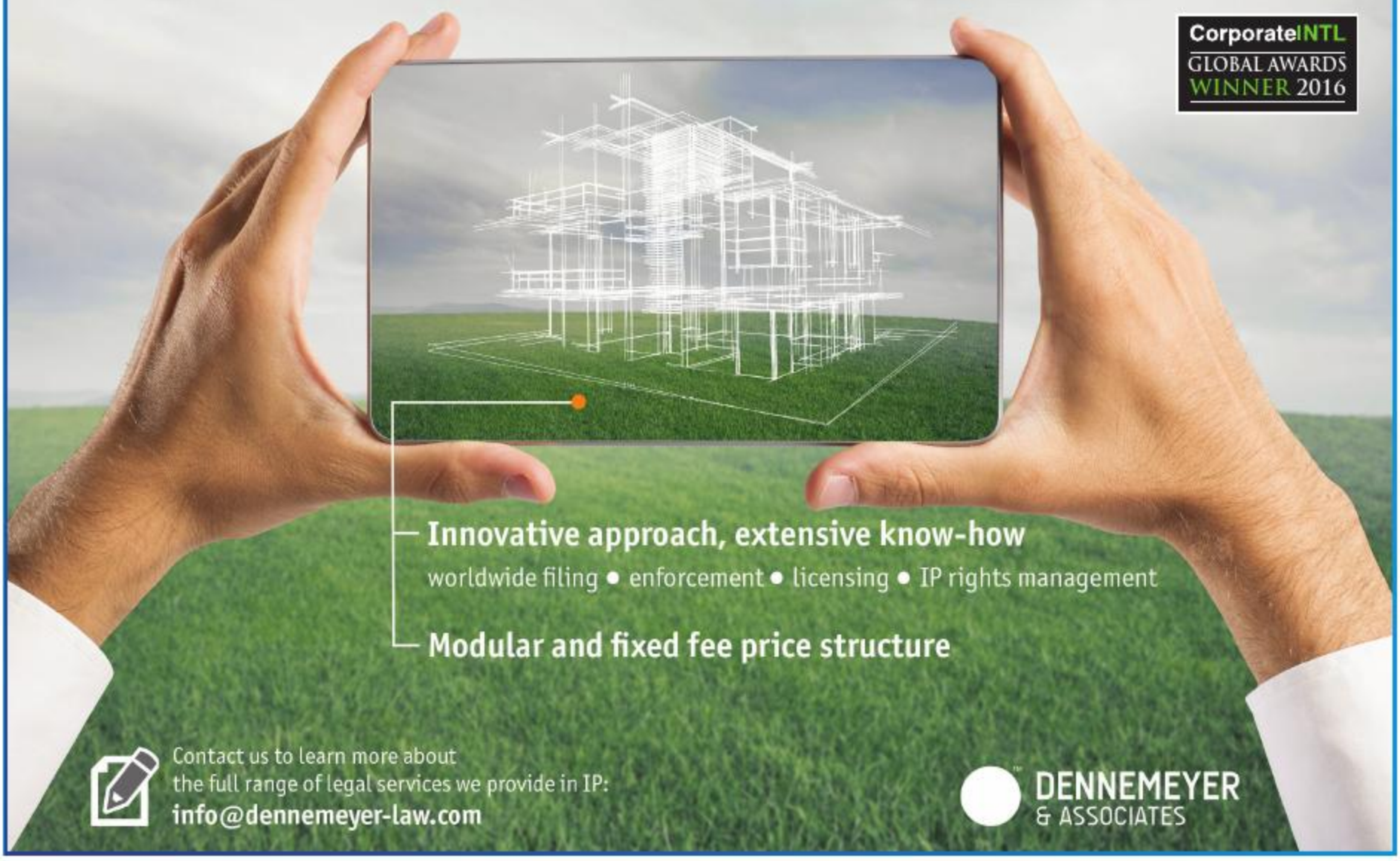
SITAX is a long-term member of Russell Bedford International, a global network of independent firms of accountants, auditors, tax advisers and business consultants.

Ranked as one of the world's top accounting networks, Russell Bedford is represented by some 600 partners, 5000 staff and 290 offices in more than 100 countries in Europe, the Americas, Middle East, Africa, Indian Sub-Continent and Asia-Pacific.

SITAX is also an honorary member of the Spanish Chamber of Commerce in Italy.

Trademark & Copyright Law Firm of the Year in Luxembourg

Benefit from our awarded expertise



Trademark & Copyright Law Firm of the Year in Luxembourg



Dennemeyer & Associates S.A.

Olivier LOMBARDO, LL.M. (Mr.)
Head of Trademarks Luxembourg
Tel: +352 276115-100
olombardo@dennemeyer-law.com
www.dennemeyer-law.com

DENNEMEYER & ASSOCIATES™

With the increasing number of global players setting up their IP assets management team in Luxembourg, it is vital to have a reliable partner supporting them with extensive know-how in worldwide filing, enforcement, licensing and management of IP rights. Dennemeyer & Associates S.A. is therefore very happy to be awarded Trademark & Copyright Law Firm of the Year in Luxembourg.

The law firm Dennemeyer & Associates is not only a traditional IP boutique. With more than 50 years of experience, its practice holds profound knowledge in intellectual property law with highly skilled worldwide partners making Dennemeyer one of the most repute firms in the IP field. The firm's innovative approach makes it an ideal partner to answer any IP related inquiries from portfolio management to enforcement and the licensing of IP rights.

With its head office established in Luxemburg, a leading financial center, the law firm is proficient in implementing adequate IP-related strategies, helping clients to benefit from the favorable tax regime on royalties. Dennemeyer is nowadays the perfect intellectual property full service provider with longstanding experience in bulk filings and prosecution work on behalf of major global players. Further, its modular and fixed fee price structure is very appealing to its clients.

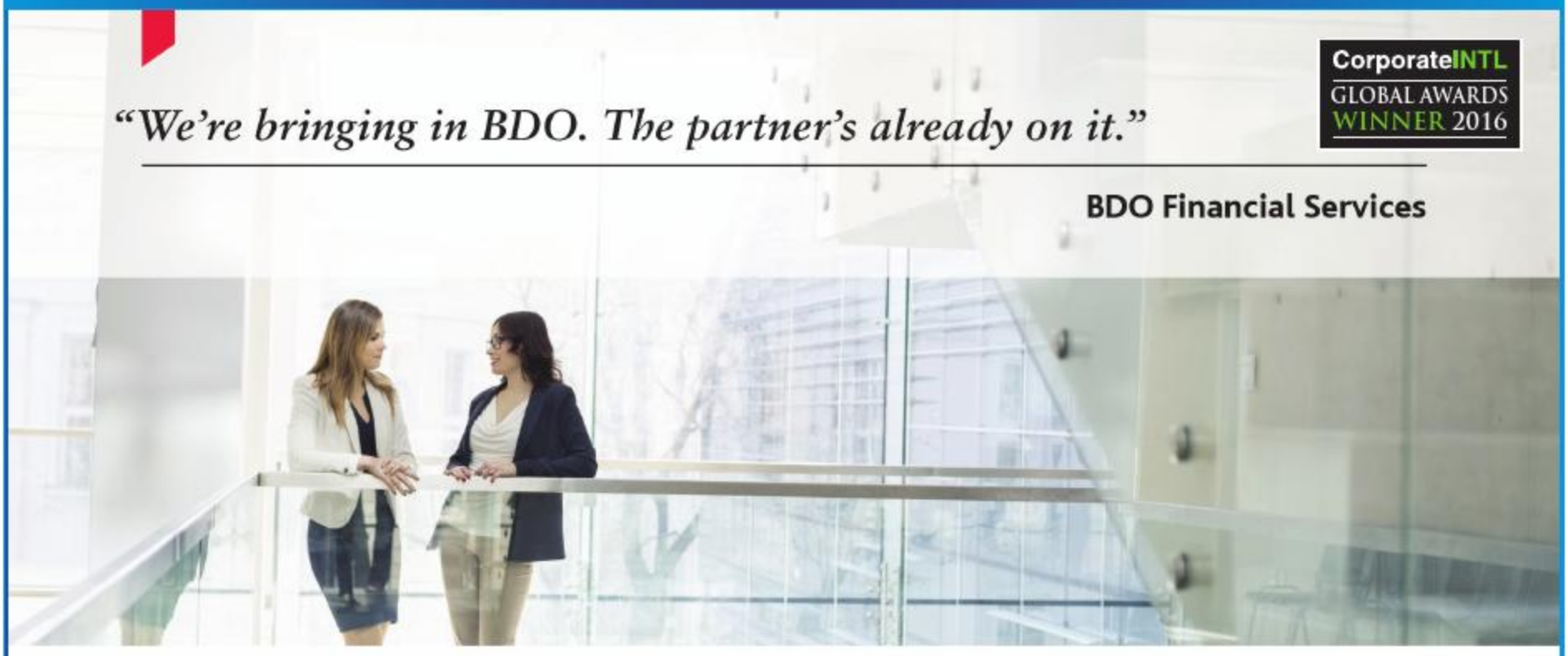
The firm's Trademark and Copyright service in Luxembourg is headed by Mr. Olivier Lombardo, a French, Luxembourgish and European trademark and design attorney. Before joining Dennemeyer, he gathered valuable experience with French Senator Pierre Lafitte (founder of Sophia Antipolis, one of Europe's biggest technology parks), in a German private practice and at the European Patent Office. Additionally, he gained insight into copyright issues of the media industry by co-founding a movie production company.

Specialized in trademark and design law, Mr. Lombardo has a wide range of experience in the enforcement of IP rights and the management of major multinational clients' portfolios in the automobile, fashion and food-processing industries, among others. Mr. Lombardo's experience in dealing with various aspects of the IP law and his strong understanding of the use of trademarks enable him to provide clients with global business-oriented solutions and practice-oriented contracts.

Mr. Lombardo also represents Dennemeyer & Associates at conferences and seminars and heads the Dennemeyer IP Breakfasts in Luxembourg. Fluent in French, English and German, Mr. Lombardo assists his clients worldwide and was listed for the third year in a row into the WTR 1000 (World Trademark Review) - The World's Leading Trademark Professionals 2014, 2015 and 2016.

Established in 1962, in Luxembourg, Dennemeyer & Associates has come a long way in 50 years, growing from a patent law firm into a multinational IP law firm with offices in eight countries and new locations being constantly added. Its lawyers offer world-class expertise in IP law for the following intellectual assets: patents, trademarks, designs, copyrights and domain names. As a pioneer in internationalizing strategic intellectual asset management, the firm is specialized in worldwide filing, enforcement, licensing and recordals of IP rights.

Business Advisory Accountancy Firm of the Year in Jersey



In today's rapidly evolving regulatory environment, knowledgeable and proactive guidance is more important than ever. BDO's partner-led audit, tax, advisory and outsourcing teams draw on global resources and deep industry sector knowledge to help clients navigate change, bolster investor confidence, and build value.

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Professional Negligence Law Firm of the Year in Northern Ireland / Insurance Litigation Law Firm of the Year in Northern Ireland



McKinty and Wright Solicitors

Lester Doake
Senior Partner
Tel: +44 (0) 2890 246751
lester.doake@mckinty-wright.co.uk
www.mckinty-wright.co.uk

McKinty and Wright's reputation as a quality legal service provider is widely recognised in the insurance profession and its team are known as defence litigation experts. The firm's professional negligence specialists are led by senior partner, Lester Doake. With over 30 years' experience, those in the sector describe Mr Doake as "very experienced and knowledgeable" with clients praising him for "taking a holistic and long term view."

Listed in Chambers as one of the leading teams in Northern Ireland, with over 3,000 defence litigation instructions received in the past five years, the firm's team are defendant litigation specialists. Along with the Law Society Master Policy Insurers, it acts for five of the top 10 insurers in the UK.

Receiving instructions from their defence organisations or insurers, McKinty and Wright provides legal services in respect of professional negligence claims to legal, medical, property and finance professionals. In recent years, the firm's specialists have also been handling complex professional negligence actions involving financial institutions arising out of the property crash in Northern Ireland.

"What sets us apart is our commitment to delivering the best legal service experience," said Mr Doake. "Our specialists understand the context in which we provide defence services to professionals and their insurers - our priority is to ensure each client is fully advised, supported and defended in proceedings arising out of a demanding and stressful job."

Taking a cost effective approach to claims when appropriate, McKinty and Wright help its clients utilise pre-proceedings mechanisms for dispute resolution, whilst having the knowledge and experience, including counter-fraud capabilities, to fully defend, both procedurally and substantively, claims which should and can be fought.

"Through the range of professional indemnity work carried out by the firm, we understand that a claim can not only affect a professional's reputation but can also have a profound impact on their ability to do their job," continued Mr Doake. "Our specialists understand that professionals are facing increasing external pressures, with escalating instances of litigation and new statutory responsibilities and potential liabilities. We have the expertise to support and guide professionals through the legal process and the professional and personal pressures that come with it."

McKinty and Wright take an industry recognised approach to risk management, headed by Sean McGahan, partner, who is the current chairperson of the NI Regional Group of the Institute of Risk Management and the firm's in-house expert on the subject.

Mr Doake concluded: "We are members of the Insurance Fraud Investigation Group (IFIG), membership of which is only obtained with the approval of two leading insurers, giving us unrivalled access to counter-fraud intelligence. This intelligence is utilised on behalf of our clients, along with the access to latest case law updates and market developments McKinty and Wright has as a member of the Forum of Insurance Lawyers (FOIL)."

Family Law Firm of the Year in Portugal

RA&A

Rogério Alves & Associados
Sociedade de Advogados RL

A strong and determined defence of our Clients' rights.

Our law firm was established on September 1st, 2013. We were born by the confluence of several lawyers, joining together their love for the profession and their professional track-record.

Our motto: Advise our Clients, throughout a competent and attentive manner, on how to best fulfil their rights and comply with their duties. To choose pre-emption legal advice as centrepiece of dispute resolution. This is one of the various aspects of our activity as a law firm. Seeking a strong and forthright defence of our Clients' interests entrusted to us, wherever it matters.



JOÃO PERRY DA CÂMARA *Partner*

ROGÉRIO ALVES *Partner*

FILIPE BARATA *Partner*

JOÃO PEDRO VARANDAS *Partner*

Main Practice Areas:
Litigation & Arbitration
Business Law
Public Law

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Emerging Tax Law Firm of the Year in Russia



Schekin and Partners, LLC

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Managing Partner
Tel: +7 495 984 63 01
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Schekin & Partners

About Us

Schekin & Partners specializes in tax, commercial and corporate law and various types of litigation.

The firm provides legal advice to leading Russian and multinational companies in oil and gas, metals, food products, automotive, construction, transportation, IT, banking, wholesale and retail and other industries.

Schekin & Partners provides superior services with depth of knowledge and wealth of experience, particularly in litigation. The firm wins precedent-setting cases for its clients and helps them navigate the constantly evolving legal landscape.

The team of Schekin & Partners follows a rigorous program of professional study, analyzing all key publications on tax and civil law, and all available court rulings and official guidance.

The firm leverages its established connections with leading academics at the Lomonosov Moscow State University Faculty of Law and other universities to obtain expert commentary on the most complex problems relating to any branch of law.

Partners

Denis Schekin is the Managing Partner of Schekin & Partners. According to internationally recognized sources such as The Legal 500, Chambers Europe, The Best Lawyers, Tax Directors Handbook, and The European Legal Experts, Denis has ranked in Russia's top 20 tax law professionals since 2009.

Elena Bogdanova (partner) focuses on audits of financial statements and tax reports. She provides services to companies in areas such as accounting, tax, financial analysis, transfer pricing and accounting methodology for financial reporting and tax purposes.

Roman Serb-Serbin (partner) focuses on protecting the interest of Russian and foreign companies in and out of court, corporate disputes, bankruptcy, recognition and enforcement of foreign court decisions and arbitral awards, commercial and corporate law.

Areas of practice

Possessing excellent professional command, the firm provides full legal support in tax controversies of any complexity, including disputes relating to VAT refunds, foreign company tax and tax exemptions.

One of the priority areas of the firm's activity is tax consulting and tax litigation including the field of transfer pricing, accounting and taxation management, tax risk evaluation and audit.

The civil law practice of the firm is represented by team of professionals having vast experience in bankruptcy issues, corporate law, commercial law, real estate, dispute resolution and enforcement proceedings.

The team of Schekin & Partners follows a rigorous program of professional study, analyzing all key publications on tax and civil law.

Payroll Services Accountancy Firm of the Year in South East Europe & Eastern Mediterranean

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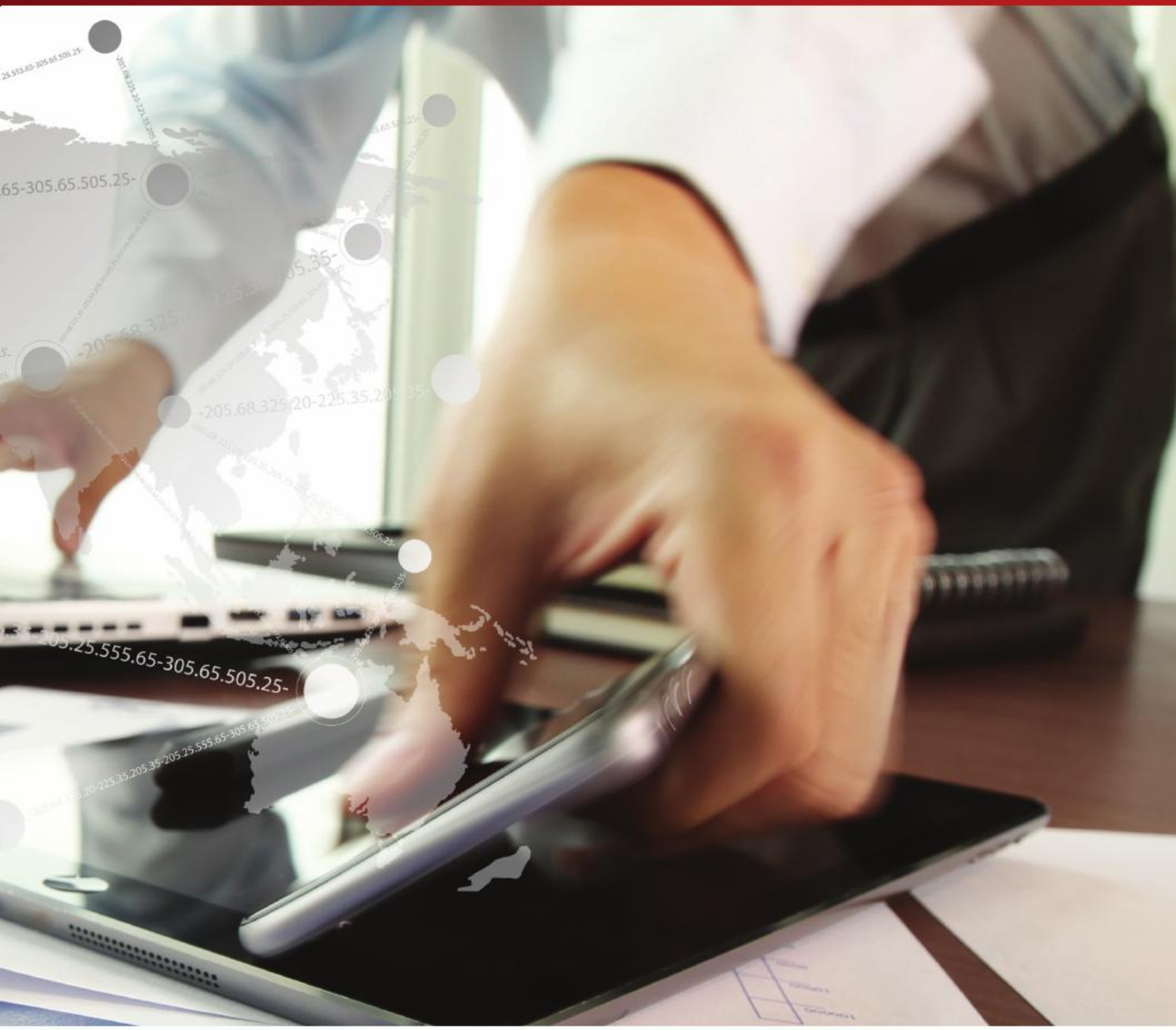
THE AMERICAS WINNERS



The US has the largest and most technologically developed economy in the world. Business firms in the US enjoy a greater degree of flexibility compared to businesses in other regions in terms of innovation and expansion.

Amidst deteriorating terms of trade, challenging domestic business climates and widespread droughts, growth in Latin America and the Caribbean slowed to 0.9% in 2014 from 2.7% in 2013 – the slowest in 13 years apart from the Great Recession of 2009. There were marked differences among the sub-regions: almost no growth in South America contrasted with robust expansion in developing Central and North America and the Caribbean. This divergence partly reflected the more extensive trade exposure of Central and North America and the Caribbean to the United States, compared to the heavy reliance of South America on commodity exports.

Prices of key commodities for the region (oil, soy beans, gold, copper, and maize) declined through the second half of 2014, and remained soft in the first half of 2015. Domestic demand growth weakened. An increase in net exports largely reflected weak imports, although a bumper soy harvest in Argentina, strong gas exports from Bolivia, and large gold shipments from the Dominican Republic were positive factors. In addition to the weakened terms of trade resulting from lower commodity prices, domestic macroeconomic challenges also contributed significantly to the slowdown in South America, as several large economies slowed down markedly or even contracted.



In Argentina, modest growth was led by government consumption, while double-digit inflation rates weighed on private consumption, and weak soy bean prices dented export earnings. A sovereign rating downgrade dampened investor confidence. Despite the tourism receipts and capital investments associated with the FIFA World Cup, Brazil, the region's largest economy, stagnated. Political uncertainty surrounding the presidential election, a corruption scandal, large fiscal deficits, China's slowdown, accelerating inflation, monetary tightening and lower prices of key exports (iron ore and soy) all contributed to denting consumer and investor confidence. An extended drought led to further uncertainty surrounding water and electricity supplies.

In the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, where oil constitutes more than 90% of exports, and around half of government revenue, activity contracted yet again as a result of the oil price plunge. The challenging business climate includes rampant inflation; a disorderly currency market with an overvalued official rate and dearth of foreign exchange; and pervasive price controls, which have created widespread shortages of consumer items and intermediate goods. In contrast, growth in developing Central and North America accelerated to 2.4%. Led by Mexico, the sub-region saw stronger exports supported by US demand that continues to gather momentum.

Record-high tourism and robust mining exports lifted the Dominican Republic and other Caribbean economies, where growth increased from 3.8 % in 2013 to 5.5% in 2014. Despite the drop in world energy and food prices, inflation remained high in some of the large economies of

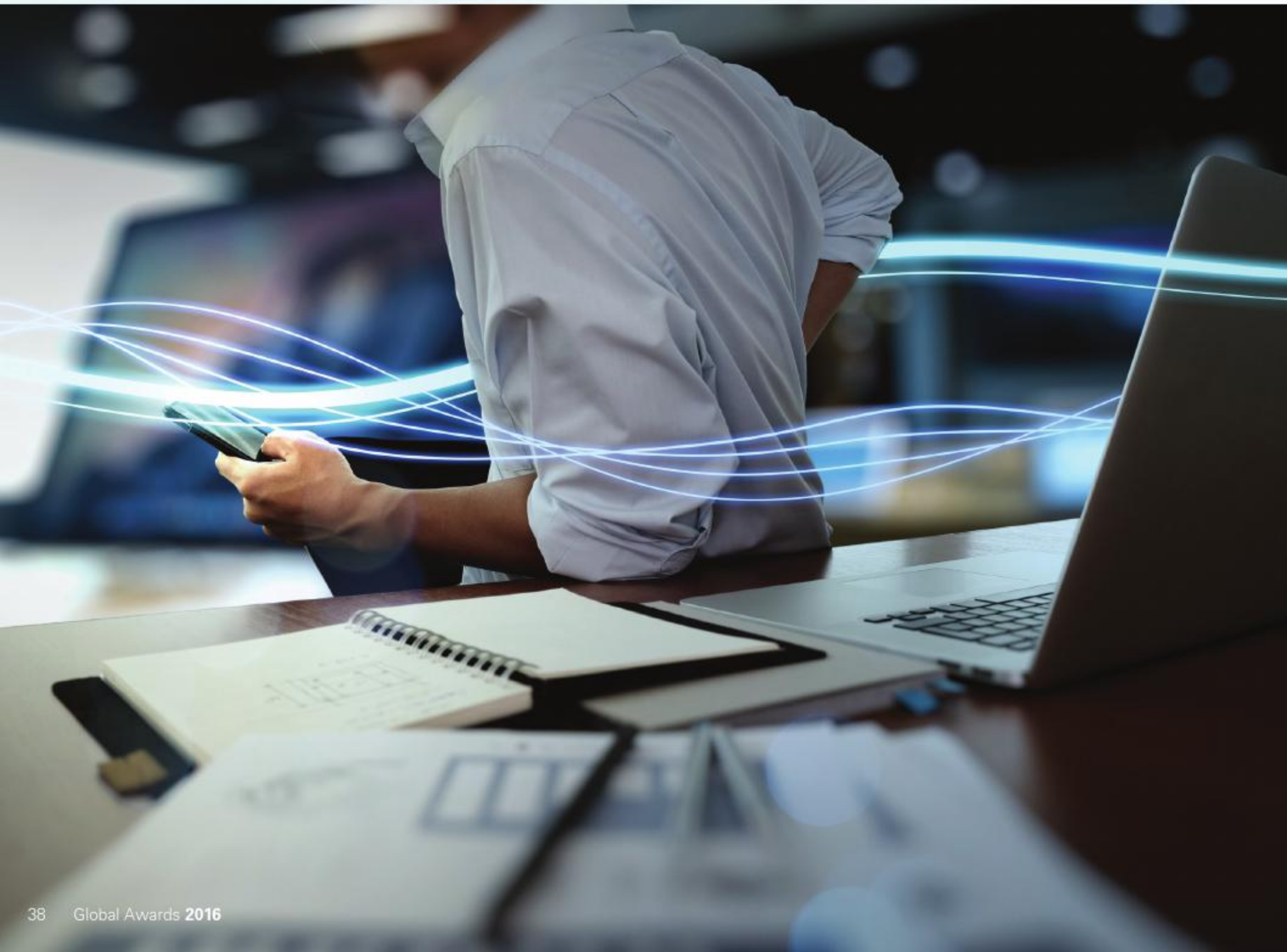
South America. Annual inflation reached about 65% in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in the second half of 2014. In Argentina, annual inflation was 15.8% as of April 2015.

In Brazil, both headline and core inflation have risen as a result of several factors: depreciation of the real, increases in regulated prices, a tight labour market, and a prolonged drought that has led to a potential energy shortage as water at hydroelectric dams reaches low levels.

A sharp depreciation also contributed to an increase in inflation in Colombia, where it has breached the central bank's upper target limit. Core inflation rose in most countries (except in Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Paraguay). However, partly due to falling oil and food prices, headline inflation has declined across the region, especially in oil-importing countries. On average, compared to rates in 2014, headline inflation rates in developing Central and North America have fallen by a third, while those in the Caribbean have nearly halved. After a robust first half of 2014, overall gross capital flows to the region weakened after July.

International bond issuance continues to dominate these inflows. In contrast, equity flows remain small, while bank lending has been volatile, especially in recent months. Despite the weakening in overall flows, international bond issuance by regional debtors still reached a new record in 2014, 10% above 2013 levels, as investors pursued yields, amid ample global liquidity. Governments, oil and gas firms, and financial institutions accounted for the majority of issues.

A surge in sovereign issuance to cover 2015 budgets (Chile, Colombia, Mexico, and Peru) outweighed the negative impact of Argentina's credit rating downgrade to selective default in July. Issuance slowed in the fourth quarter and early 2015 on concerns surrounding a corruption scandal in Brazil, the first post-crisis interest rate increase in the US and the financial risks to Latin American borrowers from an appreciating US dollar (EIU, 2015).



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Offshore Tax Advisory Firm of the Year in Argentina



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With respect to TAX PRACTICE IN ARGENTINA, it is composed of 100 professionals and managed by 4 (four) renowned professionals:

1. Alberto Mastandrea (Partner).
2. Alejandra Sarni (Partner).
3. Guillermo Poch (Partner).
4. Ariel Efraim (Partner).

CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016



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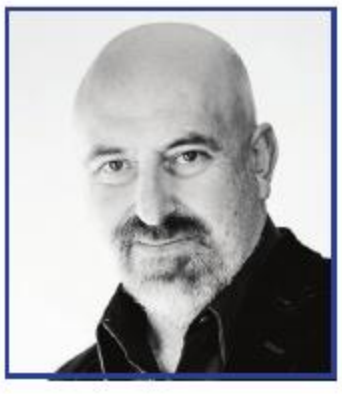
BDO ARGENTINA

In Argentina BDO is the 5th audit firm, providing also outsourcing, consultancy and TAX services.

Among the services rendered we can highlight:

- Tax advisory to define business strategies or solutions.
- Optimization of fiscal burden.
- Proposals to use favorable tax balances.
- Implementation of investment promotion projects.
- Tax updates.
- Comprehensive advisory in mergers, acquisitions and reorganization processes.
- Preparation or review of national, provincial and/or municipal tax returns.
- Preparation of export-related tax credit reimbursement.
- Support and follow-up in national, provincial and municipal monitoring processes.
- Monitoring compliance of formal and material obligations.
- Fiscal audits.
- Administrative proceedings and litigation.
- Transfer pricing.

Private Equity Advisory Firm of the Year in Argentina



First Corporate Finance Advisors S.A.

Miguel Arrigoni
Chairman & CEO
Tel: +54 (11) 4311-6014
miguel.arrigoni@firstcfa.com
www.firstcfa.com

FIRST CORPORATE FINANCE ADVISORS

First Corporate Finance Advisors S.A. (FIRST) is a leading financial services group with more than 30 years of experience in the Argentinean and Latin American markets.

Some of the firm's highlights include:

- Participating in more than 60 M&A transactions;
- Completing more than 500 valuations across the region in the past 10 years;
- Taking over 95 companies to the local capital markets;
- Structuring more than 1,000 series of trust securities valued at more than US$15 billion with an 80% market share - FIRST has been closely linked to the development of the local capital markets;
- Advising on corporate restructuring deals worth more than US$ 2 billion.

FIRST has three complementary business units that include corporate finance, capital markets and a specialised private equity business and team. The private equity team is led by seasoned professionals with strong finance and operating experience in the region.

With a structure of more than 90 people, FIRST is one of the largest corporate finance and financial services advisory firms in the region. The firm has a direct presence in Argentina, Uruguay, Brazil, Colombia and London.

"Our consolidated market position has been an advantage for deal origination and execution," said Mr Arrigoni.

FIRST specialises in providing highly sophisticated services to a wide range of diversified clients comprising:

- Major domestic and foreign company groups;
- Family businesses;
- National, provincial and municipal governments;
- Private equity funds & hedge funds.

Mr Arrigoni noted that M&A activity and private equity investments in Argentina have not been significant in the past decade compared with the rest of LATAM countries.

"However, the scenario has changed, and the recent change in government will bring Argentina back to the international financial markets, following the implementation of recent key economic reforms, which will bring new opportunities for foreign investors," he explained. "Entry of foreign players is expected in the short and medium term."

"From FIRST we provide some perspective and understanding of Argentina's current political and economic environment and provide input on why Argentina is becoming again attractive for PE investors."

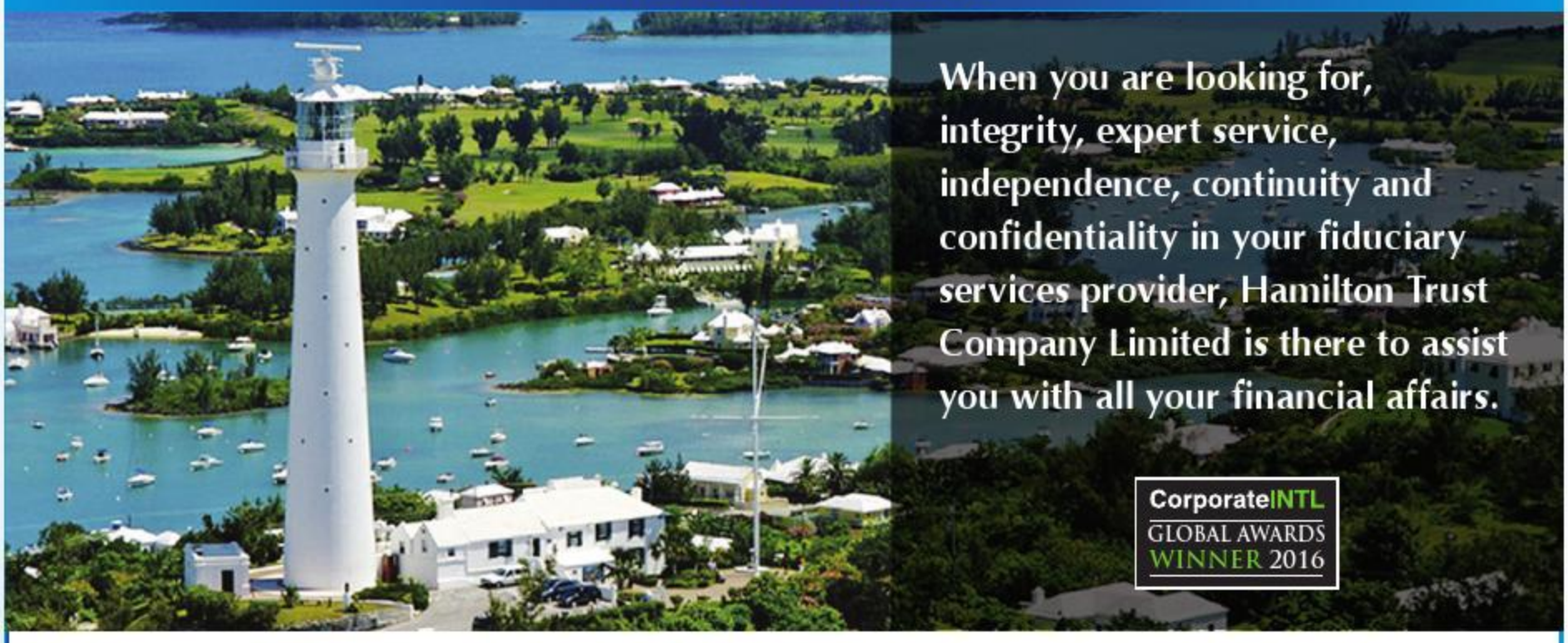
The firm has worked across and specialised in a broad range of industries in Argentina and has close contact with the main local players.

"Local companies are usually family run, face professionalisation challenges, and require capital to grow, in a local market that is becoming more dynamic," he continued. "We help foreign investors understand and adapt to the local business context.

"Valuations are another key item. Company valuations in Argentina have continued to be significantly below regional peers. As the economy gradually opens and the M&A flow increases, valuations are expected to increase. Timing is a key component: we help our clients to anticipate changes and develop successful market entry strategies."

In the next year the firm plans to expand its private equity portfolio and alliances with private equity players, continue to identify industries and sectors where value could be created, consolidate its presence in the main international and regional markets, and expand investment banking services.

Private Client Advisory Firm of the Year in Bermuda / Offshore Advisory Firm of the Year in Bermuda



We recognise that the relationships between ourselves and the individuals, families and corporations for whom we act are each unique. We are committed to providing you with the peace of mind which comes with knowing that the assets entrusted to us will be well cared for and properly administered.

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Editors' Choice - International Tax Advisory Firm of the Year in Brazil



Intecorp Group

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Leonardo Braune is a respected and highly experienced consultant in the areas of international tax, real estate planning, wealth preservation, fiduciary advice, implementation and management of international structures and projects. With a vast experience in tax, and extremely diversified client base and a very strong global network of top specialists in many different business related areas, Leonardo has led a large number of successful projects in several industries including oil and gas, telecommunications, real estate, international services, investments funds and asset management. Intercorp Group was established under the supervision of Leonardo Braune, with the objective of becoming one of the few true international tax consulting boutiques, fully capable of providing high quality tax, estate planning and fiduciary structuring services, delivering to its clients only the most efficient and practical solutions.

INTERNATIONAL INVESTMENT STRUCTURING

The firm's offering includes diversifying investments into other countries; the requirement to mitigate the associated tax obligations.

A primary concern of high-net-worth families is ensuring their wealth is sustainable, protected both now and for future generations. As a result, many families have long mobilised their assets internationally, safeguarding them against political, economic or social instability.

PROTECTION OF FAMILY BUSINESSES ABROAD

The firm assists in expanding family companies into other territories, as well as the necessary safeguarding of both intellectual property and the potential for multijurisdictional wealth generation.

As a natural consequence of family members moving abroad, many family businesses are expanding into other territories, bringing forth a plethora of considerations regarding the protection of the business. In terms of intellectual property, while clients will have taken care of the processes required to register and protect their brand under domestic legislation, this protection will often not survive under another jurisdiction. As the business expands, both the brand identity and the fundamental concept – the processes or products it trades on – are vulnerable to exploitation by competitors.

ASSET PROTECTION

Intercorp also safeguards wealth and protects assets against liability arising from new investments.

In making new investments internationally and outside of the family business, the potential liability for risk naturally increases. Intercorp works alongside both the families and their existing advisers to identify ways in which to minimise such risks. Our consultants will assess and properly protect the invested assets and effectively structure the business to ensure the risks fall directly and solely on the capital to be invested. Our global perspective is particularly valuable for these types of engagements, as we ensure that any structuring undertaken is enforceable and reliable across all territories.

While Intercorp Group is wholly independent, relationships and business agreements form its lifeblood.

"Great business is built through trust, transparency and reciprocity"

As a consultancy that advises on an international basis, business joint ventures for specific jurisdictions are pivotal in providing the best advice and outcomes for our clients.

The client is made fully aware of the firms involved in their solutions and vice versa: these firms know we are representing particularly valued clients. Both parties elect to work with us because they continue to recognise the value we provide and not because they are legally nor structurally bound to our services.

Our relationships are built to last; however, the responsibility rests with Intercorp to sustain a quality service which both firms respect and which clients want to employ. This structure has, to date, proven extremely productive. The client continues to deal solely with Intercorp Group, reducing time and costs. Intercorp Group is meticulously honest and transparent about its capabilities – leveraging longstanding and trusted relationships to provide solutions to clients in the most efficient way. We operate with the connections, relationships and the fiduciary responsibility of acting on behalf of the client.

Intercorp Group is a privately owned high-level consulting firm, which provides tax, estate planning and fiduciary structure solutions to high-net-worth families.

Intercorp Group functions as an accessible interface, streamlining intelligence from an elite global network of professionals and specialists and ultimately bestowing on clients both the knowledge, confidence and solutions to handle their matters in the best possible way.

Local - Public Relations Consulting Firm of the Year in Brazil





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Tino Comunicação

Tino Comunicação is Brazil´s first corporate communications agency specialised in quality of life.

"Tino knows better than anyone the healthcare industry and relies on the specific knowledge of professionals with significant experience in this field," said Regiane Monteiro, partner and director. "They include journalists, publicists, public relations, planners and strategists who combine talent, strategic thinking and creative excellence to develop communications solutions truly capable of positively influencing consumers' behaviours."

Tino Comunicação is the result of the merger of two agencies that are well established in their respective areas of expertise. Tino Projetos em Comunicação, founded in 2006 by journalist Regiane Monteiro, and advertising executive Cristiano Calamonaci´s Full Tecno, the digital company he acquired together with Grupo Full Jazz, where he was a partner for many years.

"The new agency´s specialisation in quality of life was the natural result of a partnership that had, on the one hand, Tino´s expertise in PR for the healthcare industry and, on the other hand, Full Tecno´s considerable experience in digital communications," added Cristiano Calamonaci, partner and director.

Tino Comunicação bases its operational strategies on a multi-marketing platform that integrated the three areas of expertise that gave rise to the company: PR, digital intelligence and social media.

Tino has a strong global presence and brings many projects to life as the exclusive representative of Global Health PR, the largest independent health and science communications organization that brings together the most successful PR agencies from 18 countries around the world.

The firm also belongs to MZ Group, one of Latin America´s largest independent integrated corporate communications and governance groups, and the only one with multi-stakeholder platform; corporate communications, investor relations and corporate governance. MZ Group has more than 580 clients in 12 countries with around 400 professionals based in Beijing, Chicago, Hong Kong, Mumbai, New York, Rio de Janeiro, San Diego, São Paulo and Taipei.

The firm plays an important role in offering consultancy advice to healthcare and pharmaceutical companies to develop their business plan and start up in Brazil following all the necessary policies and regulatory requirements.

"We are very proud to be reference in medical marketing and provide not only our expertise and our extensive experience on business and government relations, both decisive for the success of a company," said Ms Monteiro.

Last year was a very productive year for Tino Comunicação in terms of the expansion of focused development of awareness campaigns. Despite the difficult economic climate in Brazil where most companies lost their customers or had theirs fees adjusted downward, the firm´s revenue grew at a rate of 10% in 2015 due to the strong focus on strategic projects and awareness campaigns.

As a result of great work and good visibility in the health industry, the firm was indicated for the Latin America Sabre Awards, the world's biggest PR awards programme, among the three finalists in healthcare with its awareness campaign *"Veja Bem, Veja Sempre"* (Get Well, See Forever).

White Collar Crime Law Firm of the Year in Brazil



Moraes Pitombo Advogados

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Moraes Pitombo Advogados was founded in 2001, with the scope of harmonically combining two different qualities of contemporary legal practice: personally tailored client service – which is characteristic of small law firms – and the cutting-edge technology and organisation of big law firms.

The firm provides expert legal services in litigation, mainly in the criminal area, focusing on white-collar crimes, money laundering and corporate-related issues. It is also specialised in international cooperation, having dealt with several cases involving international mutual legal assistance, working with top firms from the United States, United Kingdom, Switzerland and Luxembourg, among others.

The office is based in Sao Paulo, the financial capital of Brazil. It has also offices in Rio de Janeiro and in Brasilia, where all the Superior Courts are located, providing a much closer follow-up of the procedures.

In the past 14 years, the firm earned a reputation as a leading practice in the field, working in high profile and mediatic cases, and being recognised for dedication, best knowledge of the cases and skilled performance.

Moraes Pitombo Advogados' attorneys are recruited from the best law schools in Brazil and are also encouraged to engage in international experiences, such as LLM courses and internships abroad.

In the past 14 years, the firm earned a reputation as a leading practice in the field.

The founder Antonio Pitombo has a Master's degree in Criminal Law with the dissertation "The Specificity of the Predicate Crime in Money Laudering", and a PhD degree in Criminal Law with the thesis "The Specificity of the Criminal Organization" at Law School of the University of Sao Paulo. He also concluded his post-doctoral studies in Democracy and Human Rights at Coimbra University, in 2013, with the dissertation entitled "The impartiality of the jurisdiction: current criminal procedure issues."

He is the author of several newspaper articles, magazines and compilations specialised in law and criminal procedure. He is also a member of the Brazilian Institute of Criminal Science (IBCCRIM); of the Institute Manoel Pedro Pimentel; of the National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; of the Association Internacionale de Dróit Pénal; and the Association Internationale des Avocats de la Défense.

Boutique - Business Sales Advisory Firm of the Year in Canada



Strategic Exits Corp

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Strategic EXITS»

Selling Your Business Is a Big Decision. Often the biggest financial decision of your life.

Very few CEOs have been through more than a couple of exits. This lack of experience results in a large percentage of failed transactions or companies selling for much less than they should have. Many times, CEOs and shareholders have no idea they left millions of dollars on the table.

Even worse, this lack of experience often results in sub-optimal terms and deal structures. Shareholders and executives end up with long-term, personal liabilities that can exceed the money they received for their shares.

We Only Do One Thing - Sell Businesses

Other firms are generalists and engage in a range of transactions including financings and restructurings. They might work for buyers or sellers. We are highly specialised and only do one thing - work with shareholders to get the best price and terms when they sell their business.

We pride ourselves on:

- maximising the probability that your business actually gets sold
- getting you the optimum price and deal structure
- negotiating the fairest terms and limiting your future liabilities

To get the best result when you sell your business - you need the best exit team.

The First Step - Learn as Much as You Can

We believe the best place to start on your exit is to learn as much as you can. Selling your business is surprisingly different than selling your product or selling a house. Some of the differences are due to market fundamentals. Others are due to the distressing number of myths, misperceptions and outright lies that are common in the M&A advisory or investment banking industry.

Basil Peters, CEO

Basil Peters thinks exits are the best part of being an entrepreneur or investor. He also believes exits are the least well understood part of being a CEO, board member. founder or shareholder.

Dr Peters has been a successful CEO in Vancouver and Silicon Valley. Basil also founded a venture capital firm, hedge fund, and angel fund.

After being an investor for a couple of decades he finally realised that successful investing requires two things: making the right investment decisions and getting your money back. Now his exclusive focus is working with shareholders to design and execute optimum exit transactions.

Dr Peters writes a blog on exits at **www.Exits.com/Blog**.

Inc Magazine rated his first book Early Exits one of the 10 best of the year for business owners.

Dr Peters speaks about exits to audiences of entrepreneurs and investors around the world.

He has a Ph.D. from the University of British Columbia in Electrical and Computer Engineering and has received the Entrepreneur of the Year Award, Canada Awards Silver Medal in Entrepreneurship, the BC Science and Engineering Gold Medal and Business Leader of the Year Award.

Full Service Fiduciary Service Provider of the Year in the Cayman Islands



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STERLING
TRUST & DIRECTORS

Sterling Trust (Cayman) Limited has a highly skilled team with many years of experience in providing fiduciary services. The expertise within the firm's team includes three former Cayman Islands attorneys, a CPA and three TEP qualified trust administrators.

The firm provides specialist trustee services including expert advice on the set up, structuring and administration of trusts.

"We also provide proactive company administration services meaning that we try to pre-empt problems for the business owners for whom we act so that our clients can focus on running their businesses without there being any undue regulatory delay in the implementation of any corporate actions," said Mr Booker. "In addition we offer expert independent director services for boards on which we act varying from small family businesses to multinational blue chip companies."

The firm has a very strong team of directors within the company with extensive backgrounds in legal, accountancy, banking and business matters. Its board focuses heavily on ensuring there is a compliant and efficient working environment within the company.

"Key decisions for clients can be made rapidly based upon the operational expertise on the ground at management level meaning that urgent actions required by clients are decided upon and addressed to meet their needs swiftly," continued Mr Booker.

He stated that clients require strong trusteeship for the trusts which the firm administers meaning that difficult decisions need to be made on an ongoing basis in these matters.

"Sterling has the ability to meet this need through an in depth understanding of the underlying structures and the expected needs of our clients," he explained. "When establishing or taking on a structure we spend an extensive amount of time with our clients to understand their business and the rationale behind their structuring to ensure that the structure which is created accomplishes their goals comprehensively."

Recently, Sterling was required to establish a new trust structure for a group involved in the oil industry which required swift action to meet the client's requirements. The firm was able to establish a private trust company and set up the entire structure within 36 hours involving the incorporation of corporate and trust entities within the structure so that assets could be transferred into these entities immediately to allow the administration of the trust to commence swiftly.

"We have also developed a sophisticated web portal feature for our clients to use in real time, thereby reducing the administrative delay and allowing them to access information rapidly and hassle free," added Mr Booker.

In the next 12 months, Sterling intends to work with its clients closely both face to face and in their use of the client portal to improve the firm's working efficiency and therefore that of its clients.

"We are always looking to improve our internal procedures with continual staff training and education so that all of our team can meet and exceed client expectations on a constantly exponential level," he concluded.

Tax Advisory Firm of the Year in Colombia



Gustavo Pardo & Asociados

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Gustavo Pardo & Asociados provides services to clients requiring a structure, an argument or an answer for their businesses, seeking for opportunities and the management of the risks when those can arise, with a clear respect for the constitution, the law and the precedents from the Tax Courts, which look for giving their clients confidence that in case of tax audit the decisions made are legally supported and well documented and, most importantly, that in case of discussion the position of the tax payer is strong.

The firm gives personalised attention to its clients with constant personal contact that allows the development of processes and the construction of Taylor Made solutions.

Gustavo Pardo & Asociados has extensive experience in the following areas of law:

- National, departmental and municipal tax law
- International tax law
- Local and international tax planning
- Local and international tax structuring
- Transfer pricing
- Tax, transfer pricing and foreign exchange control litigation tax.
- Corporate law / societies
- Foreign exchange regime
- Customs and international trade

The firm is partnered with five firms in Colombia: Restrepo & Londoño *(based in Cali)*, Jimenez & Asociados *(based in Medellin)*, Nicolas Pareja & Partners *(based in Cartagena)*, Quorum Consulting Group "QCG" *(transfer pricing practice)* and Gonzalez Anzola & Partners *(customs and international trade practice)* and two of counsel firms, Bedoya Goyes & Partners *(international tax)* and Reyes Hurtado Consultores *(foreign exchange regime)*.

Corporate Law Firm of the Year in Mexico



Vazquez Aldana, Hernandez Gomez & Asociados

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VAHG is the firm to go in western Mexico for corporate, M&A, banking & finance transactions, personal wealth Management, commercial and residential real estate practices, with more than 75 years of combined experience and a large number of high-profile deals back the quality of the firm.

VAHG is proud to have a broad understanding of the opportunities, strengths and challenges of each matter presented to us. We approach transactional (M&A and Financing) deals with an aim to cover every legal and business angle for the benefit of our clients, and help our clients achieve their business goals with full legal protection and optimal risk mitigation.

As a result of its non-stop search for high added value, VAHG is proud of having the trust of worldwide known Mexican and multinational companies as a result of the adoption of its business model.

VAHG represents an invaluable sum of prestige and reputation with strengths and capabilities to conduct international transactions, operating under the highest standards of services and quality, together with a singular personal approach, developing a unique strategic competitive factor and high appreciation of its clients.

Our focus on nine strategic pillars have allowed us to be seen by relevant domestic and international law firms, banks, funds, financial advisors and business consultants: high ethical values, experience and reputation; performance with high ethical and professional standards; responsiveness and accountability, local knowledge with immediate global access to other jurisdictions; trained staff and team work; personal treatment; proactive communication with client; development of long term professional relationships and state of the art technology.

When doing business in Mexico, investors better serve their needs when they receive quality legal advice from professionals with a high degree of preparation and knowledge of the legal and business environments. In VAHG, we will provide you with the tools to safely and effectively navigate through Mexico's legal system, and we are equipped to collaborate closely with private and governmental institutions alike. We will do all the legal work, you can focus on operating and expanding your business.

Fernando Hernandez

Fernando Hernandez is a partner at Vazquez Aldana, Hernandez Gomez & Asociados (VAHG). Graduated with honours in 1994. Education: Universidad Panamericana Campus Guadalajara (Class of, 1994), Masters in Business Administration (MEDEX, Instituto Panamericano de Alta Dirección de Empresas, 2005). Graduate in Economic and Corporate Law in 1996, Contract Law in 1997 and Tax Law in 1999 by Universidad Panamericana. Commercial Notary Public in 2001.

He became Notary Public in 1987. Expert Translator of English - Spanish and vice versa by the Supreme Court of the State of Jalisco, Vice President of Consulegis, EEIG, Secretary. of the Board of Directors of several Corporations, Member of the Board of Colegio de Corredores Públicos del Estado de Jalisco, A.C., Member of the International Union of Lawyers, member of the National Association of Corporate Counsels, A.C. Guest speaker for the international section of the Bar of New York and the International Union of Lawyers.

Member of the International Section of the New York Bar Association

Languages: English and Spanish

Full Service Accountancy Firm of the Year in Mexico

KSi Mexico

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KSi México
Certified Public Accountants

KSI México is a global network, member of KS International, an association of independent accountancy firms with over 100 offices; the firm operates in some 50 countries around the world to deal with your international business need.

KSI México offers a personal service, focused on the growth and success of our clients. The firm provides an outstanding service quality, offering a complete solution for each client.

The firm provides a wide range of business services to companies in a variety of industries, specialising in corporate finance advice, accounting, tax planning, consultation, and auditing services.

Moreover, KSI México belongs to the PCAOB (Public Company Accounting Oversight Board), as a corporation to oversee the audits of public companies in order to protect the interests of investors and further the public interest in the preparation of informative, accurate and independent audit reports.

The firm provides an outstanding service quality, offering a complete solution for each client.

Its commitment is to help your business succeed by keeping up-to-date with your affairs and offering a high standard of both commercial and supportive advice.

The Key to the firm's approach is to build a close relationship between partner and client.

Qualities you will find in a KSI México firm include:

- a real understanding of your business;
- the partners are in tune with your needs and aspirations;
- regular attention and support from accessible partners;
- commercial realism in the advice you receive;
- technically reliable responses to your enquiries.

Additionally, KSI México firm attaches great importance to recruiting and training quality staff.

Technology Law Firm of the Year in Mexico



Becerril, Coca & Becerril, S.C.

Hector E. Chagoya
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BC&B®
BECERRIL, COCA & BECERRIL, S.C.
Experts in IP since 1969

With more than 40 years of experience and commitment to provide our clients with the best of our service, Becerril, Coca & Becerril, S.C. has developed a wide scale of services related to the fields of intellectual property, technology transfer and everything in between.

These services include, among others, the prosecution related to patents, industrial designs, utility models, trademarks, copyrights, reservas, slogans, and commercial names, as well as the maintenance and enforcement of these intellectual property rights in Mexico and other countries.

Our human capital allows us to provide our clients with integral and multidisciplinary counselling on every matter related to intellectual property and technology transfer, from technological areas such as electronics, information technologies, chemistry, biotechnology and electromechanics, to the legal sphere, covering contentious issues as well as the wide array of corporate needs of our clients, such as contracts, technology licensing agreements, among others.

Every day at Becerril, Coca & Becerril, we draw upon all the resources and experience we have gained during the past 40 years, as we strive to accomplish a single mission: The Integral Protection of your Ideas ®.

Technology Transfer Office

With more than 40 years of experience and commitment to take care of our clients, Becerril, Coca & Becerril, S.C. has developed a service related with technology transfer.

As a result of a visionary drive to promote the process of innovation, since 1993, Becerril, Coca & Becerril, S.C., created an area especially focused to technology transfer matters. This area was built with the purpose of advising our clients on the best way to achieve economic benefit from the technological developments they created and through the intellectual property (IP) rights protecting these developments.

Our 15 year experience advising our clients on these matters, has allowed us to design a new and innovative service platform related with all the aspects involved in the technology transfer field from a legal, technical, and economic perspective. The purpose of this area is to obtain the IP economic value extraction from a technological development and through the IP rights that protect it. We know that obtaining IP rights of a development is not enough.

Hector E. Chagoya

Hector E. Chagoya is a chemical engineer, graduated from La Salle University. He joined Becerril, Coca & Becerril in 1997, where he focused his activities as consultant for Mexican and foreign companies in aspects of analysis, drafting, prosecution, and use of patents in the polymers, biotechnology, pharmaceutics, chemical products, and electronics/ communications sectors, including advisory in trade secrets protection.

Mr Chagoya became a partner of the firm in 2010. As director of patents & technology, he is responsible for all the patent work of our firm: from patent text drafting activities and patent prosecution in Mexico and foreign countries, and from patent litigation to technology transfer activities of the firm, including advisory in strategic use of patents to our clients in Mexico and abroad.

Corporate Finance Accountancy Firm of the Year in Peru



We are an Auditing and Business Consulting Firm, with 24 years' experience in the Peruvian and international market. Since 2000, we have been a member firm of the prestigious English global network NEXIA INTERNATIONAL, one of the top ten networks in the world for auditing and business consulting services.

Our main services

- Financial Auditing
- Management Auditing
- Tax Auditing
- Tax Planning and Advisory
- IFRS Adoption
- Transfer Pricing Studies
- Internal Control Implementation
- Due Diligence
- Business Process Outsourcing
- Accounting and Payroll Services
- Corporate Finance
- Implementation of Computing Systems
- General Business Consulting

URBIZAGÁSTEGUI & ASOCIADOS
Auditors & Consultants

Local Website: www. nexiaperu.com.pe
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Infrastructure, Energy and Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year in Puerto Rico



QUIÑONES & ARBONA
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Quiñones & Arbona (Q&A), is a top-tier law firm based in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Recognized for our industry focus, we are strong across these essential industry sectors: infrastructure, energy, and telecommunications ("the TEI Practice Group").

The TEI Practice Group is led by Edwin Quiñones, a pioneering attorney in the island's telecommunications arena and attorney Victor Candelario, a professional engineer with vast experience in the petroleum, environmental, and construction industries.

In addition, Q&A is enhanced in the infrastructure and energy segment with the experience and expertise brought by attorney Giselle Martínez, an electrical engineer, and attorney Richard Hemphill, a former General Manager of a biodiesel company and Legal Director of the Energy Affairs Administration of Puerto Rico.

The diversity of backgrounds among the members of our TEI Practice Group enables Q&A to excel in providing assessment to our clients in complex and specialized projects.

Infrastructure law. Q&A advises our clients on large scale, long-term infrastructure projects, offering innovative financing and contractual structures. The practice group specializes in large scale, market-leading projects - covering toll roads, stadiums, telecom, railways, renewable energy and water & waste related transactions. We have a strong reputation in project structuring, financing and public private partnerships (PPP).

Energy law. Our attorneys have technical education and experience in all segments of the energy industry, including project development, energy generation and transmission. Q&A has a deep knowledge of Puerto Rico's emerging energy industry, including an in-depth understanding of the Island's public policy, financial, and legal issues that are shaping this market.

Our TEI Practice Group has been involved in renewable energy projects, including the negotiation of power purchase and operation agreements (PPOAs), letters of intent, and other development and contractual commitments related to solar facilities, before the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority (PREPA).

Also, our attorneys have assisted commercial clients with energy efficiency and building retrofit and the latest issues facing the Puerto Rico renewable energy sector, such as the different forms of tax-incentives under Puerto Rico's special laws, land acquisition, zoning and use, and permit procurement processes before the Planning Board, Municipalities, among other government agencies and instrumentalities.

Telecommunications law. With one of the most comprehensive communications practices in Puerto Rico, the TEI Practice Group has widely recognized expertise and experience in the highly-regulated and technical telecommunications industry. This practice group has represented the entire spectrum of telecommunications clients, including Cable T.V. operators, local exchange carriers, telephone companies, internet service providers, internet broadband providers, radio and T.V. stations, resellers and wireless carriers, in administrative and judicial forums in the Island and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

Readers' Choice - Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year in California, US



Ladas & Parry

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www.ladas.com

As an enterprise grows, its need for intellectual property (IP) protection expands. Ladas & Parry represents owners of IP rights at every stage of development, both domestically and internationally. Our firm has been managing high-profile, global IP portfolios for decades, bringing a deep understanding of local legal nuances in order to achieve maximum benefits for our clients. With our depth of experience, we are able to anticipate pitfalls that might not be apparent without our highly specialised knowledge developed over the more than 100 years since our founding. Our firm's business-friendly approach supports our clients' objectives, within their budgetary requirements, while protecting their most valuable IP assets worldwide.

Global Leader in Intellectual Property

Founded in New York in 1912 by British patent agent Lawrence Langner, Ladas & Parry has over a century of experience as a leader in global intellectual property law. With offices New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Virginia, London, and Munich our firm enjoys a far-reaching international reputation and an impressive history. We have a deep understanding of international intellectual property law and stay on the cutting edge of legal developments in every country in the world. Our longstanding connections with intellectual property law firms around the globe allow us to serve clients creatively and cost-effectively. Many Ladas & Parry attorneys are qualified to practice in several countries and before domestic and international patent offices, including the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO), the Office for Harmonization in the Internal Market (OHIM), the European Patent Office (EPO), and specialised tribunals, including The International Trade Commission. In addition to litigation, counselling, portfolio management, and transactional matters, Ladas & Parry files and prosecutes in excess of 4,700 patent (utility and design) and trademark applications in the US and overseas each year. The firm has been ranked on multiple occasions among the top firms in contentious and non-contentious intellectual property matters.

Diverse Client Base

The firm's diverse client base has over its rich history included as many as 360 of the Fortune 500 companies and ranges from high-profile, multinational corporations to small and medium-sized enterprises in an array of industries, including electronics and software, fashion, media and telecommunications, consumer and industrial goods, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, hospitality, food and beverage, and travel, and financial and insurance services. Ladas & Parry's established reputation as a leader in copyright law has also attracted numerous entertainers, entrepreneurs and celebrities affiliated with the music, film, and publishing industries in addition to major content providers working in a variety of media. Our attorneys have a rich understanding of the intellectual property issues and challenges faced in particular industries, allowing us to provide a practical, business-minded approach.

Innovative Tools and Technologies

Our clients have identified global intellectual property protection and management as one of their most important challenges in the future and Ladas & Parry has developed innovative tools and technologies to help achieve success in this manner. Our in-house watch services are designed to alert subscribers to potentially conflicting trademarks, company names, domain names, and social media handles as they are published for opposition, cancellation, and other action throughout the world. Unlike other watch services on the market, we have a team that translates (and transliterates) each published mark including those in non-Latin alphabets and their respective goods and services, to ensure that potentially infringing marks are discovered. Ladas & Parry's affiliated company, Ladas Domains is an ICANN-Accredited domain name registrar and digital brand management company. Our customers enjoy the same personalised service and dedicated management of their intellectual property assets they are used to from a law firm at the cost of a domain registrar – a combination no other law firm, registrar, or brand management department can offer. Using Ladas Domains can save your organisation expense in domain registration and management costs while providing unmatched service, protection, and security.

The Ladas Advantage

Our firm's attorneys are trained to consider legal issues in concert with their commercial clients. We provide strategic counsel to clients as they make critical decisions regarding how best to protect IP rights, the cost of obtaining and maintaining such rights, and whether the intellectual property is properly supporting their business objectives. Our attorneys always consider with our clients the advantages and disadvantages of pursuing legal activities as well as provide our clients with the required risk assessment they need to make informed commercial decisions. Finally, we leverage our vast relationships in almost 200 jurisdictions throughout the world to provide our clients with the most insightful and cost-effective advice and services available.

Mavis Gallenson

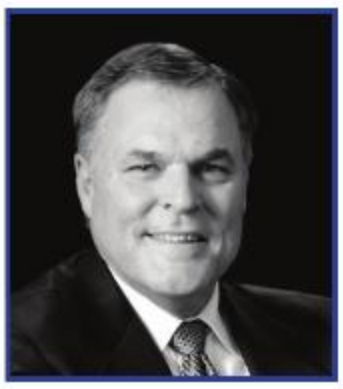
Mavis Gallenson is a partner of Ladas & Parry resident in the firm's Los Angeles office. She is a member of the California State Bar and a registered US patent attorney.

Ms Gallenson has practiced patent and trademark law both in the US and Germany. She received her B.S. and J.D. degrees from the University of Utah and studied electrical engineering at the University of California, Los Angeles and La Jolla.

She has over 20 years of practice in the field of intellectual property law and is experienced in the prosecution of patents and trademarks around the world. She has lectured on various aspects of intellectual property law in both the US and abroad, is a past lecturer on PCT practice through Silicon Valley Seminars, the author of the book "The PCT and The PCT Practice" and is past chair of the Intellectual Property Section of the State Bar of California Executive Committee. Ms Gallenson is also past chair of and liaison to the California State Bar Patent Standing Committee and past member of the California State Bar Council of Sections.

Ms Gallenson is a member of AIPLA, LAIPLA, ABA, FICPI and LES.

Editors' Choice - Tax Law Firm of the Year in California, US



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The Preeminent Tax Law Firm in the Western United States

HOCHMAN, SALKIN, RETTIG, TOSCHER & PEREZ, P.C., is internationally recognised as the preeminent tax law firm in the Western United States. The reputation of the firm for excellence and integrity in the tax community is unparalleled.

The firm specialises in federal and state civil and criminal tax litigation, tax controversies and tax disputes with the federal, state and local taxing authorities, white collar criminal defence, estate and business planning, probate, tax-exempt organisations, real estate, business and corporate transactions and civil forfeitures. The firm's attorneys serve on prestigious committees of the state and local bar and accounting associations and many are regular contributors to leading journals and publications involving tax matters. With respect to tax-related matters, few firms have the resources, relationships, expertise and collective experience offered by HOCHMAN, SALKIN, RETTIG, TOSCHER & PEREZ, P.C.

The firm's extensive tax expertise includes a strong emphasis in numerous areas of civil tax and criminal tax. Firm representatives are routinely involved in complex civil tax examinations on behalf of wealthy individuals and closely held entities as well as large corporations involving both domestic and foreign tax related issues. The firm is internationally recognised as a leader in the representation of taxpayers throughout the world in matters involving the ongoing, extensive efforts of the US government to identify undeclared interests in foreign financial accounts, voluntary disclosures (OVDP and otherwise), sensitive issue civil tax examinations, criminal tax investigations and prosecutions.

The firm has represented literally hundreds and hundreds of US taxpayers participating in various IRS Offshore Voluntary Disclosure Programs (OVDP) and other forms of disclosures regarding foreign financial account values far exceeding billions of dollars, in the aggregate. The firm has also represented numerous taxpayers involved in Grand Jury Tax investigations, criminal tax prosecutions and, when beneficial for the client, the effective negotiation of plea agreements involving the alleged misuse of foreign entities to conceal legal and beneficial interests in foreign financial accounts and assets. Few other firms have the similar firm-wide depth of knowledge and experience necessary to effectively represent the interests of their clients in these matters.

HOCHMAN, SALKIN, RETTIG, TOSCHER & PEREZ, PC authored the Tax Management Portfolio "Tax Crimes" (Pub. 636) (2d.) published by the Bureau of National Affairs. Several of the firm's attorneys gained their initial experience while working as Attorney-Advisors for the United States Tax Court in Washington, D.C., as tax prosecutors for the Office of the United States Attorney for the Central District of California, as trial attorneys for the Tax Division of the United States Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. or the Office of District Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service. Some have been appointed to serve as Chair of the Internal Revenue Service Advisory Council (IRSAC), the Advisory Board for the California Franchise Tax Board and the Advisory Council for the California State Board of Equalization. Representatives of the firm routinely Chair conferences focused on offshore voluntary disclosures and defensive strategies to government examinations and investigations and serve on prestigious committees of national, state and local bar and accounting associations and many are regular contributors to leading journals and publications involving tax matters.

Assurance Services Advisory Firm of the Year in Connecticut, US



BDO

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There are many ways to answer the question, "Why BDO?" We could tell you about our 63 offices across the U.S. or our 1,264 offices worldwide. We could mention our comprehensive service offerings, our experience across virtually every major industry, or the wide range of clients we serve, from regional businesses to global leaders.

But what truly sets BDO apart is our commitment to exceeding expectations on every engagement, big or small, for every client, local or multinational. It's about more than our depth of experience or technical excellence, more than our open, communicative culture. It's about a firm-wide dedication to delivering service to every single client that is, without exception, exceptional.

History

From a single room on Manhattan's Lower East Side ... to membership in a global network across more than 150 countries. From a 22-year old founder ... to thousands of professionals. From an early focus on furniture manufacturers ... to a wide range of industry-specific practices and more than 300 publicly traded clients in the US alone.

When M. L. Seidman founded Seidman & Seidman in 1910, there were just over 2,000 accountants in the entire United States. Armed with an unfailing commitment to exceptional client service, the firm quickly expanded both its services and geographic reach across the country. In the early 1960's, alliances were created with like-minded firms in Canada and throughout Europe, and by the 1980's the global network had been established – and the firm was renamed BDO Seidman.

Today, BDO's entrepreneurial spirit lives on, and the firm continues its history of growth as it expands across the country. Yet, no matter how large we become, we will continue to remain united under a common purpose: helping people thrive, every day.

Audit & Assurance

In a rapidly evolving business and regulatory environment, the right guidance is more important than ever.

BDO's Assurance professionals draw on deep industry experience and global resources to help clients to navigate change, bolster investor confidence, and strengthen the value of their businesses.

Our Audit & Assurance areas:

- Accounting Advisory Services
- Board Governance
- Employee Benefit Plan Audits
- Financial Reporting
- Information Systems Assurance
- Public Company Services
- Service Organisation Control Attestation
- Revenue Recognition

Maria Karalis

Since 1991, Maria Karalis has been providing audit and business advisory services to growing public and private companies. During her tenure at BDO, she has been involved in merger and acquisition transactions for domestic and international targets. She has substantial experience assisting clients on both public and private debt and equity offerings, as well as with meeting ongoing Securities Exchange Act of 1934 reporting requirements. Ms Karalis is a member of BDO's National Technology and Life Science Group and the Assurance Office managing partner for the firm's Stamford Office.

Ms Karalis acts as the firm's Country Coordinator for Cyprus, Greece, Ireland and the United Kingdom, and she is the Northeast Champion for the BDO Women's Initiative. She is also an instructor for BDO's continuing professional education classes and participates in on-campus speaking and recruiting events.

IP Litigation Law Firm of the Year in Delaware, US







Young Conaway Stargatt & Taylor, LLP

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Young Conaway offers a broad range of intellectual property services to national and international corporate clients. We are focused on achieving our clients' specific business objectives. With many years of experience in both jury and bench trials before Delaware's federal and state courts, our attorneys are often asked to take a lead counsel role in technical, bet-the-company cases.

Filings in Delaware

The United States District Court for the District of Delaware and the State of Delaware's Court of Chancery continue to see an increase in intellectual property filings because of the courts' ability to handle complex, accelerated matters. Several Young Conaway attorneys have served as law clerks or interns and have gained an in-depth knowledge of the state and federal judiciary. With meticulous attention to detail and big picture strategic vision, our attorneys have developed tactics that permit them to efficiently and effectively represent clients across a diverse range of industries and technologies.

Experienced Litigators from Start to Finish

Young Conaway's litigators can handle every stage of the litigation, from Markman hearings to motions for summary judgment, trial and appeals. Several of Young Conaway's attorneys also have experience before the USPTO in both traditional *ex parte* and adversarial proceedings on a wide range of patent matters. If it is not in our client's best interest to litigate a matter, the firm has attorneys who are experienced in handling intellectual property disputes through alternative dispute resolution venues.

Patent Protection

Our clients' businesses are growing which means they require a variety of transactional services aimed at protecting and promoting their intellectual property assets. Young Conaway's attorneys help our clients acquire IP assets by investigating, filing and prosecuting applications for patent and trademark rights. Our attorneys also assist clients in identifying any conflicting third-party patents in the marketplace and provide due diligence reports or opinions that the company may rely upon to proactively protect its ideas. Our attorneys have the experience necessary to strengthen a company's position through patent challenge proceedings in the USPTO and beyond.

Trademarks

Clients and companies turn to Young Conaway and its team of attorneys to evaluate proposed trademarks and assist in the registration of trademarks in both the United States and other countries. Attorneys at Young Conaway also assist clients with the analysis of competitive trademark searches and portfolio evaluations.

Thought Leaders

Members of Young Conaway's Intellectual Property team are active as officers and leaders in intellectual property focused bar organisations and are asked to speak at many national and international seminars. They have been recognised by clients and colleagues as leaders in their field by Corp INTL, IAM Patent 1000, Chambers USA – America's Leading Lawyers for Business, Best Lawyers®, Benchmark Litigation: The Definitive Guide to America's Leading Firms and Attorneys, and Delaware Super Lawyers®.

Sports Law Firm of the Year in Maine, US



Global Sports Advocates, LLC

GSA
GLOBAL SPORTS ADVOCATES

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Paul J. Greene is the Founder of Global Sports Advocates, LLC, an international sports law firm headquartered in Portland, Maine. Chambers USA and Super Lawyers recognize Paul as one of America's leading sports lawyers. Paul is also the newest member of Rex Sport, an association of 35 of the world's most prominent sports lawyers.

Paul handles sports law matters around the world, including cases before the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland. Representative matters include *Asafa Powell and Sherone Simpson v. Jamaica Anti-Doping Commission* and *Nicklas Backstrom v. International Olympic Committee*.

Paul is an adjunct faculty member at the University of Maine School of Law and the University of Southern Maine School of Business where he teaches *Law and Sports* and *Legal Ethics in Business*. Paul has taught sports law as a visiting professor at the Instituto Superior de Derecho y Economia in Madrid, Spain and St. John's University School of Law. Paul is admitted to practice law in Maine, Massachusetts, New York and the United States District Court for the District of Colorado. Paul attended the University of Maine School of Law where he served as the Managing Editor of the *Maine Law Review*.

Services

Global Sports Advocates offers trusted representation in sports arbitration and litigation matters around the world including anti-doping, contract, eligibility, salary, intellectual property, sports injury, sports products liability and mislabeled/contaminated supplement cases.

Sports Regulation and Policy

Global Sports Advocates delivers trusted advice on sports regulation and policy to athletes, governing bodies and companies around world – so the law is no barrier to entry into the sports world.

Crisis Management

In the high profile world of sports, when a crisis happens, a wrong move can come back to haunt you. Global Sports Advocates provides trusted advice, guidance and management of sensitive, crisis situations. The firm distinguishes itself from its competitors by providing unmatched personal service to its clients.

Each client comes to us with a legal problem that needs to be solved. Our job is to identify the client's goals and achieve their desired result.

Global Sports Advocates has unique experience having successfully handled some of the world's highest profile sports disputes. Clients include Jamaican track and field athlete Michael O'Hara, who had been declared ineligible to compete in the Penn Relays. The firm was quick to work alongside local counsel in Philadelphia for Mr. O'Hara, who was able to go out and run a record setting performance.

France-US Corporate Law Firm of the Year in Georgia, US



Carreras & Lemoine, LLP

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Carreras & Lemoine, LLP is a boutique international law firm offering a complete range of legal services to businesses and individuals throughout Georgia, Florida, California, Tennessee, New York, as well as a number of foreign jurisdictions.

Our connections in New York, Paris, Atlanta, and Palm Beach allow us to provide comprehensive global legal services in the area of commercial litigation, arbitration, M&A, commercial contracts and tax. We also assist partnerships, high net-worth individuals, entrepreneurs and their families, including providing advice and representation in international family law and immigration matters. As a boutique law firm, we can offer a degree of flexibility that many large law firms cannot.

Our team includes attorneys who speak fluent French, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and German. Our attorneys will provide you with tailored and cost-effective services to help you overcome your legal obstacles.

Business Law

Carreras & Lemoine, LLP assists companies, organisations, and entrepreneurs, located both in the US and abroad, in issues related to international trade or involving international business law. We strive to develop a superior understanding of our clients' economic and market strategies, so that our legal advice is fully aligned with our clients' goals. We strive to have our attorneys operate as an extension of our clients' businesses, be that through advocacy in the courtroom or advice in the boardroom. We assist companies to negotiate complex, multi-jurisdictional transactions, protect their intellectual property, resolve employment disputes, maintain compliance under applicable laws and regulations, and create footholds within the US or European markets via subsidiaries and joint ventures. We also handle the relevant immigration aspects of doing business in the US.

Litigation and Arbitration

Doing business in the US is an exciting and rewarding challenge, but foreign companies, just like US companies, must be aware that they could be sued or may need to file a lawsuit. Lawsuits and litigation involving companies operating in the US and abroad can be complex because they involve both US and foreign law issues. Our firm is particularly attuned to the cultural and procedural differences between doing business in the US as opposed to in Europe. We are therefore well-placed to guide you through the legal landscape when problems arise.

Our team includes attorneys who speak fluent French, Dutch, Italian, Spanish and German.

Immigration Law

Ensuring that your immigration status is legal is one of the most important issues when you plan to come to the US. The immigration landscape is particularly complex at the moment as there are many plans afoot to change US immigration laws. A failure to comply with immigration laws can result in your business not being able to employ the people it wants, or your planned employees or family members being refused entry to the US.

We advise clients on the requirements for applying for visas, permanent residency status and US citizenship. We guide them through the process, including collating the necessary information and filing the paperwork with the US immigration services. We also advise businesses on the procedure for hiring foreign workers and investor visas, including helping existing multinationals who seek to increase value through diversity.

Carreras & Lemoine, LLP is proud to have helped numerous clients achieve their dreams of starting a business or joining their loved ones in the US.

International Family Law

Divorce and child custody are emotional issues which are made more complex when they involve families with different nationalities or family members living in different places. Most divorces in the US involve US citizens or US permanent residents. It is our experience that many courts in the US have little to no experience of handling divorces and child custody issues involving foreign citizens or abduction of a child to a foreign country.

Carreras & Lemoine, LLP has helped many individuals, who find themselves caught between different legal systems, to obtain a divorce, alimony, child support or child custody. We are also familiar with cross-border family issues involving international family law, such as removal of a child to another jurisdiction as well as enforcement of foreign divorces in the US and enforcement of US divorces in Europe. Through our particular understanding of the role of international family law, international conventions and foreign legal systems, we can make the difficult journey of divorce and child custody more manageable.

Dominique M. H. Lemoine

Dominique M. H. Lemoine is the founding and managing partner of Carreras & Lemoine, LLP. Mr Lemoine concentrates his practice on French-American corporate transactions and litigation, and counsels multi-national corporations in the fields of M&A, contracts, commercial relations, arbitration and litigation, corporate law, and international transactions.

Mr Lemoine's clients are mostly European businesses maintaining significant commercial interests in the US. They come from a wide spectrum of industries, including electronics and technology, software, nuclear, electronic fund transfers and the credit card industry, air and railroad transportation, garment production, real estate construction, food products, oil trading, energy and soft drinks.

Mr Lemoine maintains an active presence in the European-American international business community of the Southeast US, and was recently reappointed French Foreign Trade Adviser (Conseiller du Commerce Extérieur) by the French government. He is the former chairman and a former member of the Executive Committee of the International Section of the Georgia State Bar Association. He also actively serves as a member of the Advisory Committee to the Center for International Business Education and Research of the Georgia Institute of Technology ("Georgia Tech"). Mr Lemoine is a past president and current board member of the Atlanta Chapter of the French-American Chamber of Commerce. In addition, Mr Lemoine was elected conseiller consulaire and vice-president of the Conseil Consulaire for the Atlanta consular circonscription.

Mr Lemoine speaks regularly at conferences, both international and local, on a range of topics, including government-corporate relations, trade agreements, intellectual property rights, litigation, arbitration, and business law.

Full Service Financial Planning Advisory Firm of the Year in Massachusetts, US



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BAYSTATE FINANCIAL
Guidance. Insight. Results.™

Your Financial Journey

Baystate Financial's team of over 300 advisors and 200 support staff build financial plans and personal wealth management programs for a wide variety of businesses and individuals.

From professional athletes to physicians to family-owned and closely-held business owners, every Baystate Financial strategy is tailored to help fulfill our clients' individual goals.

Since 1901, we've provided comprehensive financial services, life and disability insurance, estate planning, business succession strategies, retirement funding, education funding strategies, and investment management to a diverse client base. Over a century of guidance, insight, and results has made Baystate Financial one of the oldest and largest wealth management and financial services firm in New England.

From the beginning, a Baystate Financial Advisor becomes your personal guide and resource. To fit your individual goals and needs, we work with you to formulate a sound investment, insurance, and retirement strategy based upon your financial position.

From there, we help identify a broad range of financial products and services to compliment your personalized approach. Whether we are helping articulate a strategy, monitoring your investments, or making recommended enhancements, our main objective is helping you achieve your financial goals.

Baystate Financial advisors go to great lengths to deliver the personalized attention and accessibility our clients have come to expect. We realize your financial strategy is more than managing money, it's providing the guidance, insight, results and service you need to secure your financial future.

Baystate Financial is built on the principles of integrity, trust, professionalism and competency—values that make Baystate Financial one of New England's most respected and successful financial services firms. Baystate Financial and our team of associates, experienced professionals and advisors are committed to these principles and provide clients with the necessary information and planning to help them achieve financial success and stability.

The Baystate Financial team has one objective: to help you achieve your goals through guidance and leadership. We look beyond just the financial aspects of your life to understand you and the obstacles and challenges you likely will face. This personalized approach allows us to ensure your financial strategy fits who you are and where you are going. A brief overview of these services includes:

- Fully Coordinated Financial Services
- Identifying your financial assets, goals, and strategy
- Comprehensive Investment Advice
- Coordinated Succession Planning
- Integrated Retirement and Protection Programs
- Ensuring your hard work is protected

Today we have offices throughout the northeast and we have been repeatedly nominated as a Best Place to Work, outperforming firms of our size. We feel our growth is a direct result of our commitment to meeting the needs of our customers and associates.

Business Transactions Law Firm of the Year in Nevada, US

Providing efficient and effective legal services throughout Nevada, Arizona and Utah



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Editors' Choice - Family Law Firm of the Year in Nevada, US



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Surratt Law
Family. Compassion. Results.

Surratt Law Practice, PC was designed to promote healthy families whether it is in the context of divorce, mediation, estate planning, guardianships, or assisted reproductive technology.

Surratt Law Practice provides services in all areas of Nevada family law and estate planning, including but not limited to the following:

- **Divorce & Legal Separations**

In order to get a divorce in Nevada, you or your spouse must be a Nevada resident. That means you must have lived here for at least six weeks prior to filing for a divorce with the intention to make Nevada your home going forward.

- **Child Custody & Support**

Legal custody is the concept of making parenting decisions such as school enrolment, extracurricular activities, religious upbringing and medical needs of the children on a non-emergency basis. In most cases, parents share joint legal custody and are encouraged to confer with one another regarding parenting decisions even after divorce.

- **Adoption & Surrogacy**

Is surrogacy allowed in the State of Nevada? Yes, Nevada does allow a surrogacy/gestational carrier arrangement. You must comply with the minimum requirements of Nevada law, including but not limited to have a valid contract.

- **Prenuptial Agreements**

In the state of Nevada, engaged, married, or cohabiting couples may enter into agreements defining their property rights, and depending upon the type of agreement, their support, and other rights and obligations.

- **Estate Planning**

Nevada's estate planning laws set out the legal requirements for creating a valid Will, trust, identify methods for declaring your wishes regarding life-prolonging medical procedures, and describe the probate process in your state.

- **LGBT Family Law**

The LGBT community has a significant number of complex legal issues that may or may not take place in other family formation or divorce matters because of the rapid pace of changing laws and legal uncertainties.

Kimberly M. Surratt

Kimberly M. Surratt, founding partner, started her career in insurance defence and then moved into family law. She formed the first meeting ever in Northern Nevada to develop collaborative law, an amicable no court divorce method. Within a few short months, a large group of professionals were trained and a non-profit called Collaborative Professionals of Nevada was developed.

She is a fellow with the American Academy of Assisted Reproductive Technology, American Society of Reproductive Medicine, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National LGBT Bar Association, Nevada Justice Association, and the National Family Law Advisory Council.

Ms Surratt has been lobbying with the Nevada Justice Association since 2004. She has lobbied for the passage of the Nevada Domestic Partnership Bill, the Uniform Collaborative Law Act and numerous other family law and adoption statutes. She often speaks on LGBT family law, assisted reproductive and parentage matters at conferences such as Lavendar Law and the Family Law Institute for the National LGBT Bar Association and National Center for Lesbian Rights, the American Academy of Assisted Reproductive Technology Attorneys and the Nevada State Bar Family Law Conference.

Gaming Attorney of the Year in Nevada, US



WILSON ELSER MOSKOWITZ EDELMAN AND DICKER

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WILSON ELSER

Vernon Nelson has built a full-service practice from his experience in casino regulatory compliance and gaming/hotel operations, licensing and other matters before the Nevada Gaming Control Board, Nevada Gaming Commission, and other domestic and international jurisdictions. Such matters include entity licensing, individual licensing and disciplinary matters, and tax matters, with experience on all sides of the equation. Mr Nelson's experience includes representing self-insurers in claims involving multimillion-dollar prizes and giveaways.

Nevada State Bar Association – Gaming Law Section

Mr Nelson has successfully handled various regulatory compliance and licensing issues with the Nevada Gaming Control Board, Nevada Gaming Commission, New Jersey Casino Control Commission, Pennsylvania Gaming Board, Tribal Gaming Commissions, and other state, federal, and international government agencies. He has defended clients in disciplinary matters and obtained approvals for marketing programs and nightclub operations. He also has experience in the rapidly developing areas of internet, social and mobile gaming.

Mr Nelson has substantial working experience relating to sweepstakes, contests and promotions, including internet, direct mail and location-based activities. He has developed promotional rules and overseen the conduct of sweepstakes, contests and promotions. Mr Nelson has overseen related marketing efforts for compliance with a multitude of unique state and federal lottery laws, and consumer fraud and protection statutes and regulations.

Firm

Nearly 800 attorneys strong, Wilson Elser serves clients of all sizes, across multiple industries and around the world. The firm has 30 strategically located offices in the United States and another in London. This depth and scale has made it one of the nation's most influential law firms, ranked in the Am Law 200 and in the top 50 of the National Law Journal 350.

Gaming Practice

With an increasing number of states betting on legalised gambling to create revenue streams, a more rigorous regulatory environment and seismic technological advancements, the gaming industry is experiencing rapid change. By necessity, gaming law is keeping pace.

"Wilson Elser is at the forefront of this dynamic industry and is sought after by clients nationwide who require related counsel," said Mr Nelson. "Our attorneys are well versed in the substance and subtleties of casino development and operations and are familiar with critical new areas such as internet gaming, on-site promotions, social media, mobile gaming and data security.

"With 30 offices strategically located throughout the United States, we are able to handle matters in most any jurisdiction and easily stay abreast of state-specific statutes and regulations."

Wilson Elser's attorneys frequently help clients with the development, registration and execution of sweepstakes, contests and promotions, navigating highly prescriptive anti-lottery laws as well as related consumer fraud and protection statutes and regulations that vary widely by state. The firm routinely drafts and reviews official contest rules and helps ensure that related advertising and collateral conform precisely to their conditions.

"Given the nature of the industry, we also are continually involved in privacy, confidentiality and intellectual property issues that can be distracting, damaging or even crippling to a gaming organisation," he concluded.

Boutique Environmental Pollution Litigation Law Firm of the Year in New York, US



Internationally recognized as the best environment for environmental litigation

Keeping our environment safe for future generations is not just the work of environmentalists. It's also the job of world-class litigators who wage legal war against water contamination, gas leaks, earthquakes caused by fracking, and large scale environmental pollution.

Weitz & Luxenberg, P.C. is pleased that our environmental litigation department headed by Robin Greenwald has been awarded the 2016 Corporate International Magazine Global Award as New York's Boutique Environmental Pollution Litigation Law Firm of the Year. Clearly our reputation for hard work, strategic depth and measurable results has crossed the pond.

For over a quarter century, Weitz & Luxenberg has been fighting the good fight against those responsible for asbestos-related diseases, the makers of faulty medications and medical devices, and the polluters of our environment – all specialties for which other law firms refer their clients to us.

CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

To find out more about how Weitz & Luxenberg can help you – and help the world – please call 1-888-411-LAWS.

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Class Action Law Firm of the Year in New York, US



Bragar Eagel & Squire, P.C.

BRAGAR EAGEL & SQUIRE, P.C.

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Bragar Eagel & Squire, P.C. is a litigation boutique providing our clients with personal service. Our clients know that we will use our extensive and wide experience to pursue their cases vigorously. We have excelled at litigating complex actions in any venue and focus our practice on corporate law litigation, including shareholders' rights, derivative actions, and federal securities claims. We also have robust practices litigating consumer class actions, antitrust, real estate, bankruptcy, and general commercial litigation.

We have developed wide-ranging expertise, from litigating complex Master Limited Partnership transactions, to consumer promotions, to real estate disputes. Our attorneys have many decades of experience representing investors and consumers in litigation on a national and local level. We work with each client to understand his, her, or its unique needs and develop the proper strategy to obtain our client's goals. This has not gone unnoticed by the courts that we practice before:

"Lead Counsel brought a particular blend of expertise, initiative, and ingenuity to the case. In my view, few litigation teams could have achieved this result against the determined, well-represented, and aggressive adversaries that Lead Counsel faced." *In re Activision Blizzard Inc. Stockholders Litigation,* 124 A.3d 1025 (Del. Ch. 2015).

Activision was a Delaware Court of Chancery action that resulted in a $275 million derivative settlement on the eve of trial, we believe the largest monetary settlement of a derivative action in the history of the Court of Chancery. The settlement also provided significant corporate governance benefits to the class of stockholders.

We've also enjoyed recent successes in *Gerber v. Enterprise Products Holdings LLC* and *In re El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P. Derivative Litigation*, both in the Delaware Court of Chancery. In *In re El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P. Derivative Litigation*, we prosecuted claims on behalf of El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P., a public Master Limited Partnership, against its general partner and its sponsor, El Paso Corporation (now merged into Kinder Morgan, Inc.). The claims arise out of the 2010 "drop down" of certain assets to the partnership. We successfully tried the matter in November 2014, and the court recently entered judgment for over $100 million, plus interest. The decision is reported at *In re El Paso Pipeline Partners, L.P. Derivative Litig.*, 2015 Del. Ch. LEXIS 116 (Del. Ch. April 20, 2015) and is on appeal.

Bragar Eagel & Squire is a litigation boutique providing clients with personal service.

In *Gerber*, our client alleged that the general partner's approvals of certain transactions were done in bad faith and in breach of the implied covenant of good faith and fair dealing. After the trial court dismissed the complaint, we prevailed before the Delaware Supreme Court to reinstate the claims for breach of the implied covenant. The matter settled for $12.4 million, payable to the unaffiliated unitholders. The decision is reported at *Gerber v. Enterprise Products Holdings LLC*, 67 A.3d 400 (2012).

In the area of consumer class actions, we recently announced a settlement in the long-standing "Camel Cash" litigation against R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., pending in the United States District Court for the Central District of California. In 2009, we brought claims on behalf of a class of consumers who participated in Reynolds's "Camel Cash" consumer loyalty program. We alleged that Reynolds breached its contract with each participant when, in October 2006, it announced that the program would end in six months but immediately stopped offering non-tobacco merchandise for "C-Notes" collected by consumers. We obtained an important opinion from the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which rejected defendant's argument that the Camel Cash consumer loyalty program was merely an advertisement. In December 2014, the district court certified a class of California consumers, and after discovery, the parties agreed to settle the action. In the settlement, Reynolds agreed to provide class members the opportunity to redeem their C-Notes for non-tobacco merchandise. Relevant decisions are reported at *Sateriale v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.*, 697 F.3d 777 (9th Cir. 2012); *Sateriale v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176862 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 19, 2014); and *Sateriale v. R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.*, 2014 U.S. Dist. LEXIS 176858 (C.D. Cal. Dec. 19, 2014).

Currently, we are representing nine European investment managers in individual securities fraud actions pursuant to English law against BP p.l.c. related to the Deepwater Horizon disaster on April 20, 2010 in *In re BP p.l.c. Securities Litigation*, 4:10-md-2185 (S.D. Tex.), among numerous other cases we are pursuing on behalf of our clients.

Editors' Choice - Zoning & Land Use Law Firm of the Year in New York, US



Sheldon Lobel, P.C.

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ATTORNEYS AT LAW

Sheldon Lobel, P.C. is a boutique zoning and land use law firm focused on New York City. Most recently recognized as Editors' Choice Winner of the 2016 Corporate INTL Magazine Zoning & Land Use Law Firm of The Year in New York, the firm has filed over 700 applications with the Board of Standards and Appeals and over 200 applications with the City Planning Commission, making it one of the leading zoning law firms in the area. The firm handles matters relating to all aspects of zoning law before administrative agencies and courts, as well as transactional matters related to zoning, including air rights transactions. As a result of their exceptional expertise, they are frequently asked to serve as special counsel in applications before the Department of Buildings.

For over forty years, founder Sheldon Lobel and now his son Richard Lobel have made a name for themselves through achieving large-scale rezonings and zoning text amendments approved by the City Planning Commission, as well as sizeable variances granted by the Board of Standards and Appeals. Founded in 1916, the BSA has the power to vary zoning regulations after applicants have been turned down by the Department of Buildings or other city agencies. The Lobel family has maintained a long-standing relationship with the BSA since 1951, when the elder Mr. Lobel's father-in-law, the late Samuel Becker, a lawyer and engineer, joined the Board. For the next 22 years, he served as the BSA's executive director, commissioner, vice chairman and chairman before retiring. It was Mr. Becker that influenced Mr. Lobel to enter the field of land use law shortly after opening his first office in 1969, and the rest is history.

Richard Lobel joined his father in 2003 and became the firm's managing partner in 2008. Although they are a small firm, they have more zoning attorneys and consultants than most land use departments at much larger firms. Their strength lies in the depth of their practice. In addition to attorneys, they enlist land use professionals who have worked extensively for the City of New York, and in design and construction-related capacities. In turn, the firm expertly develops creative solutions for building or property issues as they quickly assess a range of possible zoning solutions.

The firm prides itself on maintaining an extensive roster of local and international clients. Pro-development, they handle matters involving a range of clients including top New York City developers, single-family homeowners, commercial operators, religious institutions, affordable housing developers and many others. They also assist prospective property owners performing zoning diligence, and have broad experience in addressing particular issues relating to international investors.

Every member of Sheldon Lobel, P.C. is passionate about what they do – continuing to do their part in expertly building New York City for years to come.

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KANTOR LAW GROUP
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Kantor Law Group is a full-service law firm whose primary focus is to help individuals and families who are facing difficult financial circumstances. New York attorney Glenn L. Kantor has the experience, compassion and expertise to help you navigate through the stress and uncertainty associated with financial problems. He provides his clients with quality legal counsel, during periods of their lives that can be quite confusing, frustrating and even frightening.

With over 30 years of experience as a practicing attorney in New York, Mr. Kantor has the breadth of knowledge and expertise to provide his clients with expert and quality legal counsel. He understands the intricacies of bankruptcy and debtor-creditor law. He meets personally with each client and handles each case efficiently from beginning to end, with all the attention to detail that each client's unique and individual circumstances require. With two office locations in the Long Island region, Kantor Law Group is ready to resolve the difficult and stressful financial circumstances faced by each of its clients.

For over three decades, Glenn L. Kantor has practiced law before the courts of the State of New York. Since 1985, he has been admitted to practice law before the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York and the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Previously, Glenn L. Kantor was the managing attorney for New York City's largest private landlord, an individual that owned apartment buildings, hotels, and office buildings throughout Manhattan and the surrounding boroughs of New York City, and who was regularly on the list of Forbes Magazine's 400 wealthiest Americans. In his capacity as managing attorney, Mr. Kantor utilized his unique experience and skills to provide his prominent client with valuable legal advice and representation involving real estate transactions, business matters and litigation.

Glenn L. Kantor understands that financial difficulties can affect all areas of one's life, and he understands that each situation is unique. Kantor Law Group respects the difficulties and the differences in each of its clients' unique circumstances. Whether a client is facing increasingly difficult financial circumstances, or has been served with foreclosure papers, Glenn L. Kantor helps each client to navigate through troubled times with compassion, understanding and expertise. Mr. Kantor reviews each client's individual circumstances, carefully explains all available options, and helps to guide each client towards the best possible result for each individual and unique situation.

Mr Kantor has counselled and represented thousands of New Yorkers with regard to their concerns over mounting debt, including many that were facing the foreclosure of their homes. This representation has included hundreds of personal bankruptcy filings, both Chapter 7 and 13, on behalf of a wide range of New Yorkers from all walks of life.

Mr. Kantor has the breadth of knowledge and expertise to provide his clients with expert and quality legal counsel.

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Attorneys at Law

Patrick Formato is an executive partner at Abrams, Fensterman, Fensterman, Eisman, Formato, Ferrara & Wolf, LLP, one of the premier full service law firms on Long Island, established in 2000.

Mr Formato focuses his practice on health care law. He represents a variety of health care providers including skilled nursing facilities, diagnostic and treatment centres, imaging centres, home health care agencies, assisted living facilities, and physicians. He has extensive skill and expertise counselling his diverse client base in the development and implementation of corporate compliance programs. In addition, Mr Formato advises health care providers in such matters as fraud and abuse, survey certification and enforcement, managed care agreements, employment, shareholder and partnership agreements, affiliation agreements, and buy/sell agreements. He also counsels his clients on licensure issues, the attainment of certificates of need, advance directives and treatment decision issues, real estate, and general business/corporate matters.

Recognised by his peers and clients as a knowledgeable and talented health care attorney, Mr Formato has been asked by several health care and professional organisations to present programs on such topics as fraud and abuse, corporate compliance, reimbursement, and provider contracting.

In addition to lecturing, Mr Formato has written articles and has been published in professional and industry journals and newsletters. He has also authored several chapters and served as an editor of the Fourth Edition of the Legal Manual for Physicians that was published by the New York State Bar Association in conjunction with the Medical Society of the State of New York, and is a contributing author of "The Biggest Legal Mistakes Physicians Make and How to Avoid Them". Mr Formato was designated as a New York Super Lawyer in 2013, 2014 and 2015, a distinction earned by only 5% of the lawyers in the NY metro area and received the Leadership in Law award from the Long Island Business News in 2013.

Active in legal and professional associations, Mr Formato is a member of the American Health Lawyers Association, the New York State Bar Association's Health Law Section, and the Nassau County Bar Association's Hospital and Health Law Committee. He also served as chairman of the Health and Hospital Committee of the Nassau County Bar Association, and was a member of the Executive Committee of the Health Law Section of the New York State Bar Association.

Mr Formato has written articles and has been published in professional and industry journals and newsletters.

Pharmaceuticals & Life Sciences Law Firm of the Year in New York, US



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FLH FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

Frommer Lawrence & Haug LLP possesses proven expertise in intellectual property, transactional, regulatory, and antitrust law. We have more than 80 attorneys and scientific advisors, many with advanced degrees in scientific and technical disciplines. This talent pool permits creative, multidisciplinary solutions to legal issues and business problems in diverse practice areas. At FLH, our first concern is that our legal strategies make business sense for our clients. We are skilled architects of legal solutions that result in significant commercial success for our clients.

Whether it's defending against a patent, enforcing an intellectual property asset, exploiting opportunities within complex federal regulations, or navigating the delicate balance between exclusive rights and antitrust concerns, the firm possesses a remarkable breadth and depth of talent and experience.

Capturing thoughts and transforming them into tangible assets is just one of the many life sciences initiatives that FLH attorneys, patent agents, and scientific advisors handle every day. The products protected by the patents we prosecute include pharmaceuticals, biologics, diagnostics, and medical devices. We are successful in obtaining patents for research institutions, universities, corporations, and growth enterprises because we understand the intellectual property issues that are unique to each of them. Our knowledge and proven expertise in the various procedures by which to expedite patent examination before the USPTO affords our clients the potential to more astutely manage their patent portfolios.

The management of life sciences intellectual property does not rest solely within the realm of patent prosecution. Our patent attorneys and litigators often collaborate to cultivate an innovative strategy that ultimately produces the strongest possible patent rights. The breadth of our litigation expertise in the areas of patent infringement, validity, and enforceability in cutting-edge technologies enables FLH to provide its life sciences clients with a multi-prong approach when it comes to protecting their intellectual property.

Patent prosecution and litigation are often viewed as traditional practices that are at opposite ends of the life cycle spectrum. But there are various other legal and business approaches that afford opportunities to enhance the value of intellectual property. FLH has seized on these opportunities through the creation of its transactional, antitrust, and regulatory practices. Our transactional attorneys negotiate and prepare all types of agreements in the life sciences, from customised nondisclosure/confidentiality agreements, to complex licenses, to nuanced settlements, all the way to product acquisitions. Frequently the completion of complex deals includes sophisticated counseling by the FLH antitrust practice, which is efficiently done through cooperation with the FLH patent attorneys and litigators.

The life sciences practice at FLH aligns product and patent life cycle strategies with the timelines, business objectives, and resources of our clients. Whether it is creating start-up portfolios, revamping patent strategies, or maintaining long-term targets, we tailor our practice to meet the individual needs of each of our clients. We invite you to consider how our distinct approach to the law and life sciences can help you maximise the potential of your intellectual property.

Boutique - Biotech Patents Law Firm of the Year in Washington DC, US



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FANELLI HAAG PLLC focuses on intellectual property particularly in the life sciences industry and provides a high caliber of legal representation together with the responsiveness, dedication, efficiency and versatility that only a smaller firm can offer.

Our approach is a strategic one. We are uniquely positioned to provide solutions that not only meet, but anticipate, the needs of our clients. With deep technical and legal expertise, our team of attorneys is able to efficiently partner with clients to craft comprehensive rationally-designed intellectual property strategies.

The Firm provides a full range of services relating to patent prosecution, litigation, due diligence investigations, opinions of counsel and IP-sales/licensing transactions. Please feel free to contact us at info@fanellihaag.com or visit us at www.fanellihaag.com.

OFAC Law Firm of the Year in Washington DC, US



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Ferrari & Associates, P.C.

Ferrari & Associates, P.C., is known globally for providing expert legal representation in U.S. economic and trade sanctions matters under the jurisdiction of the United States Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC). These representations include defense of IEEPA based prosecutions for violations of U.S. sanctions brought by the Department of Justice, and removal of names from the Specially Designated Nationals and Blocked Persons (SDN) List. This area of law is very specific and requires the guidance of lawyers who possess a clear understanding of the law and policies underlying OFAC sanctions, and who have experience in understanding of OFAC operates procedurally. Their team of experienced OFAC attorneys have the knowledge, resources and experience necessary to represent sophisticated clientele across the nation and all over world on any matter that may relate to OFAC sanctions.

The firm is located in Washington D.C., across the street from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, home to OFAC.

The firm is located in Washington D.C. - directly across the street from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, home to OFAC - but represents parties from all over the world in OFAC sanctions cases, with a high rate of success. For example, Ferrari & Associates has represented parties in over 15 matters involving prosecutions or investigation of IEEPA criminal charges for violations of sanctions and export control regulations; 30 OFAC enforcement investigations, including responding to OFAC administrative subpoenas and request for information on behalf of financial institutions, corporations and private individuals; 30 matters involved removal from the OFAC SDN List, and the BIS Entity and Unverified Lists; as well as over 210 matters involving OFAC licensing and OFAC compliance.

Through these OFAC representations the firm has removed parties from the OFAC SDN List with an over 80% success rate, successfully unblocked millions of dollars blocked by banks due to OFAC prohibitions, and received acquittals and non-prosecution agreements for clients facing prosecution and investigation for IEEPA based criminal charges arising from OFAC sanctions and export control violations

Ferrari & Associates also provides OFAC compliance counseling for financial institutions, companies across industry sectors, including domestic and foreign businesses in the shipping, insurance, and energy sectors. As a sophisticated OFAC sanctions practice, Ferrari & Associates understands the system from a procedural perspective and knows how to use this knowledge to the advantage of their clients.

ASIA & OCEANIA WINNERS



Asia is the largest continent in the world, located entirely in the eastern hemisphere, east of Europe and northeast of Africa. Oceania includes Australia, New Zealand and a host of island nations, stretching from Asia's east coast to parts of the South Pacific in the western hemisphere.

In Central Asia, regional growth is expected to decelerate to 1.8% in 2015's final figures (not yet available) from an already weak 2.4% in 2014.

Growth in the East Asia and Pacific (EAP) region slowed, as expected, by 0.2 percentage points to 6.9 % in 2014. Fiscal and macro-prudential policy tightening in the major regional economies, political problems in Thailand, monetary tightening and election-related uncertainty in Indonesia, as well as budget execution bottlenecks in the Philippines contributed to weaker economic activity. Investment continued to ease from the credit-fuelled high rates of the post-crisis years. The main offset to these negatives came from consumption, on the back of tight labour markets and accommodative monetary policies. Rising exports to recovering high-income countries, especially to the US, are providing additional support.

In China – where policy measures guided a gradual decline of growth to 7.4% in 2014 – economic activity continued to slow in 2015, although policy easing has moderated the deceleration. Investment remains constrained by overcapacity in heavy industries, an ongoing decline in the housing sector, and regulatory



tightening of non-traditional lending. Data on industrial prices, imports (particularly of commodities), and lead indicators of manufacturing activity point to further weakness. The size of stimulus programmes to support activity has gradually declined. Policy support has become more cautious and increasingly implemented by conventional tools – monetary policy easing, through targeted cuts in required reserve ratios and in policy rates, and fiscal support for infrastructure projects. Low fuel prices and stronger global demand provided a boost, offsetting some of the weakness in investment. The ongoing shift from industry to services (including private services) continues to support dynamic job creation and robust consumption growth.

Regional growth is expected to ease further to 6.7% in 2015's final figures and remain flat thereafter. This reflects a continued slowdown in China that is offset by a pick-up in the rest of the region. As a net hydrocarbon importer, the region is expected to benefit from low fuel prices. In 2015, headwinds from tighter fiscal policy (Malaysia, Vietnam) and macro-prudential regulation (China, Malaysia, and Thailand) are expected to be largely offset by gradual recovery of investment and manufacturing exports associated with a global recovery and continued low financing cost. Softer commodity prices have affected commodity exporting countries like the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Indonesia. Risks to this outlook remain tilted to the downside. Policy makers, especially in economies with a high share of US dollar-denominated debt, will find it increasingly challenging to balance the needs of supporting growth and preserving export competitiveness against maintaining financial stability amidst an appreciating US dollar and prospects of rising US interest rates.



While low oil prices have reduced inflation, core inflation remained stable in the first quarter of 2015, reflecting robust private consumption and policy easing. China's current account surplus remains at around 1.8% of GDP, helped by a sustained improvement in terms of trade. However, net capital inflows have reversed. Since the second quarter of 2014, portfolio and other capital outflows have increased sharply and were only partially offset by record high FDI inflows into the services sector.

Meanwhile, growth in the South Asia region rose to 6.9% in 2014 and is expected to continue firming over the forecast period, led by a cyclical recovery in India and supported by a gradual strengthening of demand in high-income countries. The decline in global oil prices has been a major benefit for the region, driving improvements in fiscal and current accounts, enabling subsidy reforms in some countries, and facilitating the easing of monetary policy. Macroeconomic adjustments in India since 2013 have reduced potential vulnerability to headwinds from the tightening of monetary policy in the US. Risks to the outlook are balanced, and depend on the implementation of structural reforms, including those that help to delink fiscal balance sheets from global energy prices. Political uncertainty, stressed bank balance sheets, and the ability to maintain fiscal discipline are some of the other key risks to the region.

Aggregate growth in South Asia rose to 6.9% in 2014, its fastest pace in three years. Further momentum is expected in 2015 in line with the cyclical recovery in India, the largest regional economy. Revised GDP data for India shows a quicker rebound than initially estimated, with growth rising to 7.3% in the completed fiscal year (FY2014–15, ending in March). The upward revisions – deriving mainly from improvements in data sources used to compute GDP alongside base-year revisions to better capture the changing structure of the economy – show strengthening manufacturing and strong growth in government consumption offsetting weakness in external demand over the past year.

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Individual - Film Lawyer of the Year in Australia



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marshalls+dent lawyers

Marshalls + Dent is one of Melbourne's most respected and progressive law firms. Since 1975 the firm has provided expert legal advice across several areas of practice from property and family law to commercial and media law.

The firm's offices are in the legal heart of Melbourne's CBD and the centre of Mornington.

Marshalls + Dent has been advising the entertainment industry since the mid 1970s when Bill Marshall was providing invaluable legal advice to filmmakers during the first golden era of modern Australian cinema.

"Flicks, films, movies, motion pictures – whatever term you use, we love them, and we have 40 years experience to prove it," says Bryce Menzies. "We've got an experienced team of entertainment lawyers who provide practical solutions to help both experienced and emerging producers realise their vision – and maximise the commercial potential of their intellectual property."

The firm's entertainment lawyers provide expert advice on:

- Film, Television and Performing Arts Law
- Music Industry Law
- Clearance Advice
- Games and Transmedia Law

Additional services include:

- advising on defamation and privacy rights matters
- advising on visual arts and design
- advising on general intellectual property issues
- drafting contracts and negotiating terms
- advising on financing options and business structures
- advising on licensing and royalty agreements
- litigating disputes
- advising literary agents and publishers in all media

Bryce has worked in the film industry for over 30 years. His first experience in 1982, playing a man in overalls opposite Gerard Kennedy, segued into legal work on more than 500 productions.

In addition to quantity, Bryce has worked on some of Australia's highest quality films from the 1980s to the present day.

His executive producer credits include Malcolm (1985), Death in Brunswick (1990), Two Hands (1999), The Tracker (2002), Ten Canoes (2006), Mary and Max (2009), Mental (2011), Blinder (2012), 100 Bloody Acres (2012), Son of a Gun (2013), Charlie's Country (2013), Patrick (2013), Strangerland (2015), and the upcoming Spin Out (2016).

His legal work can be seen in Muriel's Wedding (1994), Ned Kelly (2002), The Proposition (2005), Death Defying Acts (2007), Disgrace (2007), Daybreakers (2010), Red Dog (2011), A Few Best Men (2011), The Sapphires (2012), Predestination (2014), Holding the Man (2014), Oddball (2015) and the upcoming films Lion (2016) and Red Dog: True Blue (2016).

Until recently, Bryce served on the Board of Film Victoria. His previous board memberships have been with Screen Tasmania and South Australian Film Corporation. Bryce was also the initial Chair of the Melbourne International Film Festival when it re-invented itself in 1985. Bryce has a special affinity for red boots, owning (at last count) twenty pairs.

Antitrust Law Firm of the Year in China



Broad & Bright

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世澤律師事務所
BROAD & BRIGHT

Broad & Bright, founded in 2004, is a full-service Chinese law firm providing a broad range of specialized legal services in multiple practice areas for domestic and international clients, Among the various practice areas, Broad & Bright is one of the leading law firms in antitrust law practice in China.

The antitrust team of Broad & Bright has extensive expertise in the competition law practice, including merger control review, cartel investigation, antitrust compliance and counseling. The quality service has won the recognition by the clients and the legal society. It has been awarded by prestigious legal ranking publications such as Chambers, Global Competition Review, China Business Law Journal, and Asian Law & Practice.

Ms. Feng Yao is one of the founding members of Broad & Bright since 2004 and she is also the head of BB's antitrust team. She graduated from Jilin University Law School, Jilin, China, with a LL.B. and from Columbia Law School, New York, with a LL.M. Upon graduation from Jilin University, she worked in MOFTEC (now the Ministry of Commerce) as governmental counsel and later worked at Washington D.C. Office of Covington & Burling till 2003.

Experience in Anti-monopoly Practice

Since August 1, 2008, MOFCOM has cleared around 1,300 transactions to date, out of which Broad & Bright has represented around 230 filings, many of which are either high profile or significant cases. Broad & Bright is one of the local firms that handle most of the cases.

Broad & Bright is experienced and has the expertise in handling sensitive and complicated cases. In MOFCOM's 26 conditional approvals so far, Broad & Bright handled 10 conditional clearances, including China's first conditional approval of Inbev's acquisition of Amnheuser-Busch. In 2009, Broad & Bright represented Coca-Cola in its acquisition of Huiyuan case, which is one of the most complicated filings in China and involved political concerns.

In 2015, Broad & Bright assisted Seagate in successfully obtaining approval by MOFCOM to lift its "hold separate" restriction, which is the first case where the "hold separate" conditions were completely released. Within the same year, Broad & Bright represented NXP in its acquisition of Freescale, which is the first conditional approval of MOFCOM where the "upfront buyer" situation was involved in the divestment remedy. Besides, Broad & Bright is the firm that handles most of the conditional clearances in China up till now.

Broad & Bright has also advised many clients on various antitrust issues, including representing clients in cartel investigations and other behavioral investigations with National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC).

In addition, Broad & Bright has extensive experience in advising international companies in compliance with the AML.

Boutique - M&A Law Firm of the Year in India



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FORTITUDE LAW ASSOCIATES is a full-service law firm where lawyers from diverse backgrounds have integrated their intellectual capital to provide clients with well-rounded and effective legal advice. The firm focuses on representing clients having business interests in India on all aspects of Indian laws and regulations affecting their industries and specializes in strategic legal and regulatory advice coupled with industry expertise in an integrated manner. FORTITUDE LAW ASSOCIATES focuses on niche areas in which the firm provides significant value and is invariably involved in select highly complex, innovative transactions.

Mr. Mahajan's practice focuses on the corporate and commercial laws of India with emphasis on cross-border transactions. Mr. Mahajan advises on mergers and acquisitions, securities laws, financing laws, telecommunications and IT regulations, investment regulations, entry strategies for multinationals and general advice on corporate and commercial laws. Mr. Mahajan has negotiated and advised on multi-jurisdictional joint-venture and shareholder agreements, technology transfer agreements, financing documents, investment agreements, corporate due diligence matters, assisted on public tender offers, and advised on corporate and commercial laws. He has also represented companies in various industries, including aviation, banking, entertainment media, software technology, satellite, telecommunications, textiles and venture capital funds.

The year 2015 for FORTITUDE LAW ASSOCIATES started as a very busy year with transactions simultaneously being closed in the education, hospitality, healthcare and infrastructure sectors.

Some of the transactions as already in the public domain include that of:

Little's - Represented the brand owner in the sale of "Little's" brand to Piramal Healthcare Enterprises.

Enabilon Learning Private Limited - Represented the company in its sale of 100% shares to Gateforum Educational Services Private Limited.

Zinc Hospitality - Represented the Company in acquiring 51% shares in an Indian company engaged in the hospitality sector.

Ridgeback Capital (U.S.A) - Represented the fund in sale of 15% shares in a public listed company.

Bar Admission: India, New York Bar (Legal Consultant)

Today, FORTITUDE LAW ASSOCIATES key clients include marquee repeat Fortune 500 clientele, of which more than 60% are US corporations. Another main strength of FORTITUDE LAW ASSOCIATES is that it has strong relationships with various international law firms – which has enabled FORTITUDE LAW ASSOCIATES' to provide legal counsel carefully nurtured to their clients' global requirements.

Mr. Mahajan has been ranked as a leading practitioner in the Corporate (Merger & Acquisition) area by Chambers Asia, 2009. Moreover, he was recognized as regulatory counsel in the Telecommunications, Information Technology and Media Industries, Who's Who Legal, 2007, 2008 and 2009; as well as being noted as a Communications and Financial Services specialist, Legal 500, 2008.

Industry Choice - IP Litigation Law Firm of the Year in India



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Introduction
The Firm Singh & Singh Lall & Sethi (SSL&S) is a merger of two highly acclaimed IP Law Firms of the country. The merger took place in April 2015 bringing professionals passionately dedicated to create perfect synergy with specialist practitioners, prosecutors and litigators in IP and related laws such as Telecom and Media, Competition and IT. The firm currently has offices in New Delhi, Mumbai, Colombo and Kathmandu.

The Founders and Partners
The founders are four of the most prolific litigators of the country. Mr. Sandeep Sethi, Mr. Maninder Singh and Ms. Prathiba M. Singh are all designated Senior Advocates. Mr. Chander M. Lall took over the mantle from the founders and is the Founding and Managing Partner of the merged firm. SSL&S is a professionally managed firm with nine partners, over 40 attorneys and patent agents and a total strength of over 120 personnel.

Patents
SSL&S has wide ranged experience in drafting applications of various technologies providing assistance in strategizing complex innovation related issues, enforcement of patents and analyzing strength of patents prior to enforceability. SSL&S is engaged in over 70% of the patent litigations in the country, concerning technologies like pharmaceuticals, bio-similars, medical devices, mechanical engineering, chemicals, electrical and electronics. In the area of SEPs, the firm is the undisputed leader and is instrumental in assisting development of the law in this field.

Trademarks
On the trademarks front, SSL&S has set precedents in several areas such as comparative advertising, trade dress protection, as well as civil and criminal anti-counterfeiting actions. The firm currently represents seven of the top 25 world-renowned trademarks listed by Interbrand. SSL&S is the preferred firm not just in India but the entire South Asian region, including Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Maldives and Bhutan.

Bespoke IP Management Software
The firm works on bespoke, pioneering IP management software platform ClickIPR, which has IP law engines for all jurisdictions around the world, ensuring automated docketing worldwide and populating of forms.

Clients
SSL&S has a highly diverse list of clients, including The Coca-Cola Company, Johnson & Johnson, Pfizer, Eli Lilly, GSK, Bayer, Merck KgaA, Monsanto, Citibank, Mondelez, KraftHeinz, Diageo, Warner Bros. and Twentieth Century Fox, as well as Lacoste, Gant, Hewlett Packard, Nike, Ebay and Amazon.

Awards	
Managing Intellectual Property (MIP)	Tier 1 for Patent Contentious, Trademark Contentious and Copyright
Chambers & Partners	Band 1 Intellectual Property Chander Lall - Band 1 - Intellectual Property Litigation Lawyer in India
World Trademark Reporter (WTR)	Gold Award for Enforcement and Litigation Chander Lall - Gold Award - Individual Category
India Business Law Journal (IBLJ)	Winner - Indian Law Firm Awards Winner - Deal of the Year Award
M&A Magazine	Law Firm of the Year - Intellectual Property - India
Professional Sector Network	IP Law Firm of the Year – India
World IP Reports	Chander Lall - Leader in Patents & Trademarks Sudeep Chatterjee - Leader in Trademarks
Legal Era	IP Law Firm of the Year 2015

Trademark Law Firm of the Year in India



Saikrishna & Associates

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SAIKRISHNA & ASSOCIATES
ADVOCATES

Saikrishna & Associates, originally a Tier-1 full service IP law firm, has developed over the last few years into a general practice firm with a strong TMT, life sciences/biotech and online/digital domain focus.

Apart from its top notch IP and sector expertise, the firm's expertise areas encompass competition law, regulatory assistance and policy reform and corporate/commercial law. The firm has played a key role in many defining IP disputes contributing to the development of IP jurisprudence in India.

Dispute Resolution

Four partners; 25 fee earners based in India.

- Successfully represented German automobile company, Ausi AG, the defendant in a trademark infringement suit filed by TT Textiles before the Delhi High Court; suit concerned the use if the 'IT' trade mark in relation to Audi's well known TT sports cars; the court modified its initial ex-parte injunction clarifying that Audi was not barred from using the mark in relation to its range of TT sports cars
- Representing Star India against online and telecom operators against providing live ball-by-ball commentary, score and match updates and alerts etc., via mobile VAS, in relation to cricket matches; appeal pending before the Supreme Court which will decide whether its interim orders in favour of Star would finally be confirmed to establish a "quasi-property right" in scores and updates
- Representing India's largest mobile handset company, Micromax, in patent infringement case lodged by Ericsson in relation to standard essential patents in infringement suit; valuation issues, advisability of interim injunctions, customs seizures are being agitated affecting potentially the entire Indian handset industry
- Representing Oxford University Press, before Delhi High Court against Delhi University to establish the extent of unpaid photocopying by students and teachers under copyright law whether such use would be fair dealing covered by the private use, research exceptions in the Copyright Act, 1957

Key Clients: Star India Private Limited; Micromax Informatics Pvt. Ltd.; Intex Technologies Pvt. Ltd.; Fox Star Studios Pvt. Ltd.; Audi AG.

Commercial IP

Three partners; 15 fee earners based in India.

- Advised State Government of Karnataka on mobile service gateway platform for various citizen centric services/data/information platforms including drafting and negotiating agreements
- Represented Fox Stars Studios India Private Limited in a high value deal with Dharma Productions Private Limited, for inter alia, the acquisition of the distribution rights of nine feature films
- Assisted in broadcast acquisition arrangement for films with the Indian film superstar Salman Khan, in deal valued at INR4 billion
- Assisted Zoetis Inc. in the acquisition of third party trademarks from multiple assignors in India - due diligence of the marks, drafting of agreements, negotiations with the assignors
- Concluded multiple film production, finance and distribution deals (including drafting, advising, and negotiation) for Cinestaan Film Company
- Assisted leading Broadcaster in contract for deployment of mission critical and complex digital platform

Key Clients: Star India Private Limited; Centre for e-Governance, Government of Karnataka; Fox Star Studios Pvt. Ltd.; Cinestaan Film Company Private Limited; Vishal Bharadwaj Pictures Pvt. Ltd.

Wealth Management Advisory Firm of the Year in India



Centrum Wealth Management

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CENTRUM
Your aim is our only target

Going with the flow can be rewarding and less taxing.

Going against the flow can be enriching. We discovered it can also be rewarding. This is our journey.

Five years ago, a core team of die-hard private banking and market professionals joined hands with the Centrum group to set an against-the-grain wealth advisory unit. Where employees' interests came well ahead of the organisation. Where the clear litmus of the profit index was measured against the client satisfaction index. Where the stock churn would be as low as the employee churn.

This group is now 160 strong. Present in over 13 cities across India. Managing 2500 HNWI relationships.

Profitable. Recognised by peers and customers. Preferred employer. And the envy of the industry.

This unit's energising zeal is matched by the entrepreneurial spirit of the Centrum group. Built on the platform of investment banking, the group is now present in multiple businesses, corporate finance, investment banking, broking and asset management, real estate and infrastructure advisory, foreign exchange, travel services and, of course, wealth management.

The group prefers to operate under the radar. However, frequently, it has to surface to receive awards. Zee Business rated it the best for fundamental research in equities. Asiamoney rated Centrum among the top three private client organisations in the categories it operates in.

Welcome to our world.

Boutique - Project Finance Law Firm of the Year in Indonesia



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Wiriadinata & Saleh

WS
WIRIADINATA & SALEH
Law Offices

www.wands-law.com

Wiriadinata & Saleh prides itself for being one of the oldest commercial and corporate law firms in Indonesia. The firm, which initially specialised in the energy and natural resources sector based on the demand for such legal services at that time, has since 1978 expanded its expertise in accordance with the development and sophistication of the Indonesian economy.

The firm was initially established in early 70's by the late Mr Delma Juzar together with the late Mr Hoesein Wiriadinata. In 1992 the firm was renamed into Wiriadinata & Widyawan and starting January 2006, the firm has transformed and changed its name into Wiriadinata & Saleh.

The firm, which initially specialised in the energy and natural resources area based on the demand for legal services in that area at that time, has since 1978 expanded its expertise along with the development and sophistication of the Indonesian economy and now provides a full range of commercial and corporate legal services, with special emphasis on banking, financing, energy, infrastructure, telecommunications and foreign investments.

Throughout more than 40 years of practice, the firm has consistently been working towards and maintaining its position as one of the leading commercial and corporate law firms in Indonesia, and provides a full range of legal services to many prominent Indonesian, foreign and multinational business enterprises and financial institutions.

With a strong team of experienced and dedicated lawyers, the firm provides high quality legal advice to both borrowers and lenders in project finance transactions in Indonesia for various sectors, such as industrial, oil and gas, coal mining, general mining, power plants, telecommunications, transportation and other major infrastructural projects. Our firm has acted for domestic and international lenders, borrowers, project sponsors and developers, advising on every financing and project aspect involved in securing and managing a project finance transaction.

Tamiza Saleh is the lead partner of the firm. She has been a partner of the firm since 1996. Ms Saleh has strong expertise in the areas of banking, project finance transactions, mergers and acquisitions, aviation and automotive.

Some of her major transactions include the financing of a coal-fired power generation project in East Java, Indonesia, the offshore financing and international offering of secured notes for the financing of a geothermal power plant in Indonesia, the merger of four state owned banks into a largest Indonesian state owned bank, the debt restructuring of a major national flag carrier airlines company, the Murabaha (Islamic) financing to a major Indonesian telecommunication provider by a syndicate of commercial lenders for the purchase of telecommunication equipment and the global acquisition of the holding company of an Indonesian joint venture insurance company by a major Japanese insurance company. She holds a license as Authorised Capital Market Legal Consultant issued by the Indonesian Capital Market Supervisory Board.

Corporate Law Firm of the Year in Japan



YUASA and HARA

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YUASA AND HARA
Established 1902

Founded in 1902, YUASA and HARA is one of the oldest and largest law firms in Japan. Our firm is also a pioneer in multidisciplinary practice, consisting of a legal division, a patent division, a trademark & design division and an accounting division. We have many professionals specialising in a variety of areas, including 23 lawyers, 71 patent attorneys, three certified public accountants, and one tax accountant (as of April 1, 2015).

While each division functions independently as a legal firm, patent firm and accounting firm, our members also closely cooperate with each other to provide complete and multiple intellectual property services to our clients both in Japan and overseas.

Global Network

Since the early days of YUASA and HARA, when Dr Kyozo Yuasa, a barrister-at-law and the founder of YUASA and HARA Tokyo office, started handling international cases in 1920s, the provision of expeditious international services for our clients both in Japan and overseas has been the core value of our firm's practice.

To sustain and enhance this capacity, we have always valued international cooperation with overseas law and patent firms and have established a strong global network.

We have built up alliances with overseas reliable law firms, especially in connection with corporate legal and IP cases, through TerraLex, covering more than 16,000 lawyers from over 100 countries, and Europe-based Unilaw.

In addition to these private alliances, there are always a number of members of our firm actively engaged in international associations relating to law and IP such as AIPLA, AIPPI, ALAI, APAA, FICPI, INTA, IPBA and LES, thus building close relationships with foreign lawyers and patent attorneys.

General Corporate Practice

Legal services for companies are the traditional and central practices of attorneys at law of our firm. We handle professional legal services in various areas.

We prepare a system to immediately respond to cases that require understanding of complicated facts or technologies and process cases more promptly and adequately even in areas that require advanced expertise.

We widely handle legal services for domestic and foreign companies such as:

- Various legal consultations related to the company act or various legal entities
- Company establishment in Japan
- Creation or amendment of articles of incorporation and other company rules
- Instruction on and preparation of minutes of shareholder's meeting or board meeting

We have experiences on M&A and company reorganisation such as joint venture, acquisition of company, acquisition of business, stock purchase and have expertise on due diligence especially on intellectual property or cutting edge technologies.

YUASA and HARA is one of the oldest and largest law firms in Japan.

Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year in the Philippines

SVBB
Sapalo Velez Bundang & Bulilan Law Offices

CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

The Philippines' leading Intellectual Property Firm

FIRM PROFILE
Established in 1976, the firm has grown to become one of the Philippines' prominent and leading IP law firms.

Its excellent service is made possible by the reservoir of experience and expertise in both law and sciences of its Managing Partner, lawyers, and paralegals, with the able support of an equally well-trained and competent staff. Many of its clients are among the biggest companies in the world such as Toyota, Alcon, Microsoft, Yamaha, Toshiba among others.

The firm is the winner of the 2010 Asia IP Awards for Trademarks and Nominee (one of the top five firms) for Patents.

The firm was shortlisted in the Asia IP Awards in 2011 (for Patents and Trademarks), in 2012 (for Trademarks) and both in 2013 and 2014 (for Patents).

The firm's Managing Partner, Atty. Ignacio S. Sapalo, was chosen by Corporate INTL as the 2011 Philippines Intellectual Property Lawyer of the Year. This organization has also chosen the firm as the Patent & Trademark Prosecution Law Firm of the Year in the Philippines, 2015 Corporate INTL Legal Awards. The firm was also named the Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year in the Philippines by the same organization in its 2016 Corporate INTL Magazine Global Award.

Atty. Sapalo received recognition in 2014 from the IP Star of the Managing Intellectual Property (MIP) as one of the leading IP lawyers for the following areas: trademark prosecution, enforcement and litigation; and copyright contentious. He has been identified as an IP Star in the 22nd edition of the MIP Handbook after the research was concluded for the MIP IP Stars Handbook 2015.

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Investments Law Firm of the Year in the Philippines



DivinaLaw

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DivinaLaw is a leading full-service law firm in the Philippines. We take pride in advocating and practicing dynamic lawyering - prompt, proactive and result-oriented. We offer depth and range in experience and resources and a professional, collaborative work ethic - qualities that clients appreciate in an emerging and challenging market like the Philippines.

At DivinaLaw, we endeavour to understand our clients' needs so we can give them the best legal service possible. We aim to exceed their expectations at every turn.

Our practice includes the entire spectrum of Philippine law. Our litigation practice covers corporate, criminal and civil litigation, alternative dispute resolution, estates and trusts, immigration, labour and employment, elections, administrative regulation, and maritime law. Our corporate practice includes banking, finance and construction, mergers and acquisition, foreign investments, securities, corporate rehabilitation, insurance, public-private partnerships, mining and natural resources, energy, utilities regulation, intellectual property, sports and entertainment, and taxation.

Foreign Investments

DivinaLaw's vast experience in structuring foreign investments stems from its involvement in various transactions for different industries, e.g., power, financial, retail, steel, and realty. DivinaLaw's experience in all aspects of investments, business and financial-related laws and transactions either collectively or through individual experience of its lawyers, may be considered among the most extensive in the country. Such services include:

- extensive legal and corporate due diligence;
- setting up offshore companies;
- trade finance facilities and debt assignments;
- international swaps and derivatives (schedule and transactions);
- registration, incorporation and capitalization of representative and branch offices;
- review of cross-border commercial transactions, including rendering of taxation advisories, among others.

DivinaLaw's clients include leading companies in banking and finance, manufacturing, retail, power, oil and gas, education, health care and insurance, realty and property development, and technology. The Firm also represents illustrious private and public corporations, regulatory bodies, and several high net-worth individuals.

Awards and Recognitions

With its consistent rendition of high quality swift legal service, it comes as no surprise that the Firm, barely a decade from its inception, has been conferred prestigious excellence awards, including, the **Innovation Excellence Award for Most Outstanding Independent Law Firm in the Philippines for 2015**; the **ACQ Law Award for Leading Independent Law Firm of the Year for 2014**; its Managing Partner, granted the **ACQ Global Award for Managing Partner of the Year for 2015**; and now, the **Corporate International Magazine's Investment Law Firm of the Philippines for 2016**.

International Links

DivinaLaw is the **sole Philippine member of Lawyers Associated Worldwide**, a top-rated international association of over 100 independent law firms from more than 50 countries. We are also **the only Philippine member of LEGALINK**, also a top-ranked global network of 68 independent law firms from a majority of the world's commercial centers.

Allied services: Banking and Finance

DivinaLaw has extensive experience in banking and finance transactions and has worked on various securitizations, structured and project financing. In addition to structuring and negotiating treasury and trust products, the Firm also assists institutional investors on their investment management mandates and securities-lending programs. Its comprehensive expertise in this field of practice ensures clients of outputs and results that are efficient and custom-tailored to suit each client's peculiar needs.

DivinaLaw is likewise engaged in advisory work for corporate trustees and agency service providers in relation to the general exercise of trustee powers and discretions. It has represented both creditors and borrowers in complex and simple loan and facility syndications.

Allied services: Mergers and Acquisitions

The Firm's merger and acquisition team has the experience and expertise in acting as counsel for either the surviving or absorbed corporation. Having been recognized as an illustrious legal service provider for mergers and acquisitions (M&A's) by CORP INTL Magazine for 2015, DivinaLaw is distinguished for its holistic handling of M&As through the prevention of legal problems and cost-effective, strategic and innovative solutions to legal and implementation issues.

Having represented a broad range of high net worth individuals and local and international corporations in M&As, our Firm's services include planning, including documentation, regulatory approvals and implementation; initiation and thwarting of corporate take-overs, management buy-outs and divestments; corporate rehabilitation, restructuring and recapitalization; shareholder agreements, block sale and pooling arrangements; equity offers and acquisitions; and due diligence.

Nilo T. Divina

Nilo T. Divina, founder and managing partner, is a leading counsellor and authority in Philippine corporate law and litigation.

He founded the firm in 2006, and has been the firm's managing partner since. He grew the firm from a crew of nine lawyers to the present complement of 44 attorneys and counsels. He is also the dean of the Faculty of Civil Law of the University of Santo Tomas, one the Philippines' leading law schools.

Mr. Divina's experience spans some 25 years of appearing before courts of all levels and various quasi-judicial agencies. He led the firm in winning several landmark cases before the Philippine Supreme Court, including cases that clarified important issues in credit transactions, helped strengthen parts of the Rules of Corporate Rehabilitation.

He is a regular speaker in the Philippine lecture circuit, on such topics as debt restructuring, debtor-creditor relationship reforms, procedural reforms, public interest cases involving elected officials, presidential impeachments, anti-graft and corrupt practices issues, realty law, finance and investment, and special court proceedings. He has appeared as an expert guest in several highly acclaimed television public information shows and continues to do so whenever his schedule permits.

Mr. Divina advises leading Philippine banks, educational institutions, insurance and health companies, realty companies, and several high net worth individuals, and is on the board of a number of top Philippine corporations. He is an active member of several Supreme Court committees on reforms in legal education and court procedures, and for the term 2013-2014, was the president of the Philippine Association of Law Schools.

Education

- Bachelor of Laws, University of Santo Tomas (Magna Cum Laude, Valedictorian, Rector's Awardee for Academic Excellence)
- BA Behavioral Science, University of Santo Tomas (Cum Laude, Dean's Lister, College Scholar)
- Post-graduate diploma in International Tax Law, Robert Kennedy College, Switzerland

Current Roles

- Chairman of the Board of Trustees – Philippine Association of Law Schools
- Dean – University of Santo Tomas Faculty of Civil Law (November 2009-Present)
- Member of the Board of Directors – United Coconut Planters Bank (April 2011-Present)

Boutique Entertainment and Media Law Firm of the Year in Singapore



George Hwang LL.C

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Director
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GEORGE HWANG

George Hwang LL.C's founder, George Hwang, started doing entertainment and media work when working in Hong Kong in the 1990s. They were mainly film related until he became the general manager of Warner Music Publishing (HK) Ltd.

As a practitioner, Mr Hwang has advised on various music industry agreements in Hong Kong and in Singapore.

Mr Hwang worked as in-house counsel for a media company between 1996 and 1997. He had to create many new templates for internet products of that company.

George Hwang LL.C offers the gamut of services for the entertainment and media industry.

Mr Hwang has worked in many countries, including Hong Kong, the European Commission, Bulgaria and the Bahamas. He is also able to communicate in English, French and Mandarin.

George Hwang LL.C offers the gamut of services for the entertainment and media industry. They include:

a. advising, drafting and negotiating contracts;
b. dealing with statutory or governmental bodies on a variety of issues, ranging from obtaining permits to censorship;
c. litigation;
d. assisting in filming in another country; and
e. other corporate and commercial related matters e.g. loan agreements, joint-venture contracts etc.

It is the only entertainment and media law firm with experience in:

a. commercial transactions; and
b. freedom of expression, human rights or public interest cases;

in Singapore and regionally.

"We like to develop a close relationship with our SME clients and get to know their business well," said Mr Hwang. *"This assists us to be pro-active, give timely and relevant advices so that our clients can be 'fleet footed as a gazelle' when making their business decisions."*

In litigation, George Hwang LL.C advised Roy Ngerng, a blogger, when he was sued by Singapore's Prime Minister for defamation, last year. In 2013, the firm appeared in Singapore's apex court and won for its client, a journalist, the right to keep his sources secret, in the landmark case of James Dorsey v World Sports Group [2014] 2 SLR 208.

Mr Hwang stated that the firm plans to expand in 2017, as the economic outlook for 2016 for Singapore is poor. The firm intends to use 2016 to consolidate and strengthen its administration and business processes.

Mr Hwang also wants to devote his time to writing the volume on media law for the Halsbury's of Singapore, which LexisNexis has commissioned him to write.

Corporate Finance Accountancy Firm of the Year in Singapore



Mid-Market - Commercial Litigation Law Firm of the Year in Singapore

Ahead of Every Move. Ahead of Every Strategy.



CorporateINTL GLOBAL AWARDS WINNER 2016

TKQP
Tan Kok Quan Partnership

Tan Kok Quan Partnership is a full service law firm providing legal services across a broad spectrum of industry sectors.

With a wealth of experience in handling a broad and diverse spectrum of cases, we have earned a stellar reputation for the quality of our work. An unwavering dedication to excellence in service and professionalism is our hallmark. We regularly act on high profile, ground breaking cases such as the City Harvest Church matter – one of the largest and highest profile white-collar crime cases in Singapore's history; and acting for a wealthy individual accused of defrauding Mr Dmitry Rybolovlev, a Russian Oligarch and owner of AS Monaco Football Club, of some US$1 billion from the purchase of numerous masterpieces, including works by Picasso, Monet, Rothko and Da Vinci.

Key focus

- Administrative law
- Banking and securities disputes
- Corporate disputes
- Fraud investigations
- Hospitality disputes
- Intellectual property disputes
- Property disputes
- Family law
- Telecommunications disputes
- Arbitration
- Adjudication
- Mediation and negotiation

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Intellectual Property Law Firm of the Year in Taiwan



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道法法律事務所
DEEP & FAR Attorneys-at-Law

Mr. Tsai, a patent attorney graduated from Department of Electrical Engineering of National Taiwan University (NTUEE), which is the best engineering school in Taiwan. Out of the interest of communication system, he immediately had attended in the Graduate Institute of Communication Engineering (GICE) of NTU since his graduation from NTUEE and has received his master's degree after 2-years' research. During his research life in GICE, he also started to get involved in knowledge and skills of patent-related matters for taking the bar examination for Patent Attorneys. He has passed the exam having a pass rate lower than 4%, and received the qualification of patent attorney.

Mr. Tsai also attended and gained an IP master degree from Law School of University of New Hampshire, also known as Franklin Pierce Center for Intellectual Property. Right after the graduation, he had an opportunity to work for InterDigital, Inc. in Delaware for a short period, and then passed the U.S. Patent Registration Examination. He also passed China Patent Agent Examination recently.

Currently, Mr. Tsai is working for Deep & Far Attorneys-at-Law as a patent attorney and concurrently majoring a law master in National Chiao Tong University.

Mr. Tsai is quite proud of the fact that more than one fifth of the top 100 corporations have been clients of Deep & Far, and that more than 50% of the patent-experienced companies in the Hsinchu Science Industrial Park have entrusted their IPR work to this firm. It is Mr. Tsai's firm belief that in the competition market, clients will only entrust their works to a firm that can provide competent and timely services at a competitive price.

About Deep & Far:

Deep & Far attorneys-at-law was founded in 1992 and is dealing with all phases of laws with a focus on the practice in separate or in combination of all aspects of intellectual property rights (IPRs) including patents, trademarks, copyrights, trade secrets, unfair competition, and/or licensing, counseling, litigation and/or transaction thereof.

Deep & Far prosecutes worldwide patent matters for local clients. For international or foreign clients, Deep & Far prosecutes patent matters mainly in Taiwan, significantly in China & Hong Kong, and with minor representation in Macau, Singapore, Korea & Japan.

Deep & Far also represent international giants, e.g. InterDigital, MPS, Schott Glas, Toyo Ink, Motorola, Cypress, Armani...

Readers' Choice - Boutique Commercial Law Firm of the Year in Thailand



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Somphob
Tax and Law Office Limited
Trademark Protection Group - Thailand

Somphob Tax and Law Office Limited (STLO) is an independent Thai law firm located in the heart of the business district of Bangkok. For over 20 years, Somphob Tax and Law Office Limited has provided legal services to a diverse group of domestic and foreign companies. The firm has grown firmly since its founding in 1993 by Mr Somphob Kongwan.

"The growth of our firm has supported numerous cross-border transactions and litigation matters, while providing the experience necessary to offer corporate and commercial, international and domestic tax, labour and benefits, immigration services and intellectual property counsel to clients across all industries," said Mr Kongwan. "Our partners and associates are experienced lawyers able to handle a wide range of complex legal issues in all our practice areas."

The firm provides legal and consulting services for foreign clients and investors with the purpose of conducting business in Thailand. The firm has established key contacts and relationships by working with several prestigious law firms throughout Asia, United States and Europe which enable it to expand its legal services in a broad range of practice areas on an international level.

Services provided by STLO include setting up a company, litigation, obtaining work permits and giving legal counsel on investment, tax, property and intellectual property issues. The firm also handles urgent cases in which foreigners must deal directly with Thai government agencies.

The firm's practices comprise:

- Corporate and Investment
- Commercial and Contract
- Immigration and Work Permits
- Intellectual Property: Trademark, Copyright, Patent
- Real Estate
- Employment
- Taxation, Accounting, Auditing
- Franchising, Licensing
- Recruitment
- Litigation and Arbitration

Commenting on STLO's distinguishing features, Mr Kongwan highlighted his unique Thai perspective on the Thai legal and tax system, as well as the firm's emphasis on research and development.

The firm builds team expertise through training, education and reading reports, newsletter, and other materials. It focuses on being up to date on new legal developments, such as new laws or amendment to laws, and conducts in-house training for its staff.

Mr Kongwan noted that STLO has not just been recognised by Western entrepreneurs and companies. Currently, the firm has started to engage with Chinese citizens and companies through collaboration with Chinese law firms.

"STLO has Chinese staff speaking Mandarin; we are active in a number of provinces and major cities in China like Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Wuhan and Kunming," he added. "STLO is expanding through collaboration with firms from other Asian Economic Community (AEC) member-countries."

In the next 12 months, the firm is moving from general law practice to intellectual property practice, covering all areas of IP: trademarks, copyright, patents design, technology, franchising and e-commerce.

Mr Kongwan concluded: "We initiated a digital platform for a trademark registration (www.tmthonline.com). We actively recruit lawyers who specialise in IP matters."

AFRICA & THE MIDDLE EAST WINNERS



Africa and the Middle East are highly varied regions with countries at both extremes of the wealth spectrum. Huge differences exist between rapidly growing markets, serving a global customer base on the one hand and countries affected by war on the other.

From one perspective, the region is hugely exciting in its potential for logistics growth. Dubai in particular has been spectacularly successful in its ability to restructure the global airfreight market around key hubs in the region. The Gulf in general is now a key player in air transport due to the smaller states investing so heavily in new aircraft and airports.

To a lesser extent, this is true about sea freight as well. The port of Jebel Ali in Dubai is successful as a transhipment port. But also, a string of other sizeable ports have sprung up in the region that are not only attempting to grab part of the strong demand for hubs on the China-Europe route, but also traffic around the Indian Ocean and beyond.

Yet, sea freight is being used in a revolutionary way beyond just transhipment. A number of developments in both North Africa and Saudi Arabia have attempted to grasp the opportunity that a container port offers to gain entry to global supply chains. Saudi Arabia is trying to build large developments on both the Red Sea and Gulf coasts that will utilise the country's gas resources to develop energy intensive business such as down-stream chemical and plastics production or aluminium fabrication for automotive assembly.

The reliance on ports also indicates that the region is lagging in terms of other aspects of logistics. Again the situation varies greatly between Dubai and other economies; the provision of logistics for consumer goods, for example in key markets such as Egypt, is meagre. Logistics property is rarely of size and capability required to support contemporary best practice while the road freight sector is also insufficiently developed.

Recent Transport Intelligence analysis suggests that the demand for production-orientated logistics is likely to grow at an enormous rate – if for no other reason than present demand is low.

Similarly, the latent demand for logistics in the retail sector is substantial, with market dysfunction preventing growth. Better roads and recognition by governments of the importance of logistics suggests that markets may open up to the possibility of a much deeper presence by global LSPs (logistics service providers) as well as the more sophisticated local players.

What cannot be ignored is that oil and gas still dominates many of these economies. The direct impact of these resources has an enormous effect on the region's logistics markets. The infrastructure is vast, as is the market for services such as shipping. It also has the indirect effect of driving demand for air services in many locations; it is also the force behind the development of the growth of the chemical sector in these economies. The effect is to skew logistics provision towards heavy industrial, capital intensive operations.

GDP growth in Sub-Saharan Africa improved to an average of 4.6% in 2014, up from 4.2% in 2013, but weaker than the average of 6.4% during 2002–08, supported by infrastructure investment and consumer spending. Growth softened around the turn of the year owing to headwinds from the plunge in the price of oil. Sub-Saharan Africa's oil exporters, which account for nearly half of the region's GDP, are experiencing a major adverse shock. Their economies depend heavily on oil for revenues and foreign reserves. Between June 2014 and January 2015, oil prices declined by nearly 50%, more than the prices of other commodities, and have remained low despite the recent uptick. This has put substantial pressures on the fiscal and current account balances of oil exporters.

The oil exporters in Sub-Saharan Africa are less resilient to the price shock than many other oil-exporting countries because of their much more limited policy buffers. In Nigeria, the Excess Crude Account, a sovereign wealth fund, totalled just $2.0 billion at the end of 2014. Gross international reserves fell 20% to $34.25 billion (6.0% of GDP), drawn down by the central bank in its attempt to support the naira. In March, Standard & Poor's downgraded Nigeria's credit rating from B+ to BB-. Several of the region's oil exporters have started to adjust. In Angola, the oil price assumption in the 2015 budget was revised down to $40/bbl from the original assumption of $81/bbl. In Nigeria, it was reduced to US$53/bbl from the earlier forecast of $65/barrel. The corresponding downward revision in expected revenues induced plans to cut public spending. In Angola, Parliament approved a 25% reduction in spending from the original plan for 2015. The cuts cover public investment projects and current expenditures, including subsidies. In Nigeria, the 2015 federal government budget passed by the Senate indicates sharp reductions in capital expenditures. With the lower government spending, the non-oil economy in many of these countries is faltering, especially in the least diversified economies (Angola and Equatorial Guinea).

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- Advocate roll registration certificate in the year 1986.
- Sudanese bar registration in 1986.
- Lawyer, Sudan1985- 1998.
- Senior legal advisor with Hassan Sati law office - Doha Qatar. 1998-2001.
- Languages; Excellent in Arabic and English, Manageable French.
- Joined Qatar International Law Firm 2001.
- President of the Sudanese Community in Qatar 2006 - 2008.

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LISTINGS (ADDITIONAL WINNERS)

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Some firms have chosen to mark their accolade(s) with a Listing. Please see the coming pages for more of our award winners from around the world.

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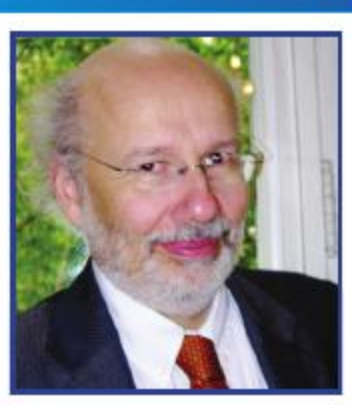


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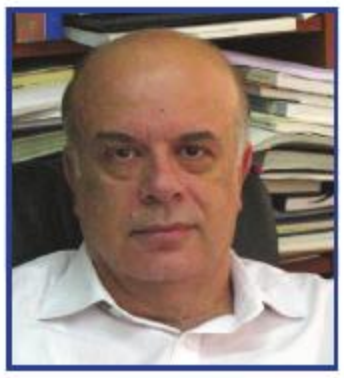
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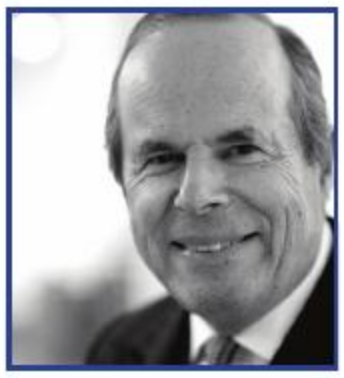


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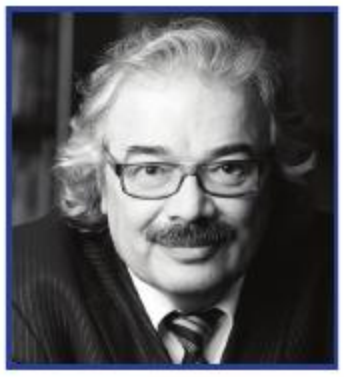


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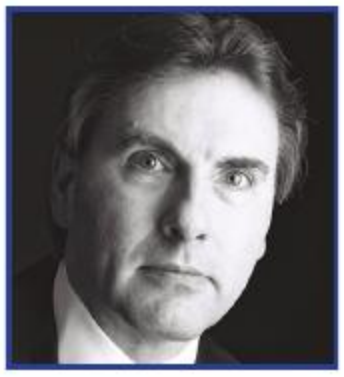


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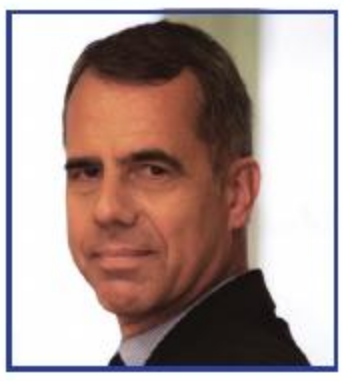


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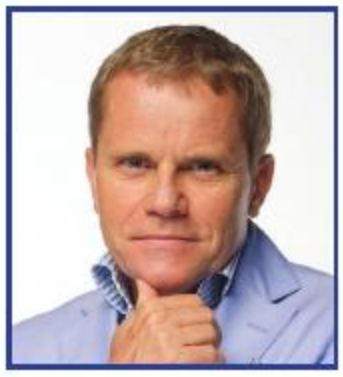
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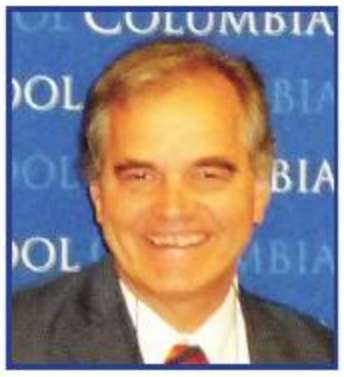


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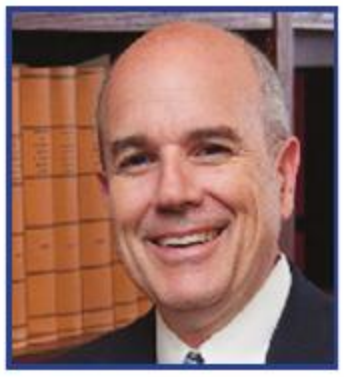


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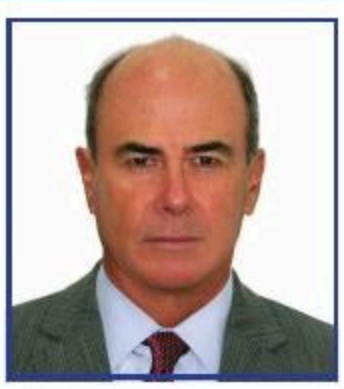


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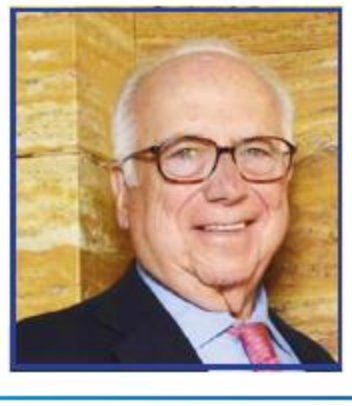


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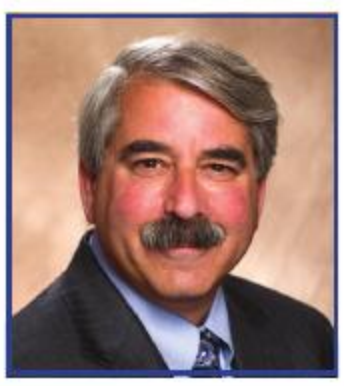


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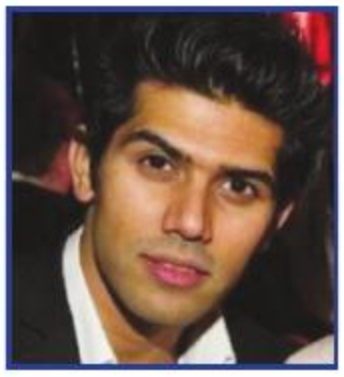


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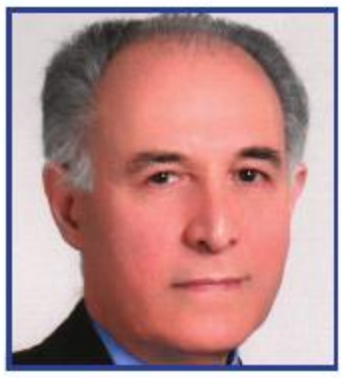
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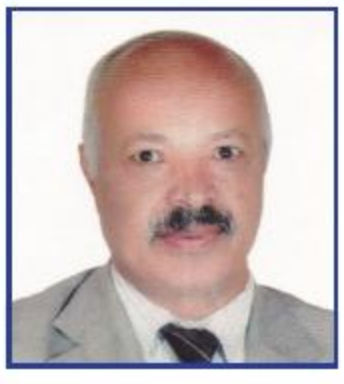


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