## 2011 ACQUISITION INTERNATIONAL LEGAL AWARDS

66 There is no better way to run a business than building it upon the truth, so in our mind set, the crisis is over. 99

Miquel Roca / Blas De Lezo

66 We have always focused on providing a better, faster, effective, higher value legal product to sophisticated purchasers of legal services. 99

Dev Erriah / Erriah Chambers

66 Be interested in the question behind the question. And more importantly, be interested in the person behind that question as well. 99

Eric Bergamin / Bergamin & Gielink Pensioenrechtadvies

66 We consider all our clients as being our partners in every venture they are undertaking. We are business lawyers so clients coming to us do not receive only legal advice, but business oriented solutions in order for them to make the right choice.

Gabriela Cacerea / NNDKP

## **WINNERS LIST**

Argentina				
Argentina Brons & Salas Mitrani Caballero Rosso Alba Francia Ojam & Ruiz Moreno Abogados	Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year Patents Law Firm of the Year		Jonas Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH Buntscheck Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH Heussen Rechtsanwaltsgesellschaft mbH	Trade Marks Law Firm of the Year EU Law Firm of the Year Property Law Firm of the Year
Australia Colin Pigrons & Pointer	In a mayor and Daire mayor I am Eim of the		Avocado rechtsanwälte Graef Rechtsanwälte	Administrative & Public Law Firm of the Year Entertainment Law Firm of the Year
Colin Biggers & Paisley	Insurance and Reinsurance Law Firm of the Year		Graf von Westphalen Raue LLP	Real Estate Law Firm of the Year Energy Regulation Law Firm of the Year
Henry Davis York Minter Ellison	Capital Markets Law Firm of the Year Competition Law Firm of the Year		Löhde Leo Schmidt-Hollburg & Witte	M&A Law Firm of the Year
Minter Ellison	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year		FGS Flick Gocke Schaumburg	Corporate Law Firm of the Year
Minter Ellison DibbsBarker	Internet & E-Commerce Law Firm of the Year Restructuring & Insolvency Law Firm of the Year		Ghana KIMATHI & KIMATHI, Corporate Attorneys AB & David Law	Corporate Law Firm of the Year Construction & Engineering Law Firm of the
Austria Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH Graf & Pitkowitz Rechtsanwälte GmbH	Commercial Law Firm of the Year Banking & Finance Law Firm of the Year		AELEX Oxford & Beaumont Solicitors	Year Foreign Direct Investment Law Firm of the Year M&A Law Firm of the Year
TJP Saxinger, Chalupsky & Partner Rechtsanwälte GmbH (Austria)	International Tax Law Firm of the Year Environmental Law Firm of the Year		Gibraltar Verralls Barristers and Solicitors Greece	Real Estate Law Firm of the Year
BLS Rechtsanwälte	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year		Your Legal Partners	Energy Law Firm of the Year
Bahrain Norton Rose Banaladesh	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year		Your Legal Partners KLC Law Firm Constant & Constant	Corporate Law Firm of the Year Real Estate Law Firm of the Year Shipping & Maritime Law Firm of the Year
Doulah & Doulah  Belarus	M&A Law Firm of the Year		KGDI Law Firm PotamitisVekris V&P Law Firm	Labour Law Firm of the Year Employment Law Firm of the Year Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year
Revera Consulting Group  Belgium	Construction Law Firm of the Year		Guatemala Salazar-Munoz Despacho de Abogados	Commercial Litigation Law of the Year
Afschrift FratiniVergano European Lawyers	Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year Telecommunications Law Firm of the Year	Page 21	Hong Kong	n 11
Liedekerke Wolters Waelbroeck Kirkpatrick  Bermuda	Environmental Law Firm of the Year		Deacons Kennedys King & Wood	Banking and Finance Law Firm of the Year Real Estate Law Firm of the Year Environmental Law Firm of the Year
Conyers Dill & Pearman	Investment Funds Law Firm of the Year		Laracy & Co	Shipping & Maritime Law Firm of the Year
Brasil TozziniFreire Advogados	Corporate Governance Law Firm of the Year		Hungary Gobert & Partners / Taxand	Real Estate Law Firm of the Year
KLA-Koury Lopes Advogados Machado Associados	M&A Law Firm of the Year Corporate Law Firm of the Year1267		Déri & Lovrecz Forgó, Damjanovic & Partners Law Firm	Banking and Finance Law Firm of the Year Corporate Law Firm of the Year
Pellon & Associados Law Office	Insurance & Reinsurance Law Firm of the Year Trade Mark Law Firm of the Year		Gárdos, Füredi, Mosonyi, Tomori Lohn Law Firm	Contract Law Firm of the Year Property Law Firm of the Year
Aoki Advogados Associados Azevedo Sette Advogados SC	Public & Administrative Law Firm of the Year		Iceland	Tropoligization and are real
Barbosa Müssnich & Aragão Juchem Advocacia	Competition Law Firm of the Year Environmental Law Firm of the Year		LOGOS Legal Services	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year EU Law Firm of the Year
Levy & Salomão Advogados Campos Mello Advogados	Investment Funds Law Firm of the Year Foreign Investment Law Firm of the Year		Jonsson & Hall Juris Law Office	Restructuring & Insolvency Law Firm of the
Felsberg e Associados	Project Finance Law Firm of the Year	Page 24	t., P.,	Year
British Virgin Islands Maples and Calder	Corporate Law Firm of the Year		India Mulla & Mulla & Craigie Blunt & Caroe Bhasin & Bhasin Associates	Banking & Finance Law Firm of the Year Employment Law Firm of the Year
Canada Bennett Jones LLP	Internet & E-Commerce Law Firm of the Year		Lexygen R.K Dewan & Co.	Private Equity Law Firm of the Year Patent Law Firm of the Year
Fasken Martineau DuMoulin LLP Goldman Sloan Nash & Haber LLP	Corporate Governance Law Firm of the Year Construction Law Firm of the Year		Kochhar & Co	Technology Law Firm of the Year
Gowling Lafleur Henderson LLP Osler Hoskin & Harcourt LLP	Corporate Law Firm of the Year Infrastructure Law Firm of the Year		Indonesia Hutabarat Halim & Rekan Dyah Ersita & Partners	Capital Markets Law Firm of the Year Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year
<u>Chile</u> Estudio Luis Lizama Portal	Employment Law Firm of the Year	Page 13	Mochtar Karuwin Komar	M&A Law Firm fo the Year
Molina Rios Abogados China	Construction Law Firm of the Year		Ireland DAC Beachcroft Maree Gallagher Associates	Insurance & Reinsurance Law Firm of the Year Life Sciences Law Firm of the Year
WilmerHale Wilkinson & Grist	Private Equity Law Firm of the Year Life Sciences Law Firm of the Year		Ronan Daly Jermyn  Isle of Man	Commercial Law Firm of the Year
Colombia Leyva Abogados	Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year	Page 26	MannBenham Advocates MannBenham Advocates Israel	Commercial Law Firm of the Year Banking & Finance Law Firm of the Year
Croatia Divjak, Topic & Bahtijarevic Cuprus	Project Finance Law Firm of the Year		Afik Turgeman Caspi & Co	M&A Law Firm of the Year Banking & Finance Law Firm of the Year Private Client Law Firm of the Year
George Z. Georgiou & Associates LLC	M&A Law Firm of the Year		Herzog Fox & Neeman  Italy	т поше сиет таш ғиті ој ше теш
Democratic Republic of Congo Yav & Associates	Corporate Law Firm of the Year		Del Bene De Vitis & Associati Labruna Mazziotti Segni Ashurst	Banking and Finance Law Firm of the Year Transfer Pricing Law Firm of the Year Restructuring & Insolvency Law Firm of the
Denmark Rønne & Lundgren Gorrissen Federspiel	Capital Markets Law Firm of the Year Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year		Studio Legale Padovan	Year Construction Law Firm of the Year Outsourcing Law Firm of the Year
Ecuador Corral & Rosales	Banking and Finance Law Firm of the Year		Rucellai & Raffaelli NCTM Studio Legale Associato SLA Osborne Clarke	EU Law Firm of the Year Energy Law Firm of the Year
Estonia Glimstedt, Law Firm	TMT Law Firm of the Year		Pirola Pennuto Zei & Associati	Corporate Law Firm of the Year
Commission, Law Firm Lextal Law Firm Raidla Lejins & Norcous	Corporate Law Firm of the Year Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year		Japan Allen & Overy LLP Kenya	Corporate Law Firm of the Year
<u>Finland</u> Krogerus Juridia Ltd, Attorneys-At-Law	Law Firm of the Year Virtual Data Room Law Firm of the Year		Anjarwalla & Khanna Korea	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year
Peltonen LMR Waselius & Wist	EU Law Firm of the Year Corporate Law Firm of the Year		Barun Law Shin & Kim	Litigation Law Firm of the Year Arbitration Law Firm of the Year
Waselius & Wist Kotiranta & Co Attorney at Law Ltd France	Competition Law Firm of the Year Arbitration Law firm of the Year		Latvia Eversheds Bitans Law Office Attorneys at Law BORENIUS	Corporate Law Firm of the Year Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year
K&L Gates	Real Estate Law Firm of the Year		<u>Lithuania</u>	Parking and Finance I am Fig. (c) V
Redlink Bredin Prat	EU Law Firm of the Year Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year		Motieka & Audzevicius Tark Grunte Sutkiene	Banking and Finance Law Firm of the Year Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year
NomoS Darrois Villey Maillot Brochier ALTANA	Entertainment Law Firm of the Year Tax Law Firm of the Year Restructuring & Insolvency Law Firm of the		Luxembourg Brucher Thieltgen & Partners	M&A Law Firm of the Year
Germany Gaßner, Groth, Siederer & Coll	Year Public Sector Firm of the Year		Malaysia Lee Hishammuddin Allen & Gledhill Shook Lin & Bok	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year M&A Law Firm of the Year
Meyer Koering GSK Stockmann + Kollegen	Franchise Law Firm of the Year Investment Funds Law Firm of the Year		Malta Camilleri Preziosi	Dispute Resolution Law Firm of the Year
				-

Page 10

Page 25

Page 18

Page 21 Page 24

Page 25

Page 28

Page 26

Page 29

## ISRAELI M&A LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

Torque proper pr

(Israel



Afik Turgeman, Attorneys and Notaries - Doron Afik, Esq. Shlomi Turgeman, Adv. 3 Daniel Frisch St., Tel Aviv, 64731, Israel e. atlaw@at-law.co.il w. www.at-law.co.il

Afik Turgeman, Attorney and Notaries (a Euro-American Lawyers Group member firm) has been awarded Acquisition International's Israeli M&A Law Firm of the Year. AI speaks to Doron Afik and Shlomi Turgeman who are both senior partners of Afik Turgeman.

t. +972-3-6090609

How did it feel when your firm won the Israeli M&A Law Firm of the Year?

"There are some very good M&A lawyers in Israel and we were very happy to hear that the magazine chose our firm."  $\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2} \sum$ 

A happy team is a productive team. How much emphasis do you place on team culture and what elements of that would you point to in helping you achieve this award?

"We believe that our team is our most valuable asset. Firstly, we put a lot of attention to our hiring process — we do not only use legal head-hunters but we will sometimes review hundreds of CV's and conducts dozens of interviews before we will find the person that fits the Afik Turgeman's DNA. We invest many hours in tutoring our employees and they enjoy a very close attention of the partners — we make sure that any document leaving our firm bears the "Afik Turgeman signature."

Closing deals is obviously the culmination of months of hard work, what strategies have you developed personally to deal with the recognised stresses of transaction management?

"Our experience showed us that unlike the common belief that it is all business - everything is personal. A good M&A lawyer has to be an expert in the games theory on the one hand, and virtually a psychologist on the other. It is as important to understand the counterparty and its needs, as it is to understand your own client and its needs"

No one can rest on their laurels in this market place. What are you and your team doing to make sure you win the award next year?

"We are at all time thriving to better ourselves and our team. We are constantly looking for new business contacts and clientele, and we at all times opening our doors and our minds to new opportunities."

How do you differentiate yourself? What is the one thing you'd leave in someone's mind if you were pitching for new business?

"We believe that the personal attention is what differs us from others. Even as we get bigger, the partners are always involved and the clients will always receive a personal touch."

How do you see the legal market changing and how will it affect you?

"The legal market is always changing. For years, the market is becoming more and more global and we are doing our best not only to adopt, but actually to lead. Our firm works in international standards but at very reasonable prices, which makes us compatible to the international market and competitive in such market. We are also members of the Euro-American Lawyers Group (www.ealg.com) and are thus part of a team of hundreds of lawyers in more than 25 countries and are able to supply excellent service in each such jurisdiction."

How do you see your business in 3 years' time? How will it have changed shape? Will you (the firm) be recruiting?

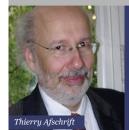
"We are constantly recruiting. We do not have a vision as to size of the firm in 3 years time but we have promised ourselves to grow only at a rate that will enable us not to jeopardize the quality of our services."

If you could offer one piece of advice to the other nominees for your award, what would that be? What do you think made you and your team lead the pack?

"We believe that the best piece of advise in the M&A area would be to get to know your client as if you are about to purchase your client's business, but always try and see the transaction from the eyes of the counterparty.

## BELGIAN CORPORATE TAX LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR (Belgium)

A F S C H R I F To Bouds Ameroy General Lumbooy Maddi Td his



AFSCHRIFT
Thierry Afschrift
Avenue Louise 208
B-1050 Brussels (Main office)
e. avocats@afschrift.com
w. www.afschrift.com

AFSCHRIFT Law firm has been awarded Acquisition International's Belgian Corporate Tax Law Firm of the Year.

AI speaks to Thierry Afschrift, managing and founding partner of AFSCHRIFT Law firm, and also professor to the Free University of Brussels and deputy judge to the Court of appeal about this prestigious achievement.

AFSCHRIFT Law Firm is a lawyer association specialized in tax law, defending the taxpayers in their relationships with tax administration. Afschrift Law Firm is settled in Brussels and also has offices in Antwerp, Geneva, Luxembourg, Madrid and Tel Aviv.

The award is recognition of you and your team's successes in the transactional market in what have been very difficult economic conditions, how have you had to adapt in terms of deal generation and project management?

"The economic crises did not change much in our business, as, on the tax fields, the situation has always been difficult. "Nevertheless, it is obvious that, today, when choosing a solution, especially when this solution implicates the use of foreign jurisdiction, we take even more into consideration the fact that the legal situation is expected, or not, to evolve in the "destination" country. "In the past, we could consider a number of countries as totally stable, from a tax point of view; this is not true anymore."

A happy team is a productive team. How much emphasis do you place on team culture and what elements of that would you point to in helping you achieve this award?

"Our lawyers our productive because they love our job. Furthermore, we work in a "niche" office; therefore, team spirit is necessary in order to work properly. In order to answer precisely your question, without hard team work and high degree of qualification, it would be impossible for an office of the size of ours to achieve what we've achieved."

No one can rest on their laurels in this market place. What are you and your team doing to make sure you win the award next year?

"An award is only the recognition of the value of the work done for our clients. Therefore, to be honest, our first target awarded or not, will be to continue achieving the targets set by our clients. "We have done this from the first day of the foundation of this office and will continue to do so. Of course, if a new award should arrive, we'll be happy and grateful."

How do you see your business in 3 years' time? Will AFSCHRIFT Law firm be recruiting?

66 From a business point of view, our goal is to reinforce our position in the Dutch-speaking market in Belgium, as well as in the international one, especially in Switzerland and Luxembourg, where the lawmakers prove themselves of a great creativity on the tax field. 99