

restructuring of its life insurance business, and Natixis Assurances on the setting up of a distribution scheme for life insurance products.

HMN & Partners has a leading litigation practice with Bernard Mettetal, Gérard Honig and Simon Ndiaye handling insurance and reinsurance cases. It is the go-to firm for industrial risk matters occurring in the aviation, pharmacy and automobile sectors. The practice was involved in the AZF case.

Hogan Lovells (Paris) LLP has superb litigation expertise in Thomas Rouhette, who handles landmark cases in the aviation sector, combined with corporate and regulatory capabilities through Bénédicte Denis. The firm is an advisor to leading insurers and reinsurers (Axa, Scor, Swiss Re).

DLA Piper leads a busy litigation practice in the construction sector through practice head Emmanuelle Payrau-Sorba, who represents large developers. Bruce Mee is also involved in the practice on the litigation side, while Anne Maréchal has strong financial capabilities advising insurers.

Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP's Jean Alisse is a leading expert acting for high-profile clients (Allianz IARD, Paris Re, SCOR, Swiss Re). The practice takes on corporate, regulatory and litigation work, and is consulted on EU regulation and reinsurance issues.

Holman Fenwick Willan LLP is made up of 'reactive, efficient and competent' lawyers who combine expertise in French and Anglo-Saxon law. The practice handles insurance and reinsurance work representing insurers and is particularly strong in the maritime field. Guillaume Brajeux and Oliver Purcell are recommended.

Karila's Jean-Pierre Karila and Laurent Karila are strong individuals in the construction sector. The practice acts for leading insurers, handling insurance law and civil liability work.

At Lefèvre Pelletier & associés, Marie-Christine Peyroux's team has wide expertise in insurance law, handling matters for leading

insurers including Lloyds' members. Martine Blanck-Dap and Philippe Lefèvre are also key elements in the practice, which strengthened in 2010 via the hiring of Séverine Hotellier Delage, who joined from insurance specialist firm Hascoët - Thierry Bernard left the firm to join Quadrige.

Reed Smith is adept at handling large industrial accident cases, acting on the insured companies' side through Benoît Charot and Marie Albertini, who are regularly involved in product liability matters. The team advised Total on the setting up of its global insurance scheme, and in the context of a fire which occurred in warehouse near London. It also represents major industrial companies and manufacturers (Saint Gobain, Saint Louis Sucre) on asbestos-related proceedings.

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP has the 'best M&A insurance practice'. William Torchiana ranks among the market's leading experts for strategic securities offerings and corporate and restructuring matters, attracting work from all the largest insurance companies. The firm advised Paris Re on its combination with Partner Re.

Intellectual property

Boutiques

Armengaud Guerlain has strong trade mark expertise in Stéphane Guerlain. The firm is also a great choice for patent work through Jacques Armengaud, particularly in the pharmaceutical field.

The 'very good' Cousin & Associés is renowned for its patent litigation expertise through Pierre Cousin, who represents leading clients from the pharmaceutical, chemistry, mechanic and optic sectors. The four-partner firm also includes Myriam Moatty, Sandrine Bouvier-Ravon and Jean-Martin Chevalier, who counts among the few market's experts in plant variety protection rights. The practice has a strong know-how in the life-sciences field, but also has key clients in the IT and food

industries. Trade mark and design rights are also dealt with.

Cabinet Escande is 'the leading firm for trade marks' through Michel-Paul Escande. The practice also handles patent matters and has a strong client base in the luxury, food and automotive sectors.

Gaultier Lakits Szeleper has a 'dynamic' trade mark practice. The firm is made up of three partners including Geoffroy Gaultier, who has strong litigation expertise.

Hirsch & Associés comprises 14 lawyers who have a dual background in science and law, covering trade marks and patents. The practice is led by avocat and solicitor Denis Schertenleib, who also owns a PhD in molecular neurobiology, and European patent and community trade mark attorneys Marc-Roger Hirsch and Gérard-Gabriel Lamoureux. Grégoire Desrousseaux left the firm to join August & Debouzy. In 2010, the firm handled important cases in the life-sciences sector, acting for leading laboratories.

Howrey LLP has two strong individuals for patent litigation in Marina Cousté and François Jonquères, although it lost key partner Denis Monégier du Sorbier who co-founded Hoyng Monegier LLP. The team is hands on at advising on patents and trade marks in the fields of pharmacy, electronics and high technologies. Recent highlights include representing Sphere in a patent infringement case regarding granules.

Véron & Associés is the 'strongest' firm for patent litigation, a field which the 13-lawyer team entirely focuses on. The 'very skilled' Pierre Véron has a superb reputation, while the practice also consists of Isabelle Romet, Thomas Bouvet

OTHER RECOMMENDED FIRMS

Antoine & Benoiel, Cabinet
Casalonga Avocats
Christophe Caron, Cabinet
Corinne Champagner Katz
Greffé
Hollier-Larousse & Associés
IP-Lógos
Jacobacci
Laude Esquier Champey
Lavoix Avocats

Borowsky & de Baecque
Damien Challamel - Avocat
Feral-Schuhl/Sainte-Marie
Gilbey Delorey
Gilles Vercken Avocats
Hugotavocats
Neuer, Cabinet
Nicolas Boespflug
Pierrat
Teissonnière Sardain Chevé

Firms are listed A-2, within tiers

OTHER RECOMMENDED FIRMS

Baker & McKenzie SCP
Clyde & Co LLP
De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés ◊
Garnault Rembauville Bureau Tassy
Ince & Co ◊
Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP ◊
Norton Rose LLP
Linklaters LLP
Preeel Hecquet Payet-Godel (PHPG & Partners) ◊
Racine
SNR Denton
Vatier & Associés ◊

Firms are listed A-2
◊ indicates firm displays contact details at the end of this chapter

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Boutiques

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Cousin & Associés
Escande, Cabinet
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Howrey LLP
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