At AKLEA, which opened in January 2009, the IP/IT and media department is managed by Anne-Marie Pecorro who previously led the practice at Bignon Lebrey & Associates. Pecorro has a long-standing reputation and is recommended for the 'seriousness of her work'. She heads up an 'efficient and friendly' team.

August & Debouzy handles advisory and contentious work in relation to trade mark protection domestically and internationally, under the directorship of Mahasti Razavi and Kami Haeri. The practice has benefited from the recent arrival of Christian Charrère-Bourmai, a renowned art and literary rights lawyer.

Clifford Chance advises on trade mark and patent matters, including litigation. Christian Lachèze and Jean-Frédéric Gaultier, who is 'extremely competent' and has 'good understanding of how to work with American clients', are recognised in the sports industry. The team manages the French trade mark portfolio of L'Association Française de Football, Kimberly-Clark and Gap, and recently represented The Times before the Paris criminal court in a libel litigation case against the Barclays twins, owners of the Telegraph. Other clients include EADS, Airbus, Carrefour and Lagardère.

At Denton Wilde Sapte, Stephan Naumann heads the firm's technology media and telecoms practice, which is recommended in IP as 'available at short notice and responsive'. Clients are drawn from advertising, pharmaceutical, movie and distribution industries, and expertise encompasses patents, trade marks and copyrights. Recent highlights include success in representing Colgate-Palmolive in a dispute brought by Lascad relating to Colgate-Palmolive's Tahiti deodorants; and Arch Water Products in a patent infringement dispute relating to pool cleaners.

Hogan & Hartson MNP's practice, headed by the 'impressive' Xavier Buffet Delmas, is 'highly reactive and has very good knowledge of copyright law'. The team also deals with litigation and trade mark matters. The Paris practice has clients from a wide range of industries (Danone, L'Oreal, MySpace). The team assisted Ford Motor Company on the French IP aspects attached to the sale of Jaguar and Land Rover, and Nintendo of America of the IP aspects of its launch of new games in Europe.

At NomoS, Hélène Delabarre and Eric Laureux are recommended for IP law, advising clients in the music and media industry.

Gaultier Lakits Szelep specialises in industrial property law covering both patent and trade mark matters. The firm is highly regarded for its patent litigation practice, with experienced Geoffrey Gaultier recommended.

Gilbey Dolorey is recommended for trade mark matters, with the 'open-minded' Richard Gilbey 'at ease in various legal environments'.

Greffe handles trade mark and patent matters under the leadership of François and Pierre Greffe. The firm represents advertising agencies and press editors.

Hollier-Larrousse & Associés covers trade mark, patent, copyright and design matters. The practice is led by Christian Hollier-Larrousse, Sandrine Bouver-Navon and Anne Marie Sion.

Howrey LLP has one of the strongest teams in patents, led by Marina Cousié, the 'outstanding' Denis Monégier the Soricob and François Jonquères. The practice, which also handles trade mark matters, is strong in the fashion and pharmaceutical industries. The team represented Essilor International in a patent and trade mark infringement case relating to a corrective lens, and Céline in a trade mark case.

Philippe Combeau offers a very good service. IP expert Philippe Combeau has long-standing experience in patent and trade mark matters.

Vérin & Associés is very knowledgeable on patent issues, with the team at the cutting edge of patent litigation. Pierre Vérin is highly recommended as one of France's leading patent experts.

Intellectual property: Patent and trade mark attorneys

This chapter introduces the best patent and trade mark attorneys in France (CPI – Conseils en Propriété Industrielle) which remains a distinct profession. CPI firms advise inventors on protecting
Jean-Claude Zylberstein is recommended, as is Anne Boissard, who is "excellent at litigation".

Media and entertainment:

Cinema

Bitoun et Associés assists producers, actors and directors, with Georges Bitoun recommended.

Borowsky & de Baecque has extensive experience in the film industry, advising producers, studios, investment funds, distributors and authors on the negotiation of contracts and financing. Sophie Borowsky is recommended.

Cabinet Christophe Pascal advises on copyright and labour law, and clients include directors, screenwriters, producers, technicians, artists and distributors. The firm is a regular counselor to the Federation of Screenwriters of Europe and the Union des Compositeurs de Musiques de Films.

Haidar is recommended by US studios, producers and directors, who appreciate the dual French and Anglo-Saxon legal culture of the firm. In addition, the team works for several French clients, covering transactional work, distribution rights, employment law and litigation. Leo Haidar is well regarded in the film industry.

Hugotavocats advises on copyright and labour law, and clients include directors, screenwriters, producers, technicians, artists and distributors. The firm is a regular counselor to the Federation of Screenwriters of Europe and the Union des Compositeurs de Musiques de Films.

Media and entertainment:

Music

The following law firms and experts are recommended for their reputation in the music industry: Hugotavocats; Jean Ennoch; Nicolas Boespflug; and Anne Boissard and Jean-Claude Zylberstein from Zylberstein & Associés.

Media and entertainment:

Newspapers and magazines

Bauer & Bigot regularly advises a number of major French newspapers and magazines, including Le Nouvel Observateur, Le Point and the Figaro group. The team also receives instructions from foreign press groups to assist in proceedings in France, representing the New York Times and the Mirror. Christophe Bigot is recommended.

Media and entertainment:

Media and entertainment: TV/radio

Borowsky & de Baecque is instructed by production companies and broadcasters, and advises on production, contracts, and on specific productions, including reality TV programmes.

Bousquet is a regular adviser to the Bouygues group.

Gilles Vercken Avocats assists several TV broadcasters on IP matters.

Martine Coise represents audiovisual production companies and works for France Televisions.

Nicolas Boespflug is NRJ's radio advisor.

Mergers and acquisitions

Independent Bredin Prat is 'the best in town', standing out among its main competitors with 'the quality of its work which is always exceptional' and 'the high level of partner involvement'. In addition, the firm is well equipped in terms of complementary practices and has 'wonderful connections abroad' through its network of best friends. The M&A department, which boasts Jean-François Prat, Patrick Dzielewski, Didier Martin, Sébastien Prat and Olivier Assant, works in small teams, always tailored to the deal at hand.