

HMN & Partners' 'excellent team' is recommended for its 'very good work' in international matters and professional liability, particularly in financial services. The first-class contentious side of the practice is especially strong in the automotive, aviation and pharmaceuticals industries. The leading figures are Bernard Mettetal, Gérard Honig, Simon Ndiaye and Sarah Xerri-Hanote.

Sullivan & Cromwell LLP's William Torchiana advises insurance companies on strategic corporate work, securities offerings and regulations. The firm advised ING on restructuring, and Allianz is another key client.

DLA Piper advises insurers, reinsurers and insureds on professional and product liability and construction claims. Emmanuelle Payrau-Sorba heads the team, which also includes Bruce Mee and Anne Maréchal, who has 'in-depth knowledge of securities issues'.

Founded in 2010, **Da Ros & Creis** attracts many leading insurers including AXA France and Genworth. It advised MACIF on a joint venture with AG2R-La Mondiale. Jérôme Da Ros is 'really client focused', has 'strong connections' and 'understands underlying consumer and commercial issues'.

Hogan Lovells (Paris) LLP is 'very responsive and commercially focused'. Thomas Rouhette, who is recommended for litigation, represented Global Aerospace in a number of high-profile aviation cases. For corporate and regulatory work, Bénédicte Denis is 'excellent and commercially astute'.

Led by Guillaume Brajeux and Oliver Purcell, **Holman Fenwick Willan LLP's** practice is 'among the best for marine business'. It advises leading insurers such as AXA on reinsurance claims following accidents.

Karila is the 'king of insurance construction' through Jean-Pierre Karila and Laurent Karila, and its clients include various prominent insurers.

Kramer Levin Naftalis & Frankel LLP represents major insurance companies in regulatory, reinsurance and litigation matters. Reid Feldman is 'a very good lawyer'.

Lefèvre Pelletier & associés' team is led by Marie-Christine Peyroux, 'one of the very few lawyers in France with a good grasp of the Lloyd's market'. Séverine Hotellier is also recommended. Litigation clients include Chartis Europe and AXA.

Norton Rose LLP has strong contentious expertise through practice head Barthélemy Cousin, who provides 'excellent strategic advice'. Of counsel Franck Poindessault is 'thorough and client-focused'.

Reed Smith represents large industrial companies such as Total following industrial disasters. Benoît Charot and Marie Albertini have extensive experience in asbestos-related claims.

Intellectual property

Boutiques

Armengaud Guerlain is 'really good' for trade marks and patents, respectively through the expertise of Stéphane Guerlain and Jacques Armengaud.

Cousin & Associés is a leading reference for patent litigation, and has expertise in the life sciences, hi-tech and food sectors. Pierre Cousin, Myriam Moatty, Sandrine Bouvier-Ravon and Jean-Martin Chevalier are recommended.

Cabinet Escande's Michel-Paul Escande shows finesse and is a remarkable expert in trade mark law.

Numerous international clients view **Véron & Associés** to be 'the best chance to win' patent litigation cases, an area in which the firm specialises exclusively. This 'excellent and highly specialised team' comprises 13 lawyers led by the renowned Pierre Véron. Isabelle Romet, Thomas Bouvet and Sabine Agé are also recommended. The firm has experience in all main industry

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Boutiques

Armengaud Guerlain ◊ 1

Cousin & Associés

Escande, Cabinet

Véron & Associés

OTHER RECOMMENDED FIRMS

Antoine & Benoliel, Cabinet

Casalonga Avocats ◊

Christophe Caron, Cabinet

Corinne Champagner Katz

Gaultier Lakits Szeleper

Greffé

Hirsch & Associés

Hollier-Larousse & Associés

Hoyng Monégier LLP

Jacobacci

Laude Esquier Champey

Lavoix Avocats

Cabinet Schertenleib

Arénaire ◊

Borowsky & de Baecque

Feral-Schuhl/Sainte-Marie

Gilles Vercken Avocats

HBC Avocats

Hugotavocats

Neuer, Cabinet

Nicolas Boespflug

Noésis Avocats

Pierrat

Teissonnière Sardain Chevé

Firms are listed A-Z within tiers

◊ indicates firm displays contact details at the end of this chapter

sectors, and obtained a series of landmark victories in 2010 and 2011. It achieved notable success in defending Novartis' patent on extended-wear contact lenses in France in the context of its global dispute with Johnson & Johnson.

Intellectual property

Full-service firms

Allen & Overy LLP's practice is second to none for patent litigation, and is representing leading pharmaceuticals companies in high-stakes litigation as part of global disputes between generics manufacturers and originator companies as well as in patent rights conflicts. It is notably advising Novartis in its IP strategy to protect the company's blockbuster drugs against generics manufacturers and recently won a trade mark case for GlaxoSmithKline regarding the use of products' original names and comparative advertising. The team is also acting in landmark patent cases in the technology sector. This 17-lawyer team is headed by Laëtitia Bénard, and also includes the highly regarded Pierre Lenoir.

'Best in class', **Gide Loyrette Nouel A.A.R.P.I.'s** patent and trade mark practice provides 'an excellent service' that 'takes into account how the client works'. The 20-lawyer team is led by Emmanuel Larere, 'an excellent litigator with very good negotiation skills' Arnaud Michel; Grégoire Triet, who is recommended for patent matters; and newly promoted partner Raphaëlle Dequiré-Portier. The practice has been retained by several generics manufacturers to act in highly strategic patent disputes launched against leading originator companies. The team is also defending Sara Lee in a patent infringement case brought by Nespresso regarding espresso-capsules. Its clients for trade mark work include BMW and Gucci, including on new rights filings and portfolio management.

Hogan Lovells (Paris) LLP is 'one of the most prominent firms for patent matters in France'. The Paris practice is also part of a 'real one-stop shop for Europe-wide patent litigation with well-integrated teams and a consistently high quality of lawyers between offices'. The 11-lawyer Paris team is headed by 'excellent litigator' and trade mark expert Marie-Aimée de Dampierre. Dominique Ménard provides 'outstanding strategic views on patent litigations and is very persuasive before courts'. Generalist IP lawyer Xavier Buffet Delmas is recommended for strategic IP advice. The practice is involved in several strategic multi-jurisdictional patent litigations, including representing AETS-Etablissement Français du Sang in a case regarding a blood derivatives manufacturing process. Other key clients include Eli Lilly, Dassault Systèmes and Honeywell.