

Managing Intellectual Property™

A SPECIAL REPRINT FOR

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN
A LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING LAW CORPORATIONS

Incorporating IP Asia
February 2007
www.managingip.com

2007 THE LEADING PATENT FIRMS IN 65 MARKETS

METHODOLOGY AT A GLANCE

- The results of MIP's survey are based on extensive research and interviews with practitioners worldwide.
- MIP's team of researchers contacted firms in 65 jurisdictions to ask them for information and feedback on the rankings. Client feedback was also sought.
- Based on this research, firms are ranked in tiers in each jurisdiction. In most jurisdictions, there are separate tables for prosecution and contentious work.
- Prosecution work includes filing of patents or trade marks and associated work. Please note that the survey does not distinguish between firms that draft patents themselves and firms that derive a large part of their prosecution work from refiling patents originally drafted in other jurisdictions. The latter offer a valuable service to IP owners and are often recommended and hence are included in the survey.
- Contentious includes all other legal work, such as enforcement and licensing.
- Firms that handle both prosecution and contentious work are eligible to appear in both tables.
- The tiers reflect the perception of the leading firms in each market, with the top tier listing those firms regarded as having the strongest practices in each category. Within each tier, firms are listed alphabetically.
- All firms included, in all tiers, will have received several recommendations and endorsements in order to be included in the rankings.
- No one outside of MIP has seen the final rankings before publication.
- No firm can vote for its own inclusion, or recommend an associated or sister firm in another jurisdiction.
- The rankings reflect the state of the market when the research was conducted, between September 2006 and January 2007.
- MIP itself does not recommend or endorse any particular firms.

UNITED STATES

PATENT PROSECUTION

Tier 1

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

Tier 2

Fish & Richardson PC

Fitzpatrick, Cella, Harper & Scinto

Kenyon & Kenyon LLP

Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP

Tier 3

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN, LLP

Foley & Lardner LLP

Jones Day

Morrison & Foerster LLP

Oblon, Spivak, McClelland, Maier & Neustadt, PC

Sterne, Kessler, Goldstein & Fox PLLC

Sughrue Mion PLLC

Tier 4

Banner & Witcoff, Ltd

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

Darby & Darby, PC

Fish & Neave IP Group of Ropes & Gray

Fulbright & Jaworski LLP

Heller Ehrman LLP

Ladas & Parry LLP

McDermott Will & Emery

Merchant & Gould PC

Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP

White & Case LLP

Tier 5

Dickstein Shapiro LLP

DLA Piper

Drinker Biddle & Reath LLP

Welsh & Katz, Ltd

Tier 6

Nixon & Vanderhye PC

Oliff & Berridge, PLC

Sheridan Ross PC

Tier 7

Baker Botts LLP

Wilmer Cutler Pickering Hale and Dorr LLP

MIP's latest survey of the leading IP firms worldwide is bigger, more in-depth and more detailed than ever. It now covers 65 jurisdictions, with new rankings this year for the Caribbean, Ecuador, Panama, Uruguay and Sri Lanka. In the established markets, we have reviewed every table to ensure that the rankings reflect the state of the IP market.

Our team of five researchers based in London, New York and Hong Kong have spoken to hundreds of practitioners and in-house counsel, while many more lawyers and attorneys have completed detailed forms providing information on their own practice, other firms and the overall trends in the IP market. We have also contacted many in-house counsel to ask their views on the outside advisers they use and recommend in each jurisdiction.

The results of this research are detailed rankings of the leading firms practising IP in each country, covering both prosecution and contentious work. As in the past two years, the lists of the leading firms are presented in the form of tiers. The total number of firms listed in each jurisdiction varies according to the size of the market.

This means that the survey is not an exhaustive list of every firm in each jurisdiction; even firms listed in the lower tiers have been recommended by a number of practitioners and deserve congratulations on their inclusion. Those in the top tiers received the most recommendations for the quality and depth of their practice.

It may be helpful to state what the World IP Survey is not. It is not a list of the largest or oldest firms; it is not an objective ranking based on work handled, cases filed or successes; and it is not a ranking of individual lawyers. It is a qualitative ranking of the leading firms in each category based on extensive feedback from their peers in each market and beyond.

The second part of the annual World IP Survey, covering trade mark and copyright work, will be published in the March issue. The full results will be re-published, together with detailed analysis of the market trends in each country and information about the listed firms, in the annual IP Contacts Handbook, available from April. This will also include other invaluable information for IP owners and practitioners. ■