



FLI NET NEWSLETTER

Edition 55: April 2014

For the busy, successful lawyer on the go

Message from the FLI Board

Dear Friends,

When I joined FLI just a few years ago, I was expecting to begin a very exciting trip and sharing with colleagues and friends from all over the world the experience of exploring new "worlds."

However, I never anticipated that such a trip could be so interesting and that, during the same, I would be honoured to have so many new experiences and challenges.

The growth of FLI, which I witnessed these last years, the experience and maturity resulting from the common experience of so many dedicated firms worldwide and the spirit of discovery we all share, make me believe that we are continuing our trip in the right direction.

The next "harbour" will certainly be our Spring Conference, to be held within the next days, which, I am sure, will be a fantastic success in all our practises.

We all must give a special thanks to Gray Reed & McGraw for all their efforts and commitment in making this conference the best off all FLI conferences so far. See you all soon.



Vitor Marques da Cruz, MC&A, FLI NET Executive Management, Angola

FLI NET tours MENA region



In anticipation of FLI's upcoming Spring Conference to be hosted in the Worlds' Energy Capital, FLI continues with selection process for new members in the MENA region.

Following his recent meetings in Houston with Head of FLI's Oil, Gas & Energy Practice Group, Paul Yale, Partner at Gray Reed & McGraw, Orlando Casares completed a five country MENA Tour.

During the tour, Orlando visited and interviewed some of the leading firms with whom FLI already has working relationships with from Algeria, Bahrain, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Jordan. The prospective candidate firms have been invited to join FLI in Houston, given the impressive Oil & Gas/Energy Practice Group.

As part of the trip, Orlando also visited with three of FLI's clients (with UAE HQs), who are very active in the MENA and Africa regions to evaluate FLI NET Partner's overall support and ways FLI could continue adding value not only the region, but also world-wide.

This tour proved to be fruitful, as several of the interviewed firms have expressed their interest in becoming FLI NET's local representatives. The affiliation process will continue by way of subsequent interviews with the firms' Senior Partners and FLI NET Board members.





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FLI NET Oil & Gas/Energy Practice Group – Inaugural Group Conference Call

The FLI NET Oil & Gas/Energy Practice Group held its first group conference call on April 16th, 2014.

The PG's head, Mr. Paul Yale from Gray Reed & McGraw, chaired this inaugural call and greeted FLI NET member from the following participating countries: Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Peru, Poland, Spain, Netherlands, Italy, Mexico, Angola, Brazil, Tunisia, Denmark, Egypt, Bulgaria, and Japan.

This introductory call provided an opportunity for the respective FLI NET Partners active in this practice area to better understand each firm's expertise both upstream and downstream in order to coordinate joined business development activities.

The members of the Oil & Gas/Energy PG will also be holding a break-out session during the FLI NET Houston conference.

FLI NET Expands in South America and EU

FLI NET continues its steady course of expansion.

In line with FLI's approach to reinforce certain regions within the network, FLI HQ is glad to announce that it will be welcoming three new member firms (two from South America: **Chile and Mexico**; and one from Europe: **Albania**).

The new firms will be attending the FLI NET Spring Conference in Houston where the relationships will be formalized in presence of the FLI NET Board Members.

Official press releases will follow shortly.

FLI NET Client moderates Data Protection Practice Group 3rd Conference Call

FLI NET Data Protection Practice Group continues to demonstrate a great vision through a pro-active approach.

The recent, third group call has not only been enriched through timely presentations on Data Privacy related topics through relevant examples in Spain and India, but especially through participation of an invited FLI NET Client (who previously engaged several FLI NET EU Partners to render support in this field of law).

This level of pro-activity and presented information during the call provided client with valuable insights not only into the prowess of the Practice Group but also valuable substantive information on data protection, data retention and data loss prevention in an attempt to keep up with the most recent trends and updates in this field of law not only at a local level, but international scale.





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Update on FLI NET Conference in Houston

Being just few days away from FLI NET biggest event yet, both the hosts at Gray Reed & McGraw as well FLI HQ are putting final details in place to make sure this conference will be remembered for many years to come.

Not only will this conference be attended by almost 40 FLI NET Partners from around the world, but it will also welcome a number of VIP guests from the below companies:



GRAY REED

GRAY REED & MCGRAW, P.C.



- Situs LLC
- Tricor KK
- Hydratight Group
- Mallinckrodt
- Cytron Medical
- W.L. Gore & Associates
- Grupo Plenum
- Thomson Reuters
- Legal500

In addition to the above VIPs, the offered CLE presentations attracted a number of Houston-based companies such as: Toshiba International Corporation; NOV; HMT Tank; Axon Energy; Fisk Electric Company; Bray International Inc.; Noble Energy Inc.; Halliburton; Hess Corporation; Stewart Title Commercial Services; Cardtronics Inc.; etc.).

As part of FLI's ongoing commitment to deliver top quality legal services, clients have responded to our performance evaluation survey. A number of FLI NET clients have nominated individual FLI NET Partners and lawyers who portrayed the "FLI spirit" and carried forward the vision of the network when rendering legal support.

From a the list of FLI NET member nominees, the selected Partners will be presented with the special FLI awards during the Gala Dinner on May 10th. FLI HQ and the FLI Board wish the selected awarded firms (and all other nominees) the very best and continued success.

FLI NET COVETED AWARDS



- Remarkable FLI NET Executive Management Contribution Award
- The FLI NET Legacy Award
- Client Management Excellence Award
- FLI NET Practice Group Vision & Leadership Award
- FLI NET Leading Goose Award
- Regional Vision & Leadership Award
- FLI NET Law Firm of the Year Award

There is no better place to be on May 9 – 10, than in Houston with FLI NET.