



NEWSLETTER

Edition 19: December 2010

for the busy, successful lawyer on the go

Message from the President

Dear Friends

December is usually a frantic month for all our Partners. There are year-end closings to attend to, last minute deals to manage and, yes there is always tax matters to consider. As I make an introspect analysis of 2010, it is amazing to me to realize just how much we grew both in size but also in client profiles. FLI held a number of conferences, welcomed new Partners in various Continents, and proudly met the test of time to reach a significant milestone, FLI will be 10 years old in the Spring of 2011.



FLI NET welcomes Lewis Silkin to its network!



FLI NET is glad to announce that on December 21st, 2010 a new UK Partner, **Lewis Silkin** (www.lewissilkin.com), formally joined the network!

With offices in London and Oxford and a total team of over 300 attorneys and support staff, Lewis Silkin has built a very strong brand in the UK as well as abroad. The Firm is particularly known for its first tier competencies in Employment & Incentives; Media, Brands & Technology; Corporate and Commercial; Real Estate and Litigation.

Being consistently rated in leading legal directories, such as *Legal 500* and *Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession*, Lewis Silkin has proven to be a relevant provider of legal services in the very competitive UK market. For the occasion of the kick-off meeting, FLI principal was accompanied by members of FLI NET Executive Management from Germany, Ukraine, France, Spain and the USA. Further info about Lewis Silkin is available at: <http://www.first-law.com/firms/united-kingdom>

FLI NET Asia is expanding to Hong Kong!



To strengthen FLI NET's regional presence in Asia, First Law International has secured collaboration with a prominent Hong Kong-based law firm, **Ford, Kwan & Company** (www.fordkwan.com).

Being established in 1945, **Ford, Kwan & Co., Solicitors & Notaries** is now servicing its clients from 5 different Hong Kong offices. The Firm is proud to be counted as being among the first ones in the legal profession to serve Chinese enterprises as well as clients from Mainland China. With a recently established PRC Representative Office and a total of over 100 staff members, Ford, Kwan & Co., Solicitors & Notaries is providing a wide range of legal services including: conveyancing, company and commercial practices, listing, mergers & acquisitions, banking law practice, litigation and arbitration, China practice, probate and succession, intellectual property law practice, information technology law practice and services of Chinese attestation and notarization.

For further information about Ford, Kwan & Company, please refer to: <http://first-law.com/firms/hong-kong>



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Corporate INTL Global Awards 2010!



An independent publication *Corporate INTL Magazine 2010* awarded FLI NET Belarus partners, **Vlasova, Mikhel & Partners** in two categories:

- ~ "Real Estate Law Firm of the Year in Belarus"
- ~ "Real Service Law Firm of the Year in Belarus"

FLI Brussels would like to congratulate Vlasova, Mikhel & Partners for receiving these recognitions and acknowledge our local partners' commitment to excellence!

FLI NET Portugal – A Year of Excellence!



In 2010, MGRA Law Firm (FLI NET Portugal) was honoured with numerous international Legal awards by most renowned independent legal guides:

Corporate INTL

Full Service Boutique Law Firm of the Year in Portugal
Dynamic Firm of the Year in Portugal

InterContinental Finance Magazine

Law Firm of the Year (Real Estate and Intellectual Property) in Portugal -

ACQ Magazine

Corporate Law Firm, Employment Law Firm, Insolvency & Restructuring Law Firm, Litigation Law Firm and TMT Law Firm of the Year in Portugal