



FLI NET NEWSLETTER

Edition 53: February 2014

For the busy, successful lawyer on the go

Message from the FLI Board

Dear Friends,

Spring is here and all of us in the FLI Executive Management are looking forward to another exciting and productive year. 2014 has already begun on a high note as you can see in this newsletter. Practice groups continue to grow – FLI NET Data Protection Group already had a second group call with about 20 countries participating, the Life Sciences Practice Group is to hold the first group call later this month, and the brand new Food Law Practice Group was launched in late February. Personally, I am very excited that this year’s FLI NET conference will be in Houston, Texas thanks to the hospitality of Gray Reed & McGraw. This is my 9th year as a member of FLI Executive Management and the unique FLI experience continues to impress me as much as it did 9 years ago. Now with to the 60-plus FLI NET Partners, the synergy will take us to yet another level where no one has gone before and I wish all the best for FLI family.



Mira Sun, Hankyul Law Group, FLI NET Executive Management, Republic of Korea

FLI NET Data Protection Practice Group – 2nd Group Call

FLI NET Data Protection Group headed by Kirsten Whitfield (Director at Wragge & Co.) sponsored FLI’s second group call of February 21st.

Hosted by our Danish colleagues from Bech Bruun and attended by about twenty countries, the discussion focused on substantive areas in the field presented by the FLI NET Partners from Belgium (**Van Bael & Bellis**) and China (**Dacheng Law Offices**).

Van Bael & Bellis shared insightful information on recently established inspection unit of the Belgian Privacy Commission, while Dacheng elaborated on the effects on data protection due to the changes in the consumer law field.

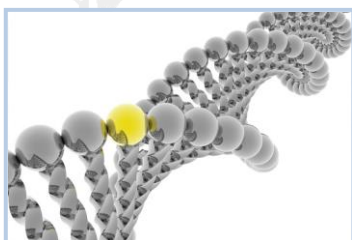
The next proposed Data Protection call will take place on April 25th 2014 to which proper announcement and talking points would be provided in due course. Several suggestions to make the calls more productive are being implemented.

The group will also meet at a specially arranged break-out session during the FLI NET Houston 2014 Spring Conference on May 10th.

FLI NET Life Sciences Practice Group – Inaugural Group Call

Headed by Catherine Longeval (Partner, Van Bael & Bellis), FLI NET Life Sciences PG is gearing up for its first group call end of March.

Following successful, on-site group pitch that resulted in FLI securing a global client’s mandate, the Life Sciences PG continues to build on that success by streamlining the group’s aims in order to demonstrate to all FLI NET clients the common expertise, collective talent, and cohesive project management skills.





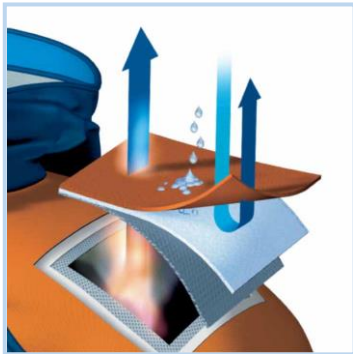
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The Practice Group's two co-captains (Catherine and Dan Smith, Director at Wragge & Co.) will be accompanying FLI Principal back to Geneva later on in the month to pitch the PG's prowess to another multinational Health Care global provider.

FLI NET manages 23-jurisdictions project



Followed by a successful completion of the corporate handbook localisation project back in 2012, FLI NET has been instructed again by its global client, a diversified technology company, to update the original work product and expound its initial scope to guide the country managers.

This important step ensures that any changes in local regulations are properly reflected in the new guidebooks in order for the client to make appropriate business decisions based on respective changes.

This interesting project involves nine FLI NET Partners from Asia and fifteen FLI NET European member firms. The LATAM Partners will be involved later on in the summer.

All engaged FLI NET Partners responded with great enthusiasm to this project as they continue demonstrating their value through sound and succinct legal advice.

FLI NET organizes client meeting with FLI NET Asian Partners

True to the core of FLI innovative business model, FLI Brussels has been very busy in the area of business development during Q:1, 2014.

As a result of these efforts, FLI arranged an on-site meeting with one of the leaders in digital printing industry and our FLI NET Partner in China – Dacheng Law Offices.

FLI has also been asked to arrange similar meetings between the client's CEO and FLI NET partners from Hong Kong and Japan.

The meetings focused on understanding client's business objectives in the region and how FLI NET local partners could match their expertise to client's needs.

FLI NET Japan has been instructed to provide Data Protection advice to the client.





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FLI NET long-term client continues to **extends its trust in FLI cross-border model**



One of FLI’s trusted clients in the signal lighting systems industry, whom FLI has been assisting for the past couple of years with infringements/litigation support across various EU jurisdictions, has engaged additional FLI NET Partners and correspondents from Romania, Lithuania, Ukraine and Serbia to render similar assistance.

The initially engaged FLI NET Partners have proven their value through delivering satisfactory work product and achieving our client’s business objectives.

It goes to show that the support each FLI NET Partner renders to a FLI NET client is invaluable. When the client engages FLI HQ for our cross-border single point management value proposition, the individual assistance of each local counsel is welcome by the client when the results are successful, timely and cost-effective deliverables, all of which produces further trust and confidence from the client to rely in turn on other FLI NET geese.

FLI NET **Houston Spring Conference** - Update

In an effort to keep you informed about the progress of preparation of the FLI NET Spring 2014 conference in Houston, Texas, we are pleased to revert to you and provide you a brief update regarding that grand event.

Conference Page:

Please refer to the Houston conference **PAGE** where you will all relevant information about the event’s program, its various presentations, networking opportunities, break-out sessions, etc.

Registration:

Please use this **LINK** to formally register your firm’s attendance for this event.

As of the date of publication approximately 20 countries have confirmed their attendance with 2 months to go.





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Hotels:

FLI has secured two local Houston hotels for you to choose from during your stay with us.



1. Hotel Icon

Web: www.HotelICON.com
Rate: USD 169,- (incl. of breakfast and WiFi)
Room: standard

Booking: Please use this [LINK](#) to make your bookings at the Hotel Icon.



2. Hotel Magnolia

Web: <http://www.magnoliahotels.com/houston/magnolia-hotel-houston.php>
Rate: USD 189, - (incl. of breakfast and WiFi)
Room: standard

Booking: Please use this [LINK](#) to make your bookings at the Hotel Icon.

Questions:

For any further questions, please contact Yuri Widiger at FLI HQ either via e-mail: communications@first-law.com or phone: +32 2626 0602