



# FLI NET NEWSLETTER

Edition 58: July 2014

*For the busy, successful lawyer on the go*

## Message from the FLI Board

Dear Friends,



As the summer comes to a close and business returns to normal, I am very optimistic of the opportunities ahead for FLI and FLI NET members. Already this summer, FLI has supported a US client with an acquisition in South Africa and that same client is looking to FLI in other jurisdictions for the same type of acquisitions. Additionally, FLI NET members in the Americas successfully finished another project for a long-time client and FLI NET members have been busy with other projects as well. In order to keep this momentum, FLI will be attending the Association of Corporate Counsel's Annual Conference this year in New Orleans, LA. This is an extraordinary opportunity for FLI to spread the message of FLI NET to more than 3,000 in-house counsel that gather each year at this conference. By that time, FLI Practice Groups should have their individual brochures ready so that we can highlight each group as we spread the FLI message at the conference. As you will see in the newsletter, FLI NET members have been working hard at making sure they are the best firms in each of their jurisdictions and FLI has highlighted them in this newsletter, as well as in FLI's social media with LinkedIn and Google+. FLI NET is extremely proud of its member firms and all of those accomplishments help build the strength of FLI NET. If you have not done so yet, please take the time to follow FLI on LinkedIn and Google+, so that you can follow what is going on around the network and as your firm has news updates, make sure you send them to FLI HQ so that they can be posted and shared. I invite every member of FLI NET to use these social media avenues to find new opportunities and to spread the message of FLI's collective greatness.

*Pete Larsen, FLI Partner, Houston, USA*

## FLI Supports a US Client with Acquisition in **South Africa**



FLI continues providing valuable support to a US-based client with an important acquisition matter in South Africa.

The support is being provided by a leading local firm currently under consideration for FLI affiliation. This complex transaction will be taken into consideration to evaluate the firm's performance assisting FLI's multinational clients. FLI HQ is closely following the progress of the matter, thus fulfilling its role of acting as outsourced extension of client's in-house counsel.

The same client has also approached FLI with request of assistance with another acquisition of cross-border nature. The particular FLI NET support would involve our teams from USA, India and UK (all of whom are serving on the FLI NET Board).

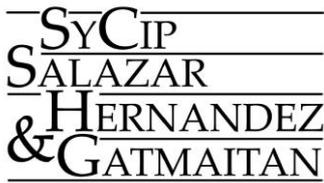
This type of cross-border assistance truly highlights the value of FLI's business model.



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## FLI NET Partners in the **Media**

### **Philippines** – SyCip Law Continues its IFLR Winning Streak

SyCipLaw was awarded "National Law Firm of the Year" for the Philippines at the International Financial Law Review Asia Awards, held in Hong Kong earlier this year. This is the ninth year in a row and the thirteenth time that SyCipLaw has received the recognition from IFLR.

A big congratulations to the entire team at the SyCip Salazar Hernandez & Gatmaitan.

### **Ukraine** – Konnov & Sozanovsky confirms its legacy of success

Konnov and Sozanovsky is recognized as one of the best law firms in Ukraine according to the Annual study "Ukrainian Law Firms 2014: A Handbook for Foreign Clients." In particular, the firm broke into the Top 5 in the field of Intellectual Property rights as well as the Media and Entertainment industry.

The study also noted the firm as a strong player in the areas of Agribusiness, Information Technology and Communications, Labor law, Litigation and Land law.

"Ukrainian Law Firms: A Handbook for Foreign Clients" is published since 2002 and focuses on the leading law firms as well as influential lawyers in Ukraine.

### **Germany** – SKW Schwarz is among Best Lawyers 2014

Following completion of 2014 Best Lawyers ranking, a number of SKW Schwarz' team has made the cut:

Oliver M. Bühr (Intellectual Property), Dr. Andrea Geiger (Mergers & Acquisition), Dr. Magnus Hirsch (Intellectual Property), Dr. Daniel Kaboth (Information Technology), Norbert Klingner (Media), Dr. Matthias Nordmann (Information Technology), Dr. Andreas Peschel-Mehner (Media, Copyright and Entertainment – Film, Games), Prof. Dr. Mathias Schwarz (Media and Entertainment – Copyright, Music, Television) and Dr. Konstantin Wegner (Media and Sports).

In addition, Prof. Dr. Mathias Schwarz, was awarded the title of "Lawyer of the Year" in the field of Media in the Munich region.

### **United Kingdom** – Wragge Lawrence Graham & Co is one of the UK's Best Workplaces

Appearing in the annual list compiled by global research and management consultancy the Great Place to Work® Institute for the 14th consecutive year, the firm is the only law firm to be ranked. It is also one of two 'Master' organisations ranked every year since the survey began in 2001. This year's results are published in The Guardian and The Telegraph.





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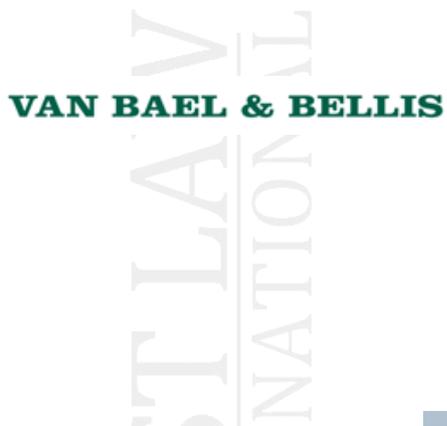


Following wins at the British Legal Awards, the Legal Business Awards and Citywealth Magic Circle Awards 2014, the firm is home to award-winning intellectual property and private capital lawyers. It is shortlisted in five categories at the forthcoming The Lawyer Awards and its choir won the inaugural Legal Harmony competition at Southwark Cathedral.

## Belgium – Van Bael & Bellis – “The Best in Brussels”

Global Competition Review (GCR) published the results of their 2014 survey of the best law firms in Brussels, titled ‘The Brussels Competition Bar’. The survey saw the introduction of a new tier – ‘Outstanding’ – which sets out to highlight those firms who are at the top of the Brussels market. Van Bael & Bellis (FLI NET Belgium) was recognised as standing apart from the crowd as the only independent firm in the ‘Outstanding’ tier.

Furthermore, Van Bael & Bellis’ managing partner Jean-François Bellis is identified as one of the top lawyers practicing in Brussels and lent his views on Brussels’ status as an antitrust hub.



## Mandate Extension to FLI NET South Africa

An existing global client (in information technology distribution industry) whom FLI NET partners are currently assisting throughout Middle East with various corporate matters, has requested FLI’s support on a sensitive labor dispute in South Africa. FLI’s local team, in conjunction with FLI HQ, is leading this task to ensure positive outcome to client’s management team.

## FLI NET DRC Leaves No Stone Unturned

FLI’s local DRC partner is engaged by a multinational client for routine corporate and labor support. Our client’s expectations have been optimally surpassed. Through their diligence and well-trained eyes, the local team has delivered excellent results, which in turn inspired our client to request the same level of support from our DRC team in two surrounding African countries, and more under consideration.



## Hungarian Litigation Support in Able Hands FLI NET HUNGARY

A UK-based client expressed great confidence with rendered litigation support in Hungary with the help of FLI NET local team – Oppenheim. The provided services and careful guidance through complicated and time-consuming litigation support were spot on, which left client’s counsel impressed with FLI NET Hungary’s pro-active approach to the matter.

