

US Law Firm of the Year

WINNER

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN

Richard East; Sue Prevezer; John Quinn

Stellar doesn't even come close

This all-litigation firm has become a byword for quality globally. Quinn became the second most profitable firm in the world in 2010 and it cemented its position at the top end of the market by reporting firm-wide revenues of \$723m in 2011, an increase of 31% – an astonishing journey from its humble West-Coast beginnings that saw the founding partners pounding the streets for work in 1986. It now boasts an unrivalled 91% trial and arbitration success rate and over 600 lawyers in 10 offices across the world. The twin pillars of IP and financial services litigation serve it very well in these markets and, not content with blazing a trail in the US, the firm has opened a second office in Germany and another in Moscow in the last 12 months.

Since its first full financial year in 2009, the City office has only known growth. The office grew its revenues from £7.6m to £12.4m from 2009 to 2010. The firm has just reported London revenues of around £21.8m during the 2011 calendar year, up 75%.

As one rival recently told us: 'Ultimately, who am I scared of most when we go to pitch? It is Quinn Emanuel because of what they have done and what they can do.'

HIGHLY COMMENDED

AXIOM

Al Giles

Offering something compellingly different since launching in the UK, Axiom has grown to 120 lawyers and is delivering a new managed services legal model for the delivery of legal services.

CLEARY GOTTSLIEB STEEN & HAMILTON

Mark Leddy

Consistently at the top of its game, the firm saw a 9% rise in 2010 revenues making it one of the top performers in the Global 100 and pushing it over the \$1bn threshold. London too saw a handy rise in revenues.

EDWARDS WILDMAN PALMER

Laurence Harris

The firm that is constantly on the move sealed a merger with Chicago-based Wildman Harrold

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(L-R) Quinn Emanuel Urquhart & Sullivan's Marc Becker, with Martin Piers, global head of legal at Hudson Legal

Allen & Dixon Edwards Wildman in late 2011. The firm is now a 650-lawyer practice across 14 global offices.

LATHAM & WATKINS

Andrew Moyle

Latham continues to forge away in the City. In the last two years the number of partners in the London office has increased from 47 to 55, with a further four elected to the partnership. Expect much more from the sleeping giant of the City.

MILBANK, TWEED, HADLEY & McCLOY

Russell Jacobs

Milbank has genuinely turned its City fortunes around in the last three years. The office had notable roles for Goldman Sachs on the Boparan-Northern Foods deal and Sahara India's acquisition of Grosvenor.

SKADDEN, ARPS, SLATE, MEAGHER & FLOM

Bruce Buck

Skadden's London office has arguably diversified from a top-drawer M&A boutique to a more balanced practice over the last three years, with the expansion of its disputes, arbitration practice and corporate investigations.

HUDSON LEGAL CONGRATULATES

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN US LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR

LEGAL BUSINESS AWARDS 2012

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