

## WINNER

# Noerr

**Tobias Bürgers, Alexander Ritvay**

*Setting the standard for independent firms in Germany*

This firm has become one of the strongest-performing independent law firms in Europe as well as one of the fastest-growing players in its own market. The firm posted 6.8% growth in 2012 with a total revenues up to €135m, while turnover has grown by 50% since 2007.

Ritvay recently told *Legal Business* that although blue-chip German clients were attracted by the arrival of international firms in 2000 and thereafter, the exclusivity has started to wane and the firm has been appointed to the international legal panels of large DAX 30 companies for significant transactions, something that would not have been the case five or six years ago.

In 2014, Noerr stands as one of Europe's most consistently upwardly mobile practices over the last decade. The firm's sector focus has played a key role in its achievements – it successfully straddles the high-end corporate and banking markets of Frankfurt and Munich as well as amply serving Germany's lifeblood, the Mittlestand. Noerr demonstrates all the advantages of a firm being comfortable with its own identity.



(L-R) Noerr's Hans Radau with Michael Kaplan of Thirty Nine Essex Street

## HIGHLY COMMENDED

### A&L GOODBODY

**Julian Yarr**

As one of Ireland's premier law firms A&L Goodbody had another outstanding year in 2013, including advising the special liquidators, KPMG, on the insolvency of the Irish Bank Resolution Corporation; opening its third US office in San Francisco; and, following the success of its China lawyer exchange programme, coming to a similar arrangement with the Indian government.

### APPLEBY

**Frances Woo**

With key client wins, impressive mandates and significant investment against solid financial performance, the firm can comfortably lay claim to be as strong as any international offshore giant. A refreshed management line up in 2013 means the firm is well placed to dominate the offshore legal services market long term.

### BONELLI EREDE PAPPALARDO

**Marcello Giustiniani, Stefano Simontacchi**

In 2013 Bonelli introduced a full lockstep for its top partners, promoted shared client relationships and created a limited bonus pool as part of a significant restructuring of its partnership, remuneration and governance systems – a break from tradition that sets the firm up for even stronger performance in the coming years.

### GÓMEZ-ACEBO & POMBO

**Manuel Martín**

A renewed focus on high-end work and the restructuring of certain practice areas means this firm can report an increase in average matter value of 24%, despite particularly onerous conditions in the Iberian market in recent years, leaving a more internationally focused and more profitable practice than before the downturn.

### KINSELLAR

**Jason Mogg**

Since launching from the embers of Linklaters' central and eastern Europe practice, the stock of this CEE specialist firm has continued to rise. 2013 witnessed further expansion, with Kinstellar moving into the potentially lucrative Kazakhstan market by launching an office in Almaty after hiring Dentons partner Joel Benjamin and a team of ten lawyers.

**'With revenues up 50% since 2007, Noerr has become one of the strongest-performing independent law firms in Europe.'**

# ThirtyNine

ESSEX STREET

*Congratulations to Noerr,  
winner of the International Firm  
of the Year 2014*



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