

## FT INNOVATIVE LAWYERS 2008

The FT Innovative Lawyers project includes an FT Report and an FT Awards ceremony in London. Now in its third year of publication, the FT Innovative Lawyers Report has become one of the top legal rankings in Europe. It presents a unique analysis of the profession and remains the only ranking of lawyers by innovation. We base both our Report and Awards on thorough research and robust journalism.

Following on from the success of last year's project, we are pleased to invite the profession to make submissions for the 2008 Report. This year, we plan to increase our coverage and deepen our analysis. The final report will be a 64-page colour magazine which will be distributed in the *Financial Times* to our 400,000 readers across Europe.

Our research partner is RSG Consulting, a specialist legal research company with decades of experience in analysing the legal industry. The intensive research process will be an amalgam of in-depth interviews with referees and a suite of market research surveys. Almost 1,000 interviews were conducted for the 2007 Report and we expect this number to increase in 2008. Your submissions will help us compile what we believe to be the most useful ranking of the legal profession available.

The sponsor for the 2008 FT Innovative Lawyers Private Practice Research is Navigant Consulting, who are a leading global consulting firm. They provide Management Consulting, Dispute & Investigation Advice, and Programme Services to the legal industry, companies and the public sector in managing disputes, regulatory issues and key business challenges.

## THE REPORT

### Content of FT Innovative Lawyers Report 2008

- **European private practice\*:**
  - **FT Law 50** – a unique index of European law firms by innovation
  - **Legal expertise**
  - **Client service**
  - **Billing and fees**
  - **Technology and know-how**
  - **Management**
  - **Human resources**
  - **Marketing and PR**
  - **Responsible business**

- **US law firms in Europe** – a benchmark of the strategy and business of US law firms in Europe
- **European public-private projects\*** – a ranking of the most innovative public sector lawyers (and their external lawyers) who have worked on ground-breaking PPP projects in Europe
- **European in-house counsel** – an analysis of the way in-house legal teams at Europe’s top companies add value to their businesses
- **The UK Bar** – a look at the most forward-thinking sets of chambers at the UK Bar
- **European Judiciary** – the most innovative judges and ground-breaking judgments at the European courts
- **Innovative Individuals** – the top ten individuals who have emerged from the research as making a significant contribution to the industry

## ABOUT THE 2008 FT REPORT

- European Private Practice: this section will be expanded this year to cover more European firms, with separate tables (if appropriate) for continental European firms who have shown particular innovation in their markets. In addition, the Legal Expertise section will be broken down into five practice areas: Corporate, Dispute Resolution, Finance, Commercial and Real Estate.
- The criteria for the other categories will remain the same as per the 2007 Report, with the exception of technology. Here, we invite firms to show us more client-facing innovations, particularly where they have shared their know-how successfully.
- New sections in 2008 include European public-private projects and the European judiciary. This reflects the Report’s increasing focus on Europe.
- Private practice law firms are invited to submit into all the **starred \*** sections.
- For editorial inquiries, please contact Paul Solman at the FT on +44 (0)20 7775 6824, paul.solman@ft.com.
- For research questions, please contact Reena SenGupta at RSG Consulting on +44 (0)20 7033 9898, reena@rsgconsulting.com.
- For advertising opportunities or other research sponsorship opportunities, please contact Robert Grange, Head of Professional Services at the FT on +44 (0)20 7873 4418, robert.grange@ft.com.

## THE AWARDS

- Short-lists for the FT Innovative Lawyer Awards will be drawn from the research conducted for the Report. They will comprise the ‘stand-out’ innovations in each category and section.
- Awards will be given in every section and category of the FT Innovative Lawyers Report (as outlined above), with the exception of the European judiciary section.
- The Awards ceremony will coincide with publication of the Report. Those interested in taking tables at the event should contact Craig Bethell, FT Conferences and Events on +44 (0)20 7873 4110, craig.bethell@ft.com.

## SCHEDULE

- April 16 2008 – launch party at the *Financial Times*, Number One Southwark Bridge, London SE1 9HL
- **April 25 2008 – deadline for submissions**
- October 16 & 17 2008 – simultaneous publication of the Report and Awards ceremony in London

## FILING AND JUDGING OF SUBMISSIONS

- Submissions can be made to any number of categories but there is a **limit of three per category**. If more than three submissions are made, only the first three by alphabetical order will be considered. However, in the Legal Expertise category, firms can submit three submissions into each practice area outlined above. Submissions should be no longer than 1,000 words. Clarity of language and presentation will be taken into account when submissions are scored.
- Submissions should detail the following:
  - A description of the innovation – how is it innovative?
  - The rationale for the innovation
  - When the innovation was implemented
  - What the innovation entailed
  - The impact/results of implementing the innovation
  - Contact details of referees who can support the submission
- Submissions will be assessed on their own merits and against other submissions received in each category. Innovations will be scored for their **originality, rationale and impact**.

## HOW TO SUBMIT

- Submissions should be sent in both hard and soft copies.
- Soft copies of the submissions should be e-mailed to [ftresearch@rsgconsulting.com](mailto:ftresearch@rsgconsulting.com), clearly labelled with the name of the submitting organisation and the category to which the submission relates.
- Hard copies should be posted to: *RSG Consulting, 103 Sclater Street, London E1 6HR*.
- If you have queries about the project, please contact Reena SenGupta on +44 (0)20 7033 9898.
- Tips for submissions can be found at [www.rsgconsulting.com](http://www.rsgconsulting.com).
- An overview of the project and downloadable copies of previous reports, can be found at [www.ft.com/innovativelawyers](http://www.ft.com/innovativelawyers).



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## CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- Submissions should be written in English and contain the following information:
  - The names of the firm and individuals involved in the innovation
  - The category title for each submission
  - Your contact details, including e-mail address and telephone number(s), to enable the researchers to contact you, if necessary, to attain further information in relation to your submission
  - Contact details of referees
- There is no fee for entering submissions into the FT Innovative Lawyers 2008.
- The 2008 ranking will assess innovations from January 2005 to April 2008. Submissions relating to innovations outside this timeframe may be taken into account by the researchers if considered applicable to a specific category of submission.
- The researchers reserve the right to move entries from one category to another if they feel it is more appropriate. The researchers' decisions are final and no correspondence can be entered into.
- The FT and RSG Consulting accept no responsibility for the loss or damage of material submitted. Submissions will not be returned.
- The FT reserves the right to publish the names of the firm or lawyers contained in the short-list of outstanding entries, details and description of all entries and details of winners. All entrants grant the FT a perpetual, non-exclusive licence to publish details and descriptions of entries as referred to and also agree to participate in publicity reasonably requested by the FT regarding their entry. The FT acknowledges that copyright in all entries remains vested in the entrants.
- Please do not include any confidential information in your entry that you do not wish to enter the public domain because the FT is unable to guarantee that such information will not be published as set out above. Any inclusion of confidential information in an entry is at the entrant's sole risk and responsibility and in knowledge of the FT's request not to do so.
- The FT reserves the right to cancel, postpone or suspend FT Innovative Lawyers 2008 at any time.
- By submitting an entry, entrants will be deemed to have read, understood and agreed to these terms and conditions on behalf of their firm.