

US LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR
SPONSORED BY PURE SEARCH

Ropes & Gray

Maurice Allen; Mike Goetz

Enjoying the fruits of strategic investment

The success enjoyed by the London office of this Boston-bred firm has been unquestionably impressive over the last five years, particularly considering the brickbats Ropes & Gray received when it took the bold step of launching in the City in 2009 through the hire of high-profile office leaders Maurice Allen and Mike Goetz.

Far from being the disaster rivals predicted, the office has gone from strength to strength, now totalling over 90 lawyers – the majority recruited from leading City firms. In the last year the office added two notable lateral hires: experienced tax specialist Brenda Coleman joined from Weil, Gotshal & Manges, and the firm scored a notable coup in recruiting Philip Sanderson, the former head of private equity at Travers Smith.

In 2014 the firm saw the fruits of its investment – including advising Altice on the largest bank/bond finance deal in Europe since 2008 (the acquisition of SFR for €15bn), which included the largest high yield deal ever, while revenues surged 30%. The firm has built out a corporate finance capability geared to the needs of the post-crisis economy, successfully achieving this simultaneously in the US, Asia and London.

HIGHLY COMMENDED GIBSON, DUNN & CRUTCHER

Kenneth Doran

This firm took the London market by storm in 2014 with its aggressive expansion through heavyweight lateral hires, including former Ashurst senior partner Charlie Geffen to become chair of the London corporate practice and debt finance veteran Stephen Gillespie from Kirkland & Ellis. A firm to watch at home and in the City.

JONES DAY

John Phillips

Jones Day has continued to build its strong London presence during 2014, where revenues have been up for four years in a row, with a spate of significant lateral hires. These include BLP private equity partner Michael Weir and head of restructuring Ben Larkin.

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS

Peter Sharp

A combination of high-calibre deals and successful lateral recruitment demonstrate the firm's progress towards becoming one of the world's leading global law firms. In November 2014, Morgan Lewis partners voted to admit 226 partners from stricken Bingham McCutchen in one of the most significant law firm deals of recent years.



(L-R) Tim Marshall of Pure Search with the victorious Ropes & Gray team

PAUL HASTINGS

Ronan O'Sullivan

In 2013, London revenues increased by over 20% and the firm is set to post 2014 results that eclipse that growth, while some impressive lateral hires, such as real estate heavyweight David Ryland and a team of ten lawyers from King & Wood Mallesons, complement the firm's impressive global performance.

QUINN EMANUEL URQUHART & SULLIVAN

Richard East; Sue Prevezer QC

A perennial contender and the winner of this category last year, Quinn continues to go from strength to strength. 2014 was a lucrative year, with global revenues up 14% to \$972.7m and profits up 7% \$4.48m.

SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT

Gregory Conway

On the back of impressive 2013 results, the firm kicked on in 2014, setting a high bar for the rest of the US elite firms when it was the first to announce its bonus round – \$15,000 to its junior associates increasing to \$100,000 for the more senior ranks – while it was picked by PE house KKR to advise on the acquisition of thetrainline.com.

Congratulations to Ropes & Gray, winner of US Law Firm of the Year.

Pure Search is a multi-disciplinary search firm with offices in London, New York, Hong Kong and Singapore. Our coverage extends throughout the UK, EMEA, APAC and the Americas.

Our Partner team focuses on Partner level appointments into US and International Law firms. We specialize in Partner moves and strategic team hires globally. We represent leading Partner talent, always operating with complete discretion.

Our specialist Financial Services practice places Partners and senior lawyers into Banks, Corporates, Investment Funds and other institutions, covering Regulation, Corporate Finance, Capital Markets, Derivatives, Structured Products and Fund Management. We work with top tier financial institutions globally.

Tim Marshall

Head of Private Practice

+44 20 7429 4475 | timmarshall@puresearch.com

Matt Simmons

Head of Financial Services

+44 20 7429 4482 | mattsimmons@puresearch.com