



James Burns (centre) with Rachel McCorry of Intelligent Office UK

MANAGEMENT PARTNER OF THE YEAR

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JAMES BURNS

Clyde & Co

TAKING UP THE LEADERSHIP BATON WITH APLOMB

Clyde & Co's development has been dramatic over the last five years and Burns has been central to this success. Replacing the popular and long-serving leader Michael Payton in 2013 was never going to be easy, especially as the firm's 2011 merger with Barlow Lyde & Gilbert had left the firm on a stronger footing strategically and financially.

Nonetheless, year-on-year financial performance has been impressive, geographic expansion has been noteworthy

and Burns is widely considered to have delivered well. Since 2012/13, revenues have grown 18% to £395m, while PEP has grown from £580,000 to £660,000 – an increase of 14%.

During Burns' tenure, the firm has added a flurry of new offices including in the US, Australia, Africa and the Middle East, but Burns has ensured that the firm hasn't grown too rapidly at significant cost to the bottom line. During 2014/15, while revenues grew 8%, the firm still bolstered PEP by 10% year-on-year.

HIGHLY COMMENDED

RAY BERG

Osborne Clarke

In assuming control of last year's Law Firm of the Year, Berg had big shoes to fill taking over from the popular Simon Beswick. However, the firm has continued its impressive momentum and not fallen into complacency under his leadership.

NICK BUCKWORTH

Shearman & Sterling

With Buckworth as Europe managing partner, Shearman & Sterling's London office outperformed the rest of the firm for financial performance in 2014, growing 7% in the City to hit \$145m compared to the 3% rise achieved by the firm as a whole in the 12 months to 31 December 2014.

MICHAEL CHISSICK

Fieldfisher

Relected for a second term in November 2015 after he stood unopposed, Chissick is seen as the driving force behind Fieldfisher's renaissance. The firm has enjoyed a strong run in recent years financially and year-on-year performance has been particularly impressive.

TIM EYLES

Taylor Wessing

Eyles was re-elected, unopposed, for a third consecutive term as managing partner in July 2015 and has been largely credited in turning Taylor Wessing from a third-tier City player to a Global 100 firm, with revenues having grown 35% over the last five years.

CHRIS LOWE; LOTHAR WEGENER

Watson Farley & Williams

Since taking over from longstanding leader Michael Greville in January 2014, co-managing partners Lowe and Wegener have injected new impetus into a firm that typically hid its light under a bushel. The management team's approach is working – in its latest half-year results, the firm posted a 5% increase in revenues to £59.5m.

MARGARET ROBERTSON

Withers

Having been sole managing director since 2007, Robertson was re-elected – uncontested – for another three-year term in summer 2015. She has overseen the firm's internationalisation in recent years, including the opening of ten offices across America, Asia and Europe.

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