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Life Sciences
2010

France

1 **Pierre Lenoir**
Allen & Overy LLP

Pierre Véron
Véron & Associés

2 **Pierre Cousin**
Cabinet Cousin & Moatty

3 **Sabine Agé**
Véron & Associés

Yves Bizollon
Bird & Bird

Thomas Bouvet
Véron & Associés

Marina Cousté
Howrey LLP

Grégoire Desrousseaux
Cabinet Hirsch & Associés

Marianne Schaffner
Linklaters LLP

Denis Schertenleib
Cabinet Hirsch & Associés

French patent litigation market, predominantly thanks to the presence of the “excellent” **Pierre Lenoir**. His multi-jurisdictional work and deep knowledge of the life sciences sector have won him a strong international reputation, according to sources. Custodian of “one of the best reputations in Europe for patent litigation”, **Pierre Véron** of Véron & Associés is a “superb all-rounder who handles life sciences cases with the same brilliance as he does all areas of patent litigation”.

Two

Cabinet Cousin & Moatty founding partner **Pierre Cousin** is described as a “discreet but extremely effective” practitioner; he is a “fantastic all-round patent litigator and one of

the most seasoned pros on the French scene”.

Three

Véron & Associés partner **Sabine Agé** draws praise from market observers, especially for her work for pharmaceutical giant Novartis. Joint head of Bird & Bird’s French IP practice **Yves Bizollon** covers the gamut of IP work which includes activity in the life sciences litigation field. A doctor of law whose PhD centred on plant breeders’ rights infringement, **Thomas Bouvet** garners impressive reviews and is a “pillar of the Véron & Associés life sciences team”.

The managing partner of Howrey’s Paris office, **Marina Cousté** is a “solid and highly active” patent litigator who has a special focus on life sciences and boasts over 20 years’ experience in the field. Market commentators label her a “strong and dogged competitor”. Cabinet Hirsch & Associés’ **Grégoire Desrousseaux** is dual qualified as a lawyer and patent attorney, meaning that he is one of the few individuals in the French market able to handle the strategic and technical aspects of patent litigation. Interviewees praise the range of skills that this “bright and rising star” can offer. Linklaters’ Paris patent litigation practice is spearheaded by **Marianne Schaffner**, who is “making a name for herself and creating a great impression”. Schaffner has a broad practice including telecommunications and electronics, but has won attention for her life sciences work. Physics graduate **Denis Schertenleib** also holds a PhD in molecular neurobiology and is qualified to practise in both France and the United Kingdom. He specialises in biotechnology and interviewees confirm that he is “developing an impressive practice in the field”. He is a partner at Cabinet Hirsch & Associés. ■

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Germany

Overview

Germany is a key forum for life sciences patent litigation in Europe, with a large number of valuable and significant cases litigated in Dusseldorf and Munich. International pharmaceutical companies turn to a relatively small elite of advisers and representatives in comparison to similarly mature jurisdictions, but