



*The World's Leading
Patent Professionals
2015*

Firms: litigation

Allen & Overy LLP

Véron & Associés

August & Debouzy

Bird & Bird AARPI

Cabinet Armengaud & Guerlain

Cousin & Associés

Duclos, Thorne, Mollet-Vieville & Associés

Gide Loyrette Nouel AARPI

Hogan Lovells International LLP

Hoyng Monegier AARPI

Casalonga Avocats

De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés

Dentons

Jones Day

LAVOIX

Reed Smith LLP

De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés

Entrepreneurial business law ensemble De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés provides an integrated, internationally focused offering to a host of clients from France, the United States and Japan. It performs impeccably across the contentious/non-contentious divide; clients appreciate the breadth of its know-how, which takes in everything from complex chemical disputes to the negotiation of lucrative tech transfer and R&D deals. Close links forged with government inform its prescient guidance on crucial areas such as tax and regulation. Handling a diverse caseload for household-name clients is **Julien Horn**; the software expert makes his sophomore appearance in the guide on the back of recommendations for his IT transaction nous. **Frank Valentin** is representing several US production studios in high-stakes litigation; his mixed soft IP and

patent practice resonates with media and entertainment entities. **Louis de Gaulle** excels at the management of complex patent portfolios.

Dentons

Internationally minded insight is a hallmark of the service at Dentons, which has boots on the ground in four continents. Building on this reach, the Paris office recently made a splash representing Electrolux in global unfair competition and infringement proceedings. High-value litigation is not the only game in town, however; government-affiliated groups also call on the group for advice on how to avoid costly licensing disputes. European IP and technology head **David Masson** is a versatile practitioner who consistently gets the right results in criminal and civil infringement proceedings; he also provides valuable assistance with the development and monetisation of patents. The creative **Isabelle Leroux** is never afraid to get stuck into tough disputes that go the distance. Something of an IP all-rounder, she is also a font of knowledge on trademarks and branding.

Duclos, Thorne, Mollet-Vieville & Associés

A fixture on the Parisian patent scene for nearly 50 years, this distinguished boutique counts a wide range of domestic and foreign companies among its enviably broad clientele. Litigation and dispute resolution are handled with aplomb, though complex transactions – particularly with an international flavour – also fall within its purview. Praise abounds for name partner **Thierry Mollet-Viéville**, whose unfussy, results-oriented practice and sagacious manner are regarded as a benchmark for practitioners internationally.

Germain & Maureau

Having expanded from its 19th century base in Lyon, storied boutique Germain & Maureau now operates out of a number of strategically located offices across Europe. Its mission is trifold: to secure cast-iron protection for rights holders, add value to intangible assets and robustly defend patents against infringement. Chemistry, pharmacy and life sciences chief Stéphane Agasse is a useful contact.

Gide Loyrette Nouel AARPI

Commercial dynamo Gide outstrips many of its domestic counterparts in terms of geographical scope; among its 600-strong staff, 35 languages

Novagraaf Technologies SA

Widely acclaimed for its prosecution prowess, the Gallic division of international IP group Novagraaf makes its debut in the *IAM Patent 1000* this year. The esteemed trademark and patent agency “has a strong team in all areas of industry”. It is “business oriented and very approachable, and it is for this reason it belongs in the rankings”. Charles-Henri Bertaux is a useful contact for rights holders.

Reed Smith LLP

It is now a decade since a pioneering group of 10 lawyers opened up the Paris office of Reed Smith, and a sense of spirited entrepreneurialism still characterises its practice. A glittering client

roster includes names such as GlaxoSmithKline, Mitsubishi, Essilor, Nokia, Procter & Gamble and AstraZeneca, and more are being added every day. The no-nonsense **Marina Cousté** takes a creative approach to complex litigation and pulls no punches in advancing patrons’ interests. Ample support is furnished by pharmacology hotshot **Francois Jonquieres**, a “technically excellent” partner with insider industry knowledge.

REGIMBEAU

“A very responsive firm with specific skills in the drug industry”, potent prosecution outfit REGIMBEAU “speaks the same language as clients”. Peers report “a good working experience” with the home-grown favourite, which is a regular fixture at the EPO. Recognised globally as an authority in chemistry and pharmaceuticals, **Francis Ahner** is the mastermind behind the firm’s success. The trilingual patent attorney makes frequent appearances in the European courts for his US, Japanese and French clients.

Santarelli

Illustrious boutique Santarelli is a rare beast, with equally persuasive capabilities on both sides of the contentious/non-contentious divide. A refined professionalism pervades the practice; whether drafting watertight patents or taking up arms in fiercely fought courtroom battles, the firm’s practitioners are committed to clients’ interests. Superior strategist **Luc Santarelli** is the main draw. The CEO and name partner shines in infringement and ownership rights suits on behalf of clients ranging from start-ups to multinationals. Erudite pharmacist **Thierry Caen’s** seamless portfolio management is the talk of many in-house teams.

See p598 for firm profile

Véron & Associés

“There is no question that Véron & Associés should be at the top. Its traditional lawyering skills make it the best example of a patent litigation firm in France.” The “trustworthy, focused boutique” is “supremely skilled”: “It has a strong business approach to its activity and is a challenging opponent in court.” First among equals in this set of “nice, smart lawyers” is the magisterial **Pierre Véron**. The undisputed patriarch of French patent litigation is a world-renowned advocate whose impact on the international IP landscape will be felt for years

Individuals: prosecution	
Recommended	
Francis Ahner REGIMBEAU	
Philippe Blot LAVOIX	
Thierry Caen Santarelli	See p251
Anne Desaix Ernest Gutmann – Yves Plasseraud SA	
Gerard Dossmann Casalonga Avocats	
Philippe Hubert Cabinet Beau de Loménie	
Didier Intes Cabinet Beau de Loménie	
Stéphanie Michiels LAVOIX	
Gérard Myon LAVOIX	
Luc Santarelli Santarelli	See p252
Francis Zapalowicz Casalonga Avocats	

France

to come. Peers speak admiringly of how he has “formed a terrific team around him, with good internal chemistry”. One such colleague is **Isabelle Romet**. “Professional, fair and very easy to deal with on a human level”, the litigator sparkles in high-stakes pharmaceutical cases. Having successfully represented a number of European clients in top-level disputes, **Sabine Agé** has “an exceedingly strong reputation”. A polished performer across a broad range of disciplines, **Thomas Bouvet** is sought out by companies embroiled in disputes over compensation for employee inventions. The distinguished counsellor is also an expert on plant breeders’ rights.

White & Case

With the might of a global network behind it, White & Case is an attractive proposition for multinationals seeking astute counsel on transactions with an international flavour. Facebook is a trophy client and its continued successes for the social media giant in both the contentious and corporate spheres have prompted a number of new friend requests from other marquee names, including Novartis, for which it recently handled an M&A related mandate. Heading the Parisian IP and IT group is **Bertrand Liard**, whose profound understanding of clients’ commercial concerns informs his cutting-edge practice. He is quickly turning this US behemoth into one of Europe’s top firms.

Other recommended experts

Eminent technologist **Alain Bensoussan** continues to deploy his impressive knowledge of digital law for companies at his own eponymous firm. European patent and trademark attorney **Anne Desaix** finds a place in the *IAM Patent 1000* on the back of recommendations for her prosecution skill. The biotechnologist plies her trade at Ernest Gutmann – Yves Plasseraud. Dexterously managing complex parallel litigation proceedings in line with an overriding international strategy is BARDEHLE PAGENBERG’s **Julien Fréneau**. A veteran of infringement and nullity proceedings, he is a vital asset for those with concerns in medical devices, sports equipment and mechanical engineering. Foucaud Tchekhoff Pochet et Associés is the base of business law maven **Antoine Gautier-Sauvagnac**, a feted strategist who relishes cut-throat cross-border litigation. Pinsent Masons’ **Emmanuel Gougé** handles tech

transfer agreements and IT briefs with brio. Additionally accredited as a solicitor in England and Wales, the licensing man cuts through unnecessary bureaucracy to bring high-rolling deals to a successful close. *IAM Patent 1000* debutant **Emmanuel de Marcellus** can work “hand in hand with co-counsel to achieve results

Individuals: transactions

Recommended

Cyrille Amar
LAVOIX

Emmanuel Baud
Jones Day

Alain Bensoussan
Alain Bensoussan Avocats

Antoine Gautier-Sauvagnac
Foucaud Tchekhoff Pochet et Associés

Emmanuel Gougé
Pinsent Masons

Julien Horn
De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés

Isabelle Leroux
Dentons

Bertrand Liard
White & Case

David Masson
Dentons

Arnaud Michel
Gide Loyrette Nouel AARPI

Christian Nguyen-Van-Yen
Marks & Clerk France

François Pochart
August & Debouzy

Marianne Schaffner
Dechert LLP

Jean-Christophe Tristant
DLA Piper France LLP

Individuals: litigation

Laëtitia Bénard
Allen & Overy LLP

Pierre Cousin
Cousin & Associés

Grégoire Desrousseaux
August & Debouzy

Thierry Mollet-Viéville
Duclos, Thorne, Mollet-Vieville & Associés

Denis Monégier du Sorbier
Hoyng Monegier AARPI

Isabelle Romet
Véron & Associés

Grégoire Triet
Gide Loyrette Nouel AARPI

Pierre Véron
Véron & Associés

Sabine Agé
Véron & Associés

Jacques Armengaud
Cabinet Armengaud & Guerlain

Yves Bizollon
Bird & Bird AARPI

Thomas Bouvet
Véron & Associés

Arnaud Casalonga
Casalonga Avocats

Marina Cousté
Reed Smith

Isabelle Leroux
Dentons

Dominique Ménard
Hogan Lovells International LLP

Arnaud Michel
Gide Loyrette Nouel AARPI

François Pochart
August & Debouzy

Marianne Schaffner
Dechert LLP

Denis Schertenleib
Cabinet Schertenleib

Benoît Strowel
Hoyng Monegier AARPI

Cyrille Amar
LAVOIX

Emmanuel Baud
Jones Day

Sandrine Bouvier-Ravon
Cousin & Associés

Caroline Casalonga
Casalonga Avocats

Louis de Gaulle
De Gaulle Fleurance & Associés

Emmanuel de Marcellus
Cabinet de Marcellus & Disser

Julien Fréneaux
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Francois Jonquieres
Reed Smith

Emmanuel Larere
Gide Loyrette Nouel AARPI

Anne-Charlotte Le-Bihan
Bird & Bird AARPI

David Masson
Dentons

Stefan Naumann
Hughes Hubbard & Reed