

Press Release

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Top in-house counsel recognised at the inaugural International Law Office Latin American Counsel Awards in association with the Association of Corporate Counsel

Buenos Aires, Argentina – The International Law Office (ILO) and the Association of Corporate Counsel (ACC) hosted the first annual Latin American Counsel Awards at Buenos Aires’ sumptuous Alvear Palace Hotel last night. The gala event celebrated the achievements of in-house counsel recognised by their peers as excelling in their chosen fields.

“The aim of the awards is as bold as it is simple – to find and recognise the best in-house lawyers in Latin America. This means looking behind the scenes in search of those attributes that really matter in the ever-changing corporate world,”

explained Fred Krebs, president of the ACC.

To identify the winners, the ILO team conducted in-depth analysis of in-house lawyers and legal departments worldwide, receiving more than 3,300 individual nominations. Respondents were asked to focus on criteria such as effective communication, legal understanding, commercial awareness, depth and strength of team, and management skills. Awards were presented in the following areas: corporate tax, competition, employment, general commercial, intellectual property, litigation, M&A and regulatory (financial and non-financial).

Aline de Almada Messias of Samsung Eletrônica da Amazônia Ltd was named General Counsel of the Year after receiving multiple individual nominations from partners at leading law firms.

“Aline Messias is defined by her ability to understand the company’s problems and create effective legal solutions. At the same time, she remains sensitive to the needs of her team and provides them with the requisite tools to facilitate excellence,”

enthused one such respondent.

The event sponsors were Bichara, Barata, Costa & Rocha Advogados (Regulatory award); Machado, Meyer, Sendacz e Opice Advogados (M&A award); Souza, Cescon, Barriou & Flesch Advogados (General Commercial award); and Dantas, Lee, Brock & Camargo (General Counsel of the Year award); as well as Advocacia Jose Del Chiaro, Lefosse Advogados, Leite Tosto e Barros Advogados, Lobo & de Rizzo Advogados, Marques Gilberto & Oliveira Felix Advogados, Obligado & Cia, Santamarina y Steta and Veirano Advogados.

For more information and a complete list of winners, visit www.latinamericancounselawards.com.



About ILO

Launched in 1998, ILO is the nexus where global corporate counsel engage with the world's pre-eminent law firms, and each other.

The ILO brand encompasses:

- A multifaceted online resource for senior international corporate counsel, which provides tailored, quality-assured updates on global legal developments, a database of the world's major deals and the legal advisers involved, and a comprehensive directory of firms and partners.
www.InternationalLawOffice.com
- An awards programme recognising and rewarding those law firms and partners that have been commended exclusively by corporate counsel for their client service.
www.ClientChoiceAwards.com
- A global awards programme that identifies in-house corporate counsel, both teams and individuals, who excel in their specific roles. The awards culminate each year in three of the largest annual gatherings of senior corporate counsel, with prestigious ceremonies in London, Buenos Aires and New York.
www.GlobalCounselAwards.com

Recognising its unique relationship with global corporate counsel, ILO became an International Online Media Partner to the ACC in 2005. Many other leading legal associations around the world have also chosen to partner with ILO.

www.InternationalLawOffice.com/Associations

About ACC Latin America

The ACC is the world's largest organisation serving the professional and business interests of attorneys who practise in the legal departments of corporations, associations and other private-sector organisations around the globe. With more than 26,000 members in over 75 countries, employed by over 10,000 organisations, the ACC connects its members to the people and resources necessary for both personal and professional growth.

The ACC has expanded into Latin America and has formed its newest chapter, ACC Latin America, Argentina Chapter. The chapter provides educational events to foster networking and knowledge sharing for in-house counsel in Buenos Aires and its surrounding provinces.

By in-house counsel, for in-house counsel.® For more information, visit www.acc.com or follow on Twitter at **<http://twitter.com/ACCinhouse>**.

About the Latin American Counsel Awards

ILO, with the support of the ACC, has conducted in-depth analysis of in-house lawyers and legal departments worldwide for the inaugural Latin American Counsel Awards. More than 3,300 individual nominations from corporate counsel and law firm partners make the Latin American Counsel Awards unique in clearly identifying those in-house counsel, both teams and individuals, who excel in their specific roles. Our primary aim is to recognise lawyers for demonstrable achievements across the full spectrum of in-house responsibility, not simply those who have acted on high-profile transactions.

The winners were announced at a gala dinner and awards ceremony in Buenos Aires on Wednesday February 16 2011.